

# FRIDAY NOTES EXTRA..... ON THURSDAY, September, 28, 2006

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS UPDATE**

Our next Board of Directors Meeting is scheduled in the Media Center on October 4, 2006 – 7:00 PM. Minutes of the August meeting are to be approved at this meeting and will be posted.

### **AGENDA**

7:00 P.M. - Call to order

7:05 - INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

- Welcome and Introduction—Monte Poll
- Pledge of Allegiance--
- Vision--

*North Davis Preparatory Academy students develop a love of learning, experience high academic achievement, and enjoy high bi-literate proficiency.*

7:10 - CONSENT ITEMS

- August 2, 2006 Board Meeting & Workshop Minutes
- Personnel Actions – New Hires

7:15 – REPORTS

- Parent Organization (4 min) Kim Valeika
- Staff and Educational Improvement (4 min)  
Principal Debby Gomberg
- Management Company (4 min) Academica
- Budget (4 min) Trent Brown

7:30 – BUSINESS ITEMS

- Employee Manual (5 min) Academica
- UIPS (5 min) Debby Gomberg
- CUSAP Proposal

7:45 - OTHER BUSINESS

7:55 - PUBLIC COMMENT

8:00 - ADJOURN

Note:

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing auxiliary communicative aids and services for these meetings should call Emily Coon at 801-444-WEST, giving at least three working days notice.

## **PRINCIPAL GOMBERG REPORTS ON CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENTS AT NDPA**

### **NDPA MAKES ADEQUATELY YEARLY PROGRESS (AYP)!!**

We made it again. We met the federal and state standards for Adequately Yearly Progress!! We are very proud of all the efforts of our teachers, staff, students, and parents. We simply could not have achieved a “Yes” in all the 40 categories without the coordinated efforts of everyone. I am proud to serve as your principal. Thanks to all of you.

### **NEW GRADEBOOK SYSTEM HELPS OUR ENVIRONMENT**

Our new grading system is *AHEAD OF SCHEDULE* and is now accessible to parents via the Internet. This means that the progress reports which were printed each week will no longer be sent home. By the middle of each quarter, the progress reports are as long as 4 pages in length. This is about 2,000 pages a week and 100,000 pages for our school each year.

Not only will this save our school money, it will also save several trees. We know that it takes 17 trees for one ton of paper.

Please remember, however, if you don't have access to a computer to check the grades, please contact the teacher. He/she will be happy to print reports as you need them. And feel free to use the planners for home/school communication as well. We would like to remind our parents that as exciting as this new tool is, our faculty and staff need some patience as we work hard to update your student(s) information. We plan to do this upload on a weekly basis but, please give us until the 16<sup>th</sup> of October to insure that all grades 1-6 have been able to input their information and be current.

### **CHANGES TO IMPROVE OUR READING PROGRAM**

Although we made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) again this year, our test scores indicated areas in which our school is stronger or weaker. Our strengths were in the areas of vocabulary and writing. Our weaker areas were phonemic awareness, phonics, and syllable instruction.

In order to address those needs, we have made changes in our reading program to meet the needs of individual students. We have purchased some additional curriculum materials to provide more effective instruction. In our lower level reading classes, we are also differentiating instruction, or placing students in groups of 3-4, in order to teach each student at their own level. Our teachers' aides have been assigned to work with our lowest-level readers for 30 minutes every day to help them improve their word attack skills.

The STAR program that we implemented last year has been replaced with a new program called Read Naturally. We feel this change will better target the individual needs of our readers who need a little extra help.

Implementing changes of this magnitude can cause a bit of confusion as daily class schedules change and staff members move from classroom to classroom. But our excellent teachers and teacher's aides have done a wonderful job of making this transition. We expect our reading program to continue to improve each week as the year progresses. Volunteers are still needed on a regular basis. Please call Brandy Stapleton at the school to arrange a sign up time. This is a wonderful opportunity for Grandparents to help as well.

### **STATE TESTING FOR 3<sup>RD</sup> & 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADES:**

Parents, please help your 3<sup>rd</sup> &/or 5<sup>th</sup> graders be prepared for their State assessment tests. They are scheduled for next Tuesday and Wednesday. October 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. Please insure that your students come to school, arrive on time, well fed and rested.

### **THE POET CORNER**

#### **PRESIDENT VALEIKA'S MESSAGE:**

Well, we have just finished the first complete month of school now that September is over. We have accomplished much together as a parent group:

- We've had our first public meeting of the year.
- Filled our chair people for most of our committees.
- Class captains are in place.
- After school choir and chess are in full swing.
- Book fair is over (watch your Fri notes next week for details on how much we earned).
- We are really settling in for a fun fall here at NDPA.

We've got a lot of fun events coming up.

- Session 1 of After School Art begins Oct. 4<sup>th</sup>.
- The 3<sup>rd</sup>. Annual 5K is Oct. 6<sup>th</sup>.
- The 2nd annual Fall Carnival is set for Oct.27<sup>th</sup>.

- Please remember that any one is welcome to attend our POET meetings; they are held the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7:15 pm in the library.

We truly appreciate all the time you have put in so far helping at the school. All of your volunteer hours translate into a better educational experience for your child. Please feel free to contact any POET member if you have any questions. We value your opinions, ideas, Have a wonderful October!

*Submitted by Kim Valeika POET Chair*

**JUST A REMINDER TO ALL AFTER-SCHOOL ARTISTS:**

Can you believe it? Art is finally here! We have so many fun things to teach you and some great projects planned. We can't wait to begin! Our first class starts **Wednesday, October 4**. Meet us in the gym right after school ready to have some fun. We'll see you then. Please remember that this class is limited to the first 50 who pre-enrolled.

**NDPA FALL FUN RUN/WALK (5K)**

It's not too late to register for the 5k fun run/walk Friday, October 6th at Ellison Park (NW of NDPA). Check in begins at 4:15 and start time is at 5:00 pm. We have extended early registration until Tuesday, October 6th. This is a great "family time" opportunity while promoting health and wellness. Yes, even if your not a "runner", come and enjoy the outdoor atmosphere and meet new people. Pick up a registration form at the parent table, complete, and drop in the POET box at the front desk. We'll see you there.

*Submitted by Patty Arbon - 773-0509*

**GOLD MEDAL MILE**

Great work lions! We have seen you walk the gold medal mile at recess and are so happy you've made the choice to be healthy! This month's school sponsored activity is a NATURE WALK with your family! There are several trails you can hike near Lagoon, in Farmington Canyon or in Ogden Canyon.

It's such a beautiful time of year. Let's all go out and enjoy the changing leaves together! If you hike with your family this month, you can count your miles you walked along with anyone else in your family who participated in the hike. WE WILL BE HEALTHY, GO LIONS!

<b>Monday, October 2</b>	<b>Tuesday, October 3</b>	<b>Wednesday, October 4</b>	<b>Thursday, October 5</b>	<b>Friday, October 6</b>
Pasta or Munchable Choice of side dishes Fruit & Vege Bar Choice of Milk	Chalupa or Chicken Sandwich Munchable Choice of side dishes Fruit & Vege Bar Choice of Milk	Pizza Hut Munchable Choice of side dishes Fruit & Vege Bar Choice of Milk	Turkey Roast Munchable Choice of side dishes Fruit & Vege Bar Choice of Milk	Sloppy Joe or Chicken Sandwich Munchable Choice of side dishes Fruit & Vege Bar Choice of Milk