



Eastside News

A monthly newsletter for Eastside parents

September 2008

Family Tips to Get a Healthy Start for the School Year

1. Make dinnertime a family time.
2. Get the whole family active.
3. Stay up-to-date on preventative health screenings for you and your child.
4. Limit TV, video game and computer time to no more than two hours per day.
5. Get involved at your child's school.

Encouraging your children to develop healthy habits early on will put them on the road to becoming healthy adults. As parents, we are the most important role models for our children. Our personal example and supportive guidance will influence most of the decisions our children make. This great responsibility will be easier if we take one step at a time and work together.

From *Our Children* August/Sept



Shoes must be worn at all times. Shoes should also be appropriate for elementary activities. Flip flops, clogs and sandals are not to be worn as they invite injury. If wearing sandals, they should have backs on the heel. All students should have non-marking tennis shoes for physical education classes.

Boxtops for Education

We receive \$.10 per boxtop returned to school

Eastside participates in Boxtops for Education for educational purchases, including computer software, Accelerated Reader program, books, and educational assemblies. Contact the main office at 435-8960 for more information.

Big Brothers/Big Sisters

If you have a 1st or 2nd grade student who may be interested in our Big Brother/ Big Sister Program, please contact our counselor, Lindsay French at (269) 435-8962 or lfrench@constps.org

Welcome Back!

Welcome Back! We are so excited to have you here at Eastside Elementary School. For more information, we are updating our website on a regular basis at www.constps.org

I am looking forward to an outstanding year where we can celebrate all the wonderful programs and events we have in place for Eastside Elementary children!

Please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher or school office if you have a question or concern.

We look forward to working with you in your child's education.

Yours in Education, Mrs. Kristin M. Flynn, Principal

Beginning Monday, September 8, 2008

The Eastside staff diligently tries to revise and refine procedures to meet the safety needs of the nearly 400 students who arrive and dismiss from our building each day. We appreciate your patience during these early weeks of school. We highly encourage EVERYONE who is picking up a child to use a vehicle in the pick up lane where staff can identify you with security tags. Should you choose not to use this method of pick up, you will need to get a security tag from our staff and have that in hand to pick up your child from the northwest door. In addition, when dropping students off, parents will only be able to walk children to class when signing into the office and receiving a visitor tag. If you have any questions, please contact the office at (269) 435-8960 or at ageisler@constps.org

DROP OFF/PICK UP ZONE PROCEDURES

Picking up your child at the end of the day?? Remember

to pull your vehicle all the way forward in the drop off/pick up zone along the sidewalk. Please stay in your vehicle and a staff member will bring your child to the car. Please display the car tag provided by Mrs. Jill Seman and have an open seat in your vehicle on the sidewalk side so students do not have to go around the vehicle. This improves the entire process and makes it safer for everyone involved.

Please **DO NOT WALK THROUGH (OR BETWEEN)**

THE BUS LOOP AREA!

Thanks for your cooperation in keeping everyone safe!

Upcoming Events

September

- 8 **Board Mtg @ Riverside Elem 7:00 p.m.**
- 10 **PTA Meeting – 6:00 p.m. (snacks & child care provided)**
- 11 **PTA Fundraiser Kickoff**
- 11 **Parent Orientation 5:30-6:30 p (Y5/K) 6:30-7:30 p (1st/2nd) Pizza, pop and child care provided**
- 11 **Patriot's Day Remembrance**
- 15 **Fair Day – No school!**
- 19 **Homecoming vs. Parchment**
- 25 **Picture Day**

Time Savers for the Start of School

____ Lay out tomorrow's outfits

____ Make lunches and pack 'em up

____ Double-check backpacks for notes regarding tomorrow

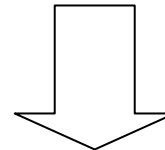
____ Double-check alarm settings

____ Be sure everyone knows the exact location of coats, books, backpacks, shoes, etc. before going to bed

Check out more back-to-school solutions at

www.fuelforschool.com

ARRIVAL & DISMISSAL SCHEDULE CHANGES



Keep the School Bus Safe!



The children at Eastside will participate in School Bus Safety Week during October with the Director of Transportation. A brief presentation will be conducted at Eastside to discuss Bus Safety. Following these tips will help ensure everyone is safe during the school year.

1. Get on and off the bus one person at a time.
2. Keep the aisle clear.
3. Stay in your seat, sitting up and facing forward.
4. Never throw things out the window.
5. Talk quietly with your friends.
6. Obey the bus driver and bus rules at all times.

Please ensure your child is at school every day. Michigan State Law states that "It is the responsibility of parents to see their children between the ages of six and sixteen are in regular school attendance." Children need to be signed in or out at the school office if your child arrives late or needs to leave early.

Please make sure to contact the office no later than 2:00 p.m. so we can insure that your child receives their message. If we receive the message later than that time, we will attempt to get the message to your child, but we cannot guarantee that your child will get the message before leaving school.

Introducing...our new...

Eastside Elementary Student Conduct Policy

The Eastside Elementary staff believes all students can behave appropriately at school. The Eastside community stresses respect, responsibility, and resourcefulness. No student has the right to interfere with a teacher instructing or a student learning. The following three rules guide our expectations and procedures:

Eastside's ABC's: Act Safely; Be Responsible; Caring and Respectful

Parent participation and support is vital to the academic and social success of all students. The following behavior plan encourages student success and increases parent participation in that success. In order for students to learn and grow in the area of behavior the school staff, students and families must work together in a positive team relationship.

Behavior Plan

The classroom teacher is responsible for managing behavior in the classroom. Each teacher has classroom rules, expectations and consequences. In addition, there is a school-wide set of expectations which have been developed and adopted to keep Eastside safe, kind and productive.

Every staff member has the responsibility of helping students meet school-wide expectations. Normal motivating and disciplinary techniques will be used to maintain student behavior. Only uncooperative, severe or constant violations will be documented.

Students will consistently be encouraged and given support to correct inappropriate behavior. They will be provided ample opportunities to make positive choices and clear their student record.

Consequences will be increasingly restrictive. Increased parent involvement is the key to helping students behave at an appropriate level.

Eastside Classroom Student Self Reflection Sheet

The Student Self Reflection Sheet will be used at Eastside for infractions of the Discipline Plan that are not a danger to themselves or others, have not been repetitive in nature or are not severe. The student will be given an opportunity to use the incident to turn his/her behavior around in a positive direction. The staff member would fill out the reason or incident and then the student would fill out the rest of the form prior to taking the form home to be signed by the student's parent and returned to school the next day. The teacher may contact the student's parents to discuss the issue.

Conduct Report

The Conduct Report includes a list of specific behaviors which fail to meet behavior expectations, and are used to clarify inappropriate behavior to the student and communicate the behavior to parents. Conduct Reports will be used for actions that have not been remedied by classroom interventions, situations where children are a danger to themselves or others or in cases of other severe behavior. All supervising adults have access to Conduct Reports.

When an inappropriate behavior occurs, the Conduct Report will be explained to the student **when possible**, filled out and signed by the supervising adult. Copies will be sent to the office, the student's teacher and the parents by way of the student. The student takes the Conduct Report home, the parent signs it and it is returned the next school day.

S.T.O.P. Problem Solving Form

Each student who receives a Conduct Report here at Eastside will need to complete this Problem Solving Form, get the necessary signatures and then return it to the school the next school day along with his/her Conduct Report. These will be kept on file.

Behavior Summary

The Behavior Summary documents the current accumulated standing of each student and is maintained by the principal. Student Conduct Reports are recorded on the Behavior Summary. Students are taken off the Behavior Summary at the end of each trimester. Students will have a fresh start in the area of behavior at the beginning of each trimester. At the end of each trimester, students receiving two or less reports will participate in a special activity. Students who receive no conduct reports that trimester will receive an extra reward in addition to the special activity.

First Offense

Conduct Report and Problem Solving Form completed and signed.

Second Offense

Conduct Report and conference with parent.

Third Offense

Conduct Report and lose special or privilege for three consecutive days (assembly, field trip, class party) and conference with parent.

Fourth Offense

Conduct Report and after school detention. A Notice of Detention form will be sent home to notify the parents/guardians.

Fifth Offense

Conduct Report and one day suspension followed by a parent re-entry conference. The student shall not return to school, until this conference occurs.

*After suspension, student returns to second offense with applicable consequences.

HOME AND SCHOOL CONNECTION

Welcome back to school! This year my official name will be Mrs. French and my new email is Lfrench@constps.org. Please feel free to email me anytime, as I will get back to you in a timely manner. You can also call me this year as always by contacting the front office at 269-435-8960, and ask to speak to me directly, or leave me a message on my voicemail. Lastly, my mailbox is still in the front office, so please feel free to leave me a note in my mailbox at anytime, or send your child to school with a note for me, and I will make sure to get back with you as well.

I will be seeing students on an individual basis this year starting in October. This year, we are implementing a brand new Conduct Behavior Program school-wide (see above information) and my main focus for the month of September will be to get this program up and running. However, I am always here for as-needed assistance, and feel free to contact me anytime. My staff and I are very excited about this new Conduct Program, and we hope that we will have parental support to make this program a success. I will be in the classrooms to explain and role-play with the students each month our new Conduct Program so that we as a school can be on board and help make this year be a very successful one. Special thanks to our staff members who participated in the committee to help form this program, train all staff, and implement it fully for this school year!

Things to look forward to in the next months:

October: Big Brothers/Big Sisters Program continuing in our building (K-2nd)

November: Thanksgiving Adopt-a-Family School and Community Wide

2008 Classroom Guidance Topics: Behavior...And Much More!