

The Raider Times

Emmons School District 33



Volume 1, Number 18

March 6, 2009

Emmons is students, staff, parents, and community working together to prepare our students for a successful future through excellent experiences and growth opportunities.

Award-Winning Author Coming to Emmons... Young adult author Jordan Sonnenblick will visit with the Emmons community on Monday, March 23rd. We will have a middle school assembly during 3rd period, and Mr. Sonnenblick will conduct a 6th grade workshop from 11:00am-12:00pm. After lunch with the Library Advisory Board, Mr. Sonnenblick will conduct workshops with the 7th and 8th grade students. Sonnenblick's novel *Drums, Girls & Dangerous Pie*, which all 6th graders have read, was published by Scholastic Press in 2005. It was named to several Best of 2005 lists, including the American Library Association's Teens' Top Ten; it was also chosen to be part of the "Go the Distance" literacy initiative, which is a collaboration between Muhammad Ali and Scholastic

Val-Grams to Support Antioch Police Dep't... Our Kids' Coalition was able to purchase more than \$400 worth of teddy bears to donate to the Antioch Police Department. Antioch Police Chief Jim Foerster explained to us that each officer keeps a supply of teddy bears in his or her squad car to hand out to little children they encounter in the line of duty. This act of kindness helps to calm frightened children down and see the police in a positive light. We were very proud to contribute to this worthwhile cause.

March Parent-Teacher Conferences... A letter will be coming today with instructions for using our online service to register for Parent-Teacher conferences next month. Each Emmons teacher will be available for three hours of conference time between March 24th and 26th. Teachers will offer 18 10-minute conference slots on one of those days. Before we open up the online scheduler, teachers will be blocking out times for parents of students who are currently struggling or who feel would benefit from participating in a team conference.

Students Need School IDs... Drivers from Durham Bus Company have reported that over the last few weeks, a number of students are attempting to ride buses home other than the ones to

which they have been assigned. Students are telling the drivers that they are going to “hang out” or “play ball” at their friend’s house after school. These are not valid excuses for taking the wrong bus home. To ensure the continued safety of all of our students, Durham drivers will be periodically checking student identification cards and the color and number of the bus route printed on the back of each card. All students were issued, free of charge, school identification cards at the beginning of the school year. Students unable to produce an ID when asked by a driver to do so may be required to exit the bus and contact a parent for a ride home. We have also instructed Durham’s drivers to request the ID/bus pass of any student whom they do not recognize as a regular and scheduled rider on that route. Our drivers will begin implementing these procedures on Monday, March 9th.

End of Term Moved Back One Week... Due to the three Emergency Days we have used this school year, the end of trimester two has been moved back one week. The end of the term will be next Friday, March 13th, instead of today.

Track Coach Needed... We are putting out an SOS to anyone in the Emmons community who might have a connection to a track coach for the 2009 season. We already have meets scheduled but are having some difficulty in locating a responsible, qualified adult to coach our students. The track season is scheduled to start during the week of March 23rd. If you, or anyone you know, might be interested in assisting us with the track program this spring, please contact Mr. George Shepherd at (847) 395-1105 x251.

Spirit of Emmons Assembly... Parents and friends are invited to join us next Friday, March 13th, for our monthly Spirit of Assembly in the main gym. This month’s assembly will be sponsored by 2nd grade and will begin at 1:05pm.

List Serv Now Available... Parents interested in receiving notes, mail, and important updates from Emmons School electronically can now sign up for this service on the front page of our website. Once you have subscribed to this free service, you will receive notification of sports/activity schedule changes, newsletters, and emergency closing information via the email address you provide. All of our parents should take advantage of this great new service!

Back Packs for Open Arms... Emmons School second graders have planned and will run a Back Pack Food Drive for Antioch’s Open Arms Mission. Now through Friday, March 13th, our second graders will collect, sort, and count a variety of canned and non-perishable food items that we will send to Open Arms’ food pantry for their Back Pack Program. Through this program, the pantry fills backpacks with nutritious snacks and gives them to needy children on the weekends. Currently, 42 elementary-age children participate in this program. Our second graders are going the “extra degree” by collecting items like canned fruit, instant oatmeal, juice boxes, individually packaged cereal, instant soup and macaroni and cheese and then getting them ready for a Friday pick-up we have arranged with the social worker at Open Arms. Please

contact Mrs. Smith or Mrs. Blake at (847) 395-1105 if you would like to contribute any items to this program or if you have any questions.

The Week Ahead...

Monday, March 9th	ISAT Testing 8 th Grade Girls' Bball Tournament – North Prairie Study Hall – Library 3:30-4:00pm Library
Tuesday, March 10th	ISAT Testing 8 th Grade Girls' Bball Tournament – North Prairie Study Hall – Library 3:30-4:00pm Library
Wednesday, March 11th	ISAT Testing 8 th Grade Girls' Bball Tournament – North Prairie Study Hall – Library 3:30-4:00pm Library
Thursday, March 12th	ISAT Testing 8 th Grade Girls' Bball Tournament – North Prairie Study Hall – Library 3:30-4:00pm Library
Friday, March 13th	End of Trimester Two ISAT Testing Spirit of Emmons Assembly – 1:05pm Tabar Gymnasium 8 th Grade Girls' Bball Tournament – North Prairie Study Hall – Library 3:30-4:00pm Library