

Estabrook Newsletter

October 23, 2009

Greetings!

It has been a beautiful autumn week! Thank you for joining us at our International Potluck Night this past Wednesday. What a great evening! Special thanks to our teachers for their planning and organization, as well as all of the parents who helped organize, cook and contribute to the event. It was wonderful to see our families together in celebration of each other's cultures!

This past Tuesday night at the Lexington School Committee meeting, the Ad Hoc Facilities Committee presented their recommendations from the District Master Facilities Plan. (This plan is available on the Lexington Public Schools website.) There were several recommendations made to the School Committee this past Tuesday evening, one of which was a potential new school building for Estabrook, built on our current property. The School Committee is taking all of the recommendations under careful advisement.

The recommendation specific to Estabrook included applying for state reconstruction funds and cites a potential December 2017 date for completion of construction. In the meantime, the Ad Hoc Facilities Committee recommends maintaining our current school building.

The next scheduled meeting regarding the Ad Hoc Facilities recommendations will be on Monday, November 2, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. at Cary Hall Auditorium, 1605 Mass Ave. It will

be an Informational Session and Public Hearing on the report and recommendations. It is open to everyone and I encourage Estabrook parents to attend.

I am pleased to share another piece of good news. A recommendation has been made to the Superintendent to replace Estabrook School's large playstructure! The Superintendent's recommendation is the first step in the capital process. While this recommendation is subject to approval per the budget process, we are very excited that a new, replacement playground looks to be headed our way! Hooray!

A final reminder for families that next Wednesday, October 28th is a half-school day due to conferences. Students will dismiss at 12:15. Also, Grade One and Two students (only) will participate in a school Halloween Parade on Friday, October 30th at 9:00 a.m. Parents, please refer to information from your child's teacher. Last but not least, we are looking forward to seeing Kindergarten students and their parents on Friday evening at 6:30 p.m. at the P.E. Family Fun Night. We hope you can come play with us! Until next week...

Warmest regards,
Sandra A. Trach
Principal

H1N1 Vaccination Info

Lexington Public Schools Health Services and the Lexington Board of Health are collaborating to provide seasonal and H1N1 Clinics specifically for school students. Since the availability of the vaccine is not confirmed, further information about these clinics will be made available as the arrival of the vaccine becomes known. Updates will be available at 781-862-0500 x237 or at the following websites:

- <http://lps.lexingtonma.org/health.html> (scroll to middle of page for tentatively scheduled dates)
- <http://www.lexingtonma.gov/health/division-2008.cfm> (look to left hand side of page for Fall 2009 Flu Season Information link)

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Please Note!

Conference Half Days

Wednesday, October 28, November 4

Family Photo Day

Saturday, October 24

Kindergarten Fall Family Fun Night

Friday, October 30, 6:30-7:30

LEF Trivia Bee

Thursday, November 5

Picture Retake Day

Wednesday, December 9

International International Potluck Dinner

The International Potluck Dinner on Wednesday night was an enormous success! Congratulations to Jesse Richardson, Rachel Quebec and the Anti-Bias Committee, as well as Hemina KrishnaBachia and the International Potluck Dinner Committee, and many thanks for their hard work in making it such a wonderful evening.

This event would not have been successful without the effort of many people. Thank you to our wonderful teachers who go beyond the classroom to enrich our children. Special mention to Kristina Lieberman, Paula Michalosky, Beth Horan and Jaimie Langevin. They coordinated and made preparations “behind the scenes”, and perform this task every year. Special thanks to the parents who volunteered at the event: Sima Bilge, Delphine Lui, Yi Yang, Rachna Dang, Sanchita Ghosh, Yoon Sun Lee, Benedicte Brabant, Hong Cao, Tina McBride, and Saeeda Adamjee.

And thanks of course to all of the families for cooking and sharing sumptuous food representing their heritage. The PTA is hoping to assemble a cookbook containing all of the terrific recipes, so if you contributed something and are willing to share your recipe, please email it to Susan Foster at sefoster@rcn.com. Recipes should include the following: 1) recipe name, 2) country of origin, 3) your name, 4) list of ingredients, 5) time required to cook, and 6) the recipe. Thank you, Susan, for compiling this information!

A highlight of our evening was the evening performance. Kudos to Jusrin Padam (Indian dancer), the special Kung Fu champ who joined the performance on an impromptu basis, and our special guests, the Chinese YoYo group from the Lexington High School, who had the children glued to the performance.

Picture Retake Day

For those who missed having their school photo taken, there will be an opportunity on Wednesday, December 9, to have this done.

Library Volunteers Needed!

Are you looking for a way to volunteer some time at Estabrook on a regular basis? The library needs your help! The library is staffed with volunteers every school day from 8:30am -3pm (Thursdays 8:30-12). Shifts run for the entire school year either every week or every other week. Volunteers check books in and out to students and staff, shelve returned books, straighten the bookshelves, and help our librarian, Jennifer Kuhn, with a variety of library projects.

The open shifts are listed below with regularly scheduled classes listed where applicable:

Monday 8:30-10:30am A and/or B Week
(covering Silberman/Lieberman classes)
or
10-11:30am A and/or B Week

Wednesday 8:30-9:30am A and/or B Week
or
12-1:30pm or 1:30-3pm B Week

Thursday 8:30-9:30am A Week

Friday 2-3pm A Week
(covering Chechile/McConnell classes)

If you drive your child to school, the 8:30 Monday, Wednesday or Thursday shifts might be the perfect time, or if you pick up you could consider coming in early every other Wednesday or Friday for the end-of-day shifts!

If you are interested or would like more information please contact:

Kim Coburn
Library Volunteer Coordinator
thecoburns@aol.com
(781) 863-6285.

Thank you!