



Lyseth Newsletter

September, 2010

Principal
Lenore M. Williams

Assistant Principal
Sandra Gorsuch-Plummer

From the Principal

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to Lyseth Elementary School and the 2010-2011 School Year. The Lyseth School Community and I are looking forward to welcoming back old friends and getting to know all of our new friends in the days ahead. As we begin the 2010-2011 school year, I wanted to notify our parent community about some special upcoming events as well as some exciting new initiatives at Lyseth. I've also included some "housekeeping" logistical items to help with the transition to the new school year. We will also be working hard to keep our website updated to ensure you have that as a resource for school news and events. There you'll find our updated Student Handbook, school calendar and periodic updates on school-wide improvement goals and initiatives.

As always, we want you to be an active and involved participant in your child's learning and in the Lyseth School Community. We know you have talents and skills to share that will serve to make a great school even greater. It's going to be a wonderful year!

Lenore Williams
Principal

School Hours

Students may arrive at school at 8:40 AM. For those of you returning to Lyseth, you will note this is ten minutes later than years past. Please note the following:

8:40 AM Students arrive (bus students and walkers)
8:40-8:50 AM Morning Recess
8:55 AM Start of the school day
3:05 PM End of the school day

Please note: if your child arrives on school grounds prior to 8:40 AM, there will be no adult supervision per PEA contract.

School Lunch

The computerized Point of Sale system will continue to be utilized to collect funds and to track food sales. The system will work in the following manner:

1. Each student is assigned a personal account number which is also his/her student identification number throughout his/her school career.
2. The student enters his/her number on a keypad thereby recording the transaction that takes place. (Younger students are assisted in this process as needed.)
3. Each student may deposit money in his/her account to pay for breakfast and lunch purchases. Parents and guardians are encouraged to take advantage of the pre-payment option. Please put your child's ID number on your check or on the envelope containing cash.
4. All purchases will be deducted from the balance until depleted, however you will be notified before the account has a zero balance.

Breakfast is served daily at 8:40 AM

Breakfast Price:

\$1.25 Paid Students
\$1.50 Staff and Visitors
\$0 Free and Reduced Students

Lunch Meal Price:

\$2.25 Paid Students
\$0.40 Reduced Students
\$0 Free Students



CURRICULUM CORNER

Foreign Language

Students in Grade 3 across the district will receive Spanish lessons, two times per week for 30 minutes. We are very excited about the re-introduction of foreign language at the elementary level and welcome Mr. Andy Roy to Lyseth as our Foreign Language teacher. Muy Bueno!

School-wide PBIS by: Sandra Gorsuch-Plummer (Mrs. G.-P.)

We at Lyseth are very excited to announce a new school-wide initiative. A team, which includes teachers, a parent, a student and myself will be developing guidelines for expected student behavior. Below is some information regarding Positive Behavior, Interventions and Support or PBIS. This information is from the website www.PBIS.org. I encourage you to go to the website and investigate this great program.

What is School-wide PBIS?

The climate of each learning community is different; therefore, a one size fits all approach to student conduct is less effective than interventions based on the needs of each school. One of the foremost advances in school-wide discipline is the emphasis on school-wide systems of support that include proactive strategies for defining, teaching, and supporting appropriate student behaviors to create positive school environments. Instead of using a piecemeal approach of individual behavioral management plans, a continuum of positive behavior support for all students within a school is implemented in areas including the classroom and nonclassroom settings (such as hallways, buses, and restrooms). Positive behavior support is an application of a be-

haviorally-based systems approach to enhance the capacity of schools, families, and communities to design effective environments that improve the link between research-validated practices and the environments in which teaching and learning occurs.

Attention is focused on creating and sustaining primary (school-wide), secondary (classroom), and tertiary (individual) systems of support that improve lifestyle results (personal, health, social, family, work, recreation) for all children and youth by making targeted behaviors less effective, efficient, and relevant, and desired behavior more functional.

Why is it so important to focus on teaching positive social behaviors?

Frequently, the question is asked, "Why should I have to teach kids to be good? They already know what they are supposed to do. Why can I not just expect good behavior?" In the infamous words of a TV personality, "How is that working out for you?" In the past, school-wide discipline has focused mainly on reacting to specific student misbehavior by implementing punishment-based strategies including reprimands, loss of privileges, office referrals, suspensions, and expulsions. Research has shown that the implementation of punishment, especially when it is used inconsistently and in the absence of other positive strategies, is ineffective. Introducing, modeling, and reinforcing positive social behavior is an important step of a student's educational experience. Teaching behavioral expectations and rewarding students for following them is a much more positive approach than waiting for misbehavior to occur

before responding. The purpose of school-wide PBIS is to establish a climate in which appropriate behavior is the norm.

New Faces at Lyseth

Hope Keleher, Grade 1 Teacher
Aaron Rog, Grade 2 Teacher
Kara St.Germain, Grade 3 Teacher
Suzanne D'Bourget, Speech Therapy
Lisa Madison, Speech Therapy
Maura McDermott, Special Education
Bonnie Pulsifer, Data Literacy
Catherine Berryman, Library Ed. Tech
Andy Roy, Foreign Language Teacher

Welcome Back Picnic

Our Welcome Back Picnic hosted by the Lyseth PTA is on Thursday, September 16, 2010 at 5:30 PM. Please join us for a fun evening of food and music and find out how you can put your talents and skills to work as a member of our PTA or as a volunteer.

Open House Dates

**Thursday, September 23
for K/1/2**

**Thursday, September 30
for 3/4/5**

Bring the whole family!