

# JEFFERSON NEWS

Jefferson Elementary School

June 2009

## PRINCIPAL'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Parents/Guardians ~**  
This is it—the last newsletter of the 2008-2009 school year! I am amazed at how quickly the year has passed— & also by how much has been accomplished! When I look back on all that we did & all that was accomplished this year, I feel a great sense of pride about our Jefferson students, staff, & families! If someone asked me what my favorite “things” were this year, I would quickly be able to rattle off multiple accomplishments & activities. To begin with, I am simply happy to be the principal at such an amazing school. The kids have been a real blessing—although I loved being the assistant principal at the middle school (& teaching high school students in the distant past), these elementary students have truly captured my heart! Because of them, I have heard or seen something funny, unique, or special just about everyday! They sincerely managed to brighten every single day! (Another bonus: I also got lots of genuine hugs & smiles!) A second thing I have enjoyed is the feeling of pride from our students’ MEAP scores—we performed above the State average at every level and in every content area. That is a very impressive feat. (I cannot commend the teachers & students enough!) Other things I have enjoyed during the year

include the following: the Effort Challenges (movie, bowling, & dome/ice-cream sundaes), the anti-bullying assembly, playing basketball with a few of the sixth graders, the various fun raffles (UM-MSU, cartoons, sports memorabilia, & cake raffle), the development of an “Angel Fund” & all the support that has been generated, the awesomely decorated book fairs hosted by the PTO, having my husband coach the 3/4 grade Jefferson basketball team, meeting new friends (including staff & parents), & *finally*, having a wonderful overall experience as a first-year elementary principal! (A sincere thank you to all of you who have contributed positively to my experience.) I look forward to being back for the 2009-2010 school year. Now for the rest of this newsletter...

- I would like to take this time to welcome the **PTO Members for the 2009-2010 school year: Mr. Tim Boggs (President), Mrs. Santana Shalda (VP), Mrs. Michelle Blankenship (Treasurer), & Mrs. Kelly Schilk (Secretary)**. I look forward to working with you in the fall.
- Update on our **“1,000-Books Drive”**: **723 books** have been collected! Wow—Great job, students, parents, & staff who have made contributions! The 1,000 goal will continue in September.
- Congratulations to all those students who will be recognized at

our **Awards Ceremony on June 10th**. (More information about this will be coming!)

- **Congratulations to Vincent Pizzo, Rachel Zimmers, & Tyler Green, former Jefferson students**, for being selected among Wilson’s “Top 10 students” (based on academics & leadership). Vincent & Rachel were chosen as the scholarship winners!
- Reminder: Any parent who volunteered to work our **Field Day on June 4th**, please report to the sunken lobby area by 8:15 a.m. if you are helping in the morning, 10:30 a.m. if you are helping with lunch, & 11:30 a.m. if you are working the afternoon shift. Thank you!
- **A note from Mrs. Bilak**: I would like to thank all of you for your thoughts, prayers, & cards during my husband’s seven-year health challenge. He finally received a heart transplant and is doing well! My husband and I will both pray for each of you – that you will be blessed in times of difficulty. We will always remember how your thoughts and prayers carried us through. With ♥felt thanks,  
Donna and Rick Bilak
- More announcements on the back of this newsletter...



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**Secretary**

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### JUNE

- 2 Sixth-Grade Olympics @ RHS, 3:30 p.m.
- 4 Field Day
- 4 Market Day, 5-6 p.m.
- 9 “Get-Fit-For-Summer” class walks

- 10 Awards Ceremony 8:30 a.m. — ? ??
- 10 Fifth-Grade fun in the afternoon
- 11 Half day 11:10 a.m. dismissal
- 11 Sixth-Grade fun in the morning
- 11 5/6 Grade “clap out” walk to end the day

# \* BEST WISHES 5/6th GRADERS \*

GOOD LUCK AT WILSON MIDDLE SCHOOL!!!



WE KNOW YOU WILL REPRESENT JEFFERSON WELL!

## PRINCIPAL'S THANK YOU'S

- I have so many **individual people & businesses to thank** — I hope I do not offend anybody by failing to mention his/her name. (That is one reason why I am second-guessing my decision to do this—I do not prefer to thank individual people for fear that I will accidentally omit a deserving individual. Therefore, I apologize in advance if that happens.) Thank you to **this year's PTO: Tracey Ruston, Jen Szczesniak, Laura Shelton, and Michele Loya.** Your time and effort were greatly appreciated...I know that oftentimes being a PTO member can be a thankless job, so I say THANK YOU very much for joining me for my first year. Thank you also to all the PTO members' spouses who also showed up to work many functions.
- Mrs. Schulte**, thank you for handling Market Day, for decorating the school on various occasions, for taking it upon yourself to organize a fun-filled day for the sixth graders on the last day of school, for keeping the Birthday Board up-to-date, & for being in charge of the cake raffle which generated \$740. for our Angel Fund. Your creativity & generosity will be sorely missed. (**Mr. Schulte**, thank you also for your help & commitment as well!)
- Thank you, **Mrs. Lawyer** for your help with Market Day— & for being so approachable about helping in other ways.
- Thank you, **Mrs. Williams**, for being the Safety Coordinator— this was a learning year for the both of us, so I look forward to being of more assistance to you next year. (Thanks for being so easy to work with!)
- Thank you **Mrs. Sweet** for helping out in the office, laminating, putting together the year book, & helping out in so many other ways! Working with you is a pleasure!
- Thank you, **Mrs. Shuryan** for your help in the mornings and with the year book!
- Thank you **Mrs. Loya, Mrs. Raupp, & Mrs. Johns** for running the school store.
- Thank you **Mrs. Uhse, Mrs. Ruston, Mrs. Vaughn, Mrs. Bonman, Mrs. Johns, Mrs. Sinclair, Mrs. Szuch, Mrs. Szczesniak, & Mrs. Sweet** for ending the year on a strong note as lunch aides. (This time of year is the most challenging.) You were all so professional & reliable throughout the entire year.
- Thanks, **Mrs. Bonman**, for cutting all the Box Top for Education labels— & for keeping track of the Campbell Soup labels over the years.
- Thanks for all your generosity & hard work in the lunchroom, **Mrs. Maslanka!**
- Thank you, **Mr. & Mrs. Prygoski** for your generous sports memorabilia donations & for running the entire raffle— raising over \$ 1,000. for our "Playground Fund."
- Thank you, "**Mr. Jim**" (day-time engineer) for EVERYTHING you did to make the school year special for students. You have gone above and beyond to help mold them into fine young girls & boys. You also amazed me by fixing so many things, & you always did a thorough job! As if this wasn't enough, you also donated items for our raffles, helped come up with positive ways to involve students (even those who often got into trouble), & so much more. The entire staff appreciates you!
- Thank you **Richard & Robert Moritz**, for all your handy work around Jefferson (i.e. painting the cafeteria & stage wall & building cabinets in the main office). You do *amazing* work!
- Thank you to the following **businesses** for generous donations, discounted sales, or other opportunities that benefited our students: **Terri's Care-free Catering, Big Boys, Carabba's Italian Grill, Embroidme, Lifetouch, Education First Credit Union, Tally Dental Experience, Dr. Hadad, Dr. Schweyen, Gary's Catering, Smokie's Restaurant, Barry & Co., Naze's Printing, Indian Lanes, Star Theater (Taylor), & 7-11 (Northline & 12th).**
- Thank you to ALL of the **lead classroom parents** who coordinated parties and functions.
- Thank you to the many **parents** who consistently volunteered their time &/or made multiple donations throughout the year. Although not individually recognized in this newsletter, we know who you are!
- Thank you, every **staff member & Central Office employee** that contributed to Jefferson in some positive way!!! So many of you have left a lasting impression in my heart—I just hope I have thanked you somehow in at least some small way throughout the year.
- Have an ENJOYABLE & SAFE summer!!!**



*"Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it."*

*(Author Unknown)*

