

SEPTEMBER 2008 NEWSLETTER



BEARCAT DINER NEWS

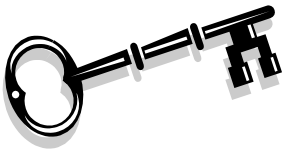
The Bearcat Diner would like to keep you informed of your Family Account balance. Please call the Diner Office 698-8158, 698-8159, or 698-8160 and provide us with your e-mail address.

Remember: For your convenience we have a drop box for payments located downtown behind City Hall.

Announcing **e-Funds For Schools** that allows parents additional payment options. E-funds is a way to make payments to your child's school lunch account, via the Internet, using a credit card or transferring money from your checking account. Use the following URL hyperlink address for Bearcat Diner Web payments:

<http://eps.mvbanking.com/cgi-bin/efs/login.pl?access=55019>

IMPORTANT REMINDER: The State of Nebraska requires that a new Free and Reduced application must be completed each year. If you have not submitted your application, please remember to submit your applications by Sept 24th. If we have not received your application in the Bearcat Diner Office for approval, your account will revert to a Paid Full Price Meal Account. You will be responsible for any charges that occur until a new application is received.



Quantum Learning: The Eight Keys of Excellence

We are excited about Quantum Learning at Park Elementary! It helps make learning fun, interactive, and exciting for students and teachers.

Quantum Learning is based on brain research and ties the 3 modes of learning into classroom instruction. The students will see, hear, and use movement to help the brain retain information better. The Eight Keys of Excellence help teach good life skills that everyone, children and adults, can use to be successful each and every day.

The keys are Integrity, Failure Leads to Success, Speak with Good Purpose, This Is It, Commitment, Ownership, Flexibility, and Balance. I will be focusing on the keys through my guidance lessons each week in every grade level. This will help provide a solid foundation for understanding and will promote positive behaviors for students wherever they may go in life.

Every month, I will highlight a Key of Excellence and share more information so that you will understand the language and meaning for each key. This will allow you, as parents, to use the keys in your home to provide consistency and promote positive behaviors in your family. The Key of Excellence for the month of September is Integrity!

Integrity is when we know what is right and we do what is right. When we conduct ourselves authentically and sincerely, the result is that our values and behaviors are aligned. So if you value honesty, keeping your word, and being fair then you have integrity!



WELCOME MRS. KLINGELHOEFER!!!!

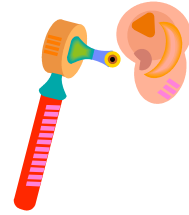
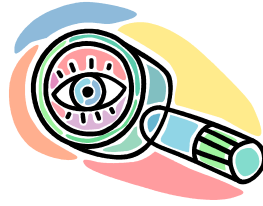
NEW SCHEDULE FOR THE NEW COUNSELOR!

I am very happy to inform you that I, Ginny Klingelhoef, will be your new guidance counselor at Park. Teresa Cordes has been assigned a full time position at Central Elementary. I will be at Park Tuesdays and Thursdays all day and Wednesday mornings from 8:00 - 11:00. I will also be serving Emerson and Glenwood when I am not at Park. I look forward to working with all of you and helping in any way that I can.

WELCOME MRS. CRAIG!!!!



Hello! My name is Melissa Craig. You or your student may see me in the hallways or classrooms at Park Elementary. This is my first year and I am one of three social workers for Kearney Public Schools. As a social worker, I will be the link between your family, the school and our community. Mrs. Klingelhoef, the guidance counselor, myself and all of Park staff will be working hand-in-hand to ensure each of our Park students achieve developmental and academic greatness. In addition to Park, I will be serving Central, Glenwood, Riverdale and Stone schools. I received a Masters in Social Work from the University of Nebraska at Omaha in 2006. I also hold a license as a mental health practitioner. My husband, Willie, and I have lived in and enjoyed Kearney for 12 years. We have three boys Nathan 11, Joshua 5 and Jackson 13 months. Please let me know if I can be of any assistance to you and your family. You can reach me at 627-6917. I look forward to the new school year and getting to know each of you!



HEALTH SCREENINGS

Teeth & Eyes & Ears – Oh my! There is nothing to fear, its just annual health screening day for our Park 1st thru 5th grade students. On Monday, October 6, the KPS nurses will be in the building to check our students' vision, hearing, blood pressure and dental health. If your student has results which fall below the state established guidelines, the nurse will notify you in a letter delivered by U.S. Mail. Heights and weights will be obtained and reported 2nd semester.

NEWS FROM THE GYM

Welcome back to another fun and exciting year in PE. Students in 2nd-5th grade are currently involved in their Fall Physical Fitness Assessment tests. These scores will be recorded and sent home at the end of the 1st semester.

Students in Kindergarten and 1st grade have been working on activities that involve Personal and General Space.



A big Thank-you to the Park PTO for purchasing a new outdoor volleyball net that can be used during recess and PE classes. It is up and ready for action!!!! **Just a reminder that P.E. is on Wednesdays and Thursdays every week and every other Friday. Please remember your tennis shoes on those days.**

Miss Grant

Birthday Wishes To:

LaDawna Richards (SPED Para) 8/9

Connie Jelkin (Media) 8/12

Ginny Klingelhofer (Counselor) 8/18

Amy Denny (SPED) 8/25

Judy Carranza (Third) 9/23

Wendy Lundstrom (SPED Para) 9/27

Shelly Rozean (Para) 9/28



NOTES FROM THE FRONT DESK

*Please remember the circle drive in front is for quick pick up and drop off. If you walk your child in, please park in another area. Please enter the circle drive heading East only.

*Please do not bring your child to school BEFORE 7:45 A.M. There is no supervision prior to this time.

*Thank you for getting the packets in with all the information sheets. We are close to 100% return!

*If you want to eat lunch with your child at school, please call me as soon as possible and not after 10 a.m. with your request.

*Always remember to call me with any address or phone changes so in case of any emergency, we can reach you immediately. We also update district records and Bearcat Diner information for you.

*We will be following the district policy for tardies this year. If you sign your child out of school prior to 3:05 p.m., it will be considered a guardian dismissal and be counted as a tardy. We have always been very lenient about this policy in the past, but feel it is becoming necessary to be consistent with all the elementary schools in Kearney. We will be rewarding outstanding attendance (no tardies or absences) this year on a quarterly basis with prizes and stickers.

Remember to save your Box Tops for Education and cash register receipts from Sunmart all year long!!! Containers are in each child's classroom for collection.

FROM THE SCHOOL NURSE

Back to School—Time to Check for Head Lice

Now that school has started, parents are encouraged to check children for head lice as part of their family's regular routine, according to Wayne Kramer, State Medical Entomologist for the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services Regulation and Licensure. Lice are reddish-brown, wingless insects; lice eggs, or nits, are grayish-white, always oval shaped and are attached at an angle to the side of the hair shaft. **Tips:** Check children and watch for signs of head lice, such as frequent head scratching. Remove all nits with a comb or fingernails to assure total lice treatment. Use a medicated shampoo, lotion or crème rinse, but remember that all lice-killing products are pesticides and label directions should be followed. Check with your physician before using lice treatment pesticides if the child has allergies, asthma or epilepsy. Wash bedding and clothing in hot water and dry in a hot dryer. For more information regarding head lice or to watch a video on head lice, go to www.hhs.state.ne.us/epi/epilice.htm.

As your children enjoy the outdoors, I would like to share a little information from Two Rivers Public Health Department about mosquito bites and insect repellent. Mosquito repellent is a chemical applied to outer clothing and/or skin that makes a person 'undesirable' to insects. By avoiding mosquito bites, we are avoiding a possible bird-mosquito-human transmission of West Nile Virus.

Keep yourself and your family safe:

- When possible, stay inside at dusk and dawn when mosquitoes are active
- Wear long sleeves, pants and socks. Light colored clothing is best
- Use insect repellents with DEET, Picaridin and Oil of lemon eucalyptus according to package directions

DEET is a chemical which is effective in repelling mosquitoes. DEET is not recommended for use on children under two months of age. The concentration of DEET in products may range from less than 10% to over 30%. The efficacy of DEET plateaus at 30% which is the maximum concentration currently recommended for infants and children. Products with greater percentages of DEET do not provide greater protection, they only last longer. The most sensible approach would be to select the lowest concentration effective for the amount of time spent outdoors.

If your child will be outside for an extended period during the school day (for example, on a field trip or outdoor education) and you want them to wear insect repellent, we ask that you apply the product of your choice prior to bringing them to school.

PTO meeting is 9/9/08 at 7:00 p.m.

After-School Snack Sales

The snack sale schedule this year is as follows. Details are attached in a flyer.

September 12.....First Grade
October 17.....Third Grade
November 14.....Fifth Grade
December 12.....P.E./Resource
January 23.....Kindergarten
February 27.....Second Grade
March 27.....Fourth Grade
April 24.....Music/Art