

# Lincoln Elementary School Newsletter

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Brent Conway, Principal



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## Upcoming Events

- 10/12 – Columbus Day – No school
- **10/13 – Teacher Prof. Dev. Day – No School**
- 10/17 – Fall Cleanup 9-11 AM
- 10/20 – PTO Mtg. 7PM
- 10/23 – Fall Festival at Lincoln 6:30-8:30 PM
- 10/27 – Early Release for Parent Conf. – 12:30 PM
- 10/27 – Jeff Danger Enrich. Program 12:30 PM
- 10/28 – Early Release for Parent Conf. – 12:30 PM
- 10/28 – Cliff Hangers Rock Climbing 12:30 PM
- 10/30 - Halloween Parade 1:30 PM
- 11/3 – Local Election
- 11/5 – Early Release for Parent Conf. – 12:30 PM
- 11/5 – Reptile Guy 12:30 PM
- 11/5 - Int. Welcoming Reception 6:30 PM
- 11/6 – Picture re-take day

## Principal's News

We have had a great fall thus far and the students continue to show high levels of engagement and excitement for school. The fall is also a busy time for some exciting activities and events.

I hope our families will be able to join us for our PTO Fall Festival Community Event which will be Friday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> in the evening. Students do dress in costumes, and some adults too. It is a great family fun event that has become a Lincoln tradition.

At school we will also celebrate the fall with our annual Halloween Costume Parade which will be held on Friday, October 30<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 in the afternoon on the back playground lot. Parents are welcome to join us and see all of the costumes. Please remember, no props that are a violation of school rules are allowed, such as fake weapons. Students will not have time during the day to put on makeup and all costumes should be safe for students to move around in, especially climbing the stairs. It is still a regular school day with our celebration at the end of the day.

We also have our Fall Cleanup scheduled for Saturday, October 17<sup>th</sup> from 9-11 AM. Please consider coming by to lend a hand with the outdoor cleanup.

I had a chance to see most of the children's school photos and they seemed to come out very well. However, we always schedule a picture re-take day for those who were unhappy or were absent on the day the photos were taken. Picture retake day is schedule for November 6<sup>th</sup>.

This coming weekend is an extra long weekend. Monday is Columbus Day and **there is no school on Tuesday, October 13<sup>th</sup>**. Tuesday has been reserved as Professional Development Day for all professional staff with the Melrose Public Schools. For those interested, an agenda of professional development is available on the MPS website.

On a brief side note, please be sure you are being respectful of all parking signs in the neighborhood. At

times this fall, parents have parked for a long portion of the day in areas designated for commercial business traffic, at 30 minute parking limits. As a school community, our business neighbors have always been supportive of us, and we want to be sure we are just as supportive of them.

Last night, all of the Melrose Elementary principals along with a few teachers and other administrators presented a follow-up information session titled "Meeting the Needs of All Learners." There was a Question and Answer session at the end for about 90 minutes. Several Lincoln parents spoke and asked questions. Much of the discussion focused on the flexible grouping model.

Lincoln is using two types of flexible grouping models. At the earlier grades (K-2), students are flexibly grouped within their own classroom but at grades 3-5, students are being grouped across the grade level, creating movement and different levels of focused and defined instruction. A few parents spoke favorably of how the change has affected their child, but we really only heard from a few. This continues to be a developing process and feedback on how the changes are affecting your child is essential to our assessment of the changes. The goal is to "Meet the Needs of All Learners" and we want to be sure that we are using an instructional model that helps us achieve that goal. Please consider letting me know what you think about the changes. A formal survey will come from the district later this fall, but I really want to hear directly from you.

As a staff, we are having discussions about the benefits and some of our challenges and concerns. I can truly say that our staff has been open minded and willing to take some risks. We need to continue to assess the effectiveness of our changes, and I want to be sure that we have a representative sampling of feedback to make the most informed decisions.

## Congratulation to 2<sup>nd</sup> Grader Matthew Coviello for winning the Bicycle Raffle from the Genevieve's Fall Fundraiser.

## Early Release Day Programs – Sign up early and save!

Lincoln School will be offering Early Release Day Enrichment Programs. These are separate from the after school Education Stations Program. You may sign-up for all 7 at once and save \$20, or you may sign up for them individually at a cost of \$20 per day. A sign-up form went home at the start of the year but you may also refer to the website for the sign-up form.



Flyers will be sent home as each day approaches.

Below are the Enrichment Programs  
 10/27/09 - Jeff Danger Science Ranger  
 10/28/09 – Cliffhangers Rock Climbing  
 11/5/09 – Curious Creatures – Reptile Guy  
 2/3/10 – Let's Van Gogh Art  
 3/9/10 – Mad Science  
 3/10/10 – Magician/Comedian David Hall  
 6/2/10 – Ed the Wizard

Please call the Lincoln Office with questions.

## International Welcoming Reception

The Lincoln School Site Council, along with Mayor Dolan's office and the Melrose Human Rights Commission would like to welcome our new families from foreign countries to join us at the International Welcoming Reception.

This event has taken place for several years at the Lincoln School and it always proves to be an outstanding gathering of community members. More recently, the Lincoln School Site

Council has made a commitment to reach out to our immigrant families and make them feel welcomed and supported.

This year's event will be held Thursday, November 5, 2009 at 6:30 PM in the Lincoln School Café. The Pot Luck style dinner and reception is sure to be another success this year.

*Citizenship \* Acceptance  
 Respect \* Effort \* Safety*

## 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Lincoln CARES Principal Awards

At recent grade level assemblies, students who were nominated for a Lincoln CARES Principal's Award received their certificates. These students were acknowledged by Lincoln staff members for displaying the characteristics of the Lincoln CARES motto. Our K-3 students are also recognized for receiving paw stickers throughout the month.

The following are the nominated 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Students from the month of September and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Students from September.

### 4<sup>th</sup> Graders

Colin Kiernan	Colin Mullane
Antonina Nadeau	Indya Sanford
Anthony Colozzo	Kevin Burke
Caleb Zimmerman	Lily Fabrizio

### 5<sup>th</sup> Graders

Isaiah Bedsole	Rose Meier
Alison Butts	Sam Stallings
Catherine Torpey	Emmett Peck