

The Fox Chase Flyer

Monthly Publication of the Fox Chase Home and School Association

Volume 11, Issue 6

February 2012

Fox Chase Home and School Association Our Vision and Mission

Fox Chase Parents:
Advocates
for Future Leaders....
Our Children
We Encourage Them and
are Dedicated to Building
Self-Esteem and a Sense of
Belonging so *Everyone*
Reaches Their True
Potential.

Fox Chase:
A Premier School
Community Instilling
Character, Honesty,
and Responsibility in
Everything We Do.



From the Principal's Desk

Dear Fox Chase Parents,

In my last couple of letters, I've written about the Common Core State Standards, as an introduction and as they are related to social emotional learning. The Common Core State Standards (CCSS) have been adopted by the State of Illinois as the standards we will use to develop curriculum, plan for instruction, and as a basis for assessment. The Illinois State Achievement Test, or ISAT, will soon cease to exist as we move toward a new assessment aligned with the CCSS. It's more than the assessment that will be changed; instruction will look very different as the CCSS are incorporated into our classrooms.

There are many differences between the CCSS and the Illinois Learning Standards that we've been using for many years. The expectations have shifted in some areas and there is increased emphasis in others, but a key difference is the introduction of Anchor Standards for Reading/Language Arts, Math Practices for Math and statements that describe literate individuals. Let's examine one of the Anchor Standards for Reading.

“Under Key Ideas and Details: The student will read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text. They will determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development; summarize the key supporting details and ideas. They will analyze how and why individuals, events, and ideas develop and interact over the course of a text.”

That's a lot! Especially when you wonder how a kindergartner is going to do this. If you break it down and think of the kind of text a kindergartner will typically use, it's much easier. Here are some things kindergartners would be expected to do:

- With some help, the students can ask and answer questions about a story.
- With some help, the students retell a story.
- With some help, the students can tell you the characters, setting, and major events of a story.

That makes it a bit easier to grasp, doesn't it? Here is the description of the same standard for fifth graders:

- The students will quote accurately from a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.
- The students will determine a theme of a story, drama, or poem from details in the text, including how characters in a story or drama respond to challenges of how the speaker in a poem reflects upon a topic; summarize the text.
- The students will compare and contrast two or more characters, setting, or events in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text (e.g., how characters interact).

This comparison is where you can see the progression of the students' skills over time. This standard takes the skills from a very literal, basic level to a level where the students have to critically examine what they've read in order to apply and defend it.

Students are already doing some of this. With the full adoption of the CCSS, the students will be expected to demonstrate their skills independently, in presentations, in writing, and with correct form. We will be very busy around here—teachers and students.

More to come on the Common Core State Standards. Feel free to check out the PTA website for some great information on the Common Core. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns at any time, please contact Mr. Griffin or me at 630.636.3000.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Susan Tiedt, *Principal*



Fox Chase Home & School Meeting Minutes January 12, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 7:08p.m. The December minutes were approved.

President's Report

President Amy Bartle welcomed everyone and thanked all for coming. We are still waiting to hear back from the State of Illinois regarding our non-profit status and paperwork. The PTO Today Show is on February 28th. Please let Amy know if you'd like to attend.

Principal's Report

Happy New Year! Thanks to all who helped to throw wonderful Holiday Parties. This is a pretty quiet month at Fox Chase. It's the end of the 2nd quarter and Winter MAP testing is going on at this time. Reading/Math Games Night has been canceled. Parent/Teacher Conferences are on February 16th and 17th this year. The Book Fair will be from February 14th-17th, with online ordering starting on February 1st.

Treasurer's Report

Forty-six teachers took advantage of the Back To Learning money this year.



Committee Business & Events

Fundraising/Spirit Wear

The committee is preparing the items for the upcoming Battle of the Baskets, raffle and silent auction, which is this Friday, January 27th. Home and School will donate gift cards for the auction. All orders for the Cookie Grams/Pen Grams are due on January 31st. The Grams will be delivered on February 13th. The Committee will be selling spirit wear and Cookie/Pen Grams at the upcoming Bingo Family Fun Night this Friday, January 27th.

Family Fun/Bingo

Bingo Night will be this Friday, January 27th from 6:00 – 8:30 p.m. The committee will start setting up at 5:00 p.m. There will be Bingo, food, drink, a raffle and silent auction. A fun night is being planned.

Holiday Parties

The Holiday Parties were a huge success! The Valentine Parties will be on Tuesday, February 14th at 2:30 p.m. Volunteers are allowed to check in 20 minutes before the beginning of the party.

Yearbook

So far about 267 yearbooks have been ordered. The committee will continue to take orders online and in paper form, but the price will be increased to \$20 soon.

Teacher Appreciation

An end of the month coffee is being planned for the teachers. Meals are being planned and organized for the upcoming Parent/Teacher Conferences in February.

Market Day

This month we sold just under \$3600 worth of items. For the 2nd month in a row, this total bumped us up to Market Day's second profit tier, which earned us 15% of our sale (\$536) instead of the standard 10%.

BoxTops

We just received a check for \$3,203.28 from Box Tops that were turned in from March 2011 – October 2011. Keep those Box Tops coming in!

Old Business

n/a

New Business

The Family Fun Committee is considering a Just Dance themed party for an upcoming Family Fun Night.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer O'Reilly
Recording Secretary





News From the President...

Amy Bartle, President of the Fox Chase Home & School Association

Dear Fox Chase Families:

I know the saying goes that you can't teach an old dog new tricks, but I have to say that being a part of Home and School has certainly taught this old dog a few things. (Or at the very least confirmed some things that I had been suspicious of for a long time...) So, here are a few truths I have learned over the past few years.

If you have it, they will come.

Running Home and School events is sometimes a little like throwing a party. You plan, you send out the invitations, you clean, cook, shop, and then you wait. Will people RSVP? Will they like your party idea? Will they come to your party? There is no use worrying about it, people will come. (Although I still breathe a sigh of relief when we open the doors and a line of eager families marches in). So thanks for showing up and keeping us from feeling like lame party-throwers!

Things will work themselves out.

Have you ever tried to plan a party that could have somewhere between 100 and 500 people show up-and you won't know until they get there? How much food do you get? Have we ordered enough seating? How will we keep up with the demand? Are we going to have too much stuff? While I can't say that every event has worked out perfectly, they have worked out. Thankfully our "guests" have understood if they have to wait a few minutes, or share a table.

We even luck out sometimes with an insightful participant who realizes that if they are waiting in line a long time, somebody desperately needs some help and will jump in to lend a hand.

Thankfully we can usually find a willing volunteer to make a run for more ketchup or cups or another crockpot or whatever we have run low on.

If you ask, people will help. Okay, you may have to ask more than one time, but they will come around...

Sometimes it can be hard to ask for help instead of playing "The Little Red Hen" and taking care of things yourself. Truth be told, it can be hard for a lot of us to relinquish control of things. When it comes to work, the old adage "the more the merrier" definitely applies. When we reach out and ask for help we meet new parents, bond over menial labor and get things done faster to boot. That goes double for donations. Usually all it takes is a little word of mouth, a couple e-mails and whatever we are looking for makes it way to us. The community here is good about answering the call to arms in the name of Fox Chase!

Keep your feet on the ground and keep reaching for the stars. Okay, I totally stole that one from Casey Kasem. (Remember him?) But really, was better advice ever uttered?

Ideas don't have to be big to have a big impact. Little ideas are a lot like a raindrop hitting the surface of a pond. While they may not seem that forceful on their own, they often cause a ripple effect than can have a big impact once it reaches the shore.

The little things really matter at Fox Chase. Box Tops are a great example. So are many of the volunteer activities we support. Many only ask for an hour or two of your time, but then mean a lot to those that they help. One hour of your time, one donation sent in can touch many staff, students and families at Fox Chase.

Keep it simple. I really think the best events are uncomplicated. You may not find a lot of fuss (especially if I am in charge of something) but I hope that means that we have focused on the bottom line-fun for families, support for teachers and getting the job done. In the end, keeping things simple means that we can spend less money, ask for fewer donations and spend less time setting things up and cleaning up at the end of the night. (But I thought that "keep it simple" sounded better than "cheap and easy"...)

We will find a way. The last couple of years we have had some new challenges. The changes in the economy that started a few years ago, going paperless, looming changes in boundaries popping up every few years. Particularly hard hit with these changes has been fundraising. But we always seem to find a way to bring in the funds to keep Home and School operating. We are a resilient group at Fox Chase! So thank you for hanging in there with us as we find our way!

Hopefully you have found these things to be true of Home and School as well. I am very happy to be learning as I go with all of you!

See you at school!

Amy Bartle



Important Dates in February

Wednesday, February 1 is a School Improvement Day. All students will dismiss at 11:55 a.m. Lunches WILL NOT be served and there is NO KINDERGARTEN that day.

Valentine’s Day parties will take place in the afternoon on February 14. Room parents assigned to the parties may sign in beginning at 2:10 p.m. Parties will begin at 2:30 p.m.

Monday, February 20 is President’s Day; there is no student attendance.

Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held on Thursday and Friday, February 16 and 17. Students will be dismissed at 1:40 p.m. on Thursday, February 16 and there is no student attendance on Friday, February 17. Kindergarten will meet from 11:40 a.m. to 1:40 p.m. on Thursday.

[Click here to view the district calendar for the 2011-2012 school year.](#)

Colder Days are Here!

Please make sure your child is dressed for the weather. Students who do not have proper outerwear will be required to stay inside for recess.

Kindergarten Registration

Registration for Fox Chase students entering kindergarten in the fall of 2012 is scheduled for Monday, March 12 at the Central Registration Office, located at Door 2 of the District Administration Building, 4175 Route 71. Registration hours are 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. and then 4:00 -7:00 p.m. Call the Fox Chase Office to add the child’s name to our list and [Click here for more information and a link to print a Registration Packet.](#)

New Attendance Code –Important!

Due to a change in how we are required to code absences in our student database, it is necessary to ask the following: If your student is arriving late, leaving early or missing an entire day **and** involves a medical appointment (doctor, dentist, orthodontist, eye doctor, etc.), please obtain a note from the provider stating the date of the visit. Many providers have these available for the asking.

The Attendance Line is available 24/7 and can be reached at 630-636-3001. It is the law in the State of Illinois that a student must be called in to school each day they are not in school.

Special Absence Form

If your child will miss two or more days due to a vacation, you must complete and return a Special Absence Request Form. **The absence will be marked unexcused until the form is received in the office.** You can obtain the form on the Fox Chase website, by clicking the link below, or by calling the office and having it sent home with your child.

[You can obtain a form by clicking here.](#)

Voter Registration

Tuesday, February 21 is the deadline to register to vote in the March 20 election. You may register to vote in the Fox Chase office between the hours of 8:00-11:30 a.m. and 1:00-4:00 p.m., as we have a voter registrar on staff. You must bring two proofs of ID, including a photo ID and something showing your current address. Call the office at 630-636-3000 with questions.

Lost and Found

Our Lost and Found bins can be found in the lunchroom. If your student is missing something it is quite possible it is in the Lost & Found. Items remaining in Lost and Found after conferences (all items will be displayed on tables) will be donated to Goodwill.

Catch us on Facebook!



No Cell Phones Allowed in School Zones!



In partnership with local community not-for-profit organizations, District 308 is helping to inform its families about the wonderful extra-curricular opportunities available to their children through this online service.

Digital Messenger replaces the previous flier distribution process that required thousands of paper copies be printed and distributed directly to students for insertion in their take-home folders. Digital Messenger will instead post those fliers online. Now parents can focus on school and district information in their children’s take-home folders, while saving hundreds of trees in the process!

Anyone with an email address can sign up to receive notification of recent flier postings through the district’s Communicate 308 (click here for further information) program or they can visit the Digital Messenger Web page directly for the monthly updates.

Qualifying organizations wanting to distribute information through the Digital Messenger service must electronically submit a completed Distribution Request Form along with a copy of the proposed flier/announcement.

Website Reminders

Don’t forget to check out our website www.foxchasehsa.com for updates and copies of forms and notes! Items will be updated weekly – don’t miss out!

Committee News

Fundraising

What a success the Family BINGO and RAFFLE day was!! We had many winners who walked out the doors with big smiles on their faces. A Big thank you goes to all the families who donated items for the Battle of the Baskets. A HUGE THANK YOU goes to the Darling family for donating the IPOD Touch and the Ruggiero family for donating the bicycle. And an extra special Thank You goes out to all the wonderful Fox Chase Staff who donated raffle items. Thank You to all!!

Our final big fundraiser of the year will be our annual Schaefer's Greenhouse spring plant sale. Order forms will be sent out mid March and flowers will be in before Mother's Day. Maybe thoughts of spring will make winter go away!!

Thanks again to all who participated in any aspect of fundraising this year...from selling, to sorting orders to donating, the fundraising committee appreciates all the support we receive from each and every one of you.

Loreta Schramer & Jen McAleer
Co-Chairs

Market Day

FREE! FREE! Order Market Day in February and earn yourself two free products! The first gift is a four pack of the oh-so-yummy Cookie Dough Cups, free with a \$40 purchase. Place your order



online of \$90 or more, enter the promo code FEBBONUS, and receive both the Cookie Dough Cups **and** FREE Chicken Gems (1 lb.). Paper orders are due at school by Wednesday, February 8th and online orders at www.marketday.com are due by 11:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 11th.

This month is also cookie dough bonus days! You have the opportunity to buy Market Day's famous pre-portioned cookie dough that will help our school earn extra profit. Simply order the cookie dough with your regular order by following the instructions above. Nine delicious varieties, including Lemon Cooler and Snickerdoodle, are waiting to visit your oven! J We appreciate each family that ordered Market Day in January, which earned our school \$536. Big thanks to the volunteers who helped at January's pick-up night: Amy Bartle, Jeff Boone, Matthew Gerler, Rachel Guinn, Sarah Lemerman and all the kids who came along with their parents to help. An extra special thanks to Matt Darling who stood outside on a very cold evening to offer curbside service!

And we can't forget those who worked behind the scenes making the reminder calls: Amy Lemerman, Sherry Udit, Jenny Weaver and Sherry Weise. We LOVE our Market Day volunteers!

Kerri Boone & Melissa Nowak
Co-Chairs

Hospitality Committee

Thank you to the following ladies of the Hospitality Committee who sent in bake sale items or donations for prize bags for the Family Fun Bingo Night held on January 27. Thank you to: Kourtnei Weaver, Roseanne Whittaker, Leslie Kelsheimer, Kate Moeller, Jenny Clymer, Josie Pignato, Janet Henderson, Jenn McAleer, Wendy Evans, Karla Lundy and Kim Balder.

Kim Balder
Chair



Family Fun

The popcorn was popping, the numbers were falling and the gym was packed. We are N-tirely thankful for all the bingo help! We had a fun-filled evening. Special thanks go out to the following: Carrie Ruggiero, Mrs. Hinz, Tori Hinz, Kerri Boone, Janet Henderson, Joann Peters, Betsy Kammerer, Maddie Kammerer, Matt from OEHS, Maddie Petrauskas, Beth Harshberger, Abby Bartle, Autumn Bartle, Evan Hinz, Jake Olcott, all the dads willing to haul tables for us, Julie Fujii (for her artistic posterwork), the Hospitality Committee for prize and dessert donations, the Lundy family for the coffee and cocoa donations, Mr. Griffin (for calling some mean bingo), the custodial staff, and any other crowd members who were willing to pitch in that evening. Your help was most appreciated and made the evening go very smoothly. Special thanks also goes out to our Fundraising Committee for arranging all the fun raffles that added an extra element of surprise to the end of the evening.



Committee News cont'd

Thanks also go out to all those who made donations of raffle prizes and items for the auction baskets. Special thanks go out to all the staff who participated in our raffle items – extra fun for the kids! Thank you to the 200-plus who attended that evening and played many rousing rounds of bingo. We appreciate all the bingo admissions, raffle tickets, and (premium beef) hot dogs purchased. We hope that the evening was fun for everyone!

Watch for our next event coming on April 20th. Might want to dust off your dancin' shoes...

*Amy Bartle, Ken Bartle &
Stacy Sorensen*
Family Fun Co-chairs



New Opportunity

The hot dogs at Bingo Night were sponsored by Bartle & Bartle CPA's. Would you or your company like to sponsor part of a Home and School event in the future? Please let us know. We have sponsorships of all sizes available. You will get a hearty thank you, the admiration of your peers and a mention like this in future Home and School publications. Please contact Ateamcapn@comcast.net if you might be interested. We will contact any interested parties when we have opportunities coming up.



FEBRUARY

All New Website Contest!
Visit the Home and School website at www.foxchasehsa.com. We need to know what the date for Muffins with Mom is this year. E-mail your answer and child's name and teacher by February 10th to Ateamcapn@comcast.net. All correct answers will be entered in a drawing for a small fun prize. Keep checking our website for more fun!

Congratulations to last month's winner:
Ryan Kazda.



Print and Post
on your fridge!

Fox Chase Elementary School

School Contact Information

Fox Chase Elementary School

260 Fox Chase Drive North
Oswego, IL 60543
636-3000 636-3078 (fax)
www.oswego308.org/schools/foxchase/

Attendance Line 636-3001
Remember to also indicate symptoms

Principal

Susan Tiedt 636-3010
stiedt1031@oswego308.org

Assistant Principal

Mr. Keith Griffin 636-3011
kgriffin@oswego308.org

School Nurse

636-3002

School Social Worker

Ms. Mary Dwyer 636-3005
mdwyer0527@oswego308.org

Home & School Executive Board Contact Information

www.foxchasehsa.com

President

Amy Bartle 551-4754
ateamcapn@comcast.net

Vice President

Kerri Boone 554-8631
mom_of_rak@yahoo.com

Treasurer

Betsy Kammerer 554-9782
betsyk174@yahoo.com

Corresponding Secretary

Lisa Petrauskas 554-1497
lisapetraus@comcast.net

Recording Secretary

Jen O'Reilly 554-9795
oreilly797@sbcglobal.net

February

- 1 School Improvement Day (11:55am dismissal)
- 3 Watch for Newsletter in inboxes
- 7 Father's Forum
- 9 3rd Grade gym night
- 11 Market Day ordering deadline
- 13 **Home and School meeting 7pm**
- 14 Valentine Room parties
- 15 Market Day pickup night 6:30-7:15pm
- 16 5 hour day (1:40 dismissal-conferences)
- 17 No school (conferences)
- 20 Presidents' Day (no school)
- 24 **Newsletter deadline**
- 24 Daddy Daughter Dance 7-9pm

March

- 2 Watch for Newsletter in inboxes
- 6 Father's Forum
- 8 4th Grade gym night
- 10 Market Day ordering deadline
- 12 **Home and School meeting 7pm**
- 14 Spring Pictures day (tentative)
- 14 Market Day pickup night 6:30-7:15pm
- 20 3rd Grade Musical 7pm
- 22 End of 3rd Quarter 46 days
- 23 Institute Day (no school)
- 26 Spring Break
- 30 **Newsletter Deadline**





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Children entering grades one through six will be immersed in a weeklong adventure of creative problem solving. This is a chance to enhance your child's education while they have fun this summer!

The ENVISION program is coming to:

Wolf's Crossing Elementary

3015 Heggs Road, Aurora, IL 60503

June 18 - 22, 2012

9:00am to 3:30pm

Directed by:

Amanda Bratt

abratt1120@oswego308.org

630.207.8667

Enroll Today at www.campinvention.org or call 800.968.4332
Don't miss out - \$25 off by registering by March 30, 2012

One of the real world challenges in the ENVISION program is Magnetropolis™
 Ahoy! Set sail to the magnificent island of Magnetropolis and explore
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2012 CAMP INVENTION REGISTRATION FORM

WOLF'S CROSSING ELEMENTARY (The ENVISION Program)

June 18 - 22, 2012 from 9:00am to 3:30pm

Program Code: C-1L08-10632-12

Parent's Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail Address _____

Day Phone _____ Evening Phone _____

Child's Name	Alumnus?	Gender	Date of Birth	Fall 2012 Grade Level
	Yes / No	M / F		

School Child Attends _____

Special Needs _____

Does your child require an epinephrine syringe? Yes No

Availability is limited. Program location is subject to change. Each registrant will receive a free Camp Invention T-shirt. Base price for the 2012 Camp Invention program is \$290, of which \$50 is non-refundable. Refunds are available up to three weeks prior to the start date of the program. Promotional registration discounts are valid only for registrations received by the applicable date and cannot be used with any other discount.

Yes, please bill my credit or debit card in installments as outlined below...
 *An installment payment plan is available at no additional cost if you use a credit or debit card and your registration is received on or before March 30, 2012. If you choose this option, please note that advertised discounts do not apply. A third of your program cost will be charged at the time of registration, and the remaining balance will be divided into two equal payments that will be automatically charged at approximately 30 days and 60 days after the initial deposit. All 3 payments can only be paid by credit or debit card.

Yes, I want to help economically disadvantaged children participate in the Camp Invention experience. Please accept my donation of \$_____, which I understand is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Check # _____ (payable to Camp Invention; please do not send cash)

Credit Card Number _____

  

Expiration Date _____ Cardholder Name _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Return registration form (one for each attending child) and payment in full to: Camp Invention, 3701 Highland Park NW, North Canton, OH 44720

EARLY

Register online at www.campinvention.org or via telephone at 800.968.4332 or fax your registration form to 330.849.8528