

Nerstrand Family Update

Mission Statement: Nerstrand Elementary School will empower students to be self-directed, lifelong learners by providing a nurturing, multiage environment that fosters cooperation and character development.

Thursday, June 5, 2014

2013-2014 School Year Recap!

As we end another school year, it's fun to look back on the past school year and reflect on all that has happened and that we've accomplished. Seems like it was yesterday when the new kinders and other new students rang the bell to usher in the first day of school on September 3rd, 2013! We've had School pictures, Band Display Night, Prairie Appreciation Day, trips to River Bend Nature Center, Brickmaking with Larry, Discovery Day, Fun Run at Alexander Park, Vision and Hearing Screenings, Homecoming Pep Fest, Fire Prevention, Japanese Visitors, Mary Jones' Storytelling, Community Lunches, Empathy Class from Climb Theatre, Peace Garden meetings, Monarch Butterfly Peace Garden Dedication, Art Adventures, Harvest Parade, Conferences, Board of Directors' Meetings, P.T.O. Meetings, Community Coffees, Flu Shot Clinic, Hootenannies, Scholastic Book Fairs, Tipi Experience, Holiday Mitten Tree, Sharing, School Spirit Days, Knitters' Club, Winter Program with Band, P.J. & Movie Day, F.H.S. Play, D.A.R.E. for 5th Graders, MAPS & MCA II Testing, P.T.O. Field Trip to Science Museum, Spotlight presentations, Community Celebration with Community Band, Peace Prize Festival, P.T.O. Sock Hop, Author Doug Wood visit, Fire, Tornado & Lock-down Drills, P.T.O. Carnival, 5th Grade Field Day at Bruce Smith Field, 5th Grade Band Tour, Fly-Up Day for K-4th Graders, Picnic in the Park Band Concert, Lunch with the Teachers for Silent Auction Winners, All-School Field Day, Yearbook Autograph Extravaganza, and finally, the Awards & Graduation Ceremony, All-School Picnic and Jason Huneke Comedy Juggling Presentation and our 5th Graders and others leaving Nerstrand Elementary School rang the bell for their last time on June 4th. We wish our graduating class of 2014 good luck in Middle School and remember to come back and visit us in the future! It has been a very busy year, filled with lots of adventures, learning, friendship and fun. Thank you for the privilege and responsibility you have entrusted to us by way of your children. We wish Maggie Kiley, Ellen Paulson and Wayne Hertle the best as they move on to new adventures and welcome Angela Schilling and Andrew Lubinski to Nerstrand Elementary School! Have a safe and fun summer and we look forward to Open House on Thursday, August 28th from 6-7 p.m. and then the bell-ringing ceremony on September 2nd, 2014.

Eagle Open Golf Tournament on June 13th

Don't forget about the 14th annual Eagle Open Golf Tournament to be held on **Friday, June 13th, 2014 at the Kenyon Country Club**. There are many opportunities to become involved, so if you are interested in helping out, golfing, sponsoring a golf hole or just being a part of this great group of dedicated parents, please contact Lee Gernandt at 334-7295. We look forward to another wonderful, sunny day on June 13th!

Board of Directors' Election Update

Thank you so much for taking the time to vote for a teacher representative and a parent representative in the recent Nerstrand Elementary School Board of Directors' Election. After the votes were counted, we are happy to announce that **Sarah Johnson** and **Mike Ross** have been elected to serve on the Board of Directors for the term of three years. Special thanks go out to Ellen Paulson and Maggie Kiley their dedication and commitment to the Board this last term. **2013-2014 Board Members:** **Jan Boudreau**, teacher rep., **Sarah Johnson**, teacher rep., **Melodi Van Roekel**, teacher rep., **Carmen Bonde**, teacher rep., **Tara Berndt**, parent rep., **Mike Ross**, parent rep. and **Gayle Reuvers**, community member at large rep. Ex-officio Members: **Lori Arndt**, Director, **Keith Johnson**, Business Manager and **Barb Grote**, Administrative Assistant. Our June meeting is scheduled for June 18th at 9:00 a.m. in the Media Center of the School.

Summer Reading Program

Children who read during the summer improve their comprehension skills and are better prepared when school starts again in the fall. On the other hand, children who do not read lose some of their reading skills over the summer. The good news is that reading even a few minutes a day throughout the summer can prevent this achievement loss-and leads to fun prizes at Buckham Memorial Library in Faribault for the Summer Reading Program! Stop in throughout the summer to stock up on books, talk with the children's librarian, and engage in crafts and activities.

Ways you can help your child be motivated about summer reading:

Choose fun books. Read a book of riddles and then make up your own! Check out a cookbook and make a new recipe!

Keep reading aloud to all of your children. Reading is for everyone! Set aside time each day to read with your child.

Join the library's Summer Reading Program! Happy Reading!

Here is the link to the website: <http://www.faribault.org/library/summer>

Family Survey

The annual Family Satisfaction Survey has been emailed to each family with a link to the online survey. Thank you, in advance, for completing the survey. We appreciate your time in carrying out this important task. We ask that the survey be completed by June 18, 2014.

Calling All Grant Writers

anyone out there is interested in doing some grant writing, we would welcome your expertise! We would like to form a Grant Writing Committee to research and develop opportunities to secure extra funding for our school. There are many grants out there and opportunities that could mean additional funding to purchase new technology as well as other programming to enhance the learning that takes place here at the Little School in the Big

School Supplies and Snack Donations

**Nerstrand Elementary
School**

Contact Information

**205 South 2nd Street
P.O. Box 156
Nerstrand, MN 55053**

**Main Office Phone:
507-333-6850**

**Attendance Phone Line:
507-333-6851**

**Fax Phone Line:
507-333-6870**

**Email Address:
info@nerstrand.
charter.k12.mn.us**

We're on the Web!
www.nerstrand.charter.
k12.mn.us



Don't forget to visit the Island and/or Reading Eggs throughout the summer months! It is available to all students throughout the summer and it is good for students to work on skills so they retain what they have learned this year in school.

Plans have been made to once again ask parents for monetary donations for school supplies (Grades K-5) and snacks (Grades K-3) for the coming school year. Some of the money collected will also buy needed Art and Science supplies. The plan is as follows:

Prairie (Kindergarten and First Grade) and **Savannah** (Second and Third Grade) parents are asked to send in **\$30.00 per student to cover the cost of all school supplies** and holiday celebrations and **\$50.00 per students for snacks for the school year**. Other items needed for each student include:

- A large backpack (no wheels, please)
- Tennis shoes to leave at school
- A paint shirt (large T-shirt)

Woodlands (Fourth and Fifth Grade) students will need to supply their own pencils, pens and pencil top erasers. All other supplies will be provided. Parents are asked to send in **\$25.00 per student to cover the cost of all other school supplies**. Party supplies will be handled separately by each Woodland classroom. Woodland students bring their own snacks to school if they so choose.

If you would like to send in the supply and/or snack donation for this fall right away, we would be happy to accept it at any time between now and the beginning of the 2014-2015 school year. You could also bring it to the Open House on August 28th. **Checks can be made payable to Nerstrand Elementary School.**

The school staff will be watching the ads and purchase all of the school supplies this summer. We will continue with our idea of "shared supplies" in all of our classrooms. This has worked out well in the past and ensures that students have supplies readily available. Thanks for your cooperation with this plan.

Upcoming Dates

Friday, June 13th	Eagle Open Golf Tournament at Kenyon Country Club
Happy Summer*Happy Summer*Happy Summer*Happy Summer*Happy Summer	
Thursday, August 28th	a.m.—Kinder Go Round for new Kinders & Parents
	6:00—7:00 p.m.—Open House for 2014-2015 School Year
Monday, September 1, 2014	Labor Day
Tuesday, September 2, 2014	First Day of 2014-2015 School Year
	9:00 a.m.—Opening All-School Meeting and Bell-Ringing Ceremony
Wednesday, September 24th	School Pictures
Thursday, September 25h	Vision & Hearing Screening
	3:00—4:00 p.m.—Community Coffee
Tuesday, September 30th	Climb Theatre "Respect" Classes
Friday, October 3rd	Discovery Day at the Big Woods
Monday, October 6th	Curriculum Night at School