



East Fairhaven News

October 1, 2009
Geraldine A. Lucas, Principal



Open House

East Fairhaven School hosted two nights of Open House. Monday, September 21st was the night for third, fourth and fifth graders and Thursday the 24th was the evening for preschool, kindergarten and grades 1 and 2. Both nights were a huge success! Ninety five percent of parents attended. It was wonderful to see so many parents and their children. Open House is an important time to meet the teacher, see your child's classroom and see what your child's day is like along with learning about the curriculum expectations. Your children are always so proud to introduce you to their teacher and show you around the classroom along with the displays of their work.

Open House sets the stage for a year long partnership between parents and teachers which is so important. The success of every child is dependant upon the parents and teachers working together.

Reminders

Dismissal time is 2:50 each day. We encourage you to *not* to dismiss your child from school early. Teachers have every minute of the day planned and the end of the day is just as important as the beginning of the day.

MCAS- results were sent home with students in fourth and fifth grade on Friday. Although MCAS testing does not impact promotion or retention (at this age) it does indicate your child's ability to demonstrate their knowledge of grade level benchmarks in English Language Arts and Math. If you have any questions about your child's score please contact your child's teacher.

Parent Teacher Conferences

This year will be the first time that East Fairhaven School will have Parent-Teacher conferences for all students, preschool through fifth grade.

Last year we sent out a survey to parents and teachers asking for input on the importance of conferences. The surveys indicated that more than 90% of parents and teachers wanted to have conferences for all grades. Although there were options to conduct conferences in November, January or April most parents indicated that November conferences would be most beneficial, especially if a student was struggling in class.

Conferences will be held on Wednesday, November 18th from 3:10-4:30 and Thursday, November 19th from 12:10-4:30. Sign-up sheets were available during our Open House. If you forgot to make an appointment please call, write or email your child's teacher to set up a conference or you can call the office and we will be happy to assist you. We want to be sure that communication between home and school is a priority. Your child's success depends on it!

Thoughts from the Principal

I know our lifestyle is very busy for both parents and children. Many parents work long hours or two jobs and children are often involved in after school activities. Spending time with your child is one of the most important things you can do for your child. Just fifteen minutes a day to read, help with homework, play a game or talk to your child about their day goes a long way. After all you are the most important person in their life! Let them know that you care.

ABCs Of Student Success

A is for ATTENDANCE.

Attendance is a critical factor in any child's school success. Children should attend school every day, except in cases of illness or emergency. It is impossible to replace the learning that happens on any school day with make-up work. Regular attendance and promptness are good habits that are expected and appreciated at all levels of schooling and in the workplace. This year, make school a priority in your household. Commit to excellence in attendance. Your child's future depends on it!

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Web sites for learning and fun -- for kids and parents together.

This week's Site to See:

Word Builder

<http://www.harcourtschool.com/menus/auto/18/49.html>

Unscramble the letters to spell grade-level words. (All grades)

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Math @Home

Super Sums

Use only the 2s, 3s, 4s, 5s, 6s, and aces (1s) from a deck of cards. Each player writes the numbers 1-12 on a piece of paper. Then each player picks two cards and adds up the numbers on them. The player can mark off that sum on the paper or cross off the two numbers on the cards. Who will be first to cross off all 12 numbers on the list?

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Providing Homework Support

- ▶ Set a regular time each day for doing homework. That time should be free of distractions such as TV and phone calls.
- ▶ Be sure your child has a place to do homework that is quiet and well lit. Make sure all the appropriate materials -- such as paper and pencils -- are available.
- ▶ Let your child know that homework is important and valuable. Consistently review your child's homework during homework time.

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Dates to Remember

- **October 12th-Columbus Day-No School**
- **October 13th-Title 1 Open House-6:00-7:00-Library**
- **October 15th-Half Day-Noon Dismissal**
- **October 23rd -Magical Masquerade 6:30-8:00**

“quoted”

“Each day comes bearing its own gifts.
Untie the ribbons.”
Ruth Ann Schabacker