

Lafayette Elementary School
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Jo Lute-Ervin, Principal Karmen Nordhogen, Assistant Principal

February 15, 2012-----Bulletin 16

LOOKING AHEAD

Feb. 15	Wednesday	Passport Check Day
Feb. 16	Thursday	Visiting Artist (Rm 26 only in lunchroom, 2:00-3:00pm) Potluck (Rm 8 only, 6:00-7:30pm) Potluck (Port. 32 only, 6:00-7:30pm)
Feb. 17	Friday	Spirit Day (Show your Leopard spirit!)
Feb. 20-24		NO SCHOOL (Mid-Winter Break)
Feb. 27-Mar 2		NO AFTERSCHOOL JUMPROPE CLUB
Feb. 27	Monday	Global Reading Quiz Bowl(10:00-11:00am, Lunchroom)
Feb. 28	Tuesday	School Tour for New Families (10:00-11:30am) Writer's Workshop for Parents (Grades K thru 2, 6:00-7:00pm, Library)
Mar. 1	Thursday	Field Trip (Children's Theatre, Rms 14 & 15, 10:30am)
Mar. 2	Friday	Field Trip (Camp Long, 5 th Grades Only)
Mar. 5	Monday	Dress Rehearsal for Play (3:45-5:45pm @ WSHS)
Mar. 6	Tuesday	Dress Rehearsal for Play (3:45-5:45pm @ WSHS) Writer's Workshop for Parents (Grades 3-5, 6:00-7:00pm)
Mar. 7	Wednesday	EARLY DISMISSAL (1:35pm) Opening Night of Play (7:00pm @ WSHS) PTA Board Meeting (7:00-8:00pm)
Mar. 8	Thursday	Field Trip (Children's Theatre, 10:30am, 2 nd Grades only) Play (Lafayette students only – capacity issue, 1:00-3:00pm @ WSHS)
Mar. 9	Friday	End 2 nd Trimester Class Pictures Play (Evening event, 7:00pm @ WSHS)
Mar. 10	Saturday	Play (Evening event, 7:00pm @ WSHS)
Mar. 13	Tuesday	Field Trip (Rm 8 only to College St. Ravine, 9:45-12:30pm)
Mar. 15	Thursday	School Tour (10:00-11:30am) Student Council Meeting (12:20pm, Library) PTA Meeting (7:00-8:00pm)
Mar. 15	Thursday	Jump Rope For Heart Event (3:45-5:00pm) NO AFTERSCHOOL JUMPROPE CLUB
Mar. 16	Friday	NO SCHOOL (Waiver Day)
Mar. 17	Saturday	Lafayette Auction (Hall @ Fauntleroy)
Mar. 20	Tuesday	School Tour (10:00-11:30am)
Mar. 21	Wednesday	Passport Check Day

THE WARTVILLE WIZARD

This year's play is in keeping with the "Recycling" theme of Ms. Scranton's room. It's a story about littering and how one wizard takes care of the problem. It is actually a book by Don Madden, The Wartville Wizard, which is being adapted to the stage with about 100 actors from grade 3-5. As in years past, it will have 4 performances offered. **However, the school performance on Thursday, March 8th is NOT open to parent attendance, nor to the kindergarten due to capacity issues.** Please plan to attend one of the other performances! Donations will be taken at the door (to pay for the cast party.)

STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS

Friday, February 17th is the next spirit day...."Lafayette Spirit Day". Bring on your leopard spots, Lafayette t-shirts or wear our school colors...black and yellow.

"The Student Council has spirit, yes they do. The Student Council has spirit.....how about you?"

PASSPORT MAPS ARE ON THE LAFAYETTE WEBSITE

Do you want to meet Lafayette students, teachers and parents?! Then volunteering to check students for Passport is for you! If you would like to volunteer we still need volunteers for the following dates: Mar 21, Apr 11, May 23. Please check your calendars and email Julie Pietsch at jhpietsch@yahoo.com to volunteer or if you have any questions. Thanks!! Look for March study maps to be brought home by your child next week. We will also be getting the March maps on the website soon.

GREEN TEAM!

On February 10, 2012 the Lafayette Green Team had its first meeting in over 2 years. Fourteen students attended. Grade levels from Kindergarten through 5th grade were represented. Students discussed the importance of composting and recycling at our school. Each child planted snow pea and sweet pea seeds, and made predictions as to when they will sprout. It was also decided by the team that more education around composting and recycling is needed. At the next meeting, the Green Team will make posters to help everyone do a better job of sorting food waste, recyclable waste, and garbage. The next Green Team meeting is **Friday, February 17th at 8:15am**. If you haven't turned in your permission slip, you still are welcome to join. Remember that we meet in the front lobby.

FREE DENTAL SCREENINGS FOR CHILDREN AGES 1 THRU 18.

When: Saturday, February 25, 2012

Time: 9:00am – 1:00pm

Where: The Center for Pediatric Dentistry

Washington Dental Service Building (Northend of Magnuson Park)

No reservations are needed. Every family will be seen. For more information call (206) 543-5800 or check their website at www.thecenterforpediatricdentistry.com

PARENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The annual Hearing and Vision screenings for students will begin on **Friday, March 2nd and Wednesday, March 14th all day**. Please volunteer for one or more blocks of time each day, 9:30-11:10am, 11:00am to 2:00pm, or 2:00-3:30pm by contacting the school nurse **Mary Kay Sykes** at mksykes@seattleschools.org or **signing up in the Nurse's Office by February 29th**. (You must be registered as a school volunteer..e.g. background check completed.) Thank you for your support of good health for Lafayette students!

JUMP ROPE FOR HEART

Our annual fundraiser for the American Heart Association will be in March. Students will need to bring back permission slips to attend the fundraising event. This fun event will take place in the gym afterschool on **March 15th** from 3:35-5:00pm. I will set up 12 activity centers. Only students that bring back their donation envelope that day will be able to participate in the event. Ms. Belfor will need lots of parent help. If you can volunteer, please email her at lsbelfor@seattleschools.org. **There will be NO AFTERSCHOOL JUMPROPE CLUB on March 15th.**

PTA AUCTION (March 17th @ The Hall at Fauntleroy)

Tickets for "Raisin' the Green", our PTA auction, are on sale now! Tickets are \$60 each (\$65 after March 9th). An invitation/ticket form came home with your child last week. Fill out the form and give it to your child's teacher with payment, or place it in the bright green box in the main office. You may also purchase tickets online at <http://brownpapertickets.com/event/223113>.

Many wonderful people and businesses have donated items and services to this year's auction (see <http://auction.cosmodavis.com/itemlist.aspx> for the current list). We're still looking for items and services to auction off. The more donations we have, the more money we raise for Lafayette! If you have questions about donating to the auction or volunteering the night of the event, please contact Laurie Utterback at luckie@biancadavis.com. Don't forget to "like" the auction on Facebook – you'll get updates and photos of auction items in your news feed. You'll find the Facebook link plus more information at <http://www.auction.cosmosdavis.com/roundup.aspx>.

AUCTION PROCUREMENTS

Butcher, Baker, Candlestick maker? What can you do? Support Lafayette with your talent and your creativity. Donate today... cat sitting, dog walking, nature walks, cooking classes, sewing or knitting lessons. How about kite-making, scrap-booking, gardening? Singing lessons, bike maintenance, yoga? Hop online and donate today. <http://auction.cosmodavis.com> We are at about our half-way mark for donations. We need YOU to make our goal!

LAFAYETTE VISION & MISSION STATEMENT

We held our meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 7th to hear from parents their thoughts on updating our Lafayette Vision and Mission Statement. We discussed answers to the questions, “What do we want our kids to learn?” and “What do we want our kids’ experiences at school to be like?” Parents had lots of great input and we’re in the process of compiling this information and will have it posted on the website soon. If you were unable to attend the meeting, but would like to provide input, please contact Karmen (kknordhoughen@seattleschools.org) or Jo (jlervin@seattleschools.org) or Annie Higgins (athiggins@comcast.net) with your thoughts on these questions.

Students have given their input via the Student Council. After parents, teachers, and staff have completed giving theirs, a team representing teachers, staff, and parents (known as the Building Leadership Team) will pull it together and look for commonalities to start to build a shared vision that we can all rally behind. This is very much a work-in-progress so if you still have thoughts, we’d love to hear from you!

THINK OUTSIDE THE CAR CAMPAIGN

We have a unique opportunity to partner with a local nonprofit, CoolMom, to participate in a campaign called “Think Outside the Car”. They have been given a grant by the City of Seattle Department of Neighborhoods to partner with 4 elementary schools in West Seattle to implement programs aimed at getting kids to school and lessening the impact of emissions in the process.

There are 3 components of the campaign. First, the Bike to School Program encourages students to bike to school on one day of the month, with supervision. CoolMom is able to provide bike racks to us in support of this program! Second, there is a “Walking School Bus” program, where parents supervise groups of kids walking to school along safe and well-publicized routes. We provide parent supervisors and CoolMom provides safety vests, signage, and training. Lastly, there is a “No Idle Zone” program that teaches our community about how idling our cars and school buses during pickup and dropoff times impacts the environment and gives us ideas on how to change these behaviors. This program could potentially be implemented by the newly-launched Green Team, and it comes complete with signs and curriculum. We can consider implementing any of these programs, and do not have to participate in all of them.

By participating in this campaign, Lafayette could benefit from CoolMom’s financial resources in the forms of bike racks, signage, and help in launching these programs. They provide the financial resources all we need to do is provide the people resources! We are looking for a parent (or parents) who would be interested in heading this program up and coordinating with CoolMom to launch it. It would be a great benefit to our school, our community, and our kids! Attached is a flyer describing these programs in more detail. If you’re interested, please contact Annie Higgins (athiggins@comcast.net). We would love to get this program off the ground with your help!

LUNCHROOM HELP NEEDED

Due to District budget cuts, Ms. Vera has lost her lunchroom helper and could really use a parent volunteer daily from 12:00-1:15pm. The children now must form one line, and it is slowing things down. With a volunteer helper in the kitchen to supervise the student servers, Ms. Vera could open up another line and get the kids through faster. There is no training involved and you would not need a food handler’s license. Basically, you would be in the kitchen to make sure the servers are safe, not making a mess and to answer any questions. Ideally we would have ten to twenty parents volunteer, each on a particular day of the week so that each person is on “duty” only once or twice a month until the end of the school year. Please email Jennifer Herrin at jenniferherrin@comcast.net if you are able to volunteer.

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL GRANT

Do you have a passion for safety in our neighborhood? We are looking for a parent or two to Chair the Safe Routes to School grant program. The goals of the Safe Routes to School grants are to increase the number of children walking and biking to school where it is safe, and if it's not safe, work to make it safer. The program supports pedestrian and bicycle safety projects such as walking to school buses, sidewalks, bike lanes, pedestrian safety education, bicycle safety skills classes, crossing guards, speed feedback signs, and traffic safety concerns. The program itself was created to provide children a safe, healthy alternative to riding the bus or being driven to school.

Eligible Safe Routes projects are those within two miles of primary and middle schools (grades K-8), and that address engineering solutions, educational and encouragement programs, and law enforcement efforts. Review criteria for the applications are also based on project readiness and need or potential impact.

The Chair of this grant process will complete all required grant applications by the deadline and work with the PTA to come up with possible ideas we can request for Lafayette. More detailed information about the grant program and the application process is available on WSDOT's website at:

www.wsdot.wa.gov/LocalPrograms/SafeRoutes/CallForProjects.

A Safe Routes to School Overview Webinar has been scheduled for March 1st from 1:00-3:00. To register go to <http://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/525058344>. For more information or if you do not have the capacity to participate on a webinar please contact Charlene Claybrooke at 360-705-7302. Applications for Safe Routes to School project grants are due to WSDOT on **May 4, 2012**.

If you are interested in heading up this important grant process, please contact Becky Carlson at 206.295-5942 or rebeccacarlson@cbbain.com

NO AFTERSCHOOL JUMPROPE CLUB – WEEK OF 02/27/12-03/02/12