

DYNAMITE NEWS

January 24, 2011

Issue Number 58



School Stuff

SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION RESULTS

The results of our recent school board election were announced at our Annual Meeting last week. For those of you who did not attend, our two incumbent school board candidates, Mr. Doug Hiatt and Mrs. Terri Sheehan, were reelected to new three year parent member terms on the board. The vote counts for the three candidates were as follows:

Mr. Doug Hiatt	80
Mrs. Terri Sheehan	48
Mr. Ravi Raghavapudi	40

Thank you to all of you who participated in the election process. Also, special thanks to Mr. Hiatt, Mr. Raghavapudi and Mrs. Sheehan for your willingness to offer your volunteer services to the DaVinci Academy community. These are critical leadership positions in our school, and we appreciate your commitment to serving both our school and our students.

One quick note on voter turnout merits mentioning. Of the 477 people who were eligible to vote in our election, only 105 cast ballots. That amounts to a 22% turnout, which is very poor, and substantially below past elections. Stakeholder involvement is a key element in what makes DaVinci Academy unique and successful. We encourage all of you to stay involved and participate in what goes on at our school. Involved parents and families make a real difference for both the school and your children!

REENROLLMENT DUE WEDNESDAY

Wednesday, January 26 all current students intending to attend DaVinci Academy next year must have a reenrollment form filled out and turned in to the office. This is to assist DaVinci in planning for next fall. See the attached form.

Also, if you have any siblings of your student that you would like to enroll, sibling applications are due January 26, as well.

DaVinci is currently having an Open Application Period. New families can turn in their applications by January 31 for next fall.

SING IT AGAIN!

DaVinci Choirs will begin rehearsing next week for the Spring Concert in May. Green Choir, grades 3 – 5, will meet at 8:00 am on Wednesday, January 26. Orange Choir, grades 6 – 8, will meet at 8:00 am on Friday morning, January 28. New members are welcome. Contact Mrs. Hunter for more details by phone or at shunter@davincicharterschool.org.

DESTINATION IMAGINATION

Destination ImagiNation is an educational program in which student teams solve open-ended challenges and present their solutions at tournaments. Teams are tested to think on their feet, working together, and devising original solutions that satisfy the requirements of the challenges. Participants gain more than just basic knowledge and skills – they learn to unleash their imaginations and take unique approaches to problem solving. If your student in grades 3 – 5 would be interested in being a part of a creative problem solving team, we meet Tuesdays from 4:15 – 5:15, please contact Ms. Morgan.

SPARKS CELEBRATION

The SPARK All School Celebrations will be held on January 27 and 28.

Kindergarten – 2nd grade
Thursday, January 27—1:45 p.m.
3rd – 5th grade
Thursday, January 27—2:15 p.m.
6th – 8th grade
Friday, January 28—9:10 a.m.

LUNCH REGISTRATION DEADLINE

Lunch menus are sent the middle of each month with a deadline usually about a week later. In trying to accommodate families at the beginning of the school year, lunch menus were accepted a day or so after the deadlines. This was confusing for the teachers, the caterers and the kitchen staff. Therefore, since November, DaVinci has had to turn down late menus. Please be aware of each deadline as the dates are not always the same.

AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES STARTING SOON

Due to changes in the traveling basketball league schedule, the start of DaVinci Intramural and skill building basketball will be delayed. The new schedule is as follows:

4th – 5th grade Basketball – intramural and skill building Begins Thursday, February 24 – April 14, does not meet March 17 or April 7; \$30

6th – 8th grade Basketball - intramural and skill building Beginning Tuesday, February 15 – April 12, does not meet Feb 22, March 15 or April 5; \$30

1st – 4th grade Science Club – Wednesdays, January 19, 24, February 2, 9, 16, and 23, and March 2, 9, 23 and 30; \$50

ARTISTS OF THE MONTH

Kindergarten:

Kiera D., fingerpainting

First grade:

Eden P., tempera painting

Second grade:

Ashley G., stencil trees

Third grade:

Lauren K. - wood sculpture

Fourth grade:

Gavin R. - clay coil pot

Fifth grade:

Casey F.-Sumi-e painting in ink

Sixth grade:

Emaly R.-circular painting

Seventh grade:

Nate S.-Cubistic Cups

Eighth grade:

Paul S.-Foam Carving

LAND'S END SCHOOL REWARDS PROGRAM

Do you shop Land's End for your school uniform needs? DaVinci Academy is now signed up with Land's End School Rewards Program. When you shop at Land's End and use the DaVinci Academy's identifying number, 900142712, our school will receive a contribution based on a percentage of sales generated.

"We learn more by
looking for the answer to
a question and not finding
it than we do from learning
the answer itself."

-Lloyd Alexander

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Facilities Committee

Tuesday, Jan 25
6:00 p.m.

PTO Meeting

Tuesday, January 25
6:30 pm

Reenrollment Due

Wednesday, January 26

Finance Committee

Monday, February 7
6:00 p.m.

Policies/Procedures Comm.

Monday, February 7
7:30 p.m.

DaVinci PTO Spaghetti Dinner

Thursday, February 17
5:00pm – 7:00pm

Basketball Game

February 19/20—Irondale

STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS

Sierra and Kayleigh S. will be performing in "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" as members of the children's choir. The show runs from February 11 through March 13 at Lyric Arts Main Street Stage Theater in Anoka. They'd love to have you come out and see the show. Tickets are available at lyricarts.org.

If your student is up to something that you would like to share with everyone (theatre, awards, etc.), let us know.

PENNIES FOR PATIENTS MAKE CHANGE, BEAT CANCER

Our school will be collecting spare change and any other donations to support Pennies for Patients, a cancer education program and fundraiser benefiting the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Our collection will take place for one week, February 7 – 11. The classrooms with the top totals will have the chance to win a special classroom prize.

PURELY P.T.O.

PARENT LIASON

Thank you to Tammy Ness for volunteering to be the PTO Parent Liaison.

WHO WILL YOU NOMINATE?

Keep an eye out in the next newsletter for the PTO Officer Nomination Form and job descriptions.

HUNGRY FOR ITALIAN?

DaVinci PTO Basket Silent Auction and Spaghetti Dinner (Sponsored by DaVinci PTO)

Thursday, February 17 from 5:00pm – 7:00pm
@ DaVinci Academy of Arts and Science

The silent auction will feature themed baskets including items donated by DaVinci students and families. Keep your eyes peeled for information about your student's homeroom theme.

If you would like to donate items for our classroom basket, please bring them or send them to school with your student by February 4th.

GENERAL MEETING

The next General PTO meeting will be Tuesday, January 25 at 6:30 pm, with free childcare provided. This is an important meeting as we will discuss the procedure for the ending of the current officers' terms and the installation of new officers.