

DYNAMITE NEWS

May 16, 2011

Issue Number 67



School Stuff

FAMILY SURVEYS DUE

Only a couple of days left to complete Your family survey! Our annual family survey was sent to each DaVinci Academy family last Thursday. You have until this coming Thursday, May 19, to submit your completed survey. As of Monday evening, only 35% of DaVinci Academy families had responded. Your feedback is critical to us, and we want to hear from all of you. If you have not yet responded, please go to <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/davinci2011> and complete your survey before the May 19 deadline. Thanks for your participation.

SCHOOL FINANCE AWARD

DaVinci Academy just received the School Finance Award for Fiscal Year 2010 from the Minnesota Department of Education. The award recognizes districts for timely submission of FY 2010 financial data, as well as for having positive fund balances, demonstrating fiscal policies and procedures, and personnel training. What a great award for our school!

STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS

Fifth grader Madeline M. is a State Piano Contest winner. She will perform at the MMTA Honors Concert at the Minneapolis Convention Center in May. Congratulations, Madeline!

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

NO FLIP-FLOPS IN SCHOOL

We have had some accidents in the hallways due to students wearing flip-flops to school. Flip-flops are NOT an approved part of the student uniform and students should not be wearing them during the school day. Also, students should not be wearing shoes with high heels. These are just not safe or appropriate for school. If students come to school with flip-flops or inappropriate footwear, parents will be contacted and asked to bring in appropriate shoes for their student to wear. Thank you.

MILK OFFERINGS TO CHANGE

The Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 requires schools to offer two low-fat milk options starting in the 2011-12 school year. The low-fat options must be consistent with the new Dietary Guidelines for Americans, which recommends that persons over two years of age consume fat-free or 1% milk. Starting next school year, DaVinci Academy will serve skim, 1%, and fat-free chocolate milk. This year we offer skim, 2% and fat-free chocolate.

3RD ANNUAL DAVINCI ART FAIR

Grades 5-8 could voluntarily enter their artwork in a pool for judging this year. Seventy students participated in the this process and twelve were selected to receive recognition for their creativity and craftsmanship. Our judge this year was Jan Elftmann, a professional artist and teacher from Minneapolis, who also has been working with Ms. Beil over the past few months here at DaVinci on an art grant from the Perpich Center for Arts Education.

JUDGE'S AWARD

Angel A., grade 8, photography
Matt B., grade 5, cut paper self portrait
Joe E., grade 5, perspective drawing
Jackson F., grade 5, painting on canvas
Ava I., grade 5, mixed media sculpture
Emma N., grade 6, mixed media sculpture
Sarah R., grade 6, photography
Stephen S., grade 7, clothing design
Jack S., grade 5, photography
Natalie S., grade 5, clay sculpture
Anna T., grade 6, acrylic painting
Luke W., grade 5, mixed media chimes



SCRAPBOOKING HELP NEEDED

We are looking for help with a PTO Scrapbook. If you are interested, please contact Dina Lantzer at DinaLantzer@yahoo.com.

TEACHER APPRECIATION

A huge shout out to all the volunteers that helped with teacher appreciation: Mandy Meisner, Lea Truchon, Denise Young, Jordan Young, Johnny Young, Tammy Ness, Faith Ness, Matthew Ness, Mark Ness, Luke Ness, Krysten Ness, Theresa Barthold, Dina Lantzer, Emily Lund, Madelin Lund, and Mike Lund. "All the great help and all the best wishes can never replace help with the dishes!"

INCOMING PTO OFFICERS

Congratulations to the new PTO Officers that were elected and appointed at the last General Meeting. Here is a list of the officers along with a brief description of their responsibilities:

President – Dina Lantzer

Shall preside over all meetings, coordinate and oversee all work of the officers

Vice President – Tammy Ness

Shall represent the President in his/her absence or upon request. If temporarily representing the President, the Vice President must report immediately to the President any new business.

Treasurer – Theresa Barthold (Interim)

Shall have custody of all financial records and DVAAS PTO funds. Shall maintain current records and shall submit monthly financial reports to the board and membership.

Secretary – Kristin Ralli

Shall keep an accurate record of all general DVAAS PTO meetings.

Teacher Liaison – Natalie Dahlquist

Be a means of communication between the PTO and the DVAAS Teachers and Staff.

Parent Liaison – Denise Young

Be a means of communication between the PTO and the DVAAS Parents and Families.

Fund Raising Co-Chairs

Kamille Peterson & Denise Young

Chair the Fundraising Committee, which shall investigate details of any new fundraiser for possible proposal to the PTO, and meet with chairpersons of specific fundraisers and oversee and coordinate details connected to each fundraiser.

Communications Coordinator

Jill Mechelke

Shall communicate any updates about the DVAAS PTO website page, maintain the PTO FaceBook Page and communicate updates about the PTO portion of the School Newsletter.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

PTO General Meeting

Tuesday, May 17
6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

5th and 8th Grade Science MCA

May 17 – 18

Compensation Ad Hoc Rescheduled:

Wednesday, May 18
5 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Kindergarten-Grade 2 Music Concert

Thursday, May 19
6 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Grades 3-4 Music Concert

Tuesday, May 24
6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Facilities/Technology Committee

Wednesday, May 25
6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Band, Choir, and Orchestra Concert

Thursday, May 26
6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

End of Year Dance

June 11

PTO MEETING REMINDER

Tuesday, May 17 at 6:30 p.m. There will be free childcare and snacks. We will be discussing the End of Year Dance. Remember, meeting attendance counts towards your volunteer hours!

FACEBOOK

Follow your DaVinci PTO on facebook and keep up with everything that is going on at <http://www.Facebook.com/DaVinci.PTO>.