

Alexander Elementary School News

December 2007

“Together we will learn and grow in a safe environment.”

Jeff Cullum, Principal PK-2

Nedra Zirkle, Principal 3-5

Upcoming Events

December 03-07 – Secret Santa
December 07 – St. Council Twin Day
December 10 – St. Council Candy
Gram Sales
December 11 – Born, Sheets, Wagner
Trip to Fenton Glass
December 14 – Dailey, Ray, Valade
Trip to Fenton Glass
December 19—Christmas Parties;
School Board Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
December 20-January 1 – NO SCHOOL
January 02 – School Resumes

Citizenship

The following students have consistently exhibited one or more of the characteristics of good citizenship. These characteristics include honesty, compassion, respectfulness, responsibility, courage, reliability, volunteerism, and helpfulness. Congratulations and keep up the good work!

K-2

McKenzie Allman, Tiffany Bartlett, Anna Crabtree, Elizabeth Haning, Lauren Howard, Brandy Hudnell, Hannah King, Taylor Meadows, Marina Mullins, Micah Pickering, Adam Ray, Payton Remy, Lacey Six, Siena Thomas, Connor Truax, Michael Whaley, Hannah Williams, Tess Woodyard, Haley Zimmerman

3-5

Joey Barnes, Cory Chapman, Ramon Cuna, Nathan Hanning, Chace Harris, Mercedese Herdman, Destiny Jewel,

Carly Kisor, Ashley Layton, Ally McClain, Kendall Meeks, Cody Pfeiffer, Kylee Sams, Kevin Sedwick, Walker Shaffer, James Wallace

Survey Questions

We appreciate you taking the time to fill out the recent Parent Surveys. We are tallying the information. Some of you addressed specific questions or concerns that we thought other parents might also have and have decided to address some of them in this newsletter.

I think there needs to be more supervision in the cafeteria.

The student-teacher ratio is approximately the same as in past years. There are no more available personnel since the remainder of the staff is at their designated 30 minute lunch. These other teachers then supervise recesses.

Students need more time to eat lunch.
Actually, if students could be dismissed 5-8 minutes earlier, the noise level would be lower. All students are finished long before dismissal.

There are too many students at lunch.
The cafeteria was designed by state architects to hold this many students. Having all elementary students eat lunch at the same time has allowed us to have only one grade level instead of two at recess at the same time, offering students more choices in activities available and making recess safer.

(over)

Visit the district web-site at: www.alexanderschools.org for the latest in school news.

Alexander Elementary School News

December 2007

“Together we will learn and grow in a safe environment.”

Jeff Cullum, Principal PK-2

Nedra Zirkle, Principal 3-5

Students should not be permitted to leave the cafeteria and go the restroom unsupervised.

Students go to the restrooms unsupervised from the classrooms as well as the cafeteria daily. We do, however, monitor the restrooms.

Can lunch time be moved to a later time? 10:30 seems too early.

There are three lunch periods for the entire school, from 10:35-1:10. Someone has to eat early as well as late.

The school needs to do a better job of recognizing students for academic achievement rather than sports.

The elementary school has no affiliated sports. We recognize students for achievement in the classroom daily and school-wide at least quarterly.

The school needs trained specialists available on staff in Special Education, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Autism, etc.

Our school does have trained specialists on staff in Special Education and Autism – our Special Education teachers and School Psychologists. Athens-Meigs ESC provides Physical and Occupational Therapy at our school for our students.

More services are needed for gifted students.

We agree. It is a funding issue.

I would like to be notified of the results of state testing. We have been told we have to request the results.

You do not need to request. Results are being mailed as of this fall 2007.

Involve the parents more in school activities.

Volunteer. We'll put you to work.

We need more time to talk to our child's teachers.

Elementary teachers and administrators agree that conference time is inadequate; however, the calendar is a negotiated agreement with the teacher union; Contact the teachers if you need to speak with them between conferences.

Better parent parking.

Currently we have 10 spots. These spots are never all filled except during special events. Between the hours of 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. parents can park in front of the building where there is plenty of parking.

Let the teachers teach the children instead of dictating what they can teach.

There are state and national standards by which all public school teachers everywhere must adhere.

Specific questions concerning the cafeteria menu or bussing cannot be addressed by the elementary school administration but will be passed on the proper personnel.

Bus Changes: Please arrange for bus changes in writing prior to sending your child to school. In emergency cases, please call the school before 2:00 p.m.