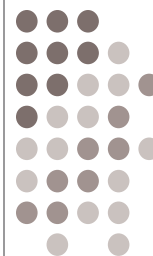


# Grayling Elementary School

## May, 2009 Newsletter



### Parent Input Forms

Although we do not take specific requests for teachers, I am very interested in getting input from you about your child. I want you to know that each and every child is placed very carefully, and many different factors are considered when I do so. A student's reading, writing, and math level are balanced with any other supports or needs a child may have. Combinations of students must also be thought about, and matching personalities and styles is important too. If you have specific information you think would help me with your child's placement, please fill out a Student Placement Input Form, available in the school office. I will take all information under consideration. In the end, my decision will be the final one since I am balancing so many different factors in order to create the class lists best for the whole school. But please share your thoughts with me! Combining all of this input, including input from your child's current teacher, allows me to make the best decisions possible.

These forms will be available in the Grayling Elementary office starting Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup> and will be due back to me no later than Friday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>. No forms will be accepted after that date.

### 5th Grade Transitions

The 5th graders are looking and acting more like middle school students and are being well prepared for their transition to Grayling Middle School. In order to make this transition smoother, we have been meeting frequently with the Grayling Middle School staff to give them information on all of our students and their accomplishments.

On June 3rd, all of our 5th grade students will be visiting the middle school for a tour, to meet the teachers, and to participate in a variety of activities. They will be eating lunch at the middle school as well. In addition, you will be receiving information from the middle school in August regarding 6th grade orientation.

### Join us for the Picnic!

Please join us for the end of the year picnic on May 22nd! The RSVP form is attached to the newsletter. It is a fun filled time to have lunch with your student.

### 2009-10 GES Teachers

If you desire to submit a Parent Input Form, you may want to know who our grade level teachers are for next year.

3rd Grade: Mrs. Banda, Mrs. Berkshire, Mrs. Brunskill, Mrs. Canfield, Ms. Schlachter (a.k.a. Mrs. Williams), and Mrs. Urban.

4th Grade: Mrs. Baynham, Mrs. Feldhauser, Mrs. Lewicki, Mrs. Voelker, and Mr. Winton.

5th Grade: Ms. Avery, Mrs. Casey, Mrs. Dunckley, Mrs. Leslie, and Mrs. Partlo.



### April Writers of the Month!

Congratulations to the students chosen by their teachers to be the Writers of the Month for April:

**Grade 3:** Nathan Burmeister, Christian Deschene, Hailey Haberland, Chris Hunter, Chelsey Lizon, Bailey Millikin, Kylie Paul, Juan Portugal, and Nehareka Singh. **Grade 4:** Bobbi Jo Benson, Theresa Gardiner, Zachary Layle, Maddi Gauthier-Papendick, Dalton Peterson, Emma Prosser, Xavier Spink, Mallory Stephan, Sierra Stout, Troy Summers, Hannah Thomas, and Kayla Wychopen. **Grade 5:** Thomas Barnes, Andrew Benardo, Danielle Cinciala, Kim Cook Anika Cramer, Charles Greene, Brianna Gugin, Devin Joseph, Michael Phipps, Keegan Shepherd and Ryan Weeks.

These students had their pictures and writing pieces posted on the bulletin board, were treated to a pizza and ice cream luncheon with the principal, and received a writing journal in which to continue their inspiring work.

Melissa G. Stone,  
Principal

### **May events:**

April 27-May 15— Spring NWEA and End of year assessments

May 7: Bicycle safety— 3rd Grade

May 18: Jr. Deputy Rodeo for 4th grade students

May 22: Parent Input forms are due

May 22: Picnic! Parents are Invited!

May 28 2:00 pm: 4th Grade Jr. Deputy Graduation!

June 3: 5th Grade Visit to GMS

June 5: 5th Grade Graduation

Various Class Field Trips!

## **MEAP Scores Rock at Crawford AuSable School District!!! and.... NWEA Spring Assessments in Progress**

The State of Michigan assessment, MEAP, (Michigan Educational Assessment Program) is given each year at schools across the State and the results were recently sent to our schools. The assessment measures reading, writing, mathematics, science and social studies. Each year it is given in the fall and measures learning the students did the year before. We are pleased to report that our students did tremendously well on their assessments this past fall and scored higher than the State average on 26 out of 28 of the assessments.

Your child recently brought home the parent reports of your student's accomplishments with explanations on the reports. If your student is in fourth grade or above, there was reporting regarding not just their score but growth on the assessment from the previous year. If you have any questions regarding the reports, please call me and I would be more than happy to review your child's progress with you.

COOR (our Intermediate School District) has a program where our students who are going into fifth grade are able to participate in an academic program at Kirtland Community College in August if they achieved a 1 or 2 on both the reading and math assessments. We have 105 students who are able to attend this week long opportunity!

Overall, the students in our school district continue to make impressive growth, of which they should be very proud.

In addition. The NWEA spring assessment is currently in progress. At the end of the school year, with report cards, your student will bring home their NWEA report. Many students are showing tremendous growth and many are reaching their growth goals set at the beginning of the school year.

**"There is always  
a moment in  
childhood when  
the door opens  
and lets the  
future in."  
Graham Greene**

### **GES List-Serve**

Join our GES List-Serve by e-mailing your request to: [ges@list.casdk12.net](mailto:ges@list.casdk12.net) with "subscribe" in the subject line. You will receive a confirmation e-mail that you are subscribed to the list. You will then begin to receive notices from the administrator of the list.

### **Summer School**

Teachers are currently making recommendations for students who should attend summer school. Please keep in mind that we would like children to attend if they are below grade level or if they just recently achieved grade level in reading and/or mathematics.

Mrs. Lewicki has worked this year to develop what we anticipate will be a strong summer school program for children who need to attend. The dates and times of the program are listed on the back of this newsletter.

Students may attend summer school for language arts in the morning or for mathematics in the afternoon; or they may attend a full day of summer school to take advantage of both of these programs.

If your child's teacher recommends that your child attend summer school, you will receive a letter the week of May 11.

If you have any questions about summer school, please call me!