



GROWLING GAZETTE

Schumaker Elementary Parent-Teacher Club

January
2009

Principal's Pen

By Julie Laird, PhD

Dear Families

Happy New Year! I hope you and your family enjoyed a relaxing winter break. I know I certainly did. Now that half of the school year is already over, we are up and running at the start of our 3rd quarter.

Our PTC met on Monday evening to plan lots of wonderful events for the remainder of the year. Currently, we are in the middle of our See's candy fundraiser. Students must have a permission slip in order to participate. They can sell 24 candy bars for \$1.50 each and/or they can take orders from a small catalogue that has three different options of See's candy that can be purchased for \$5.00 each. (Please note, the total cost of the 24 candy bars is \$36. There was a typo on the letter in the box). We hope everyone will choose to participate, as the money raised will support many functions at our school including teaching assistants to support students who need interventions as well as equipment such as a new laptop computer to be used with our interactive board in the library.

Next month we will have another family BINGO event with the theme Sweet-heart BINGO. We are seeking donations for the prizes for this event as well as for our silent auction for the Carnival in March (we have been working on carnival planning for a while). We thought it would be helpful to ask parents to help out. Do you have a business or an employer that could donate a product or service? If you are able to secure a gift certificate or any item to be given away, we would be grateful. Anything would be appreciated. Small items can be combined for a prize. If you have time to go to businesses to request donations, that would be appreciated as well. Just contact the office, and we can give you a copy of a letter we are using to request donations. We will list our donations in an upcoming newsletter.

Traditionally, track starts in early February, however we are still seeking a track coach. If you are interested in being a track coach, or volunteering to help out, please contact the office.



Mark your
calendars:
Due to bus
schedule



changes to support high
school students taking
the AIMS test,
there will be
**NO EARLY
DISMISSAL on
February 25**

**Or
April 1**
Students will get
out at our normal
time (2:12) for
these two
Wednesdays.

2008-2009
PTC Officers

President
Bobbie Koistinen
Vice President
Kelly Leverton
Treasurer
Marie Kalberer
Secretary
Sandy Herfkens

Growling Gazette
Editor found

Thank you to Mrs. Cheryl Sulger who has volunteered to take over the editing responsibility of this newsletter.

Give A Cash Gift To Your Favorite School



fry's

Each time you shop with your V.I.P card,
you help your school earn cash.

Schools can buy sports or playground equipment...even airfare for field trips!

Visit us on the web at <http://edweb.tusd.k12.az.us/Schumaker>

Counselor's Corner

By Debra Daley

DO YOU KNOW THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TATTLING AND TELLING?

In the classroom, we are discussing many things about Bullying. Here is one of the many things we have learned about:

TATTLING

TELLING

Unimportant	Important
Harmless	Harmful or dangerous Physically or psychologically
Can handle by self (Encourage them to solve it.)	Need help from an adult to solve
Purpose is to get someone in trouble	Purpose is to keep people safe
Behavior is accidental	Behavior is purposeful

DEAR PARENTS,

I hope this chart aids you in helping your child(ren) to understand their actions. Put it on your refrigerator to use as a reference. When a problem arises, discuss the chart to analyze whether it is tattling or telling. If it is tattling, encourage your child to try to solve the issue by his/herself. Help them brainstorm ideas to try. You may need to talk it out with them at first, but soon they will be doing it all by themselves. Refer them to the chart as needed. Remember: Some of the best learning comes from trying and learning from mistakes.

Science Fair Coming Soon!

Do you have a burning question?

Schumaker will be holding our annual science fair on February 16, and we hope this year will be bigger than ever. Our goal is to have so many entries that we have to take over the cafeteria for a few days! Information will be coming home soon. Students who wish to participate will need to have a permission slip from parents. This will help us plan for the space we need, and will ensure that students are thinking ahead about their projects. It's not too early to start planning and working on your project. Just be sure your project follows the scientific method:

Question– What is it that you want to find out?

Hypothesis– What is your educated prediction about what will happen?

Materials– Be sure to list everything you used

Procedure– List what you do step by step so someone else could copy it. (Test your hypothesis).

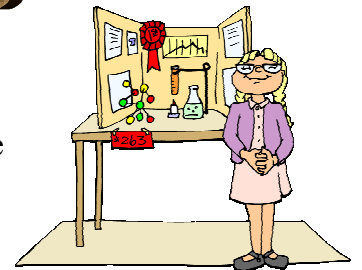
Results– Record what happened

Analysis or Conclusion– What did you learn?

Questions: Did this experiment leave you with new questions?

Be sure to keep track of your references. You may want to take pictures to add to your display board because breakable objects will not be allowed to be on display– nor will any live plants. We will be following the guidelines for the Southern Arizona Science and Engineering Fair (SARSEF) because our winners will go on to this competition.

The public library has lots of great books with idea for experiments as does the internet. Making a circuit or a volcano are not experiments and can't be used for a science fair project. Be sure that your project answers a question.



The School Community Partnership Council (SCPC)

The School Community Partnership Council (SCPC) has been an integral part of TUSD for thirty years. It is the official Board-approved instrument for communicating with parents. The next meeting will be Monday, January 12, 2009 from 6-7:30 in the Magee Middle School Library. The focus will be Gifted and Talented Education (GATE).

SITE COUNCIL NEWS

The site council is the decision making entity of the school. We meet the first Monday of each month at 3:15 to discuss issues related to student achievement. Site council is responsible for decisions related to staffing and budget. All parents and community members are welcome to join. Our site council has voted on spending bond money that was used for building improvements. Some of the projects that have been completed are new basketball courts, hand dryers in the rest-rooms, new back-stops, a tricycle route in the courtyard, new sound system in the cafeteria, new curtains for the stage, and a sink in the cafeteria. Over the summer you will see an expansion to the staff parking lot on the north side to accommodate more spaces for visitors in the southeast parking lot.

Our new superintendent, Dr. Fagan, has suggested that schools create a focus to draw people to our school, and to help us develop our expertise in a specific area. We are beginning discussions around this issue, and would love to hear input from other parents.

Thank you!



to the families who donated tax credit money to Schumaker. We received over \$11,000, and that will go a long way in paying for our music and pe teachers for next year. We are grateful for your contributions.

Have you moved or changed phone numbers recently?

Please be sure the office has current information. If you have moved out of our boundaries, your child is welcome to stay at Schumaker, you just need to fill out a school choice form, and send it in to the district. Pick up a form in our office.



Student Council News

Student Council would like to thank all the families who donated diapers to our December Diaper Drive. We still have lots of plans for the remainder of the year. Our current focus is collecting as many pop-tabs as possible for the Ronald McDonald House. We are in a contest with other schools to see who can collect the most pop tabs. We are confident that Schumaker will collect the most.





Please be sure to take the tabs off all aluminum cans before recycling, and send them in to school. Ask your neighbors and family members to collect them too. Little tabs do great things to support families.



School Quality Surveys will be coming home soon. We use this valuable information to evaluate how we are doing, and to create new goals to improve. Please take the time to complete the survey and return it with your child or put it in the box in our foyer. All comments are anonymous.

January

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 No School Winter recess New Years Day 	2 No School Winter recess	3
4	5 Site Council mtg 3:15 pm PTC 6:30 pm	6	7	8 See's Chocolate Sales Begin	9 Sprit Day Wear yellow and blue or Schumaker shirt	10
11	12	13	14 Skate Country 6-8	15	16	17
18	19 No School Martin Luther King Day	20	21	22	23	24
25	26 Chocolate orders and money due	27	28	29	30	31

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Site Council 3:15 pm PTC 6:30 pm 	3	4	5	6 Sprit Day Wear yellow and blue or Schumaker shirt	7
8	9	10	11	12	13 Sweetheart BINGO 6:30-8:00	14 Happy Valentines Day 
15	16 Science Fair Due/Judging	17 Science Fair Viewing 6-7	18 Early Dismissal 11:12 for conferences	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 Student Council Pancake breakfast <u>No Early Dismissal</u>	26  No School Rodeo Break	27 	28

February