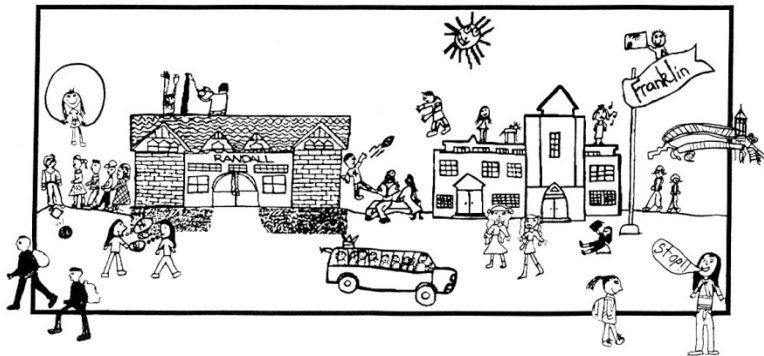




Franklin-Randall PTO Newsletter

January 16, 2009



Music Concerts

Come one, come all!

The students of Franklin will be putting on two short music concerts on Friday, January 23 and you are all invited to join us for the fun. The first concert is at 9:00 a.m. and will feature the classes of Shelly, Chris S., Chris L., Erica, Amy, Annette, Barb, Jane, Christy, Kathy, Deb and Julie. The 10:00 a.m. concert will be given by the classes of Tracey, Sheryl, Tonya, Becky, Ellen, Rita, Ashley, Beth and Marilyn. Come and hear a few of the things we have been working on in music class.

LYNN HALLIE NAJEM & BEVI HAIMERL

When schools are closed because of extreme cold.....

Our policy is to close Madison schools if the National Weather Service issues a wind chill WARNING for Dane County for the time just before the school day begins. Schools will not necessarily be closed if there is a wind chill ADVISORY for the county. (Thresholds from National Weather Service).

FRANKLIN-RANDALL WINTER CARNIVAL

Saturday, February 14, 2008 at Randall School, 11:30 – 3pm

DON'T MISS the Carnival on Valentine's Day. It is a fun winter social event and important fundraiser for our school community that is not to be missed!

WE NEED YOU: to make this event possible (and fun for everyone), we rely on many, many volunteers. Please sign up for a shift on the Volunteer Sign-up Sheet that is included with Backpack Mail this week (or email Melissa Scholz - - info below).

Also, we are always looking for good ideas regarding contributions or any other thoughts you have to help make this event a success.

To volunteer or give input, contact Melissa Scholz, Carnival Chair, at frcarnival@gmail.com or mmscholz@gmail.com or 250-2681, or regarding the raffle, contact Amy Poland, Raffle Chair, at amypoland@charter.net or frcarnival@gmail.com or 260-8626. Thanks in advance to all of you who will help make this event a success!

Safe Arrival: Franklin 204-2294 Randall 204-3306

Yog xav mloog daim Newsletter txhais ua lus Hmoob ce hu rau tus xovtooj 204-3286. Para escuchar las noticias escolares en espanol llamar 204-3287. Newsletter submissions are due by the end of the day each Friday. All submissions must be electronic. E-mail the editor, Alison Rice, ealisonrice@yahoo.com. Submissions must be directly related to the Franklin-Randall school.

The PTO would like to send special thanks to:

- Jean & Brian Parks. Thanks to Jean and Brian, we raised \$27,515 from our parking fundraiser this year. For those who don't

know, that is nearly half of our operating budget for the year!

- Suzanne Swift. Suzanne coordinated the efforts for our Fall fundraising campaign, bringing in \$15,500 for our PTO programs.

- Families of Franklin-Randall. Thank you for continuing to support our PTO and allowing us to offer opportunities for your children.

Friday, January 23rd, Volleyball at Randall, 5:45 p.m. – 7:30 p.m., call Susanne Trieber to register your child, 231-0885, or treiber202@tds.net.

Friday, January 23rd-Early Release at 10:45 a.m.

Friday, February 27th-No School.

Dates to Remember:

Monday, January 19th, Martin Luther King's Birthday – No School.

Super Science Saturday for Franklin-Randall Community

Date: March 28, 2009, 9 a.m. – 11:30 a.m., Randall School. Volunteers needed! Do you have any science background? Are you willing to run a workshop, help with a presentation or assist with registration? This year's theme is "Green". Please call Karen Richardson at 238-0939.

Pajama Party, Movie and Popcorn for the kids

A great way for the Parents of African-American Students together

The Parents of African-American Students (PAAS) have met twice since the very exciting Kick Off Meeting in September! A big focus of our group is how to get more families involved. Parents and children who do attend, enjoy the activities and are learning from each other. Discussions focus on ways to better interact with teachers to improve children's school performance and experience. Naturally, we would like to encourage more PAAS families to participate.

One idea to improve meeting attendance was having a pajama party with movies and popcorn for the kids. We tried this and found an increase in our attendance as children went home and asked their parents to bring them! We continue to look for more activities that will attract children's attention and cause them to ask their parents to come. Some ideas that we will be pursuing are inviting UW sports teams and other performance groups from UW, inviting West High student groups, parent child service projects, and drama and performance activities for the entire PAAS group.

We also discussed parent teacher conferences. Conferences went well, but it is important for parents to keep in contact with their child's teacher. Parents should remind teachers that they are available and want to know what's going on with their children.

Our discussion about children's behavior was animated. Parents varied in their approaches to behavior. Some parents give choices within parameters and others felt that they were the ones who decided what children should and shouldn't do. There was agreement that respect and good behavior are the child's job. Just as an adult goes to work and makes choices that effect their employment, so a child must adhere to rules and expectations in preparation for being an adult.

We are looking forward to a drama presentation by our children at our February meeting. Our January 22, 2009 meeting will feature Sean Gray, the West High coordinator for the Black Student Union. Group members will accompany him and will work and play with our kids. We'll hear from him about high school and things parents should be aware of now as they look to their child's future education.

We are grateful to the PTO for their ongoing support and encourage all Parents of African-American Students to join us on Thursday, January 22, 2009 at Franklin starting at 5:30PM.