

January 27, 2012



# FRANKLIN-RANDALL NEWSLETTER



## New School Door Policy

A reminder that Franklin's outside doors will be locked at 8:00AM. If your child arrives after 8:00, an adult must walk them in and check them in at the office. Also a plea to get kids here on time. Supervision before school begins at 7:30, they are allowed in at 7:38 and children should be in their classrooms by 7:45. (We have so many tardy students)



## Volunteers Needed at Franklin

### Music Concert

Volunteers needed to help set up chairs and take down chairs for the concert. The gym will not be available until 12:20 for set up and will need take down immediately after the second concert. Also due to the tight scheduling of lunch and the concerts, families will not be allowed in to the gym until 12:35.



## Parent Empowerment Group

The next Parent Empowerment Group for Families of Black Students will be Thursday, February 2, 2012 in room 6 at Franklin Elementary School from 5:30-7:00pm. A delicious meal and childcare for school age children is always provided. February's meeting will have a presentation on the importance of literacy and how parents can help children succeed in school. The presentation will be followed by an intimate discussion/questions with the presenters. The goal of Parent Empowerment Groups (PEG) is to provide families with a venue to connect with the school community and gain information related to school, as well as to form connections with each other and the school staff. The Parent Empowerment Groups also serve as a forum to share information that empowers parents to be active and well informed. Should you have any questions, please contact Rita Miller (204-2285) or Amy Turkowski (204-2266).

## Franklin-Randall Winter Carnival

### Saturday, Feb. 11, at Randall School

The Franklin-Randall Winter Carnival is coming! Please join us for some indoor fun on Saturday, February 11 from 11:30 am - 3 pm at Randall School. Enclosed in your child's Friday folder today are raffle tickets for the

Carnival. Has your child ever wanted to be principal for part of the day? Or wanted to have lunch with Mr. Wallace at Mickey's Dairy Bar? These are some of the great adventures you can win at this year's raffle. Popsicle party with your class - we've got it! A primo parking spot to give to your favorite teacher - you can win that, too! This year we have two grand prizes (as if those aren't enough) - a Kindle Fire and a Trek kids' 200 bicycle. Sell tickets to your neighbors and friends and help support our school in a fun way.

We will have a bus running from the Taft Boy & Girls Club, Franklin and the Bayview Community Center to Randall during the event. A schedule will be in next week's Friday folder.



We still need MANY volunteers to help with this fun day! Please sign up to volunteer through the PTO website

([www.franklinrandallpto.org](http://www.franklinrandallpto.org)). Questions or comments, please contact Carnival Co-Chairs, Julia Stanley at [cjstanley@ameritech.net](mailto:cjstanley@ameritech.net) or Char Purtell at [charpp@tds.net](mailto:charpp@tds.net).

## After School Foreign Language Program

Help the Franklin/Randall FLP Celebrate 15 years!

This Spring session of the Franklin/Randall Foreign Language Program (FLP) marks 15 years since this popular PTO program was started by a group of parent volunteers. Over the years, we have introduced hundreds of children to French, Spanish, Italian, German, Chinese, Russian, Arabic, Japanese and ASL in a fun and nurturing environment. Many of our teachers have been with us for years - seeing our children grow from kindergarteners to fifth graders! One of our teachers has been with us the entire 15 years, and two others are closing in on 10 years!

We're very excited about this session, which starts February 7 at Franklin and February 8 at Randall, and are offering classes in Arabic, ASL (American Sign Language), French, German and Spanish. We are introducing a formalized new curriculum focusing on two aspects of each language: what our kids may be able to use in a real world situation and

more about cultures where each language is spoken and what it's like to be a child there. It's going to be a lot of fun, and they'll even get to learn something new!

The session runs Tuesdays, February 7 to March 27 at Franklin, and Wednesdays from February 8 to March 28 at Randall. The cost is \$98 per student for the eight week session, which includes both snacks and materials. We offer full and partial scholarships, as well as a multi-child discount.

For questions, comments or scholarship requests, please email [language@franklinrandallpto.org](mailto:language@franklinrandallpto.org) or call the program coordinator, Elizabeth Kerwin, at 661-9991.

To register your child, please visit: [www.franklinrandallpto.org/language](http://www.franklinrandallpto.org/language). The registration deadline is Tuesday, January 31.

## Randall Read your Heart Out Day

Friday, February 10, 2012

In Celebration of National African American Parent Involvement Day

### SANKOFA Schools and Neighborhoods Keep Our Families Alive

Randall Elementary, in conjunction with the MMSD Division of Equity and Family Involvement, joins Mendota, Hawthorne, Lowell, Glendale, Midvale and Falk schools in celebrating African Parent Involvement (NAAPID). American family and community members are asked to join classrooms as a reader or just a visitor! We hope to have our halls full as we honor this display of Unity, Self-Determination, Love and Communalism.



## Super Science Saturday Saturday, March 10, Randall School



Super Science Saturday is an exciting morning dedicated to exploring the wonderful world of science. From astronomy

to zoology, you'll find it all at Super Science Saturday on March 10 from 9:30 a.m. to Noon at Randall School.

We hope that you will become involved with Super Science Saturday 2012. Parents and students can:

- Help to plan the event. Please attend an organizational meeting on Tuesday, January 24, at 7 p.m. in the Randall LMC.
- Provide an activity for the event. For example, you can run a 30 minute workshop; design a hands-on exhibit; or create an exploration station where you coach learners through a brief experiment.
- Volunteer to help on March 9 or 10 with set up, registration, clean up, refreshments.

We look forward to your participation in this super science event. Please contact Mary Saecker (msaecker@chem.wisc.edu, 233-0996) or Shobhina Chheda (sgc@medicine.wisc.edu, 238-6896) with questions, ideas, and especially your interest in getting involved with Super Science Saturday.

### **Date Night Childcare!** **Friday, January 27**



Need a night out without your little one(s)? The student members of West's Model United Nations Club would be happy to

care for your children ages (approximately) kindergarten- grade 6 while you gallivant about. We will use our hard earned babysitting money for conference fees. Our club practices simulations of United Nations real life issues by attending conferences, and we have one coming up in March at the University of IL/ Urbana- Champaign. We need money for transportation, lodging, meals and fees. We are ready to nurture your child/ren (with movies, dinner, games, and watching a drumming group perform) and at the same time fight for freedom on the floor of the (simulated) United Nations!

Please enter the gym from Regent Street

DATE: Friday, January 27, 2012  
TIME: 6-9:30 (bring your little one/s any time)  
PLACE: West High School (Steven's Gym)  
DONATION: \$10-\$20 per child  
RSVP: Nancy Bogue/ parent club advisor-  
[pwwt@chorus.net](mailto:pwwt@chorus.net)

### **Snack Program Update**

Thank you Franklin-Randall families! **With your help we have now collected enough money for the Franklin-Randall Snack Program to run through the end of this school year!** Thank you for your contributions and interest in the program. Because it is funded and run solely by parents, it wouldn't be possible without you.

With negative factors such as childhood obesity and processed food consumption at an all time high, it is extremely important that our children learn about **and take and active role in** making positive choices for a healthy lifestyle. School is an ideal place to reinforce the healthy lifestyles we are trying to teach at home.



The Snack Program has been an excellent way for all students to enjoy another serving of fresh, nutrient-rich produce. It has allowed many students to try foods they have never tried before, and it has shown them that even **THEY** can help to support local farms. (Plus, one day a week, we parents get a break from doing the shopping, chopping and delivering themselves!)

#### **Golden Beets!**

I am hearing some nice things about the golden beets we served a few weeks ago. Sadie C., who thought she hated beets before the program, came home saying that golden beets are yummy and crunchy! She doesn't like many veggies, so her parents are very happy that she now loves beets - and raw sweet potato, too! We're glad you tried them, Sadie!

Please send your students' comments for posting in the newsletter to Dana Evans at [dearlove30@charter.net](mailto:dearlove30@charter.net)!

**This Week: Rutabaga from Harmony Valley Farm** (Yes, more delicious root vegetables... this is Wisconsin in the winter.)  
**Coming Soon:** Spinach from Snug Haven (a student favorite!), and hopefully Organic Valley string cheese sticks as well as homemade whole wheat tortillas from the GittOrganic Family Farm.

#### **Snack Program Background**

Some of you have been asking how the Snack Program began. It all started 2 ½ years ago at Franklin by a small group of parents interested in changing the district's school breakfast and lunch menus. It was something our small community could do NOW while simultaneously working with the district to

improve the nutritional value of the meal options in the long run.

In the beginning, Franklin was part of the WHL (Wisconsin Homegrown Lunch) Farm to School Snack Program run by REAP (Research, Education, Action and Policy), but since last winter we have been on our own. Just a handful of committed parents have been able to keep the program alive by doing all of the purchasing, preparation and transportation of the produce each week to almost 800 students (Randall was added this year!)

If you see these individuals, please give them a special THANK YOU for all of their time and energy: Sharon Barbour, Roberta Eriksson, Dana Evans, Sherry Gotzler, Sigrid Hansen, Melissa Hornung, Connie McElrone, Katya Maes, Mike McLain, Eric Olive, and Josh Perkins. Although these are not the only parents involved, they are the key players in getting it all done each week for the past few months. Thank you also to Jason Speich and the PTO for their help with money collection and safe-keeping.

**WE ALWAYS NEED HELP!** If you would like to help or have any questions about the Snack Program, please contact Dana Evans at [dearlove30@charter.net](mailto:dearlove30@charter.net).

If you would like more information about the changes occurring at the district level, please contact Pat Mulvey at [patmulvey608@gmail.com](mailto:patmulvey608@gmail.com). She is a F-R parent serving on a committee designed to help the district plot a 5 year sustainability plan with Cafeteria, Classroom and Community components. We should be seeing some very exciting changes in the future!

## Important Dates

February 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	30	31 Registration due for Foreign Language	1	2 PEG meeting for families of black students Franklin Rm 6 5:30 p.m.	3	4
5	6	7 Franklin Music Concerts 12:45 –K 1:30- 1 <sup>st</sup> /2 <sup>nd</sup>  PTO Meeting Randall 6 p.m.	8	9	10	11 F-R CARNIVAL Randall 11:30-3 p.m.
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24 No School	25

## Volunteer Opportunities

All school related volunteer opportunities have sign up available at the website:  
[franklinrandallpto.org/volunteering](http://franklinrandallpto.org/volunteering)

The Franklin-Randall Winter Carnival needs volunteers for Saturday February 11<sup>th</sup>. Contact Julia Stanley at [cjstanley@ameritech.net](mailto:cjstanley@ameritech.net) or Char Purtell at [33333333](tel:33333333).

Super Science Saturday needs volunteers for Saturday March 10<sup>th</sup>. Contact Mary Saecker ([msaecker@chem.wisc.edu](mailto:msaecker@chem.wisc.edu), 233-0996) or Shobhina Chheda ([sgc@medicine.wisc.edu](mailto:sgc@medicine.wisc.edu), 238-6896)

Volunteers needed to help set up chairs and take down chairs for the concert. The gym will not be available until 12:20 for set up (kindergarten concert at 12:45) and will need take down immediately after the second concert of 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> granders which begins at 1:30.

## Contact Information

**SAFE ARRIVAL:** Remember to notify the school about an absence, lateness, or other arrival arrangements.  
Franklin 204-2294 Randall 204-3306

Visit the F-R Listserv <http://groups.google.com/group/frpto>

**PTO Website:** [www.franklinrandallpto.org](http://www.franklinrandallpto.org)  
Send newsletter submissions by Monday to: [melissa.y.allan@gmail.com](mailto:melissa.y.allan@gmail.com)

Yog xav mloog daim ntawv xovxwm txhais ua lus Hmoob ce hu rau tus xovtooj 204-3286  
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