

The Raider Times

Emmons School District 33



Volume 2, Number 1

August 28, 2009

Emmons is students, staff, parents, and community working together to prepare our students for a successful future through excellent experiences and growth opportunities.

Welcome Back!... Emmons School is off to another exciting school year! Parents and students will find important information about school events, dates, and upcoming activities in this space each week. If you would like a hard copy of this weekly newsletter to come home with your child each Friday, please contact Carla Pratt in the school office at (847) 395-1105 x210.

Fall Landscaping Party... We are looking for volunteers to join us from 7:30am-12:00pm on Saturday, September 26th, for a landscaping clean-up party around the school property. We will be trimming trees, pulling weeds, and planting bulbs in several flower beds. Please contact Dr. Machak at (847) 395-1105 x213 if you are interested in spending some of the morning of September 26th with us.

Picture Day... Staff and student composite, portrait, and ID photos will be taken next Tuesday, September 1st. Information regarding the purchase of portrait packages was sent home with our students today.

Principal's Cabinet... Dr. Machak is looking for student representatives from each grade level 4-8 to serve on the Principal's Cabinet for the 2009-10 school year. Students on this committee will meet with Dr. Machak on a bi-monthly basis and act as a primary liaison between administration and students at a particular grade level. We are hoping to have two representatives from each grade level. Interested students should stop in the office for an application no later than Tuesday, September 8th.

Bus Issues... Parents may contact the Customer Care Center of Durham Bus Company at (847) 838-5198 at any time to report school bus problems such as late or missed pickups, route questions, and the like. Questions and concerns regarding student conduct on the school bus should be directed to the school office.

4th and 5th Grade Band...Students in grades 4 and 5 will have the opportunity to sign up for Beginning Band. Instrument trials conducted by Music Education Services will take place on Wednesday, September 2nd, from 12:45-1:45pm. Sign-ups will take place in the band room from 7:00-8:00pm on Tuesday, September 8th. Band will begin the week of September 21st.

MAP Testing Next Week...Fall MAP testing will begin for all students in grades K-8 will begin on Monday on Monday, August 31st, and run through Friday, September 11th. Students in grades K, 1, and 2 are tested in the areas of reading and math. Students in grades 3-8 are tested in reading, math, and language usage.

BOE Meeting Dates...The Emmons Board of Education approved its calendar of meetings for the 2009-10 school year last night. All meetings are scheduled to begin at 7:00pm on Thursdays and are held in the Emmons Library. The dates the Board will meet are: September 24, October 22, November 19, December 17, January 28, February 25, March 25, April 22, May 27, and June 24.

Superintendent's Forum...Dr. Machak invites all Emmons parents to participate in the first of a series of conversations regarding the "state of the union" at Emmons School. The first of these forums will be held at 6:00pm in the library on Wednesday, September 16th. Topics for this meeting include a review of 2009-10 District goals, bullying prevention, and a review of the first month of the school year. Refreshments will be served. Please contact Carla Pratt at (847) 395-1105 x210 by September 11th if you can attend, so that we know how many folks to plan for. The times of these forum meetings will be staggered throughout the year to attempt to accommodate our parents' busy schedules.

Emmons Volleyball Tournament...Emmons School will host its first (annual) 8th grade girls' volleyball tournament this Fall! This one-day, bracket-style tournament will take place on Saturday, October 17th, from 9:00am-6:00pm. Parents interested in helping us out by taking tickets, running concessions, or keeping score should contact Mr. Dan Wiegel, Emmons' Athletic Director, at (847) 395-1105 x236.

8th Grade EXPLORE Test...All Emmons 8th grade students are required to report to Antioch High School on Saturday, October 24th, by 7:45am. On that date, our students will be taking the EXPLORE Test, which is used to assist District 117 in high school placement. The EXPLORE is part of a series of nationally-normed tests that culminates with the ACT exam. A letter explaining this exam was sent to parents of all Emmons 7th graders from the guidance department of Antioch High School last May. Please contact Dr. Machak if you would like another copy of the letter.

No Parking Zone...Parents are asked to please not park along the fence near the school exit. This area needs to remain clear should an emergency vehicle need to enter the property. Further, parking in this spot increases the likelihood of a child being injured by a vehicle, as parents are parking illegally right next to the playground. Thank you for your cooperation.

PTO Meetings Scheduled...The Emmons Parent-Teacher Organization meets monthly in the first floor conference room at school. PTO meetings are held on Tuesdays and begin at 7:30pm. Meeting dates for the 2009-10 school year are September 8th, October 6th, November 10th, January 12th, February 9th, March 9th, April 13th, and May 11th. Parents can contact Mrs. Dawn Latakas, PTO President, at school for more information.

Listing of Registered Sex Offenders Available Online...A listing of sexual and violent offenders against children throughout Lake County and the State of Illinois is available online at the Illinois State Police website (<http://www.isp.state.il.us>). A similar listing, updated quarterly, is available from the Lake County Sheriff's Department by calling (847) 360-5796. We are required by law to share the availability of this information with parents at the beginning of every school year.

Study Halls Open...After-school study halls for all students in grades 3-8 are now open for business! Students in grades 3-5 work in one room and middle school student in another. Each study hall is staffed by at least one Emmons teacher and/or paraprofessional. Study hall runs from 3:30-4:10pm each day Monday through Thursday. A late activity bus will be available, free of charge, to take students attending study hall home at 4:15pm.

Parent Feedback Appreciated...We are hoping that *The Raider Times* improves the frequency and timeliness of information that parents receive from school. If you have any suggestions, questions, concerns, or ideas related to this weekly flyer, please contact Dr. Machak with them at (847) 395-1105 x213 or electronically at rmachak@emmons-school.com.

The Week Ahead...

Monday, August 31st	MAP Testing 4 th /5 th Grade Band Assembly 10:00-10:30am
Tuesday, September 1st	MAP Testing All-School Picture Day
Wednesday, Sept. 2nd	MAP Testing 4 th /5 th Grade Instrument Trials 12:45-1:45pm
Thursday, September 3rd	MAP Testing
Friday, September 4th	No School – Teacher Inservice
Monday, September 7th	No School – Labor Day