

THE LINK



HAPPY DAY SCHOOL

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2012

A Word from the Director's Chair

After a busy and successful summer program, our staff has had a well-needed rest and have returned to school refreshed. The theme for this year is "VISION". We are going to look to where we are going and not where we have been! Our staff is committed to stepping outside of the BOX and envisioning awesome outcomes and benefits for each and every child! The sky is the limit in 2012!

Our most exciting change this year is our new parking lot! In fact, we took an extra day off for it to be done! The result is more visitor spaces, handicap parking by the building and easier access from the side door for families that have wheelchairs and/or strollers.

New entrance rules:

Parents with children, please enter the SIDE entrance in the morning and afternoon. With busses coming and going, Debbie will buzz you in- so the busses can finish their routes. They are not allowed to move when someone is on the sidewalk. We appreciate your help with this.

We continue to be busy in our building- Early Intervention numbers are at an all-time high. Preschool is busy with activities and preparation for public school. School-age is bustling with full classrooms and lots of hands-on with kids! It's exciting to see all the activities that go on in a day. Early Head Start has returned again to our building and is currently using three of our classrooms.

Speaking of auctions, on Saturday, October 20th, we will be hosting our 3rd Silent Auction, Raffle, Kid's Corner, and Craft Show from 9:00am – 3:00 pm. We encourage FAMILIES to come and make a day of it. Admission is free and it is open to the public. We will have something for everyone from themed baskets to holiday shopping ideas. There will be lots of vendors with unique wares, a children's shopping area, an art fun table and large raffle items such as an Adirondack chair, spa basket, and much more. And of course, there will be baked goods and apple dumplings for sale! We are still in need of volunteers. If you would like to **donate items, a basket, or your time** for the auction, please call Debbie at the front desk.

Lastly, we have moved the preschool and school-age classrooms into the cafeteria for lunch every day. We are giving each student the "experience" that all should have- going through the tray line, talking with the lunch ladies, carrying their tray (when possible), eating with their classmates and spending time with others. It's a rowdy, happening place! The students truly seem to be enjoying the time together. I certainly hope that your child can take part in this by buying a school lunch once in awhile- it's such a great experience!

So as we start off the year, I can confidently say that I am privileged to work with an outstanding and dedicated staff that have only your child's best interests at heart and are all ENVISIONING a successful year ahead!

Please check out our website at www.portagedd.org and click on the Happy Day link to keep up with all the latest school events and information.

Gail L. McAlister



LINKING FAMILIES TO HAPPY DAY SCHOOL

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NOTES FROM THE NURSE**When to Keep Your Child Home From School**

You have plenty of other things to do at 6:30 in the morning than play amateur doctor, yet that's the situation many parents face when a child awakens with a health complaint and you must determine whether the complaint is serious enough to warrant a sick day. Here are some tips for deciding whether to keep a child at home:

Monitor any symptoms of illness before your child goes to sleep at night. Make time to evaluate the symptoms in the morning. Symptoms can get worse overnight. How does your child appear? Is he or she active, alert, and comfortable or slow, lethargic, whiny, irritable, feverish, or have other significant symptoms?

- Children can attend school with the sniffles as long as they feel all right otherwise. But keep your child at home if he or she has a heavy cough or a steady stream of mucus. Also keep the child home if the cough is accompanied by breathing that is rapid or labored and describe these symptoms to your doctor.
- If your child has a rash, it's important to determine its source. If it's poison ivy, for example, the child can go to school as long as the rash is being properly treated. But an unexplained rash may be the first symptom of a contagious illness. Note whether the rash is accompanied by such other symptoms as fever, crankiness, lethargy, unusual crying, or a general feeling of discomfort. Keep the child at home and describe these symptoms to your doctor.
- A common complaint is an upset stomach. This can be caused by several things, including an upcoming test or a situation in school that your child may be reluctant to confront. The pain probably isn't caused by something too serious if your child is able to play or do other activities. But keep your child home from school if the stomach pain is accompanied by vomiting, diarrhea, or fever. If the child complains of stomach pain for several days, you should call your physician for advice.
- A child who is vomiting should be kept at home. Unless the source of the vomiting is obvious (for example, a reaction to a new food), you should also check with your doctor. Diarrhea is another reason to keep your child at home. Younger school age children may not be able to prevent accidents.
- When it comes to temperature, a reading below 100 degrees is generally not cause for concern, child experts say. A fever above 100, especially when combined with a sore throat, a rash, or other symptoms, could indicate a more serious illness. Keep the child at home and then describe the symptoms to your doctor.



CALENDER OF EVENTS



10/8/2012	Parent Council Mtg.-Happy Day School	7:00 pm
10/9/2012	Board Eligible Family Swim	6:00-7:30 pm
10/12/2012	Kindermusik	9:30-10:15 am
10/12/2012	Kindermusik	10:30-11:15 am
10/16/2012	Board Eligible Family Swim	6:00-7:30 pm
10/17/2012	PCBDD Board Meeting-Board Office	5:30 pm
10/19/2012	NO SCHOOL FOR ALL STUDENTS-Staff Recognition Day	
10/20/2012	Silent Auction & Craft Show-Happy Day	9:00 am-3:00 pm
10/23/2012	Board Eligible Family Swim	6:00-7:30 pm
10/25/2012	Fall Festival	9:30 am
10/25/2012	Market Day Pick up	3:15-4:15 pm
10/26/2012	First Grading Period Ends	
10/30/2012	Board Eligible Family Swim	6:00-7:30 pm
11/2/2012	Toddler Swim Playgroup	9:00-10:15 am
11/6/2012	Board Eligible Family Swim	6:00-7:30 pm
11/8/2012	Conferences (STUDENTS ATTEND ALL DAY)	4:00-7:30pm
11/9/2012	Conferences (NO SCHOOL IN SESSION)	8:30 am-12:00 pm
11/9/2012	Genetics Clinic	9:00 am to 3:00 pm



PLEASE SAVE THE DATE!!!!!!

**Silent Auction and Craft Show
Saturday, October 20th 9am-3pm
HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!**



PARENT COUNCIL FOR PORTAGE COUNTY

If anyone is interested in joining Parent Council for Portage County; we meet once a month at 6:30pm, usually on the 2nd Monday of each month. The annual fee for a family is \$5.00 and a single membership is \$3.00. We encourage families to get involved and be part of upcoming fun events and future plans. Please call Debbie for more information at 330-678-2400.

NEW USDA REGULATIONS-

By keeping up with the “Fight on Obesity”, we are complying with regulations in our kitchen to help keep our lunches portioned correctly and healthy.

Some of the new guidelines include:

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| Two servings of vegetables a day | One serving of fruit a day |
| No desserts | Limit on juice for snack |
| Use of 1% milk | |

The kitchen is trying many new things to embrace the new guidelines and make lunch not only a healthy, but delicious opportunity for each child.

We are asking families to consider “Trying out” our lunch program!!! It gives them a chance to try new foods with their friends, go through the tray line (preschool-high school) or eat family –style if you are in a toddler class.

We certainly understand that many children are picky eaters, but sometimes can be really fun to eat the same thing your friends are! And if you qualify for a free lunch, why not try it?

FAMILY SWIMS HAVE RESUMED!

Board eligible students or adults and their families are welcome to join us on Tuesdays from 6:00 - 7:30pm.

BRING YOUR SUITS, TOWELS AND HAVE FUN!

