

## South Berwyn School District 100

January, 2009

Did You Know...



### Emerson –

- Second grade teacher Susan Alcock recently earned a Masters Degree in Curriculum and Instruction. Congratulations on this significant accomplishment.
- The Emerson staff collected toys and other holiday donations in December for children at Comer's Children's Hospital. Thanks to LeAnn Broshous and Jennifer Kruger for organizing this initiative.
- Before winter break, Mr. Dennis Puhr organized a diaper donation and the Emerson staff contributed for needy families of small children.
- Citizen's Bank sponsored their annual coloring contest for the Emerson students. Citizen's Bank continues to support Emerson families through their Bank At School program.

### Heritage –

- The After School Program at Heritage has over 70 students enrolled in it!! That's over 10% of the entire student population!
- In December, Core' LaVersa, site coordinator of the After School Program, created the school's first Holiday Bazaar Sale. Teachers generously donated items from their homes, which were then sold to students in a "yard sale" style. Students bought presents for their families at prices ranging from twenty-five cents to four dollars. The Holiday Bazaar was a wonderful success! We raised almost four hundred dollars for the After School Program, and even more importantly, students were able to buy presents for their loved ones.
- The Berwyn Police Union donated two thousand dollars to the Heritage Middle School Athletic Program. The donation will help with the purchase of new uniforms for the All-Star teams.
- In our effort to be green, Heritage has initiated the "tap and stack" program in the lunchroom. We now have only four bags of garbage per day in the lunchroom instead of sixteen!
- On January 16, Heritage students and staff again raised money for a good cause. We raised over five hundred dollars, which will be donated to The Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

### Pershing –

- Pershing School will be having a Concordia University cohort of teachers in the Masters of Reading Program provide evening tutoring to over 50 of our students.
- Eight Pershing Staff members extend their teaching day by working with students every week in our After School Reading Clubs. Fun is had by all!!!!

- Our Winter concerts, lead by our Music Teacher Mrs. Denise Farley, were an outstanding success as the chorus and Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade students participated in these holiday celebrations.
- We held a “Coin Wars” and raised over \$1,300 to help a school of 300 students in Haiti. We care!!!!
- 98% of Pershing students successfully attained grade level PBIS goals such as being respectful and being prepared for class to earn the reward of roller-skating at Fleetwood Roller Skating Rink.
- Our English Language Learners will be taking the state ACCESS test this month to measure their growth in listening, speaking, reading, and writing in English.
- Pershing students are participating in the Six Hour Reading Club to earn a Six Flags ticket reward.

## Freedom –

- One of Freedom’s students earned a Daniel Murphy’s Scholarship which is a substantial financial reward to help offset the cost of any area private school. She is Freedom’s first winner for this scholarship.
- Our student council moderated by Beth Jones and Kristin Richey sponsored seven individuals with disabilities by providing holiday gifts through our annual Santa Anonymous.
- Freedom and Heritage co-sponsored a high school fair where over 100 families were able to speak with representatives from Morton, St. Joseph, Nazareth, and Fenwick High Schools just to name a few.
- We raised over \$450 for our LRC to help purchase books through our Bucks for Books fundraiser.
- Freedom middle school students decreased tardies over 43% compared to this time last year while also decreasing the number of students who were chronically tardy by over 57%.

## Irving –

- Mrs. Kroll and Mrs. Noffsinger have student teachers from Dominican University – Ms. Burke with Mrs. Noffsinger’s class and Mrs. Dugan is with Mrs. Kroll –they are planning lessons even now and are very eager to begin their experience
- Ms. Kissner also has brought a new student teacher on board this year – Ms. Leeney will be in 1<sup>st</sup> grade until the end of the year
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> graders will be attending the Body Club presentation at Robert Crown in February
- Second grade will be prepping for the 2<sup>nd</sup> research project using awesome resources from the inquiry grant experience last spring
- The Irving School chorus visited two senior citizen homes before Christmas to sing carols and holiday songs to the residents – they are invited back next year for another performance
- The inauguration of Barack Obama was witnessed by all of the Irving students in the gymnasium on the large screen – we all saw history in the making
- Ms. Sasha Walker is substituting in 4<sup>th</sup> grade during the maternity leave of Mrs. Jackson

- Mrs. Lauren Jackson, Irving 4<sup>th</sup> grade” welcomed a new baby daughter, Sophia, to the world on Dec. 24 – just in time for a tax deduction
- The Irving Early Childhood and Pre- School for All will be taking a field trip to “Pump It Up” in Elmhurst. This will be a great opportunity for the children to get out and have fun jumping and bouncing on huge inflatable equipment. Parents are invited to accompany their children on this adventure
- The 4<sup>th</sup> grade classes at Irving are trying to earn 92 jolly ranchers in math class from now until Feb. 27, 2009; keep in mind 92% is our school ISAT goal in Math

## Hiawatha –

- Hiawatha students and teachers raised \$700 for a needy school in Haiti. They helped pay the annual salaries of more than 3 teachers.
- Students who met their 1<sup>st</sup> trimester goal for Accelerated Reader qualified for a “nacho average reader” nacho party. 115 students participated in that celebration.
- We’re working on being ready for school! Students are participating in a “race to five.” Each class that has perfect attendance and no tardies within 5 of 8 days, will qualify to participate in “READY” bingo for prizes.
- Our school has been busy with many after school clubs including origami, technology, running, games, drama, homework clubs, Girl Scouts, and our Green Team. The Green Team just submitted a video entry written and filmed by the boys and girls in that club. The contest that they entered is “Green My Schools.” Hiawatha could be getting a Green makeover if we win!

## Komensky –

Komensky students are excited to have received several items from Donors Choose? At DonorsChoose.org teachers may ask for any resource that will help students learn. DonorsChoose.org has provided donations of paper, books, field trips, computers, listening centers, bookshelves and more! Teachers submit proposals by going to <http://www.donorschoose.org/donors/proposal>. Over the past year, our students and teachers have received:

- Five tables to facilitate cooperative learning
- An alphabet carpet
- An interactive globe
- A very large easel
- A Camera and printer
- An Overhead projector
- Take-Home Learning Pack, which includes activities to encourage home-school connections
- United States Maps
- Music instrument and composer posters
- And we have a proposal for two park benches for our community, parents, and students to sit on in the playground!

We at Komensky and Berwyn SD 100 recognize that the community is our partner and that our goals are shared ones. Berwyn’s tradition of excellence must be maintained. The students

require it, and the citizens of the community demand it. The Komensky staff and I want to thank Donors Choose for everything they have donated to us!

## Piper –

- We will be hosting a Science and Math Night on Monday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> from 6:30-8:00 in our school gym. All are invited to experience student projects and interactive stations.
- Piper hosted a “Picnic with the President” to witness President Barack Obama take his oath of office and deliver his inauguration speech. The entire school enjoyed a box lunch on picnic blankets following this historic event.
- Our students earned 238 class “Respect Bees” during the month of December and were rewarded with a “snow play” lunch recess. The PBIS team had set the goal at 100 respect bees but, in true Piper fashion, students far exceeded expectations.
- Piper has nine teachers currently enrolled in graduate classes to obtain advanced degrees in education. Ms. McClellan, Ms. Lockman, Ms. Soger, Ms. Gorman, Ms. Stevens, Ms. Hoffenkamp, Ms. DiGilio, Ms. Rodriguez and Ms. Caballero are all working extremely hard beyond the school day to become the most skilled teachers possible and to bring the very best education to our children.