

LIBERTY FAMILY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 8, ISSUE 2 SEPTEMBER, 2009

READING BENCHMARKS BEGIN FOR ALL STUDENTS

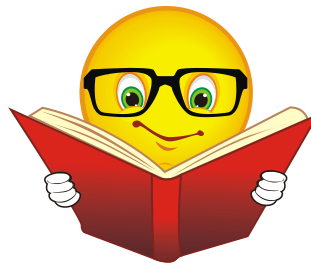
Doctors use children's height and weight as "Well Checks", or vital signs of development. We all know how important it is for our children to "grow" in reading as well. Successfully learning to read at an early age is probably one of the most important factors in a child's learning, both inside and outside of school. Because reading and reading growth are so important, on a regular basis, our school will provide "Well Check" information called Benchmark Reports, indicating how well your child is reading. The benchmark sessions will occur three times this year: fall, winter and spring.

Last year, the benchmarking began at Liberty for students in grades K-2. This year, all students will participate in this process. Reading benchmarks

are simple and accurate. Kindergarteners will be asked to identify letter names and letter sounds. Students in grades 1-5 will read three grade-level passages called R-CBM (Reading-Curriculum Based Measurement). These assessments take less than five minutes per child to complete. We like to think of it as taking your child's reading temperature.

Teachers will use information from the benchmarks, along with data from other assessments, to plan their reading instruction for all students and individualize for students who might be above or below average in their reading skills. The benchmark results will be placed on a chart to share with parents.

As a school staff, we are excited about our ability to know where all of our students are on the path to becoming successful readers and learners. We hope you share our excitement as well. If you have any questions about our benchmarking process or your child's progress, please feel free to contact your child's teacher.



PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCE SIGN UP

One of the best ways to ensure student success is strong home/school communication. Sign up sheets for Parent/Teacher Conferences were posted during Parent Night. If you have not yet signed up for a time for a parent/teacher confer-

ence, please contact your child's teacher as soon as possible.

Conferences will take place on Monday, November 23 between 1:00pm and 4:00pm and between 5:00pm and 8:00pm. and

on Tuesday, November 24 between 8:00am and 1:00pm.

Be sure to sign up today for best availability.

We look forward to seeing you and building a strong home/school connection!

IMPORTANT

UPCOMING DATES:

Friday, September 25:

School Improvement

Early Release—12:00 pm

Students in Grades 1-5 and Dual Language Kindergarten will be dismissed at 12:00pm.

AM/PM kindergarten will follow their regular schedule.

Wednesday, September 30:

School Picture Day

Monday, October 12:

NO SCHOOL

Columbus Day

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LIBERTY STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN SUMMER READING PROGRAM

Each year Liberty students participate in the Dundee Park District Summer Reading Program. This year nearly 1,300 students participated, including the following Liberty Stars:

Harani Athwale, Nathaniel Graf, Tyler Gray, Lucas Kuhlmann, Sarah Lambert, Thomas Nelson, Aiden O'Rourke, Amari Owens, Jed Sia, Kate Trembly, Aiden Beus, Carolyn Bury, Colleen Cranston, Hailey Eckersberg, Samantha Forman, Sarah Hendrickson, Raghuram Kakinada, Lindsey Leigh, Moises Munoz, Jake Ridle, Joel Ridle, Breanna

Roimiser, Vickram Samra, Kris Shah, Tyler Witham, Ashley Clarke, Alyson Doherty, Maya Flynn, Sarah Gaudaen, Luca Goulding, Francis Nuguid, Sean O'Rourke, Kevin Ortiz, Julesa Sedrak, Joshua Trembly, Eric Boysen, Hannah Doherty, Kailey Faith, Matthew Fang, Stephanie Kruk, Emily Lanspa, Kayleigh Lewis, Arianna Maravilla, Monica Maravilla, Ramya Nisankula, Harold Ogaban, John Ridle, Kassie Silenzi, Ethan Uner, Maddie Albury, Colin Boysen, Benjamin Corcelles, Christopher Cranston, Paige Gjermstad, Darian Goulding, Adam

Hendrickson, Kira Kugler, Joshua Rodig, Samantha Roimiser, Rachel Subrin, Jonathan Wenzel, Collin Beus, Parker Beus, Caeley Jones, Daniel Lambert, Collin Lewis, Ewa Oszajec, Megan Ridle, Megan Rodig, Alyssa Roimiser, Rochelle Sia and James Wenzel.

We are extremely proud of these students for their hard work and dedication!

ENROLL NOW!

District 300

Preschool

Community Unit School District 300 www.d300.org

*Looking for a preschool for
your 3 - 5 year old?*

Community Unit School District 300 has openings for morning and afternoon sessions.

- Teachers hold special Early Child Education Certification
- Curriculum aligned to Illinois Learning Standards
 - Program follows District 300 calendar

5-Day Program: \$235/month

3-Day Program: \$175/month

2 Day Program: \$125/month

CALL 224-484-2300

PREPARATION FOR H1N1 FLU SEASON

The Pandemic Preparedness Team (PPT) of Community Unit School District 300 has worked with regional officials on H1N1 flu and seasonal flu management plans for this school year. Health officials anticipate the spread of the H1N1 flu after students return to class this fall. Federal, state, and local governing bodies are working together closely to decrease and manage this potential. The full cooperation of parents is very important, now and over the next few months.

As with seasonal flu, the primary way to prevent the spread of H1N1 flu is to cover the mouth when coughing and frequently wash one's hands with hot, soapy water. D300 will soon resume its H1N1 Flu Updates webpage at www.d300.org.

D300 PPT leaders participated in August in a webinar hosted by the Kane County Regional Office of Education in partnership with the Kane County Health Department. Here are some highlights from the discussion:

Mass Vaccinations – Federal officials have produced a 2-dose vaccine for the H1N1 flu. It is expected to become available to private and public health providers in early October. The Kane County Health Department will host vaccination clinics, free of charge, in D300 one evening in mid-late October, and another clinic a month later for the second dose. These clinics will

be at D300's three high schools and will be open to the D300 community. Children ages 6 months to 24 years are eligible, as they are considered more vulnerable to H1N1 flu than the general population. Clinic dates and times have not been determined. H1N1 vaccinations are optional.

Protocol for flu-like symptoms –The Kane County Health Department made significant changes in this area for this school year.

- Symptoms of an "influenza-like illness" include a fever with a cough or sore throat. Children with these symptoms will now be required to stay out of school until they are free of fever (without the help of medicine) for at least 24 hours. This is regardless of whether the child has been tested for H1N1. Children with these symptoms will also not be allowed to practice or compete in extracurricular activities.
- Health officials emphasized the importance of parents keeping their sick children at home and completely out of the community until they are fever-free for 24 hours, so they do not spread the illness to the public.
- Per the Health Department, children who come to school with these symptoms or develop them during the school day must be separated from other students until their

parents can pick them up from school.

Schools will not be required to close if a student has a confirmed case of H1N1; instead, that student will simply not be allowed back into school until he/she is fever-free for 24 hours.

Cleaning and Hand Sanitizers –

The Health Department stated that schools should be cleaned as they normally are, but with an emphasis on surfaces that are frequently touched. The Regional Office of Education is allowing alcohol-based hand sanitizers in D300 schools this year. D300 has ordered hand sanitizer dispensers and will install them upon arrival in a few high-traffic common areas at each school.

Reporting absent students – Each day beginning Sept. 8, all schools will be required to report to the Health Department the number of student absences and the specific reasons for each absence. When parents call the school to report their absent children, it is very important that they state any specific symptoms the student is experiencing such as fever, cough or sore throat.

HEALTH INFORMATION FROM MRS. HAYES

All medication must be brought into school by an adult. Students are not permitted to carry medication to school unless they have a permission form signed by both a parent and a physician. If your child needs to have medication given to them at school, a form must be completed by a doctor. For questions or assistance, please contact Mrs. Hayes at (224) 484-4811.

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Music program dates for the 2009-10 school year have been set. Please mark your calendars for the following important dates:

Kindergarten—Friday, June 4 at 10:00am (AMK) and 1:30pm (PMK and Dual Language K)

1st Grade—Tuesday, May 11 @ 6:30pm

2nd Grade—Thursday, February 25 @ 6:30pm

3rd Grade—Tuesday, November 3 @ 6:30pm

4th Grade—Tuesday, April 20 @ 6:30pm

5th Grade—Thursday, December 17 @ 6:30pm



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WE'RE ON THE WEB!

[HTTP://WWW.D300.ORG/
SCHOOLS/LES](http://www.d300.org/schools/les)

twitter.com/eusd300

IMPORTANT PARENT NOTIFICATION

The Illinois legislators have enacted Public Act 94-0994 entitled "Sex Offender Registration Act Notification of Parents." This legislation requires that principals and or teachers of public or private elementary or secondary schools notify parents that information about sex offenders is available to the public.

If you would like to learn more about this topic, please contact your local police department in the county in which you reside, or you may go to the State of Illinois web address at www.illinois.gov and look up Public Act 094-0994. In addition, the Illinois State Police maintain a sex offender database available through the internet at www.isp.state.il.us/sor.

ALL-SCHOOL PHOTO

On Friday, October 23 at 8:30am, our photographer, Inter-State Studios will be out to take an All School Photo (weather permitting).

Students are encouraged to wear school colors: **Red, Blue & Silver.**

Afternoon kindergarten students are encouraged to join us—provided that a parent or guardian can transport them to and from school for this brief event.

NEW SCHOOL PHONE NUMBERS

Our school phone numbers have changed. The new main phone number is **(224) 484-4800**. Our new fax number is (224) 484-4815.

As part of the new phone upgrade, all staff members now have their own direct phone number. If you have not yet received a direct phone number from your child's teacher, please be sure to contact them for this important update. All new phone numbers begin with (224) 484-48XX.

During regular school hours, your child's teacher will have their phone set to go directly into voicemail since they are working with children. If you have an important message to share with your child's teacher, please call the main office for assistance.

