

Jenkins PTA News

April 2011

Vol. 14 No. 8

Important Dates

April 4-15 – Jump Rope for Heart

April 5 – District Accreditation Visit –
Teacher & Parent Panels to be interviewed

April 6 -Benchmark Math Quarterly
Assessments grade 5; 3rd gr. to PE Monroe for
the Little Read; 3rd 9 weeks report cards

April 7 – Awards Day K-2 @ 9:45 & 3-5 @
1:45; Benchmark Math Quarterly Assessments
gr. 3; 5th gr. orientation at Northview Middle

April 8 – 4th gr. To Hiddenite Gem Mine

April 9 – The Little Read Family Day at LRU
(PE Monroe) at 12:00 noon

April 11 – Battle of the Books Competition –
9:00 a.m. at St. John's in Conover

April 12 – Tdap Clinic for 5th graders; Family
Literacy First Luau 6:30 – all K-2 families

April 13 – PTA Board Meeting 9:00; 1st gr. to
Sci. Ctr.; 2nd gr. to Discovery Place; 3rd gr. to
Old Salem; 4th gr. writing assessment
conducted throughout the week

April 14 - Teacher Appreciation Lunch
11:30-12:45; Salsarita's Night 5:00-9:00 p.m.;
4th gr. to Maple Grove; AIG Parent Night at
Jenkins 6:30-7:30 in the mall

April 15 - Field Day

April 19 – 5th gr. orientation at Grandview; 5th
gr. parent night at Northview 6 p.m.; 5th gr.
parent night at Grandview 5:45-6:45

April 20 – AIG Students to Science Center

April 21 – 2nd gr. play – 3-5 @ 9:45 & K-2 @
1:45

April 22 – Regular School Day

April 25-29 – Spring Break – no school

May 5 – Beginner's Day for rising
kindergarteners 3:30-5:00

Message from PTA Co-presidents

Beth Ansley & Kelley Smith

Hello Jenkins' Parents!

Spring has officially sprung. We hope this newsletter finds you all well. Remember that Friday April 22nd is a make-up day for one of our snow days. So Spring Break will start on Saturday, April 23rd and we will return to school Monday, May 2nd.

Hopefully everyone is gearing up for Field Day, Friday April 15th. If you are interested in helping, please contact Fran and Tom Herfurth @ herfurth@charter.net (828) 612-8259 or Dawn and Jim Goforth @ dawndawg@aol.com 495-2735. This is a great chance to spend time with your children and their peers.

McDonald's night was a HUGE success.... We raised \$600. What a great night it was, having the teachers serve and every child had a wonderful smile.

Then Night Of The Arts welcomed our new 2011-2012 PTA and showcased what a wonderfully talented group of students Jenkins' is privileged to educate.

Looking ahead is Beginners Day May 5th- this is a great time for the upcoming kindergarteners and their parents to meet the teachers and get to check out the volunteer opportunities for the next year. JEST is also coming up May 6th so get your running shoes ready.

Thanks for your continued support of the Jenkins PTA.

Beth Ansley and Kelley Smith

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From Mrs. Dischiavi:

Volunteer of the Year – Mrs. Molly Bass

I would like to congratulate Mrs. Molly Bass as the Volunteer of the Year for the 2010-2011 school year. Molly has continued to be a dynamic influence in the lives of children through her passion and teacher of theater arts. Molly connects with every child with whom she meets and guides them in finding their own talents, strengths, and sense of humor. Molly will be recognized at the May Board of Education Meeting.

HPS Undergoing District Accreditation

As you may know, Hickory Public Schools is actively pursuing AdvancED District Accreditation. In order to earn this prestigious designation, the district must meet the AdvancED quality standards, implement a process of continuous improvement, and host a Quality Assurance Review once every five years.

Hickory Public School's Quality Assurance Review will take place April 4-6, 2011. The review is led by a team of professionals from inside and outside the state. During the review, the Quality Assurance Review team interviews a wide range of district and school level stakeholders, examines artifacts, conducts school visits, and engages in professional deliberations to determine the degree to which the district meets the AdvancED standards. The team shares its findings in oral and written formats and makes an accreditation recommendation for national review. The district uses the findings from the team to further its continuous improvement efforts. If the district is awarded accreditation status, the district and all of its schools are accredited.

On April 5, the Quality Assurance Review team will be visiting Jenkins Elementary and will be interviewing Jenkins staff members as well as parents and community members. A public meeting will be held at Northview Middle School on April 6 at 4:00 p.m. to review the recommendation, strengths, and area of needs for the Hickory Public Schools.

Technology in our Classrooms

Over the past few months HPS technology directors have been collaborating with consultants to assess district wide needs and evaluating feasible options for technology upgrades throughout our district. HPS will be piloting virtual options to extend student learning in the classrooms. We are excited to share that Ms. Carla Davis, Mrs. Ferguson, and Mrs. Gambill were selected among district applicants to participate in the pilot program. Here is a little more about VDI.

What is VDI?

- VDI stands for Virtual Desktop Infrastructure
- With VDI, traditional computers would be replaced by “low-to-no-maintenance” terminals
- The responsibility of storage and processing power to run programs (i.e. Word, Excel, AR, Internet Apps, etc) is removed from the traditional classroom computer and given to a powerful central server

Why is HPS piloting VDI?

The goals of the pilot project include:

- Evaluating the feasibility, effectiveness, and financial benefits of virtualization
- Evaluating the usefulness of virtual desktops as classroom instructional tools

When is the pilot?

In April, HPS will begin a 90-day pilot project of the virtual desktop infrastructure, which will include 100 workstations placed in various locations within the district. Seventy-five of these workstations will be on mobile laptop carts and the remaining workstations will be desktop machines.

Family Literacy Night

Please join us for an escape to the island!!

Watch for more details in the April 1st and April 8th Friday Folder.

Who? All K-2 students and parents

What? Literacy First Luau

Where? Your child's classroom

When? Tuesday, April 12, 2011 6:30 p.m.

Why? Your child will be spotlighting literacy work stations to show you what he/she has learned!

Dress? Casual, island style

Ice cream treats will be served and all students in attendance will receive a prize!

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Instructional Time

TIME is the most valuable resource to teachers and the single most important element for student success. It takes both parents and staff working together to protect instructional time. The policies below are gentle reminders of what is expected of both the Jenkins staff and parents in an effort to maximize student learning time.

- phone calls will not be forwarded to classrooms during the hours of 8:15-3:15
- parents reporting for lunch are to report directly to the cafeteria, not the classroom
- students arriving tardy, after 8:30, or leaving prior to 2:55 are a disruption to instruction for all students.
 - Students arriving tardy must be escorted into the office and signed in by a parent/adult
 - Students being dismissed early will be responsible for gathering their assignments from the class web-page or from a friend. Teachers cannot interrupt instruction on a continued basis to assist individuals in packing and gathering assignments. We appreciate your efforts in scheduling all appointments after school hours. Students will not be called for early dismissal after 2:45 without notice of a scheduled appointment.

Battle of the Books Champions

Congratulations to each of our students who pioneered our first Battle of the Books adventure this year under the leadership of Mrs. Barwick and Ms. Stilwell. The Jenkins team competed against Oakwood Elementary and Viewmont Elementary on March 21 and took the first place trophy. These students will now compete at the county level on Monday, April 11. We wish them all the best!

Tyler Cochrane
Mallorie Dufour
Jose Garcia
AbbieGreene
Caylan Hagood
Celeste Land

Claire McCrea
Beau Simmons
Gabe Smith
Paige Starnes
Adia Tabron
Sydney Weaver



REFLECTIONS

Jenkins was well represented at the regional competition (Catawba county vs. Rowan county). Selected from the regional level to compete at the state level were: Beau Simmons/Music Composition, Tyler Cochrane/Literature, and Emma Salyards/Visual Arts. Emma Salyards' visual arts entry placed first at the state level. Only first place state entries will go on to compete at the national level. This is quite an honor. We wish Emma lots of luck at nationals and congratulations to all participants.



FOOTHILLS



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TRAINING CENTER

Summer Camps

April Special

\$5 IN FLIP BUCKS
for each camp attended!

Camps are open to **Girls & Boys**

Choose **2, 3, 4, or 5 days per week**

Camps fill quickly, so don't miss your chance to join the FUN!!

Camps starting June 13th.

• **Full Day Camps:** 8 am - 6 pm
includes: Field Trips (Such as movies & bowling.)

• **Half Day Camps:** 8 am - 1 pm
or 1 pm - 6 pm, 3 and 4
year-olds only eligible
for 8 am - 1 pm.

920 29th Ave. NE
Hickory, NC 28601

828-328-3794

Check us out at www.foothillsgym.com



Gymnastics

Ages 3 & up

Tumbling

Ages 6 & up

Martial Arts

Ages 5 & up

Dance

Ages 4 & up

Cheerleading

Ages 5 & up

* Flip Bucks may be used for any Foothills class or activities. (Camp, Parent's Night Out or Birthday Parties.)

Show Your Bobcat Spirit!

Spirit Days are the 3rd Friday of each month, so be sure to wear your Bobcats clothing on **Friday, April 15th.**

FIELD DAY IS APRIL 15, 2011

Come out for a super,
fun-filled day!

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JEST WALKATHON FRIDAY 5/6/11

The Jenkins Elementary Spirit Track Committee will be meeting on Tues. 4/12 at 9:30am in the school mall area. We're still looking for sponsorships from businesses and families to help celebrate the yearlong commitment of the program for the students and the school. Please help us continue to support Mileage Club, a positive and energetic program. Send your donation to Jenkins Elementary PTA by Friday 4/8. Email Kristin Stober at www.kristenstober@charter.net or call at 828-345-0191 if you have any questions or would like to volunteer. We will be sending out volunteer sign-up times for all classes at the end of April.

T- Shirt Sponsor \$1500

Platinum Sponsor \$750

Gold Sponsor \$500

Silver Sponsor \$250

Bronze Sponsor \$100

ENGLISH, MATH, READING, SCIENCE,
REASONING, WRITING AND MORE!