



Eagle Nation



Pontiac Academy for Excellence Elementary School

A Note From Mr. Sedick

From all of us at Pontiac Academy for Excellence Elementary School, I would like to wish all of our school community a very blessed and enjoyable holiday season! It is amazing that we are already preparing for the holidays and our Winter Break, as this year seems to be flying by! As we do approach the new year, I would like to formally ask each and every one of our parents to discuss the importance of good behavior in school with all of our students, as (rumor has it) Santa is set to make a visit to our school in the upcoming weeks. There seems to be an unpleasant trend of poor decision-making, including behavior in class, in the cafeteria, in the hall-

way, etc. occurring in our Elementary School. On Wednesday, November 25, Our Dean of Students, Mrs. Thomas and I conducted behavior and disciplinary assemblies for ALL students in grades K-5. In this presentation, we discussed appropriate and inappropriate behavior in school including (but not limited to) keeping hands, feet, and all other body parts to yourself, no running or yelling in the school, and staying with teachers until you are picked up to go home at dismissal. We also covered the objects that cannot be brought to school including weapons (real or toys), lighters, dice, wrestling figures (or any other toys), etc. We discussed that students who are caught violating these rules would be subject to disciplinary actions as stated in our code of conduct. I am asking that all parents be

mindful of the things your students bring to school, so that these consequences do not befall on them. Lastly, I would like to encourage our parents to touch base with your child's teacher regarding their homework policy and what nights to expect homework for your child. This will help students be prepared for each upcoming day of school. Second marking period Common Assessments are just around the corner, and to ensure the preparedness of your child, please make sure that they are completing their assignments at home and turning them into their teachers. Again, we wish you a terrific holiday season, and look forward to sharing more upcoming news in the year 2010!

December 2009

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Zero Tolerance = Safety for ALL Students

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Mike Flanagan sent a very informative letter to schools in October that centered on student discipline code

offenses that carry a mandatory consequence of expulsion. Pontiac Academy for Excellence Elementary School would like to share this informa-

tion with our community. First, a district must follow the procedures established in law, giving students an alternative opportunity

Upcoming Events

- Dec. 4—Daisy Troop Meeting; Progress Reports Sent Home
- Dec. 8—**PICTURE RETAKE DAY**
- Dec. 10—Parent Workshop
- Dec. 16—Parent/Principal Meeting; Winter Concert
- Dec. 18—No School for Students—Staff Development Day

Zero Tolerance = Safety for ALL Students (continued)

to continue his/her education.

MCL 380.1311 states, “If a pupil possesses in a weapon free school zone a weapon that constitutes a dangerous weapon, commits arson in a school building or on school grounds, or commits criminal sexual conduct in a school building or on school grounds, the school board... shall expel the pupil from the school district permanently, subject to possible

reinstatement...”

MCL 380.1311a states, “If a pupil... commits a physical assault at school against a person employed by or engaged as a volunteer or contractor by the school board... then the school board... shall expel the pupil from the school district permanently, subject to possible reinstatement...”

Districts are obligated to follow the mandates of the law and should take great care in adhering to the procedures outlined in the law, knowing that students do have options for continuing their education.

Please note that these are requirements by state law and Pontiac Academy for Excellence will follow these mandates as expected in order to ensure the safety of our staff members and students.

Art & Music Club Set to Begin Soon for Elementary Students!

Mrs. Renko and Ms. Fox are starting a club for art and music after school. It will meet every Tuesday from 3:30- 4:30 in the art room. Flyers and permission slips were distributed recently to students. To participate in the club, students must get the back of the sheet signed by a parent/guardian and return it to

Mrs. Renko. Those students who have turned in a signed permission slip will have permission to report to the art room (room 208) after dismissal at 3:30. We will begin with creating decorations/props for the winter concert but we hope next year (January) to be focusing on creating our own original play.

Any questions, feel free to ask either Mrs. Renko (ext. 1208) or Ms. Fox (ext. 2112) as always! We are looking forward to the possibilities of this wonderful new club that will showcase the artistic talents of our imaginative students.

Winter Concert Will Warm Your Heart

PAE will be having a Winter Concert December 16th at 6 PM at the Life Worship and Training Center, 830 Auburn Ave. in Pontiac. Every student and parent in the Elementary school is invited to come and sing. After a short intermission, the bands at PAE will also be playing. Students will be singing three

songs they have learned in music class together in large groups by grade levels (K-1), (2-3), (4-5). Students should arrive at Life Worship **no later** than 5:30 PM dressed in appropriate attire (no jeans). Please don't miss this opportunity to allow your students share the gift of song with our community!

