



Friday Letter

January 25, 2008

Dear Members of the ACCS Community,

After school Programs start Monday.

**Please come to a very important community meeting in the ACCS cafeteria on Monday, January 28 at 5:30 p.m. Let your voices be heard by the Charter School Institute about keeping our school open.**

As many of you know, unlike a traditional public school, ACCS operates under an agreement (Charter) with the State that must be renewed periodically. We are presently in the middle of the renewal process and members of the Charter Schools Institute (who have the power to recommend that we get a new charter or that we be closed!) have asked to meet with our parents on Monday, January 28 at 5:30 p.m. to discuss the renewal process and answer questions.

On Wednesday, a group of parents got together to discuss why, from their perspective, our charter should be renewed. I thought I would share a summary of the Wednesday parent meeting in this newsletter.

Parents talked about:

- How the commitment of school leaders and teachers is very evident and especially when they make multiple phone calls to make sure parents understand how their child is doing;
- How the level of student accountability and the healthy pressure to do well is apparent at ACCS. One parent explained that other students were upset when a group of 4<sup>th</sup> graders decided, before a state test, to deliberately answer all the questions incorrectly. Obviously teachers and school administrators were concerned, but other students were, too, explained one parent. That is unusual, she said, but important;
- How the ACCS is safe and the class size is small;
- How students have had great outcomes after they graduate from ACCS like getting a scholarship to the Parker School or acceptance into LaSalle;
- How the great relationship ACCS has with Troy district officials makes parents feel as though what is best for their child is everyone's primary concern;
- How ACCS provides amazing extras beyond the core subjects. Art, music and theater are all taught at ACCS and each is interwoven into literacy and math and science and social studies. One parent commented, "It is funny, but my child doesn't even realize he's learning to read in art;"

*(continued on next page...)*

- How there is great student to student mentoring with the “reading buddies” program. The older kids are “young teachers” to the younger students. “With this and other programs, social values, like responsibility and respect, are taught in a great way for our older students with this program,” one parent said;
- How students are academically challenged by the teachers. “It is hard”, one parent said, “But, in the end, my child appreciates and needs to be challenged;”
- How the “reality” of how well students are writing is seen throughout the School;
- How “The individual attention, even for the small things like pronouncing my son’s name right,” one parent said, “is so welcoming and important.”

***Please join us on Monday for a community meeting to let your voices be heard.***

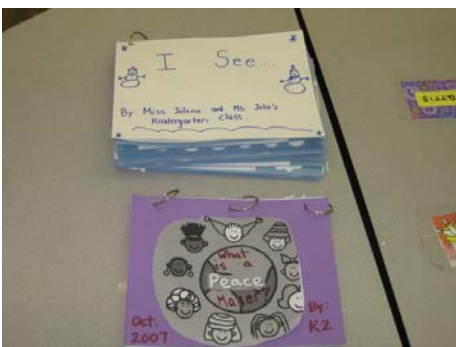
***Many of you have very good stories to tell about your children and CSI needs to hear why you want to continue sending them to us until they graduate.***

***And, of course, a pasta dinner will be served beginning at 5:30 pm.***

Thank you.

*Mary Theresa*, Mary Theresa, Principal

The New Year is off to a great start in Miss. Jolene’s Kindergarten. The students are very busy learning lots of new and fun things!



All of the students are working very hard. In ELA we already have some readers and writers! We are continuing to learn our entire alphabet and already know more than 20 sight words! We are also becoming authors and illustrators! Here our two of our class books.

In math, we are still working on learning numbers up to 31 and counting by 2’s, 5’s and 10’s. This week, we are beginning to learn about measurement.

In Science, we are learning about the ocean and all of the different sea creatures. Here is a picture of our ocean and ocean animals that we made!



We are also learning a great deal about winter. Here are some winter pictures and writing that we created using our winter vocabulary words.



In Social Studies we continue to discuss "What it means to be a peacemaker." We learned about Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and discussed ways that we can continue to be peacemakers like he was.

This bulletin board is hanging in our classroom to remind us how to be peacemakers.



Come visit our classroom to see these works first hand!



Tell Petra who these reading buddies are and win a prize...



# January 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28 Parent/CSI meeting 6pm	29	30	31 1:30 School Assembly	1	2

# February 2008

3	4	5 7:45 Awards Breakfast <b>HALF DAY</b> Parent Conferences- Report Cards	6 PATT Meeting 5:30	7	8	9
10	11	12 3:30 Board of Trustees	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23

WINTER BREAK - NO SCHOOL

**A FRIEND OF ACCS HAS DONATED THREE \$50 PRICE CHOPPER GIFT CERTIFICATES TO BE DRAWN AT THIS PARENT MEETING. CHANCES TO ENTER THE RAFFLE WILL ONLY BE AVAILABLE FROM THE DOORS OPENING AT 5:30 TO 5:40. DRAWING WILL BE THE NEXT DAY. RAFFLE TICKETS NOT AVAILABLE AFTER 5:40. PASTA SUPPER AT 5:30. THE MEETING WITH CSI STARTS PROMPTLY AT 6PM.**

## LUNCH MENU for week of Jan 28- Feb 1

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Grilled Cheese Tomato Soup Veggies & Dip Melon Milk	Spaghetti w/ Meat Sauce Tossed Salad Fruit Milk	Pancakes Cheese Stix Ham Fruit Milk	Pulled Pork Sandwiches Baked Potatoes Fruit Milk	Hot Dogs French Fries Soup Fruit Milk

Peanut butter and jelly sandwiches are always available as an alternative.