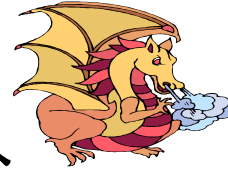

Snow Springs PTA

NEWSLETTER



January 2008

Principal's Message

With our new parent link calling system and our sending letters to let parents be aware of student absences we are getting calls from many parents wanting to know and understand what is going on. I will try to help you understand the new law that was passed and is now in place for this school year. The law is the Compulsory Education Law (53A-11-101). This law requires parents to enroll their children in school and assure that they attend regularly. The law also states that a school aged minor is "truant", if he is absent without a valid excuse, From the wording of the law a "valid excuse" means:

1. An illness
2. A family death
3. An approved school activity
4. An absence permitted by the student's IEP or 504 plan.
5. Any other excuse established as valid by a local school board, local charter board, or school district.

At this time we have not received any other excuses from the school board or the school district. This is what we are basing excused and unexcused absents on until we hear otherwise from the district. We are very concerned about the number of absences that students have because it affects what they are able to learn at school when they are not in attendance. The other area that we are concerned about is the number of students that are tardy. When a student arrives late to school they are missing instructions that are important for the lesson. A student will not understand the assignment and will need to have the teacher repeat instructions so they can do the lesson. This takes away time from the rest of the class because the teacher is not able to monitor the class and help students who have questions while they are repeating the instruction to students that come late. Please help us with these concerns so that we can better serve your students here at school.

After giving the above information, I want all of you to know that I realize that your desires are similar to mine, you want the best for your children. With the school and family working together we will obtain a greater success in the education of your children. We appreciate the trust that you have placed in us and we do not in any way want to betray this trust. We have great students and patrons at this school and it is a pleasure for me to be part of this great organization. Thanks for all of your help and support. We really appreciate all who donate their time to help our school function so well.

I hope that as we return to school after a great Christmas break that we are all refreshed and ready to make this new year a great one. The next couple of months have usually been a time when we can get much teaching and learning accomplished without as many interruptions. Please encourage your students to work hard and do their best work and to always be prepared. Thank you again for your support and help.

Together we are GREAT!!!



January

Dates to Remember

First week in Jan.:

Applications for 3rd & 5th grade A.L.L. available

Jan. 9- Book Club 7-8 PM Media Center Pgs. 81-103

Jan 10- PTA Board Meeting 10 AM Media Center

Jan. 16-2nd Grade Donut Date 9:15 AM

Jan. 21- Martin Luther King Day No School

Jan 25 January & July Birthday Table Jazz Read-a-thon starts! Read! Read!

Jan. 26-Professional Development Day No School