

Schoolcraft Learning Community

December 21, 2011



NEWS



Year 12, Volume 5

NEWS FROM OUR DIRECTOR:

Greetings,

It's hard to believe we are at the Winter Break portion of our school year. It was such fun to see so many people at our recent concert. I've still not had any takers on my portable tree idea but I'm willing to wait!

Celebrations of our fall semester work are on the near horizon. These are always such special times as we "show what we know" to our families and peers.

I'd also like to share that we currently do have openings at our 3rd grade level. If you are aware of a family that might be interested please let them know.

Have a restful winter break.

Scott
Director

DECEMBER

23-1/2

Winter Break-NO School

JANUARY

3

First Day of School after break

10

6/7/8 Expedition Celebration, 4-6 PM, Kids stay after school

10

6 PM PTO Meeting at Brigid's Cross

16

NO SCHOOL, Martin Luther King Day

17-20

6/7/8 French Immersion Week

17

6 PM Board Meeting in Paris

19

4/5 Expedition Celebration, 5-7 PM, Kids stay after school

20

End of the Semester

26

5:30-6:30 PM First Grade Expedition Celebration

LUNCH Information

LUNCH WITH YOUR CHILD AT SLC:

Parents are welcome to join us for lunch. Please call the front desk by 9:30 AM to reserve your meal. The cost is \$3.80 and you may pay at the front desk when you come.

LUNCH BILLS: If you have a lunch balance, please take care of it. Please pay ahead on your child's account. Thanks so much for your help with this!

ATTENDANCE, TARDY, BUS INFORMATION

Please remember to call (586-3284) or email us (attendance@schoolcraft.org) to let us know if your child is home ill, will be tardy or if there is a change in their after school busing/pick-up.

PTO MINUTES (Schoolcraft Learning Community)

The PTO did not meet in December. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, January 10th, 6PM @ Brigid's Irish Pub & Restaurant 317 Beltrami Avenue.

SIBLINGS OF CURRENT STUDENTS NEED TO REGISTER NOW

The lottery to establish the waiting list for the 2012-13 school year will be happening in February. If you have a student enrolled here, and have siblings that are eligible for school next year (any grade), please contact Shar, 586-3284, to make sure we have their information in our system. If you have not filled out an application for your additional students, please fill out an application on the website.

DRESS FOR THE WEATHER

The cold weather and snow is here! Please make sure to dress your children warmly with snow boots, snow pants, winter hats/scarves/mittens. Extra socks are great to have in cubbies too. Please make sure their items are labeled with their names. Our students spend lots of time enjoying the outdoors! Thanks!

COUNSELING SERVICES AVAILABLE

Schoolcraft students have the opportunity to receive counseling services here at school. If your child may benefit from these services, please contact Shelly Olson for more details.

(shelly@schoolcraft.org or 586-3284)

LOST & FOUND

There are a couple of bags of items with things that need to be claimed. You are welcome to look through them when you are at Schoolcraft.

HELP US GO GREEN!

If you would like to receive this newsletter by email instead of hard copy, please email shar@schoolcraft.org. We appreciate your help in reducing the resources we use as a community.

Thanks!

WHEN DRIVING IN TO SCHOOLCRAFT:

This is a strong reminder to please drive slowly and extra carefully as the snow falls and the roads are icy. The road back to Schoolcraft is very windy, so this is especially true for this road. Please stay on the right side of the road and watch for other traffic. Give folks behind and ahead of you distance between each other. Also, students are to be dropped off and picked up in the upper parking lot; use of the lower lot is for injured and sick students. Remember that the town hall bus stop is an option if you would prefer not to drive in to school. Thanks!

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NOTES FROM SARA BREEZE - 6-8 Language Arts

6th Grade Language Arts PROJECT: HD PRESENTATION - TOPICS of WWII

DUE: January 4, 2012

The 6th grade students are researching an aspect of WWII that is of interest to them.

They are writing a **5 PARAGRAPH INFORMATIVE ESSAY**. However, they are writing this essay in an HD (PowerPoint) Presentation Format.

PLEASE SEE MY EXEMPLAR on the SCHOOLCRAFT Web Site.

1. **1st SLIDE - TITLE and an INTRODUCTORY Paragraph**

The **INTRODUCTORY PARAGRAPH IS an overview of your TOPIC**. You are writing a **brief overview** of your topic that **introduces** the audience to this topic and gives **ESSENTIAL (general) INFORMATION** that the audience needs to know. If this is an **EVENT** that took place in WWII, include **"WHAT, WHO, WHEN, and WHERE"** the event took place.

2. **2nd SLIDE - ESSENTIAL QUESTION and at least 2 detail sentences.**

- This is an **ESSENTIAL piece of information** that you would like the audience to know. Basically, you are **answering an ESSENTIAL QUESTION that the audience needs to learn about** in order to understand the topic more thoroughly. You are including **TWO DETAIL sentences** that **support** the essential piece of information. You may even decide to frame your idea in the form of a question. **Bullet both detail sentences.**

3. **3rd SLIDE - ESSENTIAL QUESTION and at least 2 detail sentences.**

- Again, an **ESSENTIAL piece of information** and **TWO DETAIL sentences** of support. **Bullet both detail sentences.**

4. **4th SLIDE - ESSENTIAL QUESTION and at least 2 detail sentences.**

- Again, an **ESSENTIAL piece of information** and **TWO DETAIL sentences** of support. **Bullet both detail sentences.**

5. **5th SLIDE - CONCLUDING SENTENCES:** A concluding photo/slide, and two or three sentences to conclude the information, and to **"wrap it up"** in an interesting or new way.

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NOTES FROM SARA BREEZE - 6-8 Language Arts (Con't.)

7th Language Arts:

The 7th grade students are working on an iMovie to be presented at the 6-8 Celebration of Learning on January 10th.

8th Language Arts:

The 8th grade students are working on a play having to do with prejudice and discrimination. It will be presented at the 6-8 Celebration of Learning on January 10th.

FRENCH NEWS

Bonjour les familles de Schoolcraft!

We had a great time sharing our songs with you at the winter concert and hope you enjoyed them as much as we did! If you'd like to continue sharing some French with our Schoolcrafters over the break, here are some fun winter words to try:



les flocons de neige



la luge

le bonhomme de neige



la nouvelle année – New Year



le sapin



le chocolat chaud

Il neige! - It's snowing!

Il fait froid! - It's cold!

Meilleurs vœux! - best wishes

Bonnes vacances!

We hope you all have a *bonnes vacances* and we will see you in *la nouvelle année*! As always, feel free to contact us with any concerns, questions, or comments.

Amandine et Anita

amandine@schoolcraft.org

ahna@schoolcraft.org

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THIRD GRADE OPENINGS AVAILABLE

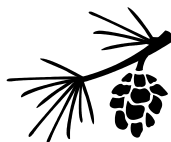
Spread the word, we have some third grade openings. Our website is an excellent source to get a sampling of what Schoolcraft is all about: www.schoolcraft.org. Interested families can access and fill out our application form at our website. Thanks!

LOWER CAMPUS PARKING/DROP OFF ISSUE

Concordia has asked that if you park, drop off, or pick up in the Provence area (lower campus) please, please, please **DO NOT** drive on the lawn. There have been a number of people driving over the septic tank. If you park in the area to your right, **PLEASE DO NOT DRIVE STRAIGHT FORWARD**. In order to leave the area, **ALWAYS BACK OUT** - watching for students. Thank you for your help with this.

MISSING SNOW PANTS ALERT!

Nikki's crew could use your help to solve a mystery. One of her students had new black snow pants, Walmart brand, with shoulder straps. A few weeks ago she accidentally got them switched with another pair of black snow pants that are old, say Polaris on the front, and have Ewert written on the tag. (They do not currently belong to either Ewert child, however.) Parents please check your child's snow pants and make sure they did not get mixed up with someone else. Contact the front desk if you locate them, 586-3284. Thanks!



The Schoolcraft Conflict Management Program



Dear Schoolcraft Parents and Caregivers,

January will be Anti-Bullying Month at Schoolcraft Learning Community! Our definition of bullying is “*negative and unwanted actions that are done to a person who has a hard time defending themselves*”. Though we take bullying prevention seriously *every* month, January will be a time when special focus is given to the issue.

Here are some of the events that will happen during Anti-Bullying Month:

- An Anti-Bullying production featuring skits acting out by the fabulous Schoolcraft staff!
- Peaceful School Bus meetings with each of the bus route groups and their drivers to build community on the bus, discuss bus related problems and figure out solutions.
- Portions of lunch time will be dedicated to allowing students to perform skits, poetry, or songs related to the theme of anti-bullying.

Encourage your student to contribute to our lunchtime anti-bullying performances! All contributions should be related to at least one of our Schoolcraft Anti-Bullying rules.

- 1. We will not bully others.**
- 2. We will help students who are being bullied**
- 3. We will try to include others**
- 4. If we know someone is being bullied we will tell at least one adult at school and one adult at home.**

You can help our efforts by talking about bullying with your student. Ask them what they have been learning at Schoolcraft and make sure they know that it is never ok to bully others and that if they are ever bullied we, at Schoolcraft, care and are here to help!

As always, feel free to email me at brooke@schoolcraft.org if you have questions or would like further information!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brooke Wichmann".

-Brooke Wichmann, *Conflict Management Instructor*



Schoolcraft Connecting to K-3 Families



(Articles to help Parents help Students)

The Importance of Math Vocabulary for Kindergarten Students

The importance of math vocabulary in a kindergarten classroom is vital if a student is truly going to understand the concepts being taught. When students have good background knowledge of math words, teachers see positive results in the students' work. Teachers have found that using proper math terminology daily helps students to better comprehend mathematical concepts.

Math is not just a numbers only class. Students need to remember the definitions of the vocabulary words and the context in which they are used. Mathematics is a language, and for a student to understand the language the student needs to be able to use the words correctly.

The following is a list of Kindergarten Math Vocabulary words that have been taught, defined, and utilized so far this school year:

1. **Length:** How long something is. Sometimes things are the “same length”.
2. **Match:** when 2 objects are the same.
3. **Bigger:** smaller: Use these words when comparing objects
4. **Longer:** Shorter: Use when comparing the length or size of objects.
5. **Shape:** of an object can be characterized by basic geometry such as points, line, curves, plane, and so on.
6. **Triangle:** A shape with 3 sides and 3 corners.
7. **Square:** A shape with 4 corners and all the sides are the same length.
8. **Rectangle:** A shape with 4 corners but with one sidelong and one side short.
9. **Characteristics of shapes:** Sides/ curves/ corners.
10. **Pattern:** is when something repeats. There has to be repetition such as red red blue, red red blue, OR red blue red, red blue red.
11. **Zero:** meaning there is none of something.
12. **Sort:** To arrange according to class, kind, or size. We have had lots of practice sorting buttons and other objects into different groups.
13. **Graph:** A picture usually a bar graph in kindergarten to find out certain information. The graph will show how many we have of something; more or less or the same amount of certain things in the classroom.
14. **Quarter:** A coin worth 25 cents.
15. **Dime:** A coin worth 10 cents.
16. **Nickel:** A coin worth 5 cents.

17. **Penny:** A coin worth 1 cent.
18. **Spatial awareness:** On atop of; below; underneath; around; over; inside; outside; between...
19. **Digit:** When 2 numbers make 1 number. Such as 1 and 2 make 12 (which is a digit).
20. **Tricky Teens:** Numbers 11-19: Having children understand that 14 is 10 plus 4 more or 11 is 10 plus 1 more.
21. **Estimate:** To make a “smart guess” about a number of objects.

How to Teach Math Vocabulary to Kindergarteners

Parents can teach math vocabulary to their kindergarten child by participating in math activities and games. Children learn the language of math just like they learn to talk about other topics. There are great children’s picture books that reinforce math vocabulary. **Mouse Shapes** by Ellen Walsh is a great example.

“Build a Train” Vocabulary Game

Materials: a tub of wooden blocks

To Play:

- Sit in a circle on the floor.
- The first person picks up a block and says, “My block is red and is a rectangle shape.”
- The second person then picks up a block that is different from the last block chosen and describes it, then places it next to the last block.
- The game continues until all of the blocks have been chosen and placed in a train.

Math Vocabulary is Everywhere

There are many opportunities throughout the day to teach math vocabulary to kindergarten children. Give the child opportunities to use his/her math vocabulary by asking – How did you make that? Tell me what you were thinking. What kinds of blocks did you use? How is your set of blocks different from my set of blocks? How are they the same?

Teach math vocabulary as naturally as you would introduce the names of different foods, animals, or toys. The more your child hears math vocabulary used with everyday activities, the more they will begin to use them correctly. Sort, classify, order, sequence, shortest to longest, biggest to smallest, lightest to heaviest, thinnest to thickest, are examples of comparisons.

Number and number operations: sets, groups, amount, how many, fewer than, more than, greater than, most, least, the same as, equal, different from, guess, estimate, ones, tens, hundreds, thousands, addition, and subtraction are some math vocabulary used throughout the kindergarten year.

Geometry: names of pattern blocks, square, circle, rectangle, oval, and triangle, flat, thick, line, curve, edge, direction.

Measurement: taller than, shorter than, wider than, narrower than, length, weight, time, inches, feet, increase, decrease, heavier, lighter.

Data Analysis: graph, tally, bar graph, more than, fewer than, always, sometimes, never, compare.

Calendar: day, yesterday, tomorrow, week, month, year, date, Autumn, winter, spring, summer, seasons, day, night, morning, afternoon, before, after.

Money: penny, nickel, dime, quarter, dollar, cash.

Position Words: near, far, beside, between, inside, outside, above, below, in front, behind, over, under, top, bottom, left, right, closer, further.

Teach Math Vocabulary with Everyday Things

Whether setting the table, lining up toys, reading the calendar, or displaying books on a table there are opportunities to teach math vocabulary to your kindergarten child. The language of math is abundant in children's picture books, poems, and songs. Counting songs on a CD, many stories sequence characters from largest to smallest and first to last, talk about day and night or seasons or time. When you chose books for your child, breeze through them and find opportunities to teach math vocabulary.

Most of all have FUN with your child while you read and sing and talk!



Parents, Here's a math vocabulary list for your 4th - 8th grade student.

4th Grade

billion	estimation	extended multiplication
facts		
exponent	million	lattice method
powers of 10	quadrillion	partial products method
trillion	sextillion	scientific notation
round	rough estimate	magnitude estimate

5th Grade

bar graph	percent	circle (pie) graph
percent circle	denominator	repeating decimal
equivalent fractions	round down	fraction stick
round up	improper fraction	round to the nearest
mixed number	sector	numerator
unit fraction	a whole (ONE or unit)	

6th Grade

algorithm	benchmark	denominator
equivalent fractions	fact family	numerator
reciprocal	unit fraction	

7th Grade

proportion	rate	rate table
ratio	scale/scaling	unit rate

8th Grade

base	compound growth	decay factor
decay rate	exponent	exponential decay
exponential form	exponential growth	exponential relationship
growth factor	growth rate	scientific notation
standard form		

Lois says, "Thinking is Fun!"

***One of these words is different from the others.
Which one is it?***

Madam Drawer Radar
Repaper Level

Say the following words. How many syllables do they have? Do you know what they mean?

rambunctious	disorganized	discombobulated
gossamer	horizontal	diagonal
riveting	random	disorderly

Word Challenge

What is the only English word that has three sets of double letters in a row, with no other letters separating them?

What letter comes $\frac{2}{5}$ of the way between A and J?

A particle floats with $\frac{5}{7}$ of its weight above the surface. What is the ratio of the particle's submerged weight to its exposed weight?

Mental Math

$\$4.75 + \$2.50 =$	$.36 \times 10 =$	$\$5 - \$4.32 =$
$5 \times 43 =$	$625 - 125$	$\frac{1}{2}$ of $\frac{3}{4} =$
$6000 + 3200 =$	$5000 - 3000 =$	$375 + 125 =$
$570 + 250 =$	$350 - 300 =$	$540 - 140 =$
$7 + 6 - 3 + 4 =$	$10 - 3 + 7 + 10 =$	$380 - 180 =$
$6500 + 500 =$	$1000 - 500 =$	$75 + 75 =$
$750 + 750 =$	$460 - 400 =$	$20 + 30 - 5 =$

Schoolcraft Lunch menu for January 2012

1/2		1/3		1/4	Russian	1/5		1/6	
	Happy New Year !!!!	Bratwurst French Fries Sauerkraut Grapes Brat Bun Big Pretzel Lemon Water & Milk		Beef with Pickles and Sour Cream Egg Noodles Peas Pickled Beets Orange Wedges Dinner Roll Lemon Water & Milk		Hawaiian Toast Green Salad Peaches Jello Lemon Water & Milk		Egg Salad Vegetable Alphabet Soup Crackers Pear Anadama Bread Lemon Water & Milk	
1/9		1/10	Scandinavian	1/11	Cajun	1/12		1/13	
Chicken Alfredo Penne Broccoli Green Salad Mandarin Oranges Baguette Lemon Water & Milk	Jarlsburg Pork Chops Potatoes Carrots Apple Dinner Roll Lemon Water & Milk		Cajun Fish Black Beans & Rice Corn Peaches Corn Bread Lemon Water & Milk		Salisbury Steak Baked Potato Banana Dinner Roll Lemon Water & Milk		Tuna Melt on Oatmeal Bread Carrot & Celery Sticks Pickles Pear Lemon Water & Milk Cookie		
1/16		1/17	Asian	1/18		1/19		1/20	
No School - Martin Luther King Day	Mango Chicken Curry Sticky Rice Green Beans Apple Vienna Bread Lemon Water & Milk		Potato and Cheese Frittata Pickle Spears Fruit Cocktail Dinner Roll Lemon Water & Milk Chocolate Cake		French Toast Sausage Patty Syrup, Peanut Butter Banana Orange Juice Lemon Water & Milk		Meatloaf Baked Potato Broccoli Kiwi Baguette Lemon Water & Milk		
1/23	1st grade menu	1/24	1st grade menu	1/25	1st grade menu	1/26	1st grade menu	1/27	1st grade menu
Pepperoni Pizza Raw Broccoli with Ranch Grapes Lemon Water & Milk	Meatballs with Spaghetti Corn on the Cob Kiwi Baguette Lemon Water & Milk		Baked Cheese Sandwich Ham Slice Lettuce Salad Orange Lemon Water & Milk		Macaroni & Cheese Hard Boiled Egg Green Beans Peaches Dinner Roll Lemon Water & Milk Fruit Bar		Hot Wings Carrots with Ranch Apple Dinner Roll Lemon Water & Milk		

Family Calendar

Jan 2012 (Central Time)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
No School	1 pm - Orchestra A 3 pm - 5th Grade Math	1 pm - Orchestra B 2:45pm - 4th-5th Math 2:45pm - Peacemakers	1 pm - Orchestra B 2:45pm - 4th-5th Math 2:45pm - Peacemakers			
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	1 pm - Orchestra A 3 pm - 5th Grade Math 4 pm - 6th-8th 6 pm - PTO Meeting	1 pm - Orchestra B 2:45pm - 4th-5th Math 2:45pm - Peacemakers				
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	No School	6th-8th French Immersion Week 1 pm - Orchestra A 3 pm - 5th Grade Math 6 pm - Board meeting	1 pm - Orchestra B 2:45pm - 4th-5th Math 2:45pm - Peacemakers		End of Semester	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	1 pm - Orchestra A 3 pm - 5th Grade Math	1 pm - Orchestra B 2:45pm - 4th-5th Math 2:45pm - Peacemakers		5:30pm - 1st Grade		
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
	1 pm - Orchestra A 3 pm - 5th Grade Math	1 pm - Orchestra B 2:45pm - 4th-5th Math 2:45pm - Peacemakers			Staff Day - No School	

Family Calendar

Dec 2011 (Central Time)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
		1 pm - Orchestra A	1 pm - Orchestra B 2:45pm - 4th-5th Math Club 2:45pm - Peacemakers			
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	6:30pm - Winter Concert	1 pm - Orchestra A	1 pm - Orchestra B 2:45pm - 4th-5th Math Club 2:45pm - Peacemakers	5:30pm - Kindergarten		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	1 pm - Orchestra A	Orchestra playing at	1 pm - Orchestra B 2:45pm - 4th-5th Math Club 2:45pm - Peacemakers			
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	1 pm - Orchestra A 5:30pm - 2nd-3rd 6pm - Board meeting	1 pm - Orchestra B 2:45pm - 4th-5th Math Club 2:45pm - Peacemakers	No School			
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
No School						