

Friday Notes

Traut Core Knowledge School

From the Principal's Office...

Dear Traut Community,

As announced in our last Friday Note, the SBMC just passed the Fiscal Management Policy Change Concept Approval (it has been reprinted on page 4 of this newsletter as well). First of all, we want to acknowledge all the hard work that the SBMC and others did almost three years ago to put this landmark policy in place.

All too common in schools are the pervasive requests for monetary assistance for fundraisers, field trips, parties, and other needs. The current policy is the result of countless hours of hard work put into researching, crafting, and, finally, ratifying our current policy to alleviate that burden. For the past two years, we have enjoyed the fruits of the labor of those who have gone before us.

During these past two years we have been able to see how the policy works in actual implementation. In that time, a few items in the policy have been marked for revision. However, in our SBMC Standard Operating Procedures, it indicates that a policy revision should not take place unless there is overwhelming evidence of a school-wide concern. Until now, there has been no such mandate.

This year, however, with two grade levels going to ECO, we have found that we have fallen well short of having full participation, resulting in the effect that the generosity of families who gave beyond their required amounts subsidized these key events. For that reason, the current revision process began, and in the process, some other less critical revisions were suggested.

Among those revisions, there is one which I will address here regarding the removal of the distinction between general activities and curriculum-related activities. The reason for this change is that the current policy acts to limit the amount of classroom social events and the money spent on these events. Thus the fiscal management policy became a behavior management policy. The reality is that all classroom events are both curriculum related and social (and socialization is one of the goals of all schools). The Concept Approval reflects SBMC's stance that if we need to limit social events, that should be done through a different policy.

For the current policy revision draft (which passed the first reading on Tuesday, February 17), please check out our web site at http://schoolweb.psdschools.org/traut/TrautWeb/currentissues/FMP_revision_draft.pdf. In addition, if you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions, please feel free to contact me or any PAB member. As always, my door is open!

Sincerely,

Mark Wertheimer

February 20, 2009

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**Deadline for
inclusion in
Friday Notes is
Wednesday at
10:00 a.m.**

Email to:

**[jafrei@
psdschools.org](mailto:jafrei@psdschools.org)**

Traut Core Knowledge School

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Event Calendar

Monday, February 23 rd	Fundraising Committee Meeting	Chris Jacquinot's Rm. #110 3:15 – 4:00 p.m.	Chris Jacquinot 488-7521
Thursday, February 26 th	Setup for 4 th Grade Music Performance	TCKS Gym 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.	Gregg Stonecipher 568-9021
Friday, February 27th	4th Grade Performance “Colorado History”	TCKS Gym 2:00 & 6:30 p.m.	Robin Neal 488-7573
Saturday, February 28th	“Little Shop of Physics”	Lory Student Center Colorado State University	Free & Open to Public
Monday, March 2 nd	Library Committee Meeting	Media Center 2:00 p.m.	Peggy Lundebly 488-7570
Monday, March 2 nd	TCKS Waiting List & Applicant Orientation	Media Center 7:00 p.m.	Belinda Nygaard 488-7500
Wednesday, March 4 th	VIPS Meeting	School Lounge 8:30 -10:00 a.m.	Inez Bonjour 218-5401 Kim Perkins 225-0311
Thursday, March 5 th	PAB Meeting	School Lounge 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.	Gregg Stonecipher 568-9021
Thursday, March 5 th	SBMC Meeting	Media Center 7:00 p.m.	Mark Wertheimer 488-7501
Friday, March 6th	3rd Grade Performance “Reach for the Stars”	TCKS Gym 10:00 a.m. – Schwolert 12:45 p.m. – Langford 2:00 p.m. – Hollen	Robin Neal 488-7573
Thursday, March 12th	2nd Grade Immigration Program	TCKS Flex Room 1:45 – 3:00 p.m.	2nd Grade Teachers
Thursday, March 12 th	Curriculum Committee Meeting	School Lounge 3:30 – 5:0 p.m.	Karen Phoehlman 206-4782
Friday, March 13th	K-6 Teacher Work Day	NO SCHOOL	* * * * *
Monday – Friday, March 16th – 20th	SPRING BREAK	NO SCHOOL	* * * * *
Thursday, March 26 th	Wellness Committee Meeting	Media Center 3:15 – 5:00 p.m.	Jane Kincaid 568-9193 Corinna Kromer 282-9281
Thursday, March 26 th	Technology Committee Meeting	Media Center 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.	David Mielke 204-1169
Monday – Wednesday, March 30, 31, & April 1	SCIENCE FAIR	TCKS Gym	Andrea Kastein 282-1280



THANK YOU...THANK YOU...THANK YOU...THANK YOU...

...to Ms. Evelyn Traut for the wonderful Valentine's Day treats and to the Traut parent community for the Moxie Java drink on Monday, collaboration day. We appreciate your thoughtfulness and generosity!! TCKS Staff



<http://schoolweb.psdschools.org/traut/TrautWeb/wellness/index.html>

Pack a Healthy Lunch!

Healthy Lunch Checklist

Include EACH of these key ingredients for a healthy lunch:

Fruit

Try apple slices, melon, strawberries, grapes, pears, bananas, kiwi, papaya, mangos.

Veggies

Try bell pepper slices (green, red, orange, or yellow), broccoli, baby carrots, snap peas, zucchini sticks, grape tomatoes, celery, sliced cucumbers, cauliflower.

Protein

Include a low-fat protein such as lean deli meats, grilled skinless chicken, water-packed tuna, turkey, hardboiled eggs, natural peanut or almond butter, 1% cottage cheese. Dairy or Calcium-Rich Foods; Try low-fat or fat-free milk, soy milk, light yogurt, mozzarella cheese sticks, calcium-fortified orange juice.

Whole Grains

Include foods that list a whole grain as the first ingredient on the food label such as whole wheat bread, pita, tortillas, or crackers.

8 Tips for Getting Kids to Eat a Healthy Lunch

1. Include at least one serving of fruit in every lunch. Try serving fruit in different ways – whole, cut into slices, cubed, or with a low-fat yogurt dipping sauce.

2. Use whole grain bread instead of white bread for sandwiches. Choose breads that list “whole wheat” or “whole grain” as the first ingredient.
3. Limit cookies, brownies, chips, and other baked goods. These are loaded with sugar, unhealthy fats, and calories.
4. Sneak in vegetables. Add vegetables like cucumber slices, green peppers, sliced zucchini, and tomatoes to sandwiches, wraps, and stuffed pitas.
5. Encourage kids to choose 1% or fat-free milk. Milk is a good source of calcium, vitamin D, and protein. Sodas, fruit drinks, kool-aid, and sports drinks are loaded with sugar and calories, and have almost no nutritional value.
6. Switch from ham, bologna, salami, and other fatty luncheon meats to low-fat alternatives. Try low-fat or fat-free turkey breast, chicken breast, roast beef, or water-packed tuna.
7. If you pack fruit juice, make sure it’s 100% juice. Fruit juice is rich in vitamins and minerals; however, it is high in calories so limit intake to about 1 cup per day. Watch out for fruit drinks like Sunny Delight, Hi-C, Fruitopia, and Capri Sun – with no more than 10% juice, they’re mostly sugar and water masquerading as fruit juice.
8. If you pack chips, pack low-fat or baked varieties. Pack baked chips, pretzels, Cheerios, or whole grain, low-fat crackers instead of potato, corn, tortilla, or other chips.



Fiscal Management Policy Concept Approval:

To change the Fiscal Management Policy to reflect:

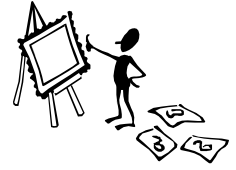
- The exemption of the 5th grade ECO week collection such that it could be done separately.
- The clarification of language such that the policy only regulates the collection of funds, but not the frequency of classroom gift giving.
- The adjustment of certain provisions to align with practice.
 - Align policy with practice regarding dates certain tasks are performed
 - Align funding sources with what Budget Committee actually does.
 - For the Fundraising reserve, set aside a dollar amount vs. a percentage, and base that amount on a number of factors
- The removal of unnecessary, redundant, and impractical portions of the policy.
 - Remove the Grants portion to align with practice
- The removal of the distinction between general activities and curriculum-related activities.
- Clarification that the only person who knows contributors and amounts is the office manager.
- The correction of typographical errors.

Watch for TCKS Survey



Please watch for a survey that each TCKS student will bring home on Friday, February 27. The Assessment Committee is requesting that parents complete one survey per TCKS student, and that completed surveys are returned to the TCKS office by Friday, March 6th. The survey results will be used by the Assessment Committee and the SBMC in gauging our progress and in identifying strengths and weaknesses. A summary of the results will be included the April 10, 2009 Friday Note.

Mill/Bond Presentation...



Traut Core Knowledge School has invited the Poudre School District Mill/Bond Planning Committee to conduct a listening session with the SBMC from 7-7:30 March 5 in the Media Center. The purpose of this event will be to review the stewardship of the 2000 mill/bond monies and begin determining future needs based on achieving the district's four Learning Goals.

Format for Listening Session

- Introductions
- 2000 Mill/Bond Stewardship (DVD)
- Define mill/bond
- Think ahead to 2011 when we **may** get the money!
- Brainstorm around each goal/question (District Learning Goals)
- Additional comments/questions

For more information, please check the following link:

<http://www.psdschools.org/psdinfo/leadership/majorinitiatives/2010bondmilllevy/index.aspx>.

4th Grade Program Set-up Help Needed...



The 4th Grade musical program, "Colorado History," is coming up next week on Friday, February 27. **We need 10-15 volunteers to setup the stage, decorations, and chairs for this program on Thursday, February 26th, from 3-5 p.m.** If you can help, please contact Gregg at hobbit@rdpnet.com or 568-9021, or sign up on the form on Mrs. Neal's music room door.



Attendance Line...

Please call the Traut attendance line @ **488-7503** to report a student's absence, **even if you have told the classroom teacher.**

SCIENCE FAIR IS COMING!

March 30, 31, and April 1



Projects are being started at home! At the end of March, we can all see the hard work our kids have done. We need parent partners to help judge.

If you can help in any way, please call Andrea Kastein @ 282-1280 or email amkastein@comcast.net.

Fundraising Meeting

There will be a fundraising meeting on Monday, February 23rd, in Mrs. Jacquinot's room from 3:15-4:00. Hope to see you there.



“Tour de Traut” International Fair April 24th



Mark your calendars now for the first Tour de Traut International Fair. Come play games and do crafts and activities from countries around the world. We will also have a “Forum” where you will be able to purchase goods and services. This is a social event/fundraiser for our school. If you would like to help with this event, please contact Chris Jacquinot at 488-7521 or cjacquin@psdschools.org. I especially need help with decorations. Check the Friday Note for updates.



Important Scheduling Decision Imminent

In April of 2008, SBMC approved a plan to add three students per grade level for the 2009-2010 school year. The reason for this was to offset the decreased enrollment brought on by the grade reconfiguration that has 6th grade move to Middle Schools next year. The extra funding brought by this increase is designed to help us keep our instructional support staff (Literacy and Math) as close to current levels as possible and our Specials (Art, Music, PE) teachers at 100%.

In this process, the extra ~15% of Specials teachers' time (when they formerly would have had 6th graders) will be freed up. Currently TAB is working to finalize a schedule that best utilizes that time. In the process of this discussion, two main scheduling options were put forward. One schedule maintains the current practice wherein Specials teachers see a single grade level for an entire week. The other schedule has Specials see all three primary grades (1st, 2nd, and 3rd) each day. Most recently, a third scenario has been proposed, one which provides some additional common scheduling time for primary grades while maintaining Specials seeing a single grade level for an entire week, which meets some of the most important priorities of both groups.

In the staff discussion, there have been many strong discussion points brought forward by advocates for each scenario. The staff has been meeting regularly on this. A task force met weekly, and extensive discussions occurred on the October 31 and February 16 Collaboration Days. The TAB will be voting soon to determine which schedule will be implemented in the 2009-2010 school year. For more information on this, please go to http://schoolweb.psdschools.org/traut/TrautWeb/currentissues/sched_scenario.ppt on our web site or contact an SBMC member.

2009 Traut Track Ten Friday, April 3rd, 3:10 – 5:00 pm

The annual Traut Track Ten track & field meet for any and all students in grades 4, 5, & 6 will be coming soon. This meet is open to all students in these grades and is their opportunity to try out the sport of track & field with students from our school. Events include:

1. 50 meter dash
2. 75 meter dash
3. 100 meter dash
4. 200 meter dash
5. Shuttle Relay (4 x 75m)
6. Mile run
7. softball throw
8. shot put
9. triple jump
10. long Jump



Top finishers in these events will be invited to participate in the District Meet. The 2009 Manuel Cordova Annual Poudre School District Elementary Track Meet dates are:

Thursday, April 30, 2009

Mile – 800, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 2, 2009

4th, 5th & 6th Grade Meet, 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

We need many parent partner volunteers to help. We will need about 30 volunteers on the day of the event. We also need parent volunteer "coaches" to assist during the weeks of February & March for training during PE classes. We will later need parent "coaches" to help during lunch recesses between our school meet and the district meet.

Please contact Tricia Kearns at tricialkearns@comcast.net to help. Track & field experience is not necessary. An early February "coaches" meeting will be held (date TBA) for those interested in PE classes and specialty event training.



Jump Rope & Hoops For Heart Deadline

It is not too late to turn in any donations you may have for either our Hoops or Jump Rope For Heart events. Please turn all donations in to me, Mrs. Speer, or your child's classroom teacher **by Friday, Feb. 27th, 2009**. We cannot send for our thank-you gifts until we turn in all donations. If you know you will have others coming in after that date, please contact me at dipseer@psdschools.org or 970-488-7574. Our 2009 events were very successful and total \$12,585 as of this writing.

Diane Speer, Physical Education Specialist



Little Shop of Physics

**18th Annual Open House
Saturday, Feb. 28, 2009
Lory Student Center,
Colorado State University
Free and Open to the Public**