

Lapham Lookout

#8 April 2009

Elementary

Lapham Elementary School
 1045 East Dayton St.
 Madison, WI 53703

Dr. Michael Hertting
 Principal

mhertting@madison.k12.wi.us

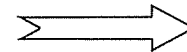
Dear Parents:

As I foreshadowed at the last PTG meeting, we had expected some decrease in staff allocation due to fewer expected students at our building. We actually lost one half position more than we were expecting and had some other changes as well. In short, we have 1.5 less full time teachers than we had this year.

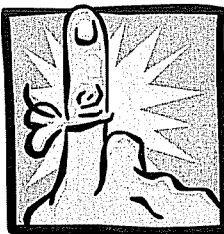
This year we piloted having smaller class sizes all day at the kindergarten level. This successful pilot was adopted for both kindergarten and grade one across the other MMSD schools that are similar to ours. We are planning on **four classes of kindergarten** and **four classes of first grade** for next year. They are projected to have 18 children in each class. To compensate for the extra staff needed to do this, our kindergarten and first grade students will attend their specials classes in larger groups. This is the class and a half that you may have heard about happening at other MMSD schools. For specials these classes will have about 27 children in them. We certainly wish we did not have to do this.

We will have **three second grade classes**, projected at 24 students. Our classes are projected at the maximum level to start next year. This means that we could again be reorganizing after the start of the year if we enroll substantially more children than we are expecting. In summary, we will have eleven sections next year, just as we have had this year.

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Dates To Remember



- | | |
|------------|--|
| April 6-13 | Spring Break |
| April 15 | All School Field Trip to Overture on Stage (12:15) |
| April 17 | Kindergarten Field Trip to Olbrich Gardens (11:50) |
| April 21 | PTG Meeting 6:30 @ Marquette |
| April 28 | Choir Performance 12:30 & 6:45 p.m. |

Principal Letter continued.....

In addition, we lost our half time TEP (Transitional Education Program) teacher and the Educational Assistant who was at our building. We will miss these resources. We will continue to enroll children at the shelters in our neighborhood. Homelessness across MMSD has changed and almost every school has a number of homeless children. We were receiving additional support that other schools were not. This was something that was shared at the PTG meeting. Another effect is that we will not have as many supervisors in the cafeteria.

Parents can help us out by completing the two attached forms. One is to let us know whether your child(ren) are planning to attend our school next year. The other one is for you to provide information on your child for placement. Please return these by April 24th. They will help us have more accurate numbers. Your help will be appreciated.

I know the above information can be confusing. Please let me know if you have questions. We appreciate your support in what we do for children at our school. Our entire staff will continue to work hard at providing a great education and school for our children.

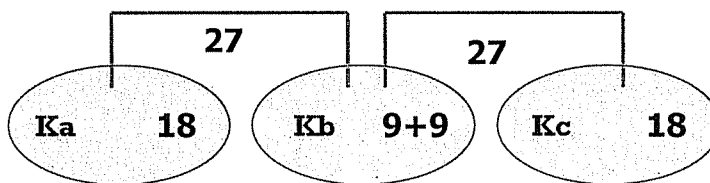
Questions and Answers



What is our projection for next year? Our projection for next year is 215 students which is what we were expecting this year. We ended up with 229 students for the 3rd Friday count. This increase is why Lapham added staff last fall. For next year we are projected at 73 students at Kindergarten and have enrolled 63; so our projection seems very reasonable. At first grade we are projected at 70 students and in second grade we are projected to have 72 students.

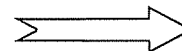
How will class and a half work at kindergarten for specials?

Class A, B and C all have 18 students. Class A and half of Class B will go to a specials class. The other half of Class B and Class C will go to a different specials class at the same time. The specials classes will then have about 27 students. Here is a picture of it:



How will you plan for this? Our specials teachers are great professionals. We will visit, as a group, other MMSD schools that have been doing specials this way. We will problem solve and work to have systems in place so that it works as well as it can for our children. As you might expect we wish we did not have to do this.

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Questions and Answers continued

It seems resources continue to be cut bit by bit. What can we do to support our children? Parents can continue to be politically active in advocating for our state to fix school finance.

When will we know what teachers are teaching at what grade levels? Because our instructional design will look different next year, we will not know for a while. Parents will receive the information after decisions have been made. It is always subject to change.

When will the instructional design be finalized? To be honest, we will not know for sure until the 3rd Friday of next fall. We will keep parents informed.

What other changes in allocation will Lapham receive? All MMSD Schools will have full time equivalent IRTs (Instructional Resource Teacher) at our buildings. In addition, we lost about 4 hours in educational assistant time. It also appears we will increase our school social worker time so that both Marquette and Lapham share a social worker.

Check out the Marquette – Lapham PTG Website at

PTG Home Page <http://lapham-marquette-ptg.org/>

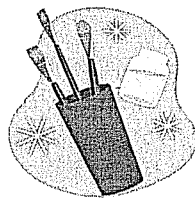
From the Art Room

This is the time of year when the second grade students have traditionally had a spring art show at the Café Zoma on Atwood Avenue. As most of our neighborhood community is aware, Café Zoma closed in January. I was hopeful that I could find another nearby venue that was willing to sponsor our young artists. That's when Lindsey Lee volunteered to host the show at Ground Zero coffee shop on Williamson Street during the month of May. Lindsey (who is Marlin's dad in Mr. Mark's room) has saved our ten-year tradition of the art show!

Please reserve some time to visit Ground Zero, 744 Williamson Street during the month of May with your famous second grade artist. There will be one piece from each child. The show is a joyful expression of our wonderful, fearless, second grade students.

See you there,

Sally Behr
Art Teacher



March PTG Minutes

Principal and Teacher Reports

Affiliated- Anne spending lots of time out at sites. Progress reports were good. Economic times have impacted Work and Learn students. Available jobs for students have been limited. Anyone in a place to share information about positions that could be open to Work and Learn Students please contact Anne.

Marquette- Math Fest was last week at American Insurance. Marquette was awarded first place in Fifth grade and second in Fourth Grade. Battle of the Books was held today (March 10) against Emerson. Marquette won in the end. It was a close contest. Thursday -all school Acknowledgement around Program. Multicultural Committee met with Andrea again. Tomorrow (March 11) allocations come to principals. Parent input forms will be coming out for placement information. WKCE test results came to building parents will receive results at home soon.

Lapham- Allocation information coming. Mike will hold 2 extra meetings for incoming Kindergarten parents/families. Teachers are working on report cards to come home before spring break. Swimming programs starting. Hunt Quartet came for final performance. Symphony school trip coming soon. Math Night brought about 200 participants. Mike and Andrea available for Second cup of coffee at Ground Zero on Thursday for parent discussion.

Energy Presentation

Sophie Atkins, Marquette social worker, presented with Second Generation with Katie Ross. Project aimed at engaging Marquette students around energy use/efficiency. See website for more...If parents are interested on working on next steps, Sophie is forming a committee. Contact her at Marquette.

Budget

PTG Board will be hosting an open meeting date and place TBA for input around brainstorming other ideas and priorities around the budget. Otherwise the budget will move forward.

Nominations

LOOKING FOR PARENTS TO STEP FORWARD FOR NEXT YEAR'S PTG BOARD. Contact Mary Beth or Tyler if you are interested or have a nomination.

FAMILY FUN NIGHT and Fundraising

APRIL 24th-six weeks from Friday. Variety Show Announcements should come out soon. Some coordinators have stepped forward. WE NEED AN OVERALL COORDINATOR. Contact Daithi. – Coordinators: Entertainment and Bake Sale- Mary Beth Collins, Refreshment Coordinator- Alex setting up. Silent Auction - Anita and Kerry. Diane- Game Coordinator Lisa Newman will Copper Challenge with Peggy Gartes. Art auction coordinator Gloria looking for someone to co-coordinator. HELPERS HELPERS AND MORE HELPERS NEEDED. Contact Daithi.

ROOM REPS PLEASE TRY TO GET 2 VOLUNTEERS FOR YOUR HOMEROOM.

Plant Sale -Tuesday May 5. Jim needs help on May 5. He will be calling from the list he has. Order form coming out next week.

Committee Reports- (See website for all committee reports)

Traffic Safety- This Tuesday 9:00 meeting with Madison School Safety Committee.

Room Reps- Teacher appreciation luncheon coming out second wed in May.

Advocacy-April 1 District meeting around Legislative issues-Wright Middle School 6:00. Matt looking for a Lapham Rep. to coordinate and attend Lapham Tenney Neighborhood Committee.

Next Meeting @Marquette April 14th 6:30. Childcare available free. Marquette will also have an Art Fair display going on.



**Student Enrollment Survey
Current Students**

In order to recheck our projected enrollment for the 2009-2010 school year, we are asking for your help. **Please let us know if your child is NOT returning to Lapham Elementary for the 2009-2010 school year. If your plans change after you have returned this form, please notify the school office at 204-4140.** If your student currently is in 2nd grade, we realize that 2nd grade students will be moving on to Marquette. Please let us know if they will **not** be attending Marquette.

Student's Name	Current Grade	Current Teacher

_____ My child(ren) will not attend Lapham or Marquette Elementary but another Madison School.
New School _____

_____ My plans are indefinite at this time.

**PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM
TO YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER NO
LATER THAN FRIDAY, April 24th**

Parent/Guardian

Date

THANK YOU

LAPHAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
STUDENT INFORMATION FORM 2009-2010

Complete one form for each kindergarten through first grade child. Feel free to respond only to those questions that are important to you. We believe that parents have a wealth of information about their children and we invite you to share this information. Including reasons in your response is helpful. We use a team approach for classroom placement. The team consists of the principal, classroom teachers and support staff, working with the information from parents from these forms. We will work hard to ensure that every child receives full consideration and the most sensitive, appropriate placement possible during this process. As a school we will base placement on instruction needs, social emotional, and peer relations. Please return this form to the office by April 24th. We will process the information and your child's placement will be determined by late August.

Name of Child _____ Grade (next yr 09-10) _____

Parent/Guardian _____ Phone (home) _____ (work) _____

1. Briefly describe your child's personality (for example: outgoing, quiet, aggressive, easygoing, sensitive, leader, follower, etc.).

2. What are your child's strengths, interests, and talents?

3. What are your child's social needs? Are there any children with whom your child should NOT be placed?

4. What type of teaching style and classroom organization/environment do you believe brings your child the greatest success?

5. What is the most important thing you want us to know about your child?

Student Name _____

Teacher _____

Adult Name _____

Phone _____

Email _____

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4 Pack of Mark's Cinnamon Rolls with vanilla frosting _____ x \$10 = \$ _____

100% Fair Trade/Organic/Shade Grown JUST COFFEE

12 oz bags	*\$11.00	Whole Bean	Ground
Nicaraguan Medium Roast	\$11.00	_____	_____
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Dominican Rep. French Roast	\$11.00	_____	_____
Half Caff Blend	\$11.00	_____	_____
Decaffeinated	\$12.00	_____	_____

Total Bags _____ x \$11.00 = \$ _____
***Total Bags** _____ x \$12.00 = \$ _____



Fair Trade, Organic CHOICE TEA in Tea Bags
 16 bags per box (1.1 oz) \$5.00 each

- Darjeeling (classic, Indian popular black tea) _____
- Earl Grey (Darjeeling tea with zesty citrus bergamot) _____
- English Breakfast (blend of Ceylon and Assam teas) _____
- Green (young tea leaves, high in anti-oxidants) _____
- Rooibos ("red bush", naturally caffeine-free, fruity taste) _____

Total Boxes _____ x \$5.00 = \$ _____

Fair Trade DIVINE CHOCOLATE \$2.00 each

- Milk Chocolate 1.5 oz bar _____
- Dark Chocolate 1.5 oz bar _____

Total Bars _____ x \$2.00 = \$ _____

Grand Total of all items ordered: \$ _____

Please make checks payable to Lapham/Marquette PTG and enclose payment in your own envelope marked PTG at the time order is placed.

\$4.50 from the sale of each bag of coffee, \$2.00 from each box of tea, \$1.00 from each chocolate bar, and \$4.00 from each pack of cinnamon rolls will go directly to the PTG for the benefit of Lapham & Marquette Schools. Thank you for your support!

MAY ORDERS DUE MONDAY MAY 4TH BY 3PM IN THE PTG MAILBOX AT EACH SCHOOL OR VIA EMAIL (PREFERRED) TO DAWOLFE1@GMAIL.COM
 DELIVERY DATE IS FRI. MAY 8TH

Orders will go home in your child's backpack unless you note otherwise and/or contact me:
 Daithi (DAH-hee) Wolfe, Just Coffee Fundraiser Coordinator 513-5246 or dawolfe1@gmail.com
 If you order via email please send your check in to school ASAP in your own envelope marked PTG. Thanks!