



SPLASH



Oakbrook PTA & School Newsletter

www.oakbrookpta.org

December 2011

Happy Holidays!

It's a very busy month! We start off quickly, by getting students ready for our second Benchmarks. These are key data points as they will direct instruction for our next semester on our way to the third Benchmark and then the CST in Spring. Our CST window moved up because our calendar changed. Remember, we are in the first 4 days of what used to be Spring Break, which bumped the testing window forward. So this is a key assessment and we are setting goals and working diligently to make sure that your student is successful. The first 4 days of this holiday break we will be doing an intersession, if you got an invitation, please make every effort to attend as we are targeting instruction to your students. In January we will start another group of after-and before-school interventions, so thank you so much for making sure your child comes to those when invited. Each of these opportunities works with our various learning groups in various subjects, so each one is different and specialized. It is our way of being able to work with larger class sizes and still get specific instruction to your student where necessary.

Our School Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA) is up for review by our Board of Education *this* Thursday night, December 8. The draft, which talks about achievement and school goals, is available for you to see if you are interested. These goals, and each school's goals dovetail into the Local Education Agency plan (LEA) (the districts set of goals as an entirety that we all must answer to) that is submitted to the State. These plans dictate how educational monies are spent. (Our School Site Council and English Learner Achievement Council approve Oakbrook spending. These councils are public meetings should you ever want to attend.) Please stop in any time if you want to review the draft.

PS: Details are still being ironed out regarding a new grade level called Transitional Kindergarten. The new entering birthdate for children is November 1st. (and October 1st the year after) Students with a birthday before November will not be able to enter Kindergarten this upcoming year, but WILL be able to choose Transitional Kindergarten which will give them a non-preschool curriculum and get them socially and academically ready for regular Kindergarten. TK will be taught by certificated teachers with a carefully designed curriculum. More as the information settles.

We hope you have a wonderful and warm holiday and very best wishes for a delightful new year from us to you. We look forward to a vibrant and successful rest of the school year. We will resume regular school on January 8, normal time.

Happy Holidays Oakbrook Families:

This Friday we will be hosting the Winter Wonderland Event for our Oakbrook Families. Our chorus will perform, refreshments will be served, craft tables will be set-up and as always, students can make snow! The event will begin at 6:00 in the multi-purpose room. We hope to see you all there. Happy Holidays from the PTA! See you next year!

Lynne M. Reese
PTA President

December 5th-9th: December Holiday Shop - Students have an opportunity to budget for and purchase gifts for their friends and families. Students will attend during "Turner Time" and may also return after school on the date of their original attendance or on Friday.

December 9th: 6th Grade Straw Hat Pizza Coupon Book payments are due. If anyone is interested in helping support the 6th grade field trip, please email Lynne@Oakbrookpta.org.

December 9th: Winter Wonderland Family Event 6:00 PM