



Pine Grove Elementary School

HERITAGE

All Children... Reach... Achieve... Celebrate

Mr. Richard Weber, Principal

Dr. Rosanne Reimer, Asst. Principal

2701 Summit Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21234 410-887-5267

September 14, 2007

HOME OF THE PANDA CALENDAR

September

- 18** Back-to-School Night (7 p.m.)
- 27** Individual picture day
- 28** Volunteer training in cafeteria (9:30 a.m.)
- 29** PTA roller-skating at Putty Hill Skateland (4:30-6:30 p.m.)

October

- 9** PTA Board meeting (7 p.m.)
- 15-18** Book Fair
- 16** Math/Technology parent training in cafeteria (4:15-5:15 p.m. and 5:30-6:30 p.m.)
- 17** Book Fair Family Night (6 p.m.)
- 19** **Schools closed for students**
- 25** Barnes & Noble Night (6-8 p.m.)

From The Principal's Desk

The 2007-2008 school year is off to an outstanding start at Pine Grove Elementary School. Our teachers are planning and teaching challenging, engaging lessons in all subject areas. Our students are working conscientiously as they learn the skills they need to be successful. Pine Grove Elementary is an excellent school because of the collaborative efforts of wonderful students, supportive parents, and dedicated teachers and staff members. I am looking forward

to working with each member of our school community as we continue Pine Grove Elementary's tradition of excellence this year.

As we begin a new year, we want to celebrate our students' academic growth during the 2006-2007 school year. The 2007 MSA results for third, fourth, and fifth graders were released in June 2007. We are pleased to report that our third, fourth, and fifth grade scores were higher than state and county averages in all tested areas. In reading, 91.3 percent of our third graders, 95.0 percent of our fourth graders, and 86.5 percent of our fifth graders scored at the proficient level or higher. In mathematics, 89.8 percent of our third graders, 98.8 percent of our fourth graders, and 92.1 percent of our fifth graders scored at the proficient level or higher. These scores are the result of strong instructional programs delivered by our excellent teachers, our students' outstanding efforts, and our supportive parents. We should be proud of our accomplishments. As usual, Pine Grove Elementary School made adequate yearly progress.

We will continue to build on last year's academic gains during this school year. Our teachers are working collaboratively to plan reading comprehension, vocabulary development, and mathematics lessons. We will continue to develop school-wide reading,

writing, and mathematics standards for students that focus on the higher-level skills outlined in the Voluntary State Curriculum. We are committed to helping all of our students reach their fullest potential and achieve their goals.

Please welcome the following staff members to Pine Grove Elementary: Terry Moore, chief custodian; Brenda Woods, custodian; Joanne Bahl, personal assistant; and Pam Higdon, kindergarten parent helper.

At our annual Open House and Back-to-School Picnic on August 23, 592 students and parents attended. The turnout was remarkable. It was a night that exemplified the spirit of Pine Grove Elementary School. It is my pleasure to serve as the principal of such a fine institution. Until next month...Rick

Pine Grove Student News



Miss Greaver's prekindergarten students are off to a great start as they learn about the rules and routines of the classroom. The students are learning about ways that they are special through poems, books, and group discussions.

What a great group of **kindergartners** come to **K-1** every day! With the help of Gary Gator, the boys and girls are quickly learning classroom routines and are enjoying a full day in school. The Crazy Dragon taught the children classroom rules. Duso, the dolphin, introduced them to the Pine Grove Virtues, and Spot, the Writing Dog, is teaching the students the seven habits of good writers. The students have been practicing their rhyming and their letter

identification skills, and they have been enjoying their Big Books during shared reading time. Literacy/Numeracy Centers reinforce the skills we are learning in reading and math. Telling time, counting, place value, graphing, and exploring math workshop manipulatives keep the boys and girls busy with their math skills. WOW! We can tell it's going to be a fun-filled year in **K-1**!

Homework Help Group

Again this year, we are fortunate to be able to help ESOL students and their families by having an after school homework help group. The group will meet on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from October through April. Mrs. Shanahan will be the teacher in charge. Loch Raven High School students and area college students, who have already volunteered, will assist her. Letters of invitation will go home the week of September 17. Please see Mrs. Uzarowski, ESOL teacher, if you have any questions.

Barnes and Noble Night

Save the date: October 25, 2007
6-8 p.m.

Hope to see you there!

Front Door Buzzer

After you buzz for entry to the school, please give the secretaries a few minutes to answer the front door before buzzing a second time. We hear the buzzer but, especially when we're alone in the office, we can't always answer right away. Thank you for your patience.

Cafeteria News

Welcome back. I would like to introduce myself. My name is LuAnn Hawk, and I am the person-in-charge (PIC) of the cafeteria. Rachel Henninger is the

server. The cafeteria will be sponsoring give-aways periodically throughout the school year. The day will be noted on each month's menu. On these days, children purchasing a full lunch will receive a prize. If you have any questions, I am in my office from 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., or you may reach me at 410-887-5267 during that time. My email address is lhawk@bcps.org.

The price of a student lunch is \$2.50, which includes milk. Our snacks range from \$.30 to \$.50. Breakfast is \$1.40. Milk is \$.60.

Each child is issued a lunch account when they enroll in school. You can put money on this account so that your child does not have to bring money to school. (If you prefer that your child bring money each day, please have them carry it in a wallet or Ziploc bag. This helps eliminate lost money.) Send a check in an envelopes labeled "Attention cafeteria." Make sure your child's name is on the check. If you have multiple children, you may write one check, but be sure to let the cafeteria know how to divide it up. This helps to expedite the children through the line. I will send home low-balance letters on Wednesdays. Please watch the date on the letter, as they sometimes do not come home right away.

The cafeteria will lend up to \$5.20. After that, we will offer the children cereal and milk for lunch.