



www.gpschools.org/monteith/

Excellence in Education: Learning and Leading for Tomorrow

MONTY'S EXPECTATIONS

Dear Monteith Parents,

Back to School Night was a great success and I hope that you found the information to be helpful. This letter will highlight topics discussed in the Gym for review with your children. Thank you for your ongoing support!

MONTY'S EXPECTATIONS

In order for children to achieve to the best of their ability, they must be provided with an environment, which is safe and productive. The following list of school expectations have been established through our Positive Behavior Support System (PBS) to provide a safe and happy place for everyone to learn. School Expectations: Be Respectful, Be Responsible, and Be Safe!

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

Teachers create Positive Behavior Support classroom expectations to provide a safe, controlled learning environment. All students have the right to instruction without disruption by those not following the expectations. We are certain that you too, believe in this right for your children.

LUNCH PROGRAM

The Monteith lunch/recess program is a privilege. Children who do not follow the lunch/recess procedures (see attached expectations/consequences) may be sent home for lunch.

PETS

Please refrain from bring dogs on school grounds. Many students are allergic and some are even afraid. Animals can be unpredictable and this will alleviate any possible situations. We appreciate you support and understanding.

PARKING

Please be aware that our parking lot has a designated drop off lane. Please do not use the drop off lane to park during the school hours of 8-9:00 am and 3-4:00 pm. Also, vehicles should not be stopped in the outer By-Pass Lane to drop off students. Students should never walk between cars to get to the sidewalk. Thank you for observing our safety policies in the parking lot and ensuring the safety of all our students.

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MONTYS EXPECTATIONS

Continued from page 1...

PROPER DRESS FOR SCHOOL

Students should not wear shoes without socks, backless shoes, sandals and/or those without straps to hold them securely to the foot. Students go up and down stairs many times during the day. They run and play on the play area that has uneven ground, woodchips and stone areas. When the policy was written and observed at all elementary schools, it was proposed and adopted in the best interest of student safety:

“During warm weather, students may wear shorts. Students’ fingertips must touch the bottom of the shorts for the length to be acceptable for school. Midriff tops and tank tops are not appropriate attire. Students may not wear shirts with offensive language or pictures on them... Shoes should be appropriate and safe.”

NWEA

- ◆ Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA)
- ◆ Administered in grades 1-5 on the computer
- ◆ Math and Reading
- ◆ Adaptive test – adjusts the level of difficulty
- ◆ More reliable picture of student’s achievement level
- ◆ Immediate feedback – allows teachers to modify instruction immediately

EVERYDAY MATH

As a parent, how can I learn more about the Everyday Mathematics program?

Visit the Everyday Mathematics websites:

http://www.wrightgroup.com/parent_connection/index.html

<http://everydaymath.uchicago.edu/parents/index.shtml>

Visit the Grosse Pointe Public Schools website at www.gpschools.org to hear a presentation from an Elementary Curriculum Specialist about Everyday Mathematics or watch the presentation broadcast on Channel 20 beginning September 19th.

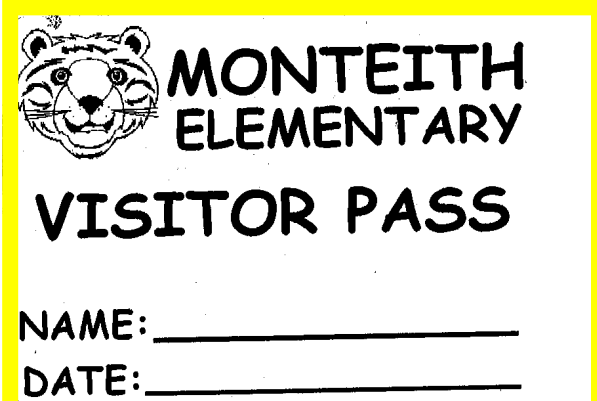
Attend the first district wide parent meeting for Everyday Mathematics on October 7th in the Mason Elementary School Library at 7:00 pm.

VISITOR PASS

Please check in at the office each time you enter the building.

Visitors must have a pass when walking the halls.

Thank you for your cooperation and continued efforts to keep our students safe!!!



The image shows a visitor pass form for Monteith Elementary. It features a yellow border and a tiger logo in the top left corner. The text reads "MONTEITH ELEMENTARY VISITOR PASS" in large, bold, black letters. Below this, there are two lines for "NAME:" and "DATE:" with horizontal lines for writing.

Welcome to a new school year and the second year of the Grosse Pointe Elementary Spanish Program. I am very excited to continue exploring the Spanish language and culture with the fourth and fifth graders.



I will meet with the students for 4 class periods of 45 minutes each. Then the students will rotate into library instruction. This pattern will continue throughout the school year. Every Spanish rotation will cover a different unit of study.

Monteith's first Spanish rotation begins on: **SEPTEMBER 25, 2008**

At the end of each unit, the students will receive a homework assignment to be returned at the beginning of the next rotation. In order for the student to receive full credit for the assignment, it must be signed by a parent or guardian.

Please be sure to visit my website, <http://staff.gpschools.org/delgads> for the updated calendar of class sessions as well as any homework assignments, their due dates, and links to practice Spanish at home.

I look forward to an exciting year of exploration of the Spanish language.

MUSIC NOTES



Congratulations to the following 5th grade students who auditioned and were selected to represent Monteith at the Summer Select Choir in August 2008.

Miranda	Victoria
Caroline	Evie
Lauren	Lindsay
Elizabeth	Emily
Emily	Emily
Emma	Madeline
Emily	Trent

The Monteith 5th Grade Choir will meet on Tuesdays after lunch in the Vocal Music Room. ANY 5TH GRADER who would like to sing is welcome.

The choir will perform at the Winter and Spring concerts.

Thank you,
Mrs. DeCarlo

PICTURE DAY

Thursday, September 25th, is Picture Day at Monteith.

THERE IS NO MONEY DUE ON PICTURE DAY.

A picture proof and order form will be sent home in approximately 4 to 5 weeks. Preschoolers are welcome and will be photographed at 8:30 am and 12:30 pm only.



EMERGENCY FORM

If you have not done so already, please fill out the emergency card completely and return to your student's teacher by September 7th. The emergency sheets provide the school with phone numbers, contacts and any vital medical information for your child in case of an emergency.

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION

2008-2009

News from
Mrs. Frederick.....



*Welcome back to a new school year! As I look forward to another wonderful year here at Monteith I want to express my sincere gratitude to you, Monteith parents. For 14 years you have supported bagel sales. Over the years the proceeds from these sales have stocked my physical education equipment closets with the latest. In addition, it has been an added bonus to help our outstanding music program with several important causes. Best of all....the students really seem to look forward to bagel days. Ok, maybe a few parents and teachers too!
Thank you Monteith students and parents!*

BAGEL SALES

Will begin Wednesday, September 24th

* **Bagel Sales are every Wednesday!!**
Bagels are sold in the morning & during lunch periods.

If supplies last, Bagels are also sold after school.

Mrs. Frederick is once again in need of brown paper lunch size bags to be used for Monteith's bagel sales. All donations will be greatly appreciated!

Choices include:

Salt, Plain, Raisin & Poppy Seed

COST: 50 ¢ each





DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION

2008-2009

News from
Mrs. Frederick.....

Dear Monteith Parents:

On your MARK, GET SET, GO.....

We are off and running to another wonderful start in our physical education program this year. Students will attend physical education classes once every four days for 45 minutes.

The physical education program at Monteith Elementary encourages students to think about physical activity as a source of enjoyable and rewarding experiences both during their school years and throughout their lives. The curriculum and activities are designed to instill within students a desire to be active for life.

The 4 areas of instruction are:

1. Fitness - be active for a lifetime
2. Gross Motor - hand/eye, foot/eye coordination
3. Cognitive - rules for sports, strategy and problem solving
4. Personal/Social - trust, cooperation, compassion, conflict resolution

The conventional sports such as; soccer, volleyball, badminton, hockey, basketball, tumbling and baseball, continue to be an important part of the curriculum. However, competition is not considered paramount. With so many children and so many differences in ability, it is my goal and my challenge, to provide competition without intimidation.

To insure that your child enjoys safe participation in physical education classes, it is a district wide policy that students wear gym shoes. Below is a copy of the schedule for you to use so you will know what days your child has physical education. Please help remind your child the days he/she has physical education so they may participate safely.

A	B	C	D
Hadgikosti	Pelyak	Smith	Arwady
Drobnich	Booker	Liagre/Reinhard	Lombard
Cantalupo	Richards AM	Wang/Lucido	DiVirgil
Trefney	Fellows	Porada	Richards PM
Randazzo	Koczara	Livingston	Fisher
Wilson	Schrage	Comilla	Kellogg

I look forward to another terrific year with your wonderful children.

Sincerely,

Gail Frederick
Physical Education Teacher



Total Employee Assistance & Management, Inc.

Over-Scheduled Kids

Peggy Muelle, LPC

Today's parents want to give their children every advantage in life. Increasingly, parents feel the need to involve their children in numerous outside activities to provide them with opportunities to achieve future success. The question becomes, "are we robbing our children of their childhood by structuring too much of their time?" Do children need free unstructured time to help them dream and discover?

Research tells us that "self-initiated, unstructured, creative play is the single most important activity" for young children. (2007. Pearson Education, Inc.) This activity promotes healthy neurological and cognitive growth. Childhood is a time for children and young adults to learn who they are, to interact with peers and family, to learn through experience and to think about the kind of person they want to become. A key element of providing such experiences requires free time with friends and family.

Today's parents need to re-evaluate their mind set on free time. We are equating free time with wasted time and a lack of productivity. Family time and child development does not benefit from the same model that we use at the office. "Rushed, hurried, anxious parents are turning their children into mini-versions of themselves." (Pearson Education, Inc. 2007) Remember that balance is the key.

Obviously extracurricular activities provide enjoyment and stimulation, but balance is the key. Both parents and children need to be aware of the symptoms of being over-stressed and over-scheduled. Such symptoms include a higher incidence of anxiety - particularly performance anxiety, depression, signs of withdrawal from friends and family, increased headaches and stomachaches, changes in sleep or eating patterns and any sharp changes in grades in school.

Children are wired differently. What works for one child may not work for another. Talk with your kids. Find out what their thoughts are about their schedules. Are they handling their activities and responsibilities with ease; or are they barely hanging on and feeling tremendous stress? If they are feeling overwhelmed, something has to change. Help them to prioritize activities. Empower your children in the decision process teaching them to assume responsibility for their own lives. Teach them the life long lesson of being able to orchestrate and manage what they do with their time.

http://www.theparentreport.com/resources/ages/teen/kids_culture/98.html

<http://www.kidsource.com/books/overscheduled.child.html>

<http://life.familyeducation.com/stress/extracurricular-activities/36538/html>

<http://www.med.umich.edu/opm/newspage/2005/hmchildstress.html>

For more information regarding your EAP benefit, please call **800-448-TEAM (8326)**.

THE PTO PAGE

WALK AND WATCH (out for goblins!)

Can you spare an hour of your time? Do you want to keep the school safe from pranksters (and witches and ghosts, of course)? Then, you are pre-qualified to volunteer at the

Monteith annual Halloween Watch
Thursday, October 30th
6:00PM-11:00PM



Call Eddie Tujaka at 642-1847 to volunteer to walk around the school grounds for an hour.

THANK YOU!

Thanks to Mr. Winne, Mr. Devich and Miss Maria for making our school look so shiny and clean for our return to class. We appreciate your hard work!

Thanks to Mary Mancus and Molly Tompkins for all your hard work on the Sally Foster Fundraiser!

KICKING OFF WITH THE KING



This year we hope to alternate our "Family Dinner Nights" between two restaurants. Our first night is **Thursday, October 2nd at the Burger King** on Harper, north of 9 Mile Road. Eat dinner, put your receipt in the box at Burger King, raise money for Monteith. Pretty simple!

ELVES NEEDED

Can you help out a few hours to make crafts for the annual Santa's Secret Shop? No experience, or even craftiness, needed. Please call Patricia Camazzola at 885-6520 to volunteer.

READ ALL ABOUT IT!

Did you know that you raise money for Monteith when you mention the school at the time of your subscription renewal to the Grosse Pointe News?



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

I wanted to thank everyone who has helped to get this school year off to a great start. We had a great turnout for the mural unveiling. Thank you to all who came and to those who provided refreshments (and cleaned up!). If you haven't yet seen our beautiful mural, please come into the lobby and check it out. Thank you, Erin Maday, for your wonderful talent.

Our annual Sally Foster Sale has come and gone, but you can still place orders online until June, 2009 for Monteith to get credit. Many thanks to Mary Mancus and Molly Tompkins for heading up this big kick off fundraiser.

Thanks also to Sarah Carron for chairing the Kroger gift card program again this year.

If you haven't purchased your Kroger gift card yet, it's not too late!

We have so many things to look forward to this year. Please keep checking the Monteith Messenger and the website for announcements. **Our next PTO meeting will be Tuesday, October 21 at 7:00PM** in the library; we have many interesting items on our agenda. Hope to see you there! Lorie Kamm,

"We cannot always build the future for our youth, but we can build our youth for the future" - F.D.R.