

MAY 1st - 4th END OF LEVEL TESTING

MAY 5th CINCO DE MAYO Celebrations

Each day: Be here - Be on time! Get a good nights rest, and eat a healthy breakfast.

Nutrition Snacks for Test Days:

During the week of testing we will be serving the students a mid testing snack. This snack is meant not as a reward, but as a nutritional boost to keep brain functions strong. If you have a student with allergies or special needs, please send a small safe snack your student can give to the teacher as a substitute PRIOR to the start of testing. (Some of the varied snacks may include: juice, mini muffins, mini carrot bags with dip, frozen juice bars, etc.)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING APRIL 2006:

Board Meeting was conducted by Rebecca Farraway. Kim Lovell reported that POET is currently working on: Art Auction, Cinco de Mayo, Field Day, Family BBQ, and 6th Grade Graduation. Debby Gomberg reported the school has received \$25,000 in Federal Title Funds, NDPA will offer summer school for students needing extra support, and gave a staffing update. Sheldon Killpack, representing Academica West, reported they have been working closely with Mrs. Gomberg and the state on the budget, and their staff is growing to continually meet the needs of the schools they support. Trent Brown reported that the budget is in order and being handled very judiciously by Mrs. Gomberg and Academica. The following 2 policies were approved: Parent Grievance Policy Policy for Distribution of Policies. Copies of these policies are available at the front desk. The budget was reviewed and some funds were reallocated to different categories as needed. Academica will be getting more information to the

NDPA TRUSTLANDS PROPOSAL UPDATE:

The state of Utah allocates Trustland funds to all public schools to be used for school improvement. Utah state law requires the Community Council from each school to write an annual plan to use these monies, to collect data to measure success and to ensure that the parents of the school community are made aware of these projects. Our community council met in February and March, and we submitted a plan of which we are very excited. Our school's allocation for next year is approximately \$14,000. Our plan is to use that money to provide Spanish language training to all our teachers. Every teacher in our school will be able to speak some basic survival Spanish.

The exciting thing about this particular training is the method of Spanish instruction. Not only will the teachers be learning Spanish, they will also be learning new and exciting methods of teaching Spanish. These instructional strategies employ elements from a program known as Accelerated Learning, and they can be used to teach any subject area.

This program uses drama, conversation, rhythm, songs, and hands-on objects to teach. It is based on the philosophy that the greatest gains in learning occur when more areas of the brain "light up" during the teaching. When the student is sitting in the classroom learning about verbs, one part of the brain lights up. But when the student is engaged in song while learning about verbs, more parts of the brain light up which helps transfer the knowledge from the short-term memory area of the brain to the long-term memory area. The teachers who don't speak Spanish will learn a new language, new strategies to incorporate Spanish into their curricular areas, and new strategies that can be used in other curricular areas. Those teachers who are fluent in Spanish will be able to really focus on new strategies to

NDPA POLICIES AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW:

The Board of directors recently approved policies for our school. Copies of both policies are available in the office and can be reviewed on the school website. Policy for Distribution of policies is to establish a process whereby parents and staff are made aware of newly adopted policies. Grievance Policy for Parents is to clarify for parents a process by which concerns can be addressed. The Board encourages parent participation in their child(ren)'s education, and hopes that parents will feel empowered to voice their opinions, volunteer in and out of the classroom for NDPA and work as a team to provide the best education for their child(ren).

ART AUCTION A HUGE SUCCESS:

The Art Auction was an evening of excellence and excitement. It was energizing to mingle and dine with parents in an adult forum. The dinner was excellent and participants generous. The auction not only was full of laughs but was emotional, as the children's art was purchased for 100's of dollars at a time. Ms. Smith's class, artists of NDPA Ancient Proverbs, a set of 3 Tai Chi paintings was the big money raiser at \$750.00. The evening was amazing.

A big thank you to all parents who attended, who volunteered, who worked on art projects, who supported the venue, and to those generous families/ businesses who donated. This experience was so enjoyable and positive that POET will organize this event again next year. Again thank you and WAY TO GO NDPA!!! *Exact figure will be announced at the May POET Meeting. Several parents have expressed their regret in being unable to attend and want to be a part of this success. Anyone interested may still make an art auction donation to NDPA POET. Seal your donation in an envelope and place it in the POET Money Box in the front of the school.

board regarding the Charter School Agreement. The Gold Medal Guidelines were approved. We look forward to your participation in our next meeting on May 3, 2006 @ 7 pm in the NDPA Library. Submitted by Mornie Sims, NDPA Board of Directors.

NDPA BOARD MEETING - May 10, 2006

Agenda items include a review of consent items, current business items and public input. All are invited to attend. Agenda's are posted on the doors of the school prior to meetings.

UPDATE ON PLANS TO EXPAND NDPA TO THE 9TH GRADE:

As most of you know, we are working on plans to expand NDPA to include grades 7-9 with 100 in each grade for a total of 1000 students. Our Board of Directors established a Jr. High Committee to develop a plan for this expansion. This committee is composed of 5 parents, one teacher, the principal and one board member. We have been working hard all year looking at curricular programs, grade configurations, daily schedules and possible building sites for the addition building. We hope to bring a final proposal to our Board of Directors early this summer.

In order to expand our school, we must first obtain permission to amend our charter from our authorizer, the Davis School Board. Our plan is to rewrite the original charter agreement in a new format designed by the Utah State Charter School Board.

When we will know if we are approved?

We are currently working with the Davis School District to rewrite the charter in a manner that will address any potential concerns they may have with our expanding to the 9th grade. We hope to take a final proposal to their board this summer. We will keep you all posted as to the date of that important Davis School Board meeting.

enhance their ability to teach Spanish to our students. We are very excited about this training because we think it will help our school take a big step toward achieving our school vision. Submitted by: Mrs. Gomberg, Principal

END OF SCHOOL REMINDER:

The end of the school year is drawing near. Please remember these important items:

First: School is not over until June 1st. Important education is still taking place in the classrooms, on field trips, and in the many "End of year" activities. Homework, examinations and class assignments are still be given out, evaluated and recorded. Attendance is vital. Now is NOT the time to ease personal efforts at home or in the classroom.

Second: Strong parent service and support continues to be needed at school. Many opportunities for filling family hours are still available. Many have not fulfilled the 30 hour minimum. PLEASE, PLEASE, contact your teachers, your class captains, or a member of the POET, or the office and give your support. It really does take many hands to effectively make a difference in the lives of our students, the school, and our concluding activities. We invite you to come and help out!

A current list of all current family hours and a list of some of the opportunities are available weekly for you to review at the POET desk. Submitted by: Diane Linford, NDPA Office Manager.

LIBRARY REMINDER:

All library books need to be returned to the library by May 8th. All lost book fees must be paid in full by May 17th Please remember that any book not returned is considered lost and a replacement cost and restocking fee will be assessed to your student. Year books will be held until books are returned or fines are paid. Submitted by Nicole Killpack, Librarian

LUNCH ROOM UPDATE:

Submitted by Kim Lovell POET Chairman

END OF YEAR FAMILY FIESTA:

What is a PASCUALINA? It is a delicious Argentinian, quiche-like, flaky pastry dish filled with either yummy spinach or wonderful ham and cheese. (The committee was able to sample these at one of our meetings - YUM!!). Where in the world can I try one? AT THE END OF YEAR FAMILY FIESTA ON MAY 22ND. Please join us at the Layton Park Amphitheater from 6-8 pm for great food provided by Cannavini's and wonderful entertainment from Weber State. We are so thrilled to have the WSU Health and Human Performances Group coming to showcase Latin American dances (cha-cha, rhumba, samba, etc. and a few surprises) for us. Tickets are on sale now through May 8th. Order forms are available at the POET desk. Just fill it out, include payment, staple together and drop in the POET box.

There will be one last committee meeting on May 9th, 5:30 pm at the school - this is a great chance to get in your volunteer hours for the school year. We could use help with serving food and cleanup after the fiesta. Questions? Call: Marie Wilder 779-9323 or Kim Valeika 546-4927.

The class that sells the most tickets to the FIESTA will win 5 Lion Bucks per student to use at the last school store in May. There are still LOTS of great items to buy at the store. Let's win some Lion Bucks!! Submitted by Kim Valeika 546-4927

GOLD MEDAL SCHOOL NEWS: SLC MARATHON SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

Gold Medal Schools has received word that there are scholarships available to send two children from NDPA to participate in the SLC Kids Marathon on June 3, 2006. If you are interested in participating, please call Katheryn Ricks at 593-6168. The first two students who are willing and ready to participate will receive information to

What grades will be housed in the new building, and where will it be located?

If we are approved, our plans are to increase the total student population to 1000 with 100 students in each grade. We won't be able to finalize plans for a site until approval for the expansion is obtained. Academica West, our management company, has been looking for possible sites very near by our current building, at this time, no decisions have been made.

If we're approved, when will the Jr. High open?

We hope to open in fall of '07.

What is the time line?

We are working on the revised charter document right now. Our goal is to bring this document to our Board of Directors at the June meeting. Upon Board approval of the final document, we will take our proposal to a Davis School Board meeting.

Parents, please look for notices concerning your child's lunch account coming home with your student on Monday, May 1st. Please note: The end of school is fast approaching and we will not be allowed to honor lunch service to any unpaid accounts after May 15th .

CHILD SAFETY SEAT AND SEAT BELT ENFORCEMENT IS UNDERWAY!

Sgt. Jason Hinojosa of the Layton City Police has notified the office of the Traffic Units added efforts to enforce the law. Layton Police will be actively enforcing the seat belt law in school zones effective immediately and will continue through the balance of the school year. School Resource Officers as well as Motor officers will be in the school zones as usual, but will be looking for seat belt violations in addition to speeders, etc.

Please take the little bit of extra time to ensure that your children are safe and properly restrained. If you have any questions, Officer Hinojosa can be reached by phone at 336-3453, or by email at Jhinojosa@Laytoncity.org.

Submitted by: Officer Hinojosa,
Layton City Police

register. If you have questions about the marathon, you can check out their website at

www.saltlakecitymarathon.com and click on the kids marathon link.

Thanks! Submitted by Kim Valeika
546-4927

INTERSTATE SPRING PHOTO DEADLINE:

Families desiring to purchase photo's from the photo proofs recently sent home, need to forward payments to the school office by Tuesday, May 2, 2006 for pick up by Interstate Studios.

YEAR BOOK ORDER -LAST CHANCE:

Did you miss pre-ordering a yearbook? Today is your lucky day! We have a small surplus of yearbooks available. So if you want one, get your order in today! To order: Pick up a yearbook envelope at the volunteer desk, pay \$10 per yearbook, and drop it in the POET box. (If you send an order in without a yearbook envelope be sure to include, your child's name, their teacher's name, number of books ordered, and check number on the outside of the envelope, however we do prefer payment in approved envelopes). We will accept orders until we're sold out, and since there are not many left, hurry and get your order in today! If you are unsure of whether or not you've ordered a yearbook, or have any other questions, please call Mindy at 773-8248.

Submitted by Mindy Sherrow