What’s Happening at South Side School
South Side PTA’s Weekly Newsletter
February 20, 2009

Please email newsletter submissions to Mark Atkinson at mark.a@southsidepta.org by 6 p.m. any given Wednesday
South Side News listerv: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/southsideschool
WH online: http://sites.google.com/a/southsidepta.org/whats-happening/Home/pdffiles

Calendar Notes...
February (Black History Month)
17-20 Jump Rope for Heart activities
19 (Thursday) Science Night
26 (Thursday) School Tours
South Side Band Concert (date TBA)
March
2-6 ISAT testing *
13 (Friday) End of First Quarter
16 (Monday) NO SCHOOL
18 (Wednesday) PTA Meeting
* = More info in this issue

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Support your South Side PTA!
To join, call Kerry Rossow, VP of Membership - 356-8317

cadaniño.unavoz.
evrychild.ownvoice.

Who’s this then?
Yup, it’s one of your South Side teachers! Taken fairly recently, we’re told. Here in the What’s Happening editorial offices we have had a whip-round, and are offering a $5 Borders gift card to the student with the first correct guess as to who it is. Put your guesses in the ‘Book Review’ box on the South Side PTA table upstairs, with your name, your grade and your teacher’s name, and the first correct guess selected will win the gift card, and be announced, along with the identity of the teacher, in next week’s issue of What’s Happening. Here’s a hint - despite the glaring similarities, it is not Principal Taylor.

Little League Baseball Registration
Tuesday, Feb. 24, 6:00-7:00pm
Monday, March 2, 6:00-7:30pm
Thursday, March 5, 6:00-7:30pm

For all three dates, registration will be taken at Bresnan Center (not Leonhard Center as previously promoted) & Douglass Annex for Champaign; Phillips Rec Center for Urbana.

Registration forms are available at www.culittleleague.com. It helps to speed things up by completing the paperwork prior to coming to registration.

Dave Bagger

Book Review(s)
4th grader Kelsey Patton liked reading Carlotta’s Kittens by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor. “It’s about cats who made a ‘Club of Mysteries’. Carlotta is the she-cat of the club, and she has five kittens. She takes care of them and protects them from Steaknife, a cat that kills anything in its path and takes their tails.” Yikes!

William R.C. Kanter, who’s in 5th grade, has read another book he’d like to recommend to the South Side community. It is called Maximum Ride: The Angel Experiment, and it is by James Patterson. “It is about six kids who are sort of fugitives with one difference from other kids: They have wings. But Angel, the youngest, is captured by the mad scientists who created her. She might be killed—or worse.”

“That’s the true harbinger of spring, not crocuses or swallows returning to Capistrano, but the sound of a bat on a ball.” ~ Bill Veek
February 18, 2009

Dear Parent or Guardian,

We will be giving all 3rd-5th graders state-required achievement tests from March 2, 2009 through March 6, 2009. Students in grades 3 and 5 will be tested in reading, mathematics, and writing. Students in grade 4 will be tested in reading, mathematics, and science. The tests are part of the Illinois Standards Achievement Test (ISAT) program, and are being given to all eligible students. The results of reading, mathematics, and science state tests will be reported to you on the School Report Card in the fall. We will review state test results along with other information to help us improve our school program at South Side. In addition, you will receive information about your child’s performance on the state tests he/she took.

You can help your child do his/her best on the test by:

1. Making sure, if at all possible, that your child attends school on the days of testing;
2. Making sure your child gets a good night’s sleep the night before testing;
3. Providing breakfast on the morning of testing;
4. Reminding your child to ask the teacher questions if he or she does not understand the test directions;
5. Letting your child know that you have confidence in his or her ability to do his or her best; and
6. Advising your child not to worry about the test-just do the best he or she can.

Some other unique changes during ISAT Week that you may wish to discuss with your child are:

1. ISAT will be administered during the mornings only
2. No visitors will be allowed in the building during testing
3. There will be no hallway traffic during testing

Please call your child’s teacher if you want additional information or have further questions about these tests.

We look forward to sharing the ISAT results with you this fall.

Sincerely,

William Taylor

William Taylor, Principal