

Knightly News



Message from the Principal—Mr. Chris Beck

Dates to Remember

November

- .14-18th Food Drive
- 18th PTO Dance—7-9pm
- 21st—Parent Conferences
- 22nd—Parent Conferences
- 21st—25th—No School
- 21st—22nd—Pat’s Pizza Fund-raiser—4-9:00pm

December

- 5th Math League
- 7th Orchestra Night (All)—7 pm
- 8th Band Concert (7 & 8)—7 pm
- 14th Chorus Concert (7th) - 7 pm
- 15th Band/Chorus (6th) - 7 pm
- 16th NJHS Dance—7-9 pm
- 21st Chorus Concert (8th) - 7 pm

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Dear Redding Middle School Families,

It’s hard to believe we have already completed the first marking period of the school year and are now almost two weeks into the second marking period. It has been a busy first few months of the year, complete with school dances, PBS field trips, Talent Development trips, school open houses and more. As we move through the winter months, activities at Redding won’t slow down. Redding boasts many extra-curricular and co-curricular activities to appeal to a wide array of interests. Please encourage your child to explore some of the great opportunities to participate in these activities. Activity buses will continue to run on Tuesdays and Thursdays for after-school activities. Students will need to provide their own transportation for after-school events on days other than Tuesdays and Thursdays. Parents can also get involved in school activities and provide additional support. Joining the PTO is an excellent way of doing this. Information about the PTO can be found at:

<http://reddingpto.homestead.com/>

Report cards were sent home November 18th. Please contact the school at 378-5030 if you have not received it. We encourage parents to keep informed of your children’s progress at Redding by communicating with us via phone, e-mail, and scheduled conferences. You can also follow your child’s progress through Home Access Center. This can be accessed through the school website at: <http://www.reddingms.org>. Any questions about grades in specific classes should be addressed to the teacher. Teacher e-mail addresses are available at the school website listed previously. Parent/Teacher conferences will be held Monday, November 21 and Tuesday, November 22. Please contact your child’s teacher to request a conference.

Please take some time to talk with your children about wearing appropriate school attire and demonstrating good attendance. We do not want our students missing class for things that are easily avoidable. If your child does miss school, please remember to provide a note explaining the reason for the absence. A list of approved reasons for absence can be found on page 14 of your child’s Code of Conduct book. Redding parents do such a great job of supporting our students, staff, and school in so many ways. Thank you for all that you do. It has been a great start to the year and our teachers and students continue to work hard to make Redding Middle School a source of pride for all of us.

Chris Beck, Principal

National Junior Honor Society News

The National Junior Honor Society is sponsoring a Dance on Friday, December 16 from 7-9 p.m. All proceeds from the dance support local charities.

The Penny Wars wrapped up. The competition was tough with class against class in a grade. Pennies counted as positive points and all other money was negative points.

The winners were: Room 152 in 6th grade with +\$3.10, Miss Sampson in 7th grade with +\$12.24 and Miss Mahoney in 8th grade with +10.97. The 7th and 8th grade classes also earned a pizza party because they had greater than \$10.00 in their jars. A special recognition went to Miss Wall's class that raised over \$100 but was actually -\$45.52 in the totaling.

PTO—Volunteers Needed!

The PTO is seeking Volunteers to help chaperone the dance on Friday, November 18. Parent help greatly needed. Please contact the PTO volunteer staff at: lwagner67@verizon.net.

Also, the PTO Membership Drive is still on. The annual membership is \$10. The funds support student events and teachers' classroom instruction at Redding Middle School. Please join the PTO.

PBS FUNDRAISER

CANDLES CANDLES CANDLES



Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to the first PBS fundraiser of the school year! Christmas is coming and are you looking for a gift? We have it!!! CANDLES!!!! Attached you will find the information and order form for this fundraiser. The fundraiser begins today, November 1, 2011 and ends on Friday, November 18, 2011. All orders have to be placed by November 21, 2011 to guarantee delivery for Christmas. Information on pick-up dates and times will be available after November 28, 2011. Remember, every candle sold helps fund the RMS PBS Program for events and trips for your child, including the Carnival at the end of the year.

Thank you for supporting the PBS Program at Redding Middle School.

RMS receives Bronze Award in the Healthier U.S. School Challenge!

Redding achieved a Bronze Award in the Healthier US School Challenge. This award encompasses education, nutritious food and beverage choices, and opportunities for physical activity to help students make healthy choices now and in the future. Congratulations go to our cafeteria staff and teachers that made this possible. A letter, received from Michelle Obama, can be seen in our display case in the front lobby of the school.

Preparing for a Parent-Teacher Conference

At least once per year, and frequently each semester or more often, parents receive a notice of a parent-teacher conference. Perhaps you have requested the conference yourself. There are many steps you can take to assure that the conference is productive and positive:

- Assemble relevant materials to help prepare for the conference. This could include records from previous schools and school years, such as report cards, test scores, immunization and other health records, and past and current correspondence between home and school.
- Review these materials to see if anything important is missing, and then see if you can find the missing material. Once you have started a collection of your child's records, it is easy to add new material each year. At conference time, if you or the teacher have specific concerns, you can then find whatever might be important to share with the teacher.
- Talk with your child before the conference. Children should understand why the conference is taking place (is it due to a problem or is it a routine meeting held for all parents?) and be assured that parents are seeking ways to help and learn about what their children are doing in school. Find out if your child has any specific concerns about schoolwork or relationships with classmates.
- If your district, school or classroom has a handbook for students, be sure to obtain a copy well ahead of the conference and review it. In particular, look for listings of expectations for behavior and attendance so that you might anticipate some questions from teachers or so that you might consider questions you want to ask.
- If your child has brought home homework, be sure you are familiar with the assignments and how your child has been performing. Is the work getting done? Does your child seem to understand the assignments? Does the work seem too easy or too difficult?
- Prepare a list of questions you want to ask your child's teacher: Is my child meeting expectations for learning and behavior? How has my child performed on daily class assignments, on tests, on homework assignments? How does my child compare to others in basic skills? Does my child follow school rules or does he/she exhibit any behavior problems? If my child is struggling in any area, what has been tried to improve performance? Does my child pay attention in class? What else can be done at home or at school? What are my child's strengths? Are there any concerns about my child's health, adjustment? Are there materials or resources that you would recommend?
- If you or the teacher have concerns about referral to special education, find out about your rights ahead of time. State and community agencies and advocate organizations can provide this information, and all schools should also have a printed copy of parents' rights under state and federal law.
- Be ready to collaborate, not attack or defend! Generally teachers will give parents bad news because they want to help the child do better, not to place blame on the parent or child. But sometimes the message does not come across that way and parents naturally become defensive and protective, maybe even angry. Assume the teacher has your child's best interests in mind and respond calmly and tactfully. Indicate that you are most concerned with solving the problem and helping your child succeed. Offer to meet further to discuss the problem and work out a solution. Remember that teachers are often as afraid to deliver bad news as parents are to hear it!

Community Notification

The police are responsible for notifying the community of sex offenders in the area. This information is available on the Delaware State Police web site (www.state.de.us/dsp/sexoff). By law, all adults or juveniles who are convicted or adjudicated of specific sex offenses are registered. **Please note that not all sex offenders are child predators or pose a threat to children.**

School districts and charter schools must keep notifications of registered sex offenders received from the police in a binder in each school. They must follow guidelines for distribution of notifications they receive. The guidelines will be available on the Internet (www.doe.state.de.us or www.state.de.us/kids).

The included notification may assist you in protecting your family. It is best that only parents and guardians share this information in an age appropriate manner with their child or children so that the child will understand appropriate actions for their safety.

Parents and guardians should use this information in an age appropriate way that helps children with personal safety but does not overwhelm the child. Prevent Child Abuse Delaware, a local nonprofit agency, has developed a list of safety tips to assist parent/guardian in helping their child feel safe:

- Review safety rules for your home – tell your child not to answer the door when you are not home and establish a plan for answering the telephone.
- Make a list with your child of three safe grown-ups he/she can talk to if afraid or in trouble and you are not there.
- Talk with your child about what places are safe to visit in your community and which are not.
- Review with your child the four private places which are the mouth, the breasts, the genitalia, and the buttocks. Explain that no one should touch these places unless they are helping to keep the child healthy (exam by a doctor) or clean (bathing).
- Encourage your child to tell you if someone talks to or touches him/her in a way that makes them feel bad or that he/she doesn't like.
- Encourage open discussion with your child about his/her willingness to talk to grown-ups in your family about the things that bother him/her.
- Determine if your child knows that the grown-ups in your family will listen to him/her. Ask yourself honestly if this is true. Do you and other adults in your family really listen to the children in your care?
- Tell your child that it is not the child's fault if someone tries to bother him/her or touch him/her in a way they don't like.
- Let your child know how special you think they are, encourage him/her to think of themselves as a person worthy of respect, who also respects others. Treat and talk with your child in a way that conveys your respect.

If you would like further information on how to keep your child safe, you can speak with the school counselor or contact Prevent Child Abuse Delaware at 302-425-7490.

For more information about the Sex Offenders Registry, contact Delaware State Police (302-739-5882).

If you have questions about an enclosed notification or specific offenders, please contact your local police.

Report child abuse by calling 1-800-292-9582. Do report emergencies by calling 911.

Do not post this notification publicly or where non-family members may see it. Remember it is best for children to get this information from their parents and guardians.

Do not take any action that may in any way harm or harass the offender, the offender's family, household members or employer. Do not attempt to harass the offender or make unsolicited, unwanted contact. If you believe anyone is a physical threat to you or children in your care, please contact the local police.

Please use the information responsibly for the safety and well-being of those in your care.

Anyone who uses this information to commit a crime against another person is subject to criminal prosecution.

2011-12 Nondiscrimination Statement

The Appoquinimink School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, religion, age, disability, marital status, national origin, or other legally protected categories in its educational programs, activities, employment, or student admissions policies or practices. Inquires regarding compliance with the above can be directed to:

Section 504

Contact Kittie Rehrig, Supervisor of Student Services, Appoquinimink School District, 313 South Fifth Street, Box 4010, Odessa, DE 19730-4010. Telephone (302) 376-4111

Section 504 Coordinator's Responsibilities: To coordinate the Appoquinimink School District's efforts to comply with the disability discrimination laws.



Title IX

Contact Matt Fallis, Director of Personnel, Appoquinimink School District, 313 South Fifth Street, Box 4010, Odessa, DE 19730-4010. Telephone (302) 376-4275

Title IX Coordinator's Responsibilities: To coordinate the Appoquinimink School District's efforts to comply with and carry out the District's responsibilities under Title IX, including any investigation of any complaint alleging noncompliance with Title IX or alleging actions which would be prohibited by Title IX.

Kaleidoscope Korner

Best Thanksgiving



Thanksgiving is here, so our minds have turned
To what time has taught us, to what we've learned:
We often focus all our thought
On shiny things we've shopped and bought;
We take our pleasure in material things
Forgetting the pleasure that friendship brings.
If a lot of our stuff just vanished today,
We'd see the foundation of each happy day
Is special relationships, constant and true,
And that's when our thoughts go directly to you.
We wish you a Thanksgiving you'll never forget,
Full of love and joy—your best one yet!

By Joanna Fuchs



The 2011-12 Student Code of Conduct is located on the [Appoquinimink School District](http://www.apposchooldistrict.com/district/conduct.cfm) website.

<http://www.apposchooldistrict.com/district/conduct.cfm>

VISIT OUR WEBSITE!

www.reddingms.org

Join the PTO!

Please join the PTO this year. More information about Redding's PTO can be found on their website:

<http://reddingpto.homestead.com/>

Feel free to contact the officers to help at events sponsored by the PTO.

Louis L. Redding Middle School

201 New Street
Midletown, DE 19709
Phone: 302-378-5030

The Knightly News is developed by :

Monica Christy,
Assistant Principal

Monica.Christy@appo.k12.de.us

**Pat's Pizza
RMS Fundraising Nights**



**Monday & Tuesday, Nov. 21 & 22
4:00pm to 9:00pm**

**Dine In or Take-Out ONLY
(no deliveries)**

**Pat's of Middletown will donate 20% of pro-
ceeds raised on both of these days to the
Redding Middle School**

No flyer needed!

Not valid with any other offer or Pat's specials.

Come out and help support Redding Middle School



