

THE PONY EXPRESS

Volume 11, Issue 3 November, 2008



Important Dates!!

11/21 Early Release

@10:30 Conferences

11/24 No School K-8
Conferences

11/25 Early Release
@ 10:30 Conferences

11/26 Early Release
@10:30 Thanksgiving
Break

11/27-28 No School
Thanksgiving Break

12/22-01/02 Win-
ter Break

01/19- Martin Luther
King Day

01/23- No School,
Report Card Prep

**Need Gift Ideas?
Come and Shop
at the H3MS
Book Fair!!**

December 5th -10th

7:40 AM to 2:30 PM
in the H3MS
Library
Call Chris Slagle @
736-1436 to
Volunteer. Each
Volunteer will
receive a \$5.00 Book
Fair Gift
Certificate!!

From Sue Denslow's Desk

Dear Parents:

The Kennewick School District will be asking the community to invest in its public schools by voting on a bond referendum this spring. The district operates on a ten-year facilities plan cycle put together by its facilities planning committee. The ten-year plan also addresses what we need to do to keep up with technology.

The district completed a ten year plan cycle in 2005 and we're ready to start the next one. The bond we're asking voters to approve would pay for the first phase of this next ten year plan cycle. There has been a lot of growth and crowding at schools on the west end of the district. Therefore, the plan calls for building a new elementary school out in the Badger Canyon area near Cottonwood Springs. We have five other elementary schools built between 1978 and 1982 that are scheduled for renovation.

The plan calls for modernizing one school per year beginning with Canyon View, then Southgate, Sunset View, and Cascade. Depending on available state matching funds, Lincoln would be the final elementary renovated in Phase I. A number of general improvement projects throughout the district may also depend on state matching money to complete. Projects identified in this phase include roofing at Southridge and Kennewick High, resurfacing of the tracks and tennis courts at Kennewick High and Kamiakin, parking lot improvements to several schools, HVAC and lighting upgrades and a systematic upgrade of network switches to help us keep up with increased internet and e-mail traffic.

The school district recently bought the former Food Pavilion building near Amistad elementary to serve as space for programs currently located at Fruitland. If the bond passes, the Fruitland building will be used to house each elementary school for one year as its building undergoes renovation. Two million dollars of the bond income would be used to retrofit the Food Pavilion building.

The district also recently completed a new set of specifications for all future elementary school remodels and new constructions. Highlights of the new specification include the addition of a 1,200 square foot multipurpose room, larger classrooms to accommodate small group instruction, and increased use of daylight inside the school.

The specification also calls for a larger gymnasium with a regular wood floor. This provides more space for both instructional and community activities. The size of our elementary schools would increase by about 5,000 square feet. This is somewhat smaller than the elementary schools that surrounding districts are building. However, it is in line with the economy and scale the citizens of Kennewick have come to expect from us.

To view the district's ten year facilities plan in its entirety, visit the KSD website at www.ksd.org.

Susan Denslow

Principal, Horse Heaven Hills Middle School
susan.denslow@ksd.org





From our Literacy Coach
Mrs. Claeson

Battle of the Books Bookfair!

November 29th, Barnes & Noble is hosting a book fair to support our Battle of the Books Contest. Any purchases you make at Barnes & Noble (This includes anything you purchase in the Barnes & Noble café!) on this day using a Horse Heaven Hills voucher will go towards the prizes for the Battle of the Books contest. Currently, we have over **350** students who are involved in the Battle of the Books. Each team reads 10 books, and then will compete against other teams at their grade level to become the Battle of the Books Champions. Please see the cut out coupon voucher to the right!!!!

**Barnes & Noble
BOOKFAIR**

Supporting
**Horse Heaven Hills
Middle School**

Saturday, November 29, 2008

Barnes & Noble at the Columbia
Center Mall

Teacher: Linda Claeson

Please present this voucher prior
to making your purchase.
A percentage of the net sale will
be donated to your school/organization.*

Bookfair ID #274142

*The purchase of gift cards, Barnes & Noble memberships,
text books and magazine subscriptions are not included
in bookfair totals. Our discount purchasing
program may not be applied to bookfair purchases.

Is there School
Today?

It is that time of the year when road conditions can quickly change! Log onto the KSD.org website for current school closures. You need to periodically refresh the screen for current updates. Or listen to local radio and television stations. Please do not call the school.

PTO NEWS

2008-2009 Officers:

Co-Presidents: Debbie Bayless
582-6326

mark_deb_bayless@msn.com

Jennifer Brinkworth 582-5296

jbrinkworth@charter.net

Vice President: Lisa Henson
582-0142

Treasurer: Rob Richmond
586-3589

Secretary:
**OPEN POSITION! PLEASE
CALL IF YOU CAN HELP!**

We invite everyone to get involved at HHH! We'll have a table set up during conferences, and we'd like to encourage parents to stop by and see what's new and fill out a "Volunteer Form", so they can join in the exciting things going on this year! **We can all do SOME-THING to make our kids' school the BEST it can be!** You can also contact any of the officers personally! Thanks to those who have already volunteered to help with our upcoming events: Gobble Gram Sales and Teacher Conference Dinner!



HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE HORSE HEAVE HILLS STAFF!



Access the newsletter or e-mail teachers at:

<http://www.ksd.org/hhh/>



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