



Superintendent's E-Mail Newsletter

"Staying in touch..."



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*"Building a foundation of excellence.....
.... one student at a time."*

"If you don't know where you are going, you will wind up somewhere else."

~Yogi Berra

2007/08: Where Did It Go, and What Is Next?

I am sure that this last newsletter will find you in the midst of the usual last week frenzy. It is a time when final grades need posted, cafeteria closets & freezers need emptied, a host of events are handled by our custodial staff, and the public is on-site for programs and ceremonies. It can get crazy. Yet somehow you not only manage it, you make it memorable for all involved.

We started the year with the goal of serving the needs of each and every student, and we often mentioned our mission of building a foundation of excellence – one student at a time. In the past nine months, it has been my privilege to see you put that mission into action. I could give countless examples, but I hope it suffices to say that you should be proud of how you work together to make Spring Cove Schools a great choice for our families.

So as we end this year (and let's end without accident or harm), we also look ahead to the challenge of next year. Our 2008/09 school budget is still under consideration, but it offers a continuation of many programs, such as full-day kindergarten and Reading Recovery, and it also proposes to add new services for the ever increasing number of students with emotional support needs. The budget also includes resources for additional rigor in the high school language arts and middle school offerings. It is our hope that we can follow through on these student needs.

Likewise, we know that other community and educational needs offer opportunities for us to act on our mission and strategic plan. Some other ideas that I know you will be hearing more about include:

- Spring Cove Cyber School – We now have four students enrolled in our own cyber school being offered through Blendedschools.net.
- Learning Walks – This year we tried out a number of learning walks and hope to initiate our own schedule for 2008/09. It will be a plus!
- District Council & Local Government Summit – One need that we can fulfill in our strategic plan is to become better connected to our community. To do so, we are looking at new ways to invite community representatives to offer and engage in a regular dialogue with all levels of our district. We need to tell our story and listen as well.
- Curriculum, Curriculum, Curriculum – The review of what we teach is a never-ending process. We are looking forward to starting a new elementary science program, new math classes, and new dual enrollment offerings.

“The only limit to our realization of tomorrow will be our doubts of today.”

- Franklin
Roosevelt



Spring Cove
School District

1100 E. Main Street

Roaring Spring, PA
16673

Phone 814.224.5124

In closing, I think you can see that we will never run out of challenges. Yet, we know that our defining spirit of “doing it the Spring Cove way” will see us through and provide opportunities and more for our families. Thank you for making my first year as your superintendent one of the most satisfying experiences of my life. I wish everyone a great summer, and I know that we will be ready when the final weeks of August appear on the horizon. Stay in touch, and see you then!



Last Minute Housekeeping Items

- ◆ Attached to this newsletter is a tentative listing of the scheduled activities and staff development topics for June 9 & 10 and also for August 21, 22, and 25. PLEASE be sure to check with your supervisor or principal to get more detailed information about your schedule for these dates.
- ◆ In May, we received the results of an insurance survey that was conducted by our insurer, School Claims Service. The survey reviewed all of our facilities and then issued compliance and non-compliance citations. Thirteen items of non-compliance were cited, including items such as additional fencing on the football bleachers and exposed bolts on playground equipment. One specific recommendation was the removal of a number of personal appliances (coffee pots, hot plates, microwave ovens, and refrigerators) from classroom areas. As a convenience, we are sharing this information with you now so you may take these items home at the close of school. They will not be permitted in classroom areas in the 2008/09 school year. A copy of the report and the specific recommendation is available at each building if you wish to read it. Thank you for your cooperation in helping us to meet this important insurance/loss prevention issue. Please direct any questions regarding this to your building principal.
- ◆ Finally, I would like to ask each of you to consider the invitation to attend the upcoming graduation of the Central High School Class of 2008. Graduation is truly a celebration, and it is an event that we hope all staff would want to attend. It is that one last time to speak with students, meet and greet their families, and share in the joy of the closing of one chapter in life and beginning anew. It's not too late to consider attending the outdoor ceremonies to be held on Friday at 7:00 PM at the Roaring Spring Athletic Field. Congratulations to our graduates! We wish them the best and much continued success.