



Superintendent's E-Mail Newsletter

"Staying in touch..."



MAY 26, 2009

VOLUME 2, NUMBER 8

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



June 3 – End Of School Year Staff Picnic

Once again, the end of another school year (make that 35 for me) is rapidly coming to a close. We wish to show our appreciation to all staff by inviting everyone to a "Staff Picnic" to be held rain or shine at the Spring Cove Middle School on June 3. A picnic lunch will be served from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. You need to bring only yourself and a smile. We hope you will take advantage of this opportunity to join in friendly conversation and fellowship before many of you head off for the annual summer break.



Congratulations And Best Wishes To Our 2008-09 Retirees

"An investment in knowledge always pays the best interest."

--Benjamin Franklin

In addition to the end of the year picnic, we also want to take a moment to thank our 2008-09 retirees for their dedication and many years of service to the Spring Cove School District students and families. From our teaching staff, we say goodbye to: Jerome Conlon, CHS Special Education Teacher; Patti Kistic, MES Special Education Teacher; Donna Dries, Elementary Librarian; and Tom Wertman, Elementary Physical Education Teacher. From our support staff we say fond farewells to: Darlene Sieler, Secretary; Mary Hall, CHS Food Service Worker; Elaine Hoover, SCMS Custodian; and Pat Weyant, CHS Custodian. We will miss their many contributions to making Spring Cove School District a place for all students to find success. Good luck to all, and we wish you many, many years of well-deserved retirement.

"Retire from work, but not from life. ~ M.K. Soni"

“If at first you don’t succeed, do it like your mother told you.”

*--Author
Unknown*



This Will Not Be A Typical Summer...

Spring Cove Elementary School is on schedule to be opened for the start of the 2009-2010 school year. It is exciting to think about, but it is also going to take a lot of additional planning and work for our summer staff. We know that many items must be packed and transported to the school site. We are also ready to take delivery of hundreds, if not thousands, of pieces of furniture items. Before the final stage of this project begins, I want to recognize our administration, custodial, maintenance, and office staff for their efforts in organizing this monumental undertaking. Because of their efforts, we are ready for whatever comes our way. I am also looking forward to having all of you at our “opening day” meetings on August 26th. We will use the multipurpose room of the new school for our opening activities. Before you know it, students will be walking down the hallways. I can’t wait!

...As We Say Goodbye To East Freedom and Roaring Spring Elementary Schools



The start of the 2009-2010 school year also marks the closing of two long established community schools in the Spring Cove School District. The closing of any school is always bittersweet. The consolidation of these schools will certainly bring new opportunities to the children in both communities, but the closing is nevertheless a sad day. However, I am certain that many fond memories and stories will be shared over the coming weeks and months, including a few of my own.

East Freedom Elementary School was built in 1933. My 81 year-old father was a resident of McKee at the time, and he told me that he sat on Barney Hill and watched the school being constructed. He entered the school as a 2nd grade student, and to this day, he can still recall his teachers and his years of schooling in East Freedom. When I ask him about his behavior and conduct record, he seems to have some inability to recall all of those details. During my tenure as principal at East Freedom, I had the privilege of inviting my Grandmother, Lizzie Green, to be my guest during Grandparents Lunch Week. During her visit, my grandmother told me that, along with many other East Freedom mothers, she volunteered to cook soup and sandwiches on kerosene cooking stoves that they set up on saw horses in the basement of the school. Like today, the school lunch was often the only hot lunch available to some students. She was very proud of her school.

Roaring Spring Elementary School was built in 1937 and was considered “cutting edge” design at the time of its construction. My father was already attending the high school when his family moved to Hogback in Roaring Spring. He told me it was 1941, and the reason he can remember that detail is the fact that they moved into their house on December 7th, Pearl Harbor Day. He and my mother graduated from the high school in 1945. Years later, my two older brothers and I were fortunate enough to attend the same building, which was then Roaring Spring Junior High School. In 1977 the school was renovated and converted into an elementary school.

Both schools have had long and storied histories, and both communities should be proud of the opportunities and encouragement provided to so many. Their schools may soon be gone, but they will not be forgotten. Farewell old friends.



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