

Loudonville News



LOUDONVILLE SCHOOL
September 2011

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From the Principal – Ms. Kerry Flynn Welcome back to school!

I'd like to thank all of our students, families, faculty and staff for a wonderful start to the school year. We began the school year with our 6th annual "First Day Celebration" on Thursday. At this time, students were introduced to the many adults who work in the building. We sang songs of welcome, and learned about our theme for this school year – "Wave Your Flag!" This year we will celebrate diversity around the world and help others overcome obstacles.

As you read through this newsletter, you will see we have included some general information. The Student-Parent Handbook which includes information pertaining to such issues as school hours, visitors, student drop-off and pick-up is now posted on the district website. Each school procedure or rule is there to protect and keep all students safe. Your support of these procedures makes each day run well, and serves to keep our school safe and orderly. Thank you for your support!

Remember – this is the last hard copy of the newsletter! Sign up for SNN to receive newsletters and notifications (see page 2).

COGNITIVE ABILITIES TESTS (CATS).
District-wide Cognitive Abilities Testing will take place for third and sixth graders on the mornings of Friday, September 16 through Monday, September 20. Please make sure students are on time and well-rested.

WELCOME TO NEW FAMILIES

Loudonville School is happy to welcome 9 new families this year.



PTA OPEN HOUSE NEWS

September 15 Kindergarten - Gr. 3
September 20 Grades 4 - 6

6:00 Parent Portal Sign-up - Main Office
6:30 PTA membership information in the cafeteria
7:00 General Welcome in the auditorium
7:15-7:45 Classroom presentations

Come early to join the PTA. Membership is \$20.00 per family and includes the Directory.

Help support PTA-sponsored events by becoming a Directory Sponsor. An additional \$5.00 will include your name on the sponsor list.

Check your directory listing and add one family e-mail, if desired.

Sign up for committees beginning at 6:30 p.m.

NOTIFY SCHOOL OF CHANGES IN DISMISSAL PLANS

Please be sure to send a note to your child's teacher if his or her dismissal plans change. Many children think that if a parent mentions the possibility of picking them up, they are not to take the bus home.

Unless the office has a written note for a change in dismissal plans, your child will be dismissed in the usual manner. If your child is going to a friend's home either on a different bus or to a different stop, a written note from you is required stating that this is the case.

If all alternate dismissal plans are stated in writing, we will have a safer and happier dismissal.

Please note: The **Loudonville Newsletter** will be published once a month via email using the *School News Notifier*. Watch for the PTA news too. Please make sure to read each issue as many important notices and memos will be sent home with each newsletter. Some notices will still be sent home as they are received, so please keep checking backpacks! Newsletters will also be on the school website www.northcolonie.org

VISITORS

If you are visiting the building for any reason, please use the main entrance (near the flagpole). Ring the bell and the office staff will buzz you in. Everyone is required to stop at the office and sign in. If you are picking up students during school hours, they will be called to the office where you will sign them out. The doors that are locked need to remain that way for the safety of our children. Please use the main entrance for drop-off and pick-up at dismissal. Thank you for helping us in this matter.

SCHOOL HOURS

Our doors open for students at 8:40 a.m. At this time, bus riders and walkers are welcomed into the building to begin the day. Students are not allowed in the building before this time. Students are expected to be in their classrooms by 8:50 a.m. Anyone arriving after this time must sign in at the office. Special area classes begin promptly at 9:00 a.m. At 3:10 p.m. we begin dismissal. Children who are being picked up are signed out in the office by the parent/guardian and are called to the gym by the office staff to meet their parent/guardian. Our dismissal order is as follows: parent pick-ups, walkers, Town of Colonie After Care Program, and bus riders. **You must park in the rear lot** if you are picking up your child at dismissal or dropping off in the morning and then proceed to the main entrance.

WHEN YOUR CHILD IS ABSENT OR LATE

We request that you call the **school office** the morning of your youngster's absence or tardiness. You can let us know at that time if the absence will be for more than one day. If we do not receive a call from you, then you will receive one from us at home or at work. Feel free to leave voice mail if no one is in the office.



NEW FACES AT LOUDONVILLE

We are pleased to welcome Mrs. Erin Yerdon returning to Loudonville as a grade three teacher; Ms. Jennifer Green, Reading Specialist; Ms. Sarah Fetcho, grade four sub for Mrs. Salinetti; Ms. Tami Harris and Mrs. Jennifer Bobersky, interns; Ms. Christine Flood, art student teacher; Mr. Brian Gadzinski, grade three student teacher and Mr. Tyler Thomas, music student teacher.

LABEL - LABEL - LABEL

Please remember to label all belongings. It is amazing to see how quickly our lost and found fills up with clothing, lunch boxes, backpacks, sweaters, and sweatshirts. Labeling helps these items get returned to their owners.


Criteria for Candidates for Student Council at Shaker Junior High School

There are certain qualifications that a student must meet in 6th grade to be eligible for candidacy for Student Council in grade 7 at Shaker Junior High School.

1. Students must have received effort and conduct grades of 4 or 3 (A or B if the A, B...scale is used) in all subjects in grade 6.
2. All officers must be willing to arrive at school early, stay after school, and work during activities to meet all responsibilities of the job to which they are elected.
3. All officers must be willing to organize grade level, hall and school activities.
4. The vice-president must be ready to work with the president on all designated activities.

Elections will be held in the beginning of the school year at which time more detailed information will be publicized to students. Officers or representatives may be removed from office for academic reasons, i.e. he/she no longer meets the effort/conduct criteria, or for behavior that is not consistent with the standards of the Student Council. Officers and representatives must serve as role model citizens; continual misbehavior of a minor nature or a single more serious incident may result in a student forfeiting his/her position.


INSTRUMENTS AND INSURANCE



The North Colonie Central School District has taken reasonable steps to prevent the theft of student property. However, the district is not responsible for theft, loss or damage to students' personal property on the premises. Additionally, parents are encouraged to list valuable items like musical instruments on their homeowners' or renters' insurance policy.

SHAKER HIGH HOME FOOTBALL GAMES

Please be advised that all elementary students must be accompanied by an adult while at home football games. Students may not be dropped off at the football game without an adult.



PTA DIRECTORY NEWS SEPTEMBER 2011

If you do not want your phone number listed in the Loudonville Directory, please contact the school office at 434-1960.

DISTRICT WEBSITE



Please be sure to visit the North Colonie School District website at: www.northcolonie.org. Here you can find news from the district as well as news from Loudonville School. The district calendar can be accessed from this site. Menus and health forms are also available.

REMINDER

Our teachers are not able to distribute party invitations of any kind in school. Please join the PTA on Open House evenings to receive your copy of the Loudonville directory when it becomes available so that you will have every child's address thanks to the work of Paige Hartl!

North Colonie Central Schools
Loudonville Elementary School

Paper Communication Request Form

I, _____, request to receive a paper copy of any communication that is otherwise sent electronically. I will receive the paper copy via my child, _____, in _____'s class.

Cut off and return to your child's teacher.

ELEMENTARY TESTING PROGRAM - 2011-2012

Friday, Sept. 16, Monday Sept. 19, Tuesday, Sept. 20	Cognitive Abilities Test, Gr. 3 and 6
<i>DATES - TBD</i>	Gr. 1-6 Iowa Test of Basic Skills
Monday, October 3 –Friday, February 10	NYS Alternate Assessment (NYSAA)
Wednesday, April 18 – Friday, May 18	NYSESLAT: Speaking
Tuesday, April 17 – Wednesday, April 18	Grades 3–8 English Language Arts
Monday, April 23 – Tuesday, April 24	Grades 3–8 Mathematics
Monday, May 7– Friday, May 18	NYSESLAT: Listening, Reading, Writing
Wednesday, May 23 – Friday, June 1	Grade 4 Science Performance Test
Monday, June 4	Grade 4 Science Written

***Testing generally occurs in the morning on the dates noted.
Please avoid scheduling doctor appointments on the testing dates.***

Our district has an extensive student testing program that provides for a wide range of objectives. Nationally standardized tests, such as the Iowa Test of Basic Skills that we give in the spring, enable us to compare our students with others on a national scale. State mandated tests, such as the New York State assessments in reading and math in grades three through six and science at grade four, help us identify students in need of assistance. These assessments are also used to compare our students with those on a statewide and local basis. Our district tests help ensure that we have comparable programs among schools. These tests also provide us additional information on a local level. All of this information is also helpful to use as we prepare a comprehensive Annual Evaluation Report in which we analyze our strengths and weaknesses and seek ways in which we may improve our performance. Note that tests mandated by the state are given on dates set by the state each year and include very restrictive make-up dates.

SPECIAL EDUCATION PTA

Welcome back parents, teachers and students to the 2011-2012 school year. We all look forward to another terrific year in North Colonie. We invite all parents and teachers in the district interested in joining our PTA to come to our first meeting, Tuesday, October 11, 2011, 7 PM at Shaker High School on the 2nd floor in the main conference room by the main office (up the stairs at the main entrance and a right u-turn). **NOTE: our location has changed as listed above; we are now at the high school.**

For the SEPTA November 15th meeting:

We will be hosting our new Transition Coordinator Ms. Heather Hanrahan. Please come out and to meet and welcome her as we are informed about the program.

Please check us out at our websites: www.northcolonie.org click on the A-Z link and select the Special Ed PTA link. Have a great year and we hope to see you!

Parent Programs 2011-2012

The North Colonie School District recognizes that parents are an extremely important partner in their child's success, not only academically, but socially as well.

To that end, the district will once again be offering a series of Parent Programs designed to get at the real issues facing students and parents in an ever-changing world.

The goal of these programs is to create discussion around sensitive issues and help to foster growth in certain areas, while all together helping you as a parent grow as well.

The following programs have been scheduled for the 2011-12 school year.

October 4, 2011 - Bullying in the 21st Century, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Presenter: Amy Vincent

To be held at Southgate Elementary

October 11, 2011 - Body Image, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Presenter: Amy Vincent

To be held at Southgate Elementary

October 25, 2011 - ADD/ADHD, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Presenter: Melissa Them Ph.D.

To be held at Loudonville Elementary

November 29, 2012 - Grief and Loss, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Presenter: Wave Riders

To be held at Boght Hills Elementary

January 10, 2012 - Recognizing Anxiety and Depression in Children, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Presenter: Tony Grasso

To be held at Forts Ferry Elementary

January 24, 2012 - Separation and Divorce, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Presenter: Tony Grasso


To be held at Latham Ridge Elementary

Childcare will be provided at each session. Registration forms will be posted on our website as the date for each program draws closer.

If you have any questions, please contact Sarah Wing, Counselor, swing@ncolonie.org

September



Sun			Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Loudonville Kindergarten Picnic Newcomers Picnic, SHS	2	3
4	5 Labor Day (all employee holiday) 	6	7	8 Classes begin Gr. 1-6 	9 Classes begin for Kindergarten 	10
11	12	13	14	15 Open House, K-3, 6:30-8:00 	16 CAT Tests, Gr. 3 and 6	17
18 Welcome Back Social, Hoffman's Playland, 3-6 p.m.	19 Miles In Their Shoes – Walking program begins  <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> CAT Tests, Gr. 3-6 </div>	20 Open House, Gr. 4-5-6, 6:30-8:00 	21	22	23 School Spirit Day – wear Loudonville Red	24
25	26	27	28 Rosh Hashanah (Begins at sundown)	29 Rosh Hashanah NO SCHOOL (all employee holiday)	30	