

Dear Pawsome Loring Parents,

The Principal

A mother was having difficulty persuading her son to go to school one morning. "Nobody likes me," he cried. "The teachers don't like me. The kids pick on me all the time. I'm not going to school today!" "You have to go to school, son," insisted his mother. "Besides, you are 40 years old. You're the principal. You have to go to school!"

School/Parent Communication

If you were looking on the website for the February Principal's letter I am sorry for not posting it. What we have decided to do is send out a short informative letter for each ILAP session. One of the main reasons for the letter is to inform you of what our ILAP session is covering. I will post the letters on the principal's page and send them via Thursday PTO notices.

It's An Emotional Issue

By now most of you know that the School Committee voted to redistrict. Emotions run deep with all involved. I get it. The other principals and I are working very hard to make the transition as smooth as possible. We need to hear from you. If you have special needs or your children need something other than what we are providing please contact me. I can assure you that your ideas will be heard and used. Annette Doyle reported that the parent meeting on Monday night was a big success. We spent some time together on Tuesday discussing some of the ideas you gave her. I thought the ideas were thoughtful and on the mark.

MCAS Dates

The 2010 Spring MCAS tests are just around the corner. The theme for this year's testing will be "**Rock The Test!**" The week prior to the testing we will have a series of activities that will be fun, motivating and relaxing. We will have "Dress Like A Rock Star Day," "Jam Out In Your Jammies Day," "Rock Your Socks Off." We will have "Rock The Test" bracelets, tattoos (washable) and bookmarks. After the testing, the students will enjoy an after the test party that will feature food, fun, raffle prizes and a lunch movie. Dates for the MCAS:

ELA March 22-23*, 25- 26 *23rd is the Long Composition for 4th grade
Math/Science May 10-11, 13-14

ILAP

The February ILAP is centered on our work with Chris Parker. Dr. Parker is the president of IDEAL Consulting. We send our Benchmark Reading Assessments to IDEAL for analysis. The data analysis helps with identifying struggling readers, trends in teaching strategies and patterns of learning. Dr. Parker will meet with each grade level on Friday and discuss his findings. We then design interventions for those struggling readers and look at changes in data for those children who need to be challenged. We are using the data to guide our instruction and make pinpoint interventions for all students. We will also be using part of the ILAP time to discuss and align our literacy goals for the next 2 years. This is a very exciting time for us because we are learning to use assessments in an authentic manner. Using the data properly enhances the teacher's skills and builds stronger readers and writers.

I Smell Something Burning!

The schoolmaster stood with his back to the fireplace on a winter morning, and addressed good advice to the students before starting the day's lessons. "Before you speak, think. Count fifty before you say anything important- a hundred, if it is very important."

The lips of his students were moving in unison, and suddenly they burst out into chorus.

"Ninety-nine, one hundred! Your coattails are on fire, sir!"

Israel Loring PTO Auction

Please do not forget to make plans to attend the Israel Loring PTO Auction. The Loring School Parents Night Out and Auction will be a fabulous night of dinner, dancing and fun that you will not want to miss! Saturday, March 13th at 6:30 PM. The beautiful Charter Oak Country Club will host this extravaganza. Cocktail attire (no jeans please) For directions go to www.charteroakcc.com

Dare to Dream,

Mr. Dees