



DEERWOOD NEWSLETTER

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TWO NORTH WOODS AUTHORS TO VISIT DEERWOOD

By Joan Dreier, Media Specialist

The Artist in Residency Program, sponsored by our Deerwood Site Council, allows visiting artists to come to Deerwood to share their knowledge, stories and talents with our students and staff. This year we will have two Minnesota authors visiting in March. William Durbin will work with our third through fifth grade students on March 15th – 17th, and Douglas Wood will present to our primary students on March 18th.



William Durbin is an award-winning author and former teacher. He has published eleven award-winning novels for young readers, including *The Broken Blade*, winner of the 1998 Minnesota Book Award and the Great Lake Booksellers Award; *Wintering*, sequel to *The Broken Blade*; *Blackwater Ben*, a logging camp tale and recent *Maud Hart Lovelace* nominee; *Song of Sampo Lake*, a north woods homestead story; *The Darkest Evening*, winner of the 2005 Minnesota Book Award; and *The Winter War*, winner of the Great Lakes Great Books Award. His novel, *EL Lector*, was named to the ALA's Amelia Bloomer list, and Jane Startz Productions recently optioned *El Lector* for film. In addition, he has written three books in the *My Name Is America* series: *The Journal of C. J. Jackson*, *a Dust Bowl Migrant*, *Oklahoma to California, 1935*; *The Journal of Otto Peltonen: A Finnish Immigrant* and *The Journal of Sean Sullivan: A Transcontinental Railroad Worker*. He's also written biographies of *Tiger Woods* and *Arnold Palmer*.

William Durbin

During the three days Mr. Durbin visits, his goal will be “to get students excited about reading and to inspire them to pursue writing projects of their own.” He will share his perspective as a writer and provide background about his books during a large group presentation on Monday, March 15th. Students will see a PowerPoint presentation showing how William Durbin's stories of homesteaders, fur traders, lumberjacks, and other individuals in history were created. He will illustrate how he uses primary sources such as letters, oral histories, interviews, diaries, and old business documents to create an accurate historical picture. Mr. Durbin will show how he researches the topics for his books and builds his story around these events. On Tuesday and Wednesday, he will conduct smaller writing workshops in our fourth and fifth grade classrooms.



As William Durbin leaves, **Douglas Wood**, best-selling author, songwriter and artist will arrive at Deerwood on Thursday, March 18th. He will work with our preschool through 3rd grade students sharing stories, songs and his love of nature. He will include a Native American legend of how mosquitoes came to be and a variety of songs involving nature and the world around us. Students will hear about his newest book *Miss Little's Gift*. The story is about Douglas when he was in second grade and struggling with reading. The book's message is about not giving up, working hard to overcome challenges, and the importance of reading.

Douglas Wood

A true artist, Douglas Wood has many talents. He is the author of thirteen children's books and eight adult stories about nature and wilderness. As a musician, Doug writes vocal and instrumental music featuring 6- and 12-string guitars, piano, fiddle, and banjo. He plays the keyboard and recently finished his fourth CD recording.

Prior to the Artist in Residency events, classroom teachers will be reading novels and picture books to the students. During the students' library times, they will be introduced to the authors' stories through book talks and readings.

We are very excited to have these two talented individuals visit our school during “I Love to Read” month. Additional information about the upcoming authors' visits will be sent home highlighting presentation times, book sales and more. If you have any questions, you may contact me by phone (651-683-6801) or email (joan.dreier@district196.org).

VOLUNTEERING AT DEERWOOD

LINDY PFALTZGRAFF, VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

PHONE: 651-406-8556

E-MAIL: DW.VOLUNTEER@DISTRICT196.ORG

Thanks to all of the parents who helped with the classroom Valentine's parties. The kids had a great time, and your creative ideas made for a fun afternoon! There were many parents who spent a great deal of time planning and preparing for the Winter Social throughout the month of February. Your efforts are much appreciated!

THANK YOU DEERWOOD VOLUNTEERS!

Allison Rosenberg	Dixie Marudas	Julie Lambert	Lynne Schneider	Rosemary Dulac
Andrea Hedtke	Doreen Runquist	Julie Scott	Marcia Johnson	Sandy Rozzell
Anna Li	Ed Olson	Karlene Baum	Marie Segar	Sarah Bailey
Anna Williams	Eric Hedtke	Kate Cahill	Megan Dratz	Sarah Meyer
Beth McCann	EvaMarie Edwards	Kathy McMonagle	Megan Pankow	Scott Hintermeister
Brad Weber	Heather Johnston	Kevin McKinnon	Melissa McDonald	Scott Pfaltzgraff
Bree Haagenson	Heather Wright	Kim Sabo	Melissa Weisman	Sharon Meekin
Briggett Hanson	Heidi Sartori	Kraig Runquist	Michele Grage	Susan Graves
Carrie Erickson	Ingrid Van Beynen	Kris Samsel	Miranda Utz	Tara Carlson
Cathy Lutz	Jack Okumu	Kristi O'Brien	Naomi Silguero	Teresa Olson
Chris Purington	Jacqueline Ballesteros	Kristin Littlefield	Pam Erickson	Terri Moxley
Chrissy Smithberg	Jan Johnson	Kristine Diffley	Patty Trick	Tony Coleman
Cyndee Markel	Jenny Eisenburg	Lana Leonard	Paula Davis	Troy Harms
Cyndi Hicok	Jo Sorenson	Laurie Houdek	Paula Johnson	Tyana Besserman
Darci Kaul	Joanne Mueller	Lesley Rylander	Rick Epstein	Vandana Vij
Dave Fischer	Joe Conlon	Linda Anderson	Rob Palmquist	Vern Rylander
Desiree Kamman	Julie Bartl	Linsay Schilling	Ronna Coleman	

When volunteering, remember to sign in on the volunteer sheet at the greeter table, or BEHIND Mrs. Galloway's desk

~ ~ KOWALSKI'S GROCERIES FOR GOOD CAUSES ~ ~

When shopping at the Eagan Kowalski's, simply place your receipt in Deerwood's box, located by the exit, and every quarter, we receive a donation based on the NUMBER of receipts, not the dollar amount. Don't forget, receipts from the Starbucks located inside the store count, too! Our latest check from Kowalski's was for \$379.00, so THANK YOU to everyone for placing your receipts in Deerwood's box!

THANK YOU WINTER SOCIAL VOLUNTEERS!

Thank you everyone who attended the 2010 Deerwood Winter Social. We hope you had as much fun at the “carnival” as we did. Thanks to those of you who volunteered to lead key areas including... Lindy Pfaltzgraff -Tickets/Volunteers; Julie Bartl -Publicity; Stacy Hintermeister and Heidi Sartori - Crafts; Colleen Nelson and Mary Sass-Games; Cyndee Markel and Robbie Aronson-Food; Cathy Lutz and Kathy McMonagle-Snacks; Susan Graves –Trinkets; Sharon Meekin - Face Painting; Linda Anderson and Vandana Vij- Coloring Craze; Dennis Ballesteros - Photo Booth.

A special thank you to all the creative decorators – the amount of time invested in making everything look *authentic* was very eye opening. Our talented decorating volunteers spent countless hours at school and home to make the Winter Social perfect. We would like to express our appreciation for the extra decorating work completed by... Sharon Meekin, Kate Cahill, Kathy McMonagle, Linda Anderson, Kristine Diffley, Lindy Pfaltzgraff and many more.

For those who donated time and deep discount, thank you... Circus Juventas, Mayflower Distributing (Dianne Pavek), Cici's Pizza, The Anderson Family, Kedra Doyle.

Thank you to the custodians led by Rolf Torkelson for your extra hours with set-up/take down, Cindy Landgrebe for allowing us use of the Blackhawk cafeteria and other kitchen supplies, and finally, to Mr.Haugen for putting up with your school being transformed into a carnival and for your help in coordinating.

A huge thanks to Lindy Pfaltzgraff for all of your guidance in so many areas, we would not have been able to do it without you. We would like to thank all the amazing volunteers that donated so much of their time and energy into making this year's “carnival” such a huge success. Without all of you, these events would not happen. Thanks again to the impressive Deerwood Community. We are very fortunate to have such an awesome group of parents and supporters.

Sincerely,

Linsay Schilling and Susan Nelsen
Coordinators of the 2010 Winter Social

CICI'S PIZZA NIGHT UPDATE!

When: Tuesday, March 9 - 5:00-9:00 p.m.

Why: Earn money for Deerwood and see your friends!

In February, Deerwood earned \$72.43, and Ms. Highum's class had the most students in attendance, so everyone in her class received a coupon for a free buffet and drink!

A HUGE thank you to Julie Bartl and all of the parents who volunteered to make this year's Book Fair such a successful event! This event couldn't take place without your help, so we are grateful for your time!

Special thanks to Doreen Runquist and Leah Goldstein Moses, along with numerous Deerwood families, who once again provided our staff with a delicious buffet during February's conferences. Thank you for your willingness to provide food for this event that our staff always looks forward to!

Join us for our next Booster Club meeting on Tuesday, March 16th! We will be meeting at 6:30 in the library. We will spend some time recapping the Winter Social, and looking forward to our next events, including the Jog-a-thon and Basket Raffle! We will also listen to a short presentation by our specialist staff. We look forward to seeing you!

DEERWOOD DISCOVERY CLASSES STARTING IN MARCH!

The second session for the Deerwood Discovery After School Enrichment Program will begin in March. Classes will begin during the week of **March 30 and run through May 6**. Classes meet from 2:45-3:45 p.m. If you have any questions regarding your child's registration status or are still interested in registering, you can contact ISD 196 Community Education Learning Services Center at (651) 423-7920.

FIFTH GRADE PARENT ORIENTATION MEETING FOR BLACK HAWK MIDDLE SCHOOL

Black Hawk will have our 5th Grade Parent Orientation on Monday, May 17 in the Black Hawk Middle School multipurpose room at 6:00 p.m. This event is for parents only, and is especially helpful for first time parents of middle schoolers. These orientations will include a tour. If parents have any questions about this event or other questions regarding the transition to Black Hawk, please have them contact Dave Holler or myself.

FOURTH GRADE MUSIC CONCERT ON MARCH 4, 2010

By Lisa Schoen, Vocal Music Teacher



The Deerwood fourth graders have been busily preparing for their upcoming vocal music program, entitled "The Colors of Us." Their performance will take place on Thursday, March 4 at 7:00 P.M. in the Deerwood gymnasium. Family and friends are invited to come and enjoy. A dress rehearsal will also take place at 1:45 P.M. during that school day, which you are welcome to attend. Parents of fourth grade students: please note that this is your child's only vocal music performance of the school year, and it is an important part of your child's participation grade for this trimester. Please make every effort to see that your child is prepared and in attendance for this special event. Looking forward to seeing you there!

THIRD GRADE MUSIC CONCERT ON MARCH 11, 2010

By Lisa Schoen, Vocal Music Teacher

The Deerwood third graders have been busily preparing for their upcoming vocal music program, entitled "Mighty Minds." Their performance will take place on Thursday, March 11 at 7:00 P.M. in the Deerwood gymnasium. Family and friends are invited to come and enjoy. A dress rehearsal will also take place at 1:45 P.M. during that school day, which you are welcome to attend. Parents of third grade students: please note that this is your child's only vocal music performance of the school year, and it is an important part of your child's participation grade for this trimester. Please make every effort to see that your child is prepared and in attendance for this special event. Looking forward to seeing you there!

TITLE I FAMILY FUN NIGHT IS COMING!

Tuesday, April 13

6:30-7:30 p.m.

Watch for details coming soon!

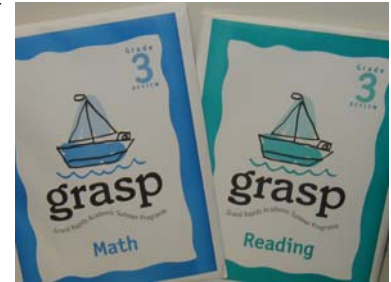
GRASP SUMMER MATH AND READING PROGRAM - 2010

Parents, the GRASP summer math and reading workbook program is back this summer.

More than 2,100 District 196 students completed GRASP math and reading packets last summer. Families say they like the GRASP option – it's portable and flexible.

You should have received a letter and enrollment forms the week of February 22, and final registration is due April 2. (Parents who miss this deadline can still work directly with GRASP, but at a higher cost than the Community Education program.)

View GRASP materials through the end of March. Sample workbooks will be available in your school office. Stop by and see why the program has received rave reviews from parents, kids, and teachers!



GRASP recommends that students work on the grade level just completed, to review and reinforce the skills learned during the school year.

BASKET RAFFLE UPDATE

By Lisa Connelly, Basket Raffle Coordinator

The countdown to Deerwood's annual basket raffle has begun!! We are once again seeking donations of time or talent from Deerwood parents. Here are a few examples to give you an idea of what we are looking for:

- * Do you have a pair of event tickets you can't use?
- * Can you arrange for a behind the scenes tour of someplace interesting?
- * Do you have a connection to the Gophers, Timberwolves, Vikings or Wild so we could raffle autographed items?
- * Do you make jewelry, take portraits, arrange flowers or teach piano?

Like last year, we will be wrapping all of the baskets ourselves so, in order to keep down our expenses, there will be only one basket per theme. Please don't limit yourself to this list! If you have a great idea for a basket or a basket item, give us a call...we'd love to hear from you. Call Lisa Connelly at 651-686-7617 by March 31, 2010.



HOME ACCESS TO DISTRICT DATABASE PROGRAMS

By Joan Dreier

District 196 has created a web page from which you can access all state and district-funded databases from home with a common password. This web page and other databases are linked from the Deerwood catalog home page at www.district196.org/dw. (Click on book icon to access the library page, then go to "Research Links" and click on the link to "Home Access to ISD196 Online Resources") Please use the information below to login.

Generic District 196 User Name: (contact school office for user name)

Generic District 196 User Password: (contact school office for user password)

These databases are for District 196 families only.

Minnesota State and District-wide resources included on the site:

Country Reports	Gale Biography Resource Center	Gale Opposing Viewpoints
Kids InfoBits	Kids Edition	Teaching Books
Encyclopedia Britannica	Grolier Animals & America the Beautiful	Pebble Go
netTrekker	And more	



Don't forget you can search our DW Online Catalog at anytime from home. Please contact Joan Dreier if you have questions.

STUDENT PLACEMENT FOR 2010-2011

During the months of April and May, staff will be developing class lists for the 2010-11 school year. In order to ensure the best learning environment for all students, it is important that classes be balanced with an equal number of boys and girls, a blend of various ability levels, and separation of students who do not perform well together. Staff spend an incredible amount of time making sure that classrooms are balanced and that individual student needs are met.

Each staff member works extremely hard in providing an excellent education for the children at Deerwood Elementary. Therefore, it is not recommended that parents "select" their child's teacher. With fluctuating enrollment and the uncertainty of funds from year to year, we cannot guarantee the number of sections we will have or what grade level specific teachers will be teaching. Please understand that adjustments may need to be made over the summer months.

If you feel you absolutely must provide additional input into your child's placement for next year that we do not already know, you may obtain a "Student Placement Form" from the office. **All completed forms must be returned to the office by Friday, April 16, 2010.**

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR 2010-2011 SCHOOL YEAR

Kindergarten registration for the 2010-11 school year will be held on March 3, 2010 from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and on March 4, 2010 from 7:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. If you cannot register your child on this date, please call to let us know when you can come in and register. Children who will be five years old on or before September 1, 2010 are eligible to attend kindergarten in 2010-11.

Parents are asked to bring their child's birth certificate or other satisfactory evidence of age and proof of Early Childhood Screening.

This session is for PARENTS ONLY. Students will have an opportunity to visit Deerwood Elementary during an open house on April 15. Parents who applied for Kindergarten Plus have received their status for the upcoming school year. If you have questions about Kindergarten Plus, please contact us at: k-plus@district196.org or 651-423-7933.

Note: Even if you have already registered for Kindergarten Plus, we still need you to come in on March 3-4 and register at Deerwood Elementary.

GERTENS SPRING FUNDRAISER

By Jan Johnson

Our future looks bright thanks to our fast approaching Gertens Spring Fundraiser! Gertens Greenhouses will again provide us with bursting geranium tubs, colorful bedding plants and hanging baskets for our spring fundraiser. The quality and size of their plants is exceptional and delivery is direct to Deerwood.

Order forms will be sent home with students at the end of March. The order forms will be due the week of April 5.

Can't decide what plants to get right now? Don't forget about Plant/Plant cards. They make an excellent gift and Deerwood will still benefit from later purchases. Don't forget Mother's Day! Any Gertens plant makes an excellent Mother's Day Gift!! Plant and plant card pick-up is Thursday, May 13 in the gym from 2:00-5:30.

This year all classrooms will benefit from our Spring Fundraiser. Profits will go directly to "teacher wish lists" for individual classroom supplies. If you have any questions please contact Jan at 651-456-5300.

MCA II (GRADES 3-5) AND MAP (GRADE 2-5) TESTING APRIL AND MAY

Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCA– II)

In April, all Minnesota public school students in grades 3, 4 and 5 will take the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCA II's). The tests help measure individual student progress toward meeting state standards. There is no minimum passing score on the MCA II's.

The reading test for students in grades 3, 4 and 5 will be given April 19 & 20. One section of the test will be given each day. The reading test will include both multiple-choice and open-response questions that test students' skills in comprehension, interpretation and evaluation.

The math test for students in grades 3, 4 and 5 will be given April 26 & 27. One section of the test will be given each day. The math test will include both multiple-choice and open-response questions involving shape, space and measurement, number sense, and chance and data handling.

The science test for students in grade 5 will be between April 26 - May 21. The MCA-II Science test is a computer-delivered assessment that presents a series of science scenarios. As students watch scenarios on computers, they listen on headphones to audio content and respond to multiple-choice, constructed-response, and the new figural-response items (e.g., drag and drop, creating a bar graph, etc.). Headphones will be provided for all students.

It is very important that we have as many students in school during the testing period so if at all possible please try to avoid taking any vacation time or setting up any appointments at this time.

Individual student results will be shared with parents as soon as they are available from the state. We will mail the parent copy at that time. For more information about the MCA II's, call Miles Haugen at Deerwood Elementary School.

Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) - Grades 2-5

Students in grades 2-5 will complete an assessment for reading and math called Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) from April 26 through May 21.

More than 1,200 school districts and educational partners use MAP to help all students learn. The assessment itself is unique in that it is administered on a computer and it adapts to the student's ability, accurately measuring what a child knows and needs to learn. In addition, MAP will measure academic growth over time, independent of grade level or age. Most importantly, the results educators receive have practical application to teaching and learning. MAP test results provide educators with timely access to information they can use for instructional planning and school improvement.

Because MAP is administered during May, your child's MAP results will be sent home in June. Please remember that these tests are only one source of information on student learning. Achievement tests, teacher made tests, classroom work, teacher judgment and parent judgment are also important indicators of your child's progress. If you have any questions about this report, please contact your child's teacher or the school office.

NO SCHOOL FOR THE FOLLOWING DAYS:
MARCH 22-26
SPRING BREAK

DEERWOOD SITE COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Deerwood Elementary School has had a Site Council in place for over 20 years. The purpose of the Site Council is to provide a forum where both parents and staff can participate in a shared decision-making process concerning the operation of the school.

The Site Council is made up of four elected parents, four elected staff, the appointment of our volunteer coordinator and the building principal. Each of the elected members of the Site Council serve a two year term of office.

The election is held for the parent representatives at the Basket Raffle/Ice Cream Social on May 21. New members of the Council take office at the August meeting.

The two-year terms of office for Linda Anderson and Jan Johnson are up on June 30, 2010. If you are interested in running for one of the two-year term openings, please contact the Deerwood office by April 9.

We will then ask you to share a biographical narrative with us that will be published in the May Newsletter.

The qualifications for office are:

1. Be at least 18 years of age.
2. Be a resident of the Deerwood attendance area and/or have students attending Deerwood Elementary School.
3. Be willing to devote time and effort to meetings and committee work.

The Site Council meets monthly at school. Meetings of the Site Council are always open to the public. Please attend.

SUMMER ACADEMY TO BE HELD AT THOMAS LAKE ELEMENTARY

By JoAnn Jurgens, Summer Academy Coordinator

The Deerwood Summer Academy is a four week program that will run from July 6 through July 29.

This year classes will be held at Thomas Lake Elementary because of work done on the Deerwood roof this summer.

The Summer Academy is designed for students needing extra assistance in math and/or reading in grades K-4. (5th grade classes will be held at Black Hawk Middle School.) The classes will meet Monday through Thursday from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. Busing is provided.

The goals of our summer program are:

- to improve student reading, writing and math skills.
- to increase student skill retention over the summer break.

Studies indicate that many students benefit from an extended school year. We will expect students who enroll in the Summer Academy to attend every day. If you are not able to commit to this, then this program may not be for you. Consistency is an important component of learning.

We are targeting students whom the staff feels would most benefit from the experience. Parents of recommended students will receive an application form on March 19 with your child's report card. If you have questions regarding this program, you may talk to your child's teacher or call the front office.

Other questions regarding our summer school program can be directed to JoAnn Jurgens at 651-683-6801.

THANKS FOR THE GREAT SERVICE!

By Joan Dreier, Media Specialist

Thank you to the parents, staff and students who made our Scholastic Book Fair an outstanding success! Volunteers set up and sold almost \$5000.00 in books and merchandise. The book fair would not be possible without the help of our fantastic parent volunteers and staff support. A special thank you goes to Julie Bartl, Lindy and Scott Pfaltzgraff, Ingrid Van Beynen, EvaMarie Edwards, Mr. Haugen, Lynette Quist and my husband Scott, for assisting with the set up, take down and close out of the fair. I appreciate the time our parents donated to sell and promote books. This year's team included Rosemay Dulac, Desiree Kamman, EvaMarie Edwards, Julie Bartl, Lynne Schneider, Kelly Stock, Sarah Meyer, Lori Johnson, Marie Segar, Lindy Pfaltzgraff, Amy Harcourt, Vijaya Reddy, Gerilyn Kusnierek, Doreen Runquist and Ingrid Van Beynen.

The book fair not only connected students to books, but it provided additional materials for our classrooms and library. The profit from the book fair is divided into three areas. The first is the book profit option, which allows us to select books from the book fair for our library and students. In this area our profit was \$431.96, allowing us to select numerous titles. Our next profit option is a cash option, and we were able to add \$1,011.00 to our library budget. This money will be used to purchase new books for our library and pay for our magazine subscriptions. The last profit option is an incentive bonus. Our school earned a high rating for the book fair, earning an additional \$911.19 to use when purchasing instructional resources from Scholastic.

The Classroom Wish List, Adopt-a-Book, and One for Books programs provided many additional books to our students and classrooms. Scholastic will match all "One for Books" donations by providing books to three non-profit organizations devoted to improving reading skills among children. The students exceeded our goal, and they should be very proud of their donations.

Thank you for your support!

"I LOVE TO READ MONTH" CELEBRATION!

By Joan Dreier, Deerwood Media Specialist

Deerwood students and staff are buzzing about this year's I love to Read theme, *Catch the Reading Bug!*

Your child will be bringing home a packet of information explaining some of the activities that will be going on during our month long celebration of reading. Highlights include an All School Book Swap on Friday, March 19th, a Dakota County Library card contest, a Home Reading program and two author visits. Intermediate grade students will be voting for their favorite Maud Hard Lovelace book during their last library time before the end of March.



A new addition to this year's reading celebration is a Deerwood reading incentive. Mr. Haugen would like to have all students participate in the Home Reading program and reward them with a Movie Event including popcorn and bottled water. Students will need to reach their combined goal of 3180 hours of reading.

We hope you will "Catch the Reading Bug" and take advantage of the many opportunities to celebrate reading with us.



NUTRITION NEWS FLASH



March 8-12 is National School Breakfast Week.

Please suggest your student try the special Banana Split Yogurt Power Boat for breakfast on 3/10.

Nutrition

Did you know that there are 12 suppliers of honey in Minnesota? The two closest to our district are:

Lamex Foods, Inc., Bloomington

Mel-O Honey, Inc., Cannon Falls

Did you know that the color and flavor of honey differ depending on the nectar source (the blossoms) visited by the honey bees? The color of honey ranges from nearly colorless to dark brown, and the flavor varies from delectably mild to distinctively bold. A few of the nectar sources are: acacia, alfalfa, clover, apple blossom, and various wildflowers.



Benefits of honey: In addition to being a great natural sweetener, honey has a multitude of benefits. Have a sore throat? Honey has been proven to be a natural throat soother! Looking for a natural energy boost? Honey's unique blend of natural sweeteners gives it the ability to provide quick energy.

Nutritional benefits: Honey is composed primarily of carbohydrates and water – as well as small amounts of a wide array of vitamins and minerals (niacin, riboflavin, calcium, iron, potassium, zinc...) Of recent interest is the antioxidant content of honey as well as scavenging and eliminating free radicals. Generally, darker honeys have higher antioxidant contents.

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**Local Lunch Day is March 16**, and we are serving Minnesota honey-glazed carrots. Please suggest your student taste the cooked carrots this day.

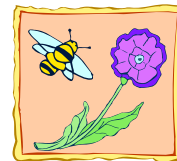
The following is the recipe for our featured *Honey-Glazed Carrots*:

Cook 2½ lbs. carrots until tender. Drain.

Add 1/3 c. honey and gently stir.

## Learning

Crops need bees! Bees and other pollinators are important to our environment, effecting more than two-thirds of the world's crop species. This includes products we can grow in our backyard gardens, such as apples and squash, as well as alfalfa seed, creating forage source for America's meat and dairy industries.



But bees are in trouble! The number of managed honeybee colonies in the U.S. has dropped by 50% since 1945. Diseases have created a honeybee crisis. Bees may not always be able to provide the pollination services that farmers and gardeners need.

One of the challenges that bees face is a lack of season-long food sources. Smaller diverse garden plantings can provide the floral diversity to support bees. The more variety of flowering plants, the more diverse the pollens collected by bees. The different shades in honey represent pollens from different flowers.

*More information:* The Xerces Society's Pollinator Conservation program provides workshops, farm walks, and seminars for a first-hand look. For more information go to: <http://www.xerces.org>

University of Minnesota Bee Lab provides online training through: <http://www.extension.umn.edu/honeybees/index.html>

"Befriending Bumble Bees" is a special ecologically-sound guide to attracting, conserving, and rearing bumble bees. Author Elaine Evans maintains an extensive website with additional links. You can also order the book on-line at: <http://www.befriendingbumblebees.com/>





IT'S COMING . . . . . FRIDAY, APRIL 30, 2010!

Support Deerwood Elementary School and its first ever fundraising jog-a-thon, Run 4 Deerwood. The funds raised will be used to support technology and staffing needs at Deerwood. **100%** of the money raised will stay in our school!!!

Look for more information coming your way soon. If you are interested in donating money for t-shirts, snacks or water or volunteering please contact Ingrid Van Beynen at [ingridvanbeynen@me.com](mailto:ingridvanbeynen@me.com) or 651-895-2789 or Molly Turner at [molly@pro-ns.net](mailto:molly@pro-ns.net).

## GRADE 4 STUDENTS SELECT BAND INSTRUMENTS IN MARCH



I will meet with fourth grade students for the exciting process of selecting a band instrument during the first 2 – 3 weeks in March! (Students have already attended a concert at Eagan High School in January to hear the instruments demonstrated, and also met with me as a large group in February to go over the pluses and minuses of each instrument. A band handbook has been sent home with each fourth grader to explain the process of selecting an instrument and participating in band in District 196.)

After I meet with each fourth grade child, an Instrument Selection Form will be sent home with the results of our meeting and a request for summer time options, so I can begin creating our summer schedule. Parents will complete the registration process and receive the final summer schedule in May by attending Band Registration to arrange for an instrument. Most students will begin band lessons at Deerwood this June. I'm looking forward to working with all of your kids!

**IMPORTANT:** In District 196, beginning band is only offered during fifth grade. There is no beginning band in sixth grade. Therefore, if you are interested in your child participating in band, now is the time to read the band handbook and send back a completed Elementary Band Participation Form found at the back of the band handbook to begin the process of participating in band.

Susan Smith, Deerwood Band Instructor

## SAVE THE DATE!

**TUESDAY, MARCH 16 - BOOSTER CLUB MEETING - 6:30 P.M.**

**FRIDAY, APRIL 30 — DEERWOOD JOG-A-THON**

**FRIDAY, MAY 21 - ICE CREAM SOCIAL AND BASKET RAFFLE  
~ 5:00-8:00 P.M.**

## GRADE 4 AND 5 GRADE BAND NEWS!

By Susan Smith, Instrumental Music Teacher

### 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Band Concert

Our Deerwood Band will present their second formal concert of the year on Thursday, April 29 at 7:00 p.m. in the gymnasium. (Students need to arrive by 6:30 p.m.) I think you will be amazed to hear the progress of the entire group and hope you enjoy their talent, hard work, and humor as they present their concert.



### 5<sup>th</sup> Graders Continue on in Middle School:

I applaud our DW band parents as so many of you have made the decision to keep your child participating in instrumental music in 6<sup>th</sup> grade! J Along with tracking your child with some of the best kids in the middle school and continuing to develop your child's musical intelligence and enjoyment, you are continuing a vital component to your child's education.

### Instrumental Music and Brain Research:

Research connecting music performance with brain development continues to grow. Howard Gardner, expert on multiple intelligences, explains the need for music training to enhance each form of intelligence. Performance of music from other cultures in a diverse population of students develops interpersonal intelligence. Gardner connects music with elements of logical-mathematical intelligence, sharing his view that "high math" elements exist in music. "Einstein credited his violin experience – specifically periods of improvisation – with leading to some of his greatest insights," because it activates several brain areas simultaneously. Did you know Einstein was a violin player along with an amazing scientist?

Musical training also aids in linguistic intelligence as it helps people to use both hemispheres of the brain to process information. "Specifically, the more musical training the individual has, the more likely he will draw at least partially upon the left hemisphere mechanisms in solving a task that the novice tackles primarily through the use of right hemisphere mechanisms."

The National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM) and the National Association of Music Education (MENC) discovered that "when musically trained students get to college, they continue as high achievers, especially music majors. They describe a study of 7,500 university students in which the music majors had the highest reading scores among all majors," including English, biology, chemistry and math. When physician and biologist Lewis Thomas studied the undergraduate majors of medical school applicants, he found that 66 percent of music majors who applied to medical school were admitted, the highest percentage of any group, whereas only 44 percent of biochemistry majors were admitted by comparison.

Band is far from a frill or a simple extra-curricular activity. It is a crucial means to develop the intellect of every child. I congratulate you in your decision ensure your child receives his or her best possible education by having your child participate in the instrumental music program.



## INSTRUMENT DONATION DRIVE

Do you have an instrument you no longer use? Please consider donating your gently used instrument to the Deerwood Band Program. We have had scholarship requests by our own DW families this year for flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, and percussion.

Please bring your instrument with your name, address and phone number to Deerwood Elementary (1480 Deerwood Drive, Eagan). Your donation is tax deductible and you will receive a receipt for your donation.

Thank you very much for your generosity.

## MAKING A DIFFERENCE, ONE BOOK AT A TIME

By Joan Dreier

Deerwood's Adopt-a-Book Program provides a unique opportunity to combine a love of books and learning with the desire to support library development, and at the same time to honor, celebrate, or remember the special people in our lives.



Nineteen new books were adopted in February for our library! This new program was launched in conjunction with conferences and our book fair. I would like to thank the families for their contributions to our library. The new books are currently being processed for our collection and will be ready very soon.

Contributing to the Adopt-a-Book program allows the Deerwood Library to purchase books to help in our continuing quest to develop an outstanding library collection that meets the needs of our students and staff.

An attractive bookplate will be placed inside the front cover of each adopted book noting the person(s) honored and if desired, information about the donor(s). We also provide options for donors who may wish to remain anonymous.

**Adopt-a-Book** is the perfect commemorative gift for:

- Birthdays
- Remembering loved ones
- Remembering pets
- Special celebrations

If you're interested in adopting a book for our library, please contact Joan Dreier by phone (651-683-6801) or email ([joan.dreier@district196.org](mailto:joan.dreier@district196.org)).