

**Spencer Loomis  
Newsletter  
September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2009  
Principal: Grant Seaholm**

*Spencer Loomis...a partnership where individuals are valued and learning is inspired*

**Labor Day...Reminder of no school on Monday, September 7<sup>th</sup>**

**MAP Testing**

We will be doing our Measurement of Academic Progress (MAP) testing beginning Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>. The testing will be completed by Friday, September 18<sup>th</sup>. All our 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade students will be taking three tests-math, reading and language. Each test takes approximately one hour to complete. There is no time limit so students can take as much time as they need. Since we began using the MAP data last two years ago it has given us very good information to help teachers modify curriculum based on the students' needs. The other benefit of using this assessment is that it gives us almost immediate feedback. MAP results will be sent home the beginning of October.

**Paperless Newsletter**

We are continuing to post my weekly newsletter on the Spencer Loomis homepage. We are doing our best to be a "Greener" school this year. To access the newsletter go to lz95.org-click onto Spencer Loomis- and go to Principal's Newsletter. My hope is to send home my newsletter via an e-mail attachment by the end of September. We are in the process of gathering accurate e-mail addresses for all our families. Many of the teachers are going to be sending their newsletters home via an e-mail attachment as well.

**Wellness Plan**

As a part of the "Child Nutrition and Women, Infants, and Children Reauthorization Act of 2004" the school district made some significant changes to our wellness plan several years ago. Those plans will continue this year as we ask you again to bring only healthy snacks to school for your child. **This includes birthday treats.** You did an excellent job of respecting the wellness plan last year and we ask for your continued support with the plan this year.

**Pick-up Procedures/End of the Day**

Students should be dropped off **no earlier** than 8:20 and no later than 8:30. Pick-up your child no later than 3:00. Your child will proceed to the recess area with the other students and supervisors. Please drop off/Pick-up **ONLY** in the front of the school. Do not drive thru the bus lanes. Finally, please do not e-mail or send a voice mail to the teacher for a pick up, as the teacher may have a substitute (substitutes do not have access to e-mail or voice mail.)

## **Tardiness**

We have had excellent attendance the first week of school. The students have been arriving to school on time. Please continue to support our efforts to have all our students arrive at school **no later than 8:30** each day. Your help and support is greatly appreciated!

## **5<sup>th</sup> Grade Band Meeting**

The Band Parent Meeting has been changed. It will be on Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup> from 7:00-8:00 pm at **Middle School South (east gym)**.

Also, the official Band Sign-Up Night will be Thursday, September 17 from 4:30-7:30 at Isaac Fox.

## **Orchestra Meeting**

All 4<sup>th</sup> grade parents and students are invited to the Orchestra recruitment meeting on Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00PM in the Cafetorium. Attendance is necessary if your child is joining Orchestra: the meeting will conclude with Registration for 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Orchestra.

## **Character Counts**

We are beginning our fourth year with Character Counts at Spencer Loomis School. We will be spending the month of September reviewing the six pillars. Your child should be familiar with the six pillars of **responsibility, citizenship, caring, trustworthiness, fairness, and respect**. You can help us at home by using those terms when discussing topics and issues that surface at home.

## **Important Dates**

Friday, September 11 <sup>th</sup>	SL Back to School Picnic 5-8:00
Monday, September 8-25 <sup>th</sup>	Fall Map Testing
Tuesday, September 8 <sup>th</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Orchestra Recruitment Night 7PM
Thursday, September 24 <sup>th</sup>	Early Release Day
Monday, October 12 <sup>th</sup>	No School
Tuesday, October 20 <sup>th</sup>	Early Release Day
Friday, October 25 <sup>th</sup>	SL PTO Mtg. 9AM