

Patriot Press Weekly

September 1, 2017

Folsom Education and Community Center

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Be a Folsom Hero!

From the Principal's Desk

The school year has officially begun, and what a warm and welcoming start it has been for kids and staff! Many thanks to the Folsom PTO for the coordinating the fun welcome back activities including the Lake Monsters game, the ice cream social, and the first morning breakfast. Nothing like starting off the year with laughter, smiles, seeing old friends, and enjoying delicious food! It feels great to have the building filled with children again, and with the energy and joy that they bring!

Personally, I have thoroughly enjoyed my first days and weeks within the Folsom building and community. Getting to know the faculty/staff at our planning retreats and in-service days has given me the opportunity to appreciate the depth and breadth of skills and heart that they bring to their work. They have already done a great job bringing me up to speed to begin the year, and I am looking forward to a positive and productive year teaming with them to create an awesome school experience for your children.

We are kicking off the school year with a brand new approach to our Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports System (PBIS). Have your kids told you about the pennies? Do you know about what it means to be a Folsom Hero? Sounds like a great conversation for you to initiate with them over the 3-day weekend! In short, our three main school expectations are very simply "Take Care of Yourself, Take Care of Others, Take Care of the Community." Built into these expectations are classroom practices, positive modeling of expected behavior throughout the school setting (hallways, bathrooms, recess, etc.), and a fun way to earn positive pennies to work towards the goal of donating to a charitable community organization. Ultimately, our focus is intended to help kids learn self-awareness, awareness of how their choices impact others, and an awareness that they have the power to make a positive impact on their community. More information will be coming home on this initiative in coming weeks, so stay tuned.

We are about to kickoff a brand new Folsom Facebook page where we will be posting lots of pictures and announcements more frequently than we can do in this forum or the website. The site is not fully set to go yet, but you may go ahead and "Like" it so that once we have items posted you will receive notices. Check it out at: www.Facebook.com/FolsomECC

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Upcoming Events

September

- 4 NO SCHOOL Labor Day
- 7 School Board 6pm
- 11-12 Camping Trip Grades 5-8
- 13 Folsom Open House
- 26 Picture Day

October

- 9 NO SCHOOL Indigenous Peoples Day
- 19 NO SCHOOL In-service

November

- 3 NO SCHOOL/Parent Teacher Conferences
- 20-24 NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving recess

From the Principal's Desk(continued from page 1)

Finally, you will notice very soon that we will be increasing the Patriot Press to a weekly newsletter format, rather than a monthly newspaper. This will allow us to get current info to you more rapidly. Combined with our Facebook page where we will post pictures and other school information, our intent is to give you lots of options for keeping yourself up-to-date on school issues. Many of you have returned our parent surveys asking how you would like to receive school information. Once we have all of those surveys back, we will be creating email-groups for those of you who have signed up for that. Please let us know if we are meeting your needs in communicating what you need to know!

On behalf of the everyone here at school, have a safe and wonderful Labor Day Weekend!
Susan McKelvie, Principal

Notes from the Office

Along with this issue of the Patriot Press Weekly, you should have received a new school calendar for 2017-2018. There are a couple of changes, most importantly, there are no half day in-services (which were indicated in red on the old version) and the last day of school will now be Monday, June 18th. We have had a number of items already turned in to "Lost and Found". Please be sure all sweatshirts, jackets, lunch boxes, water bottles, etc. are labeled with your child's name! Also, we are missing registration paperwork from quite a few students. Please get your paperwork in to the office as soon as possible! Thank you!

Fingerprinting

Again this year the Grand Isle Sheriff's Department will be at Open House on September 13th from 6-7pm to fingerprint anyone wanting to volunteer in the classroom or chaperone field trips. (If you have already completed the fingerprint process and have volunteered or chaperoned in the past year, you do not need to do it again this year.) Please bring the following:

- A check or money order for \$15 payable to GISU
- Cash or a check for \$25 payable to Grand Isle Sheriff's Dept
- 2 forms of ID (Sue McNayr in the office has a list of acceptable forms of ID)

Picture Day

Picture day is scheduled for **September 26**. Envelopes will be sent home prior to that date!

Message from Folsom PTO

A local Grand Isle family recently experienced a fire at their home. The island community has rallied around the family and is helping in a variety of ways including food, clothing, school supplies for the kids...etc. But the mom of the family is experiencing car troubles and her car is in need of some repair. While this is a burden that many of us often face, this family is currently living in a hotel in South Burlington and the mom is driving the children to Grand Isle each morning for school and taking them back to the hotel at the end of their school day. She has an immediate need to get the car repaired and the Folsom PTO would like to ask our Folsom community to help this family.

All donations will be pooled together to get her car serviced at Keeler Bay Auto where they have generously agreed to give the parts at their cost. Our donations will cover the cost of parts and labor. If the donations go over the amount needed to service her car, we will purchase gas cards at Keeler Bay Variety so she can get gas for her car.

This is a great opportunity to help a neighbor in need and to show our children how there are so many different ways to look out for other people. A donation of any amount can be given to Sue McNayr in the Folsom office.

Thank you for considering this request.