The ZMS Review

February 2009

The Monthly Newsletter of the Zionsville Middle School Parent Teacher Organization

View From the Eagle's Nest

"I plead guilty, your Honor."

If I were unfortunate enough to find myself on trial in the Web 2.0 court for not practicing what I've preached, I would undoubtedly have to utter the words above. In fact, in the spirit of full disclosure, I felt somewhat criminal as I knowingly wrote my November newsletter article proclaiming the merits of the read/write web and its interactive nature (especially for our young learners!) in a static newsletter format. Let's face it, a one-way document about the necessity of using two-way communication technologies may not earn one residence in Gitmo, but should at a minimum grant one entry into the Land of the Misfit Toys.

Coincidentally, I was recently reading a blogpost by Will Richardson entitled "Why Blogging is Hard...Still." In his post, Richardson describes the difficulty we adults have mustering the courage to put ourselves out there - to write something for an audience and welcome comments back. As one who has written publicly for a while, it isn't infrequent that folks will make mention that they read one of my articles. Those who choose to do so are generally complimentary, a fact that likely has a lot more to do with human nature than any proclivity that I have to generate good will! As I contemplate an interactive site, however, my mind jumps to fear of the unknown. What might people say?!?

It's time for me to step up. This article appears not only in the newsletter, it is also part of my blog (sconner007.edublogs.org) which will also be linked on the front page of our website, and I hope that the blog helps expand the conversation between home and the school.

On a related note, during a recent staff discussion of the book **Professional Communities at Work**, we wondered aloud whether we truly tap the potential of our school community and make the ultimate use of the professional talents and knowledge base of our parents, and our conclusion was a resounding no. That is not something that we want to shout from the highest mountaintop, but we do want to spread the word of our interest in changing this practice.

Not only would I like to encourage discourse about school issues as they appear in these articles, I would also like to start a conversation using a separate network between our parents - professionals in so many different areas - and our students, who are developing their interests and talents, and seeking professions in which to use them. The human resources available in our town are astounding, and it is our goal to foster the relationship between these two entities. By using technologies available to us today, we can establish long-term, interactive relationships without even changing work schedules, or making trips to school. We can also find better ways to connect our instructional and learning activities to authentic applications and "real world" experiences.

Are you interested in adding your expertise to the ZMS experience? Do you have a career about which students should know but probably don't? Are you willing to write or otherwise interact with us on a regular basis? If you answered yes to these questions, then ZMS wants you. If your spouse would answer yes to these questions if he/she were reading it, then ZMS wants him/her. And if ZMS wants you or your spouse, please contact me (sconner@zcs.k12.in.us) so that we can discuss further details.

Furthermore, if you have thoughts, comments, or opinions about this blog post or any of the others available below, please join the conversation. We adults may not hang out on Facebook, YouTube, and MySpace, but there is much to be learned and gained from connecting with one another. Are you guilty of being nervous, too? Muster the courage. If this defendant can do it, anyone can. I look forward to hearing from you!

Sean Conner, Principal

February Newsletter Highlights

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Information for the March Newsletter should be submitted to Dee Dee Medaris (Ddmedaris@zmspto.org) by February 20, 2009.

Zionsville Middle School

Frequently Used Phone Extensions

Dial *873-2426* followed by extension #:

Principal	13999
Ass't. Principal	13998
Student Services	13997
Receptionist	Press 0
Attendance	Press 2
Guidance	Press 3
Nurse	Press 4
Food Services	Press 5
Homework Hotline	Press 7
Athletic Director	Press 8
Repeat Menu	Press 9
Strings Director	13402
Band Director	13312-3
Choir Director	13310
Transportation	873-1237
Staff Directory	Press #

PTO News

PTO President's Message

The Spirit of Giving Continues….

even as the havoc of these challenging financial times embraces our country as well as our community. The troubles of people losing their jobs, businesses failing and homes foreclosing has unbelievably trickled into Zionsville, yet the generosity shown by our local residence and businesses continues to inspire. I am in awe of the kindness and support our community has for those affected by the economic downturn. Walk the hallways of ZMS to witness the Spirit of Giving at work:

Teachers and students collected food items to provided meals and comfort to those in need over the holidays. Home for the Holidays collected 450 individual sized food items as well as $233…providing 18 local students with essentials over break. Teachers collected holiday food basics for local families, while 7th and 8th Grade Teams collected can goods to benefit local food banks. The 7th Grade Silver Team is also performing various community service efforts that range from delivering meals, making blankets to picking up trash and working with shelters. The Honors Society secured funds for Unicef, which helps children worldwide. The members of the National Junior Honor Society will all complete their individual Service Projects for the February meeting. The ZMS student population gather $3370 in coins, thru Change a Child's Christmas…money that gave 15 families the support they needed to enjoy the magic of the holidays. Some sixth grade students have made toys for the Humane Society as well as blankets for the Riley's Children's Hospital. The 5th grade, not only provided the Humane Society with toys, food and administrative supplies, but also collected over 2000 new and gentle "loved" books for Riley Hospital and various other academic facilities. Bookmarks were made to accompany those books. Mrs. Ertel's Community Service Club is busy assisting the children at women's shelters by making totes filled with hand made blankets, stories read onto CDs, toiletries and new pajamas.

These efforts are among many that grace the hallway and brighten the lives of our students and families. Although the needs of many are growing daily, I hope that our community continues to reflect on our blessings and share with those that fall upon troubled times. There are so many avenues to give of your time and talents…so many opportunities to make a difference.

Thank you for your consideration and for being part of making ZMS a special place…

Sincerely, Frances Pokrifcak, ZMS PTO President

$$$ CHANGE $$$

A CHILD'S CHRISTMAS

A huge thank you to all of the wonderful PTO volunteers that helped count change for Change A Child's Christmas this year! We collected over $3,300.00 and helped many local families have a better Christmas. Also, a big thank you to the enthusiastic ZMS staff and students for their generosity and support. It is an honor to live in a community that recognizes the importance of giving back and sharing our gifts. Thank you!

Home for the Holidays

PTO thanks all those who participated with ***Home For The Holidays***…your generosity was appreciated. Each grade level thoughtfully contributed food and funds to help local students! The top donor was the 7th grade class. A Giving Tree will be planted on the school grounds in their honor!

I Scream, You Scream, We all Scream for Ice Cream!

Students bring your dollars on the following dates: February 20; March 20; April 24 and May 21 (Thursday) and purchase an ice cream sundae during lunch. The proceeds from these sales benefit the 8th grade party.

8th Grade Party

There will be an 8th Grade Party Meeting for all Chairpersons and anyone interested in helping on February 5th at 9:30 A.M. in Room 516. Any questions contact Ann Hall (769-2084, annjdhall@zmspto.org) or Shannon Ross (733-4159, skross90@zmspto.org)

Ice Cream Sales are Scooper!

A big thank you goes out to all of our volunteers for January's sale: Sabine Abbitt, Ann Hall, Rose Ann Mazanek, Dee Dee Medaris, Sarah Penczek, Margaret Reid, and Beth Snyder. These parents scooped 315 sundaes this month! Our next sale is Friday, February 20, and the volunteers are as follows: Sabine Abbitt, Jodi Beebe, Ann Hall, Liz, Judd, Sarah Penczek, Laura Pinegar, and Margaret Reid. We appreciate all of the help, Jen Kennedy, Karla Thimjon, and Laura Dunshee

PTO News (Continued)

No Hassle Fundraising in 2009

As the New Year starts, and we all resolve to be more efficient and organized…what a better time to assure that your spending adds up to funds for ZMS. You can raise money for ZMS by securing or updating your Marsh (code 28517), Target and Meijer (code 742693) accounts.

Considering that another resolutions for 2009 might be to eat healthier and lose weight. General Mills, the company that offers Box Tops, is participating in new food labels for Smart Choices. The new label includes a green checkmark and Smart Choices Program Logo to designate foods that meet certain nutritional requirements, as well as information about the number of calories per serving and the number of servings per container. The goal of the program is to take the guesswork out of food choices, enabling people to make smarter food decisions and thus improve public health. So, collect Box Tops and become healthier in the process!

A new addition to our Clip n Save program is the Tyson Project A+. As with Box Tops and Campbell Soup Labels, all we have to do to participate is clip and save the Project A+ label from participating Tyson products. Each label is worth 24 cents for our school…adding up to big earnings for ZMS! You can drop off your Tyson A+ labels with Box Tops and Campbell Soup Labels at the front office of ZMS.

Please continue clipping and collecting Box Tops, Campbell's Soup Labels For Education and Tyson Project A+ labels…February 10th is the second submission deadline for this school year. Let's really try to pump up ZMS earning power!!!

ZMS is still competing for a Pump It Up Party as well as for the honor of the "Hand" recycled chair. Congratulations to Mr. Elkins Class for being the winning Dec./Jan. box top/label collectors!

All teachers, parents, and students…Please try to initiate an in class or grade level competition to spark interest in collecting UPCs and beverage caps. PTO challenges you to clip…clip…clip! To view eligible items go to:

www.boxtops4education.com , www.campbellsoup.com and/or http://ProjectAPlus.tyson.com

February Fundraising…*YOU CAN HELP!* Simple donate your old cell phones and empty ink cartridges and your trash becomes valuable cash for ZMS. Drop off your items in the specialty marked box at the ZMS office. It's a great way to accomplish your resolution to purge!

PLEASE JOIN US FEBRUARY 23 FOR THE ZMS COMMUNITY DAY AT MONICAL'S PIZZA! The Monical's at Trader's Point has invited the ZMS community to enjoy a delicious meal and they will donate 20% of the check to ZMS PTO. This event is valid all day—lunch and dinner! Eat pizza and earn money for the school…what could be better!

Keep an eye out for other new and convenient ways to help raise monies to assist ZMS in providing the best education. Upcoming Spring events include *Mike's Car Wash Coupons, Spring Fling Book Fair, Z'Run and Spring Spirit Wear.*

Lastly, the Amazon.com gift-wrap fundraiser was a huge success…ZMS PTO earned approximately $1200. Thank you to the volunteers that "wrapped" themselves around this program to benefit the school. What a fun and worthy project!

PTO appreciates your continued support!

PTO Wellness Corner

February's Healthy Habit:

Now that the Holidays are behind us and many of you have made a New Year's resolution to eat less and exercise more I wanted to pass along a few good tips to help you stay on track and reach your goal.

Fitness: Your winter weight-loss fix! Keeping off pounds this winter may be as easy as avoiding the couch during the weekends, say Vanderbilt University researchers. Their new study found that women moved the least in December, January, and February, translating to a 10 % drop in calorie burn compared with the summer months. The biggest culprit: lounging around on weekends, this resulted in a 100 calorie surplus. Try some of these fun winter activities and get yourself and your family moving! Two hours of bowling burns 400 calories compared to watching a movie which only burns 68 calories. How about snowshoeing, ice skating, sledding, dancing, winter walks or indoor swimming, any of these are healthy options for winter time exercising.

Nutrition: Go nuts for better health! Add nuts to your diet to fulfill your body's need for omega 3, 6, and 9 fatty acids. Pistachios, walnuts, sunflower seeds, and almonds are some top choices to add to your diet. A handful will do or you may try crushing nuts to crust fish, sprinkle them on salads, or mix them into a healthy trail mix.

Remember that the path to better health begins with a life style change not just a diet. You need to commit to eating right and making healthy choices. You need to exercise more and make it a habit. You need to sleep at least 7 hours a night to let your body heal and re-energize for tomorrow.

One way to stay on track and get healthy is to enter a race. Plan to walk/run the ZRUN in April. Get the whole family involved and commit to get fit. The walking club will resume after spring break, so the kids can begin to train at lunch. Also watch for more information on group training sessions to help the whole family train for the race. Make smart choices because this is the only body you've got! Please feel free to contact me, Erin Wilson, with any comments or questions wilson1427@earthlink.net

To your better health, The Wellness Committee

PTO News (Continued)

Save the date!!!

7th/8th Grade Fun Night ZMS Gym and Eagle Hall

Friday, March 20th, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

(ONLY 7th/8th graders enrolled at ZMS will be allowed to attend!!)

Fun…games…inflatables…DJ…Guitar Hero/Rock Band

Concessions & pizza available for sale

Raffle prizes

Donations of canned goods will be accepted

PARENTS: If you would like to donate a gift card or other raffle prize to give away, or make a small donation toward the purchase of raffle prizes or decorations, please contact

Kay Stebbins, kaystebbins@yahoo.com or

Candace Reid, creid@mibor.net.

Checks can be made payable to ZMS-PTO w/ 7th/8th Fun Night on the memo line.

We will soon be contacting volunteers who previously signed up…let us know if you did not sign up but want to help out as we will need many volunteers to enable us to host this event.

ATTENTION 5th and 6th GRADE PARENTS!

FREE 5TH AND 6TH GRADE PARTY

AT ZMS, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20

3-5:00 P.M. IN THE GYM!

(Only 5th and 6th graders enrolled at ZMS allowed to attend)

The kids will stay after school and may be picked up at 5:00 p.m. Fun activities include:

*Bounce House

*Obstacle Course

*DJ with Guitar Hero Game

*Cookie Walk

Concessions and pizza available for purchase. Please provide your student with cash that morning!

Admittance into this event is **FREE**. We will be accepting new and gently used stuffed animals that will be donated to various local organizations.

To volunteer your time or services, please contact Sharon Vlasak svlasak@indy.rr.com or Chantelle Dodson jcdodquad@yahoo.com.

Guidance News

21st Century Scholars Program

Eligible 7th- and 8th-graders that enroll in the Twenty-first Century Scholars Program and fulfill a pledge of good citizenship to the state are guaranteed the cost of four years of college tuition at any participating public college or university in Indiana. If the student attends a private institution, the state will award an amount comparable to that of a public institution. If the student attends a participating proprietary school, the state will award a tuition scholarship equal to that of Ivy Tech State College. Twenty-first Century Scholars sends applications to schools with 7th- and 8th-grade students enrolled. There are strict income guidelines for eligibility, so not every student and family will qualify. Parents and guardians need to fill out the application. Students and parents have access to 16 regional support sites providing services and guidance for college preparation. If you have any questions about the Twenty-first Century Scholars Program, visit the Twenty-first Century Scholars Web site at http://www.learnmoreindiana.org/college/paying/TwentyFirstCenturyScholars/Pages/home.aspx , contact your local Scholars Support site or call the Learn More Helpline at 1-800-992-2076.

High Ability

High Ability, formerly known as Academically Talented, determinations will be made in the coming months for the 2009-10 school year. If you would like to know more about this program please contact your grade level counselor. If you are interested in this program for your child, please see the subject specific teacher.

ISTEP

This is the first time the state will be administering ISTEP testing in the spring. The assessments will be on-grade level and summative. As in past years, the ISTEP+ assessments are also cumulative. This affects all grade levels at the middle school.

The testing schedule is as follows:

Monday, March 2 - Wednesday, March 11

Monday, April 27 - Wednesday, May 6

Guidance News (Continued)

NWEA Tuesday, April 7 – Tuesday, April 21

NWEA is a computerized test that evaluates a student's language, reading, and math skills. This test is given in the fall and spring, so yearly progress can be measured. Fifth and sixth grade students test with their homeroom teacher and seventh/eighth grade students test with their team teachers.

Please make sure your student eats a healthy breakfast and gets plenty of sleep. Also, please refrain from making any appointments during testing dates.

Operation ICU

The following students were "caught" being honest, helping peers, accepting others for their differences, and being great role models. The Counselors would like to congratulate the following students on receiving this month's ICU award. 5th grade : Johnson Dant, 6th grade: Renee Anthony, Julia Kowala, Sarah McCormack, Matt Kern, Sam Kern, and Kyle Sheehan, 7th grade: Chloe Arndt, Tyler Wagner, Saleem Abufares, Brooke Aldrich, Eric Bedwell, and C.J. Kilpatrick, 8th grade: Nawara Abufares, Kyle Langford, Kyle Plummer, Ashley Medaris, Scott Biberdorf, Parker Dunshee, and Patrick Murphy

February Character Trait, Self-Control

Your children display **self-control** when they have the ability to direct, guide, and regulate their interest, focus, and behavior. Self-control is a learned skill, developed through guidance and practice. You can greatly enhance your children's chances for success by helping them learn how to behave with respect, give attention to activities of importance, and make decisions that enhance learning.

Self-control is a difficult concept to learn. We often act on our emotions and our desire for immediate gratification rather than what is proper or expected of us in certain situations, such as school.

A major cause of improper behavior in school, at any grade level, is the amount of stimulation and gratification that is available in the home along with unstructured behavior. If your children are consistently entertained by music, computers, and other electronic devices at home, they may have a problem adjusting to school. We must develop a little school at home. This can be accomplished by having regular quiet times and quiet study at home. Try turning off all electronic distractions one night a week. Your family can take advantage of this time to really get to know each other. Over time, your children will look forward to these quiet family times. If your children can practice good school behavior in a quiet atmosphere at home, their self-control at school will be much improved.

Focus and concentration are more learned skills that are important characteristics of self-control. These learned skills can be improved with practice at home. Parents can demonstrate how important it is to concentrate on a particular function, such as making dinner or paying bills. When your children realize that many tasks require focus and concentration, they will soon see the benefits.

Suggested activities for grades 5-8:

* Host a contest night. The entire family participates in different contests, such as who can cut the longest apple peel or build the tallest house of cards.

* Play No Peeking: one person calls out an object and the other must draw it without looking.

* Debate each other. Make sure the topic affects children (dress codes, curfews). Each side has two minutes to speak in order to prove their point.

* Devote space for a thinking area. Provide a private hideaway for schoolwork and reading.

* Model calmness and civility during confrontations with your children.

Reference

The Learning Lunchbox Family Guide, TM 2008 Outreach Communications LLC

Pages 84, 85, 99, & 113

ZMS Sports

2009 Track Team Callout

On March 17th from 2:45 - 3:30, the track team will hold its callout meeting in the LGI. All interested 6th - 8th graders are welcome to attend. The first practice will be March 23rd from 3 - 4:15. **You must have physical and emergency forms on file to participate in practice.** Both form are available online at http://www.zcs.k12.in.us/zms/Athletics.html. There will be a parent meeting after practice on March 24th. The meeting will be from 4:30 - 5:15 in the LGI. Please contact Mr. Koch (pkoch@zcs.k12.in.us) or Mr. Rowe (trowe@zcs.k12.in.us) if you have any questions.

Golf Team

Any 6, 7, or 8th grade boy interested in trying out for the golf team needs to attend the call out meeting on Thursday, February 12. The meeting will be in the LGI room and will be from 2:58-3:28.

Wrestling News

52 boys and 3 managers joined this years wrestling team. It looks to be an exciting year with the eagle's winning their first match over Carmel 54-40. Come and support your team.

Rocky Mountain Wilderness Challenge

There are still two openings for the Rocky Mt. Wilderness Challenge this summer in Colorado. Last call is no later than Feb 15. Call Mr. Flecker 873-2324 Ext. 13702 or vflecker@zcs.k12.in.us

School News

The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe

Zionsville Middle School will present C.S. Lewis' classic tale, *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*, on Thursday, March 5th and Friday, March 6tht at 7 p.m. Travel to Narnia with Zionsville's talented young performers. The show will take place in Eagle Hall and the doors open at 6:30pm. Tickets are $3 for students and seniors, $4 for adults, and $12 for a family.

FRESHMEN-FALL 2009

If you have a student who will be a freshman at ZCHS in the fall of 2009, a summer opportunity may be of interest to you. Saturday, June 13 from 9:30 am - 11:20 am.a workshop called Success In High School will be offered to any current 8th grader who will be a freshman next year. The workshop will teach study skills, organizational habits, test taking strategies, and other important skills. Cost: $65 will be due when registration for Eagle Recreation Summer Programs begins. For early registration, please contact Mrs. Vanderbur at avanderbur@zcs.k12.in.us or by phone at 873-3355 ext. 12416.

Art Department

Art Club 5/6

Art Club 5/6 will meet on Feb 3, 10, and 24th. Please bring a magazine or some old wrapping paper to recycle.

Yearbook

If you have any photos for the yearbook that include students at work in the classroom or at events related to school, such as sports or clubs, please send a cd to Mrs. Goodman or Mrs. Valencourt. Thank you!

Yearbook Order Forms

Yearbooks are for sale for $30. You may order online www.jostens.com/yearbook/index.asp or at the main office. An order form is also available on the PTO website www.zmspto.org.

Artsonia

The ZMS art website is booming with active participation! We have consistently been ranked #1 in the state of Indiana since August and continue to be in the top ten nationally. This is simply amazing, considering there are thousands of schools participating with Artsonia in the U.S.! Participation including fan clubs joined, comments left, and artwork submitted, along with gallery items purchased keep our rankings high. Keep up the great work, ZMS art students! Here is a link to our art site: http://www.artsonia.com/schools/school.asp?id=4352

Musical Notes

Dear Parents,

We hope that you are settling into the new semester with ease!

Beginning Jazz Band: We will begin practicing on TUESDAYS starting this week until 4 PM. I am one class away from finishing a master's degree from Butler University, but unfortunately the class I need meets Wednesday afternoons. The students were told about this schedule change at the end of October. Sorry for any confusion regarding the schedule change!

Percussion Ensemble: We will begin meeting on Wednesdays after school.

Advanced Jazz Band: Look for a handout to come home for our practice schedule for next week. The week of 1/26 we will not meet and during the month of February we will not practice on Mondays but will meet on Thursdays until 4 PM. In March we'll return back to our normal schedule. Our next performance after IMEA will be the Pacer's Basketball game on April 11th!

French Horn Club: Miss Mullis is going to begin meeting with any interested French Horn players beginning Monday 1/12/09. The group is geared towards fifth graders but any 6th-8th that would like to attend is welcome. Time in this club can be counted towards Charms!

Gatlinburg Fund Raiser: Our next ad final fundraiser is a "cheese and sausage" fundraiser. Info will be sent home with students during the week of January 24th.

Solo and Ensemble: Over 125 ZMS band students will be participating at the ISSMA Solo and Ensemble Competition on February 2nd at Avon High School. Each student has received a packet with their performance times; maps…Please make sure your accompanist also receives this information. Sneakers and jeans are not appropriate dress. The Zionsville students will be in several different warm-up rooms, so please check your information sheet carefully.

Remember that it's not about the gold rating, it's about becoming better musicians. Every young musician that puts in the hours of extra practice and rehearsals, and then gives up their Saturday to travel to Avon and perform is a WINNER!! Also remember that if everyone received gold, then gold would have no meaning! It's all about doing our very best and using the comments (both good and bad) to become better!

6th and 7th Grade IMEA: Our 6th and 7th grade bands will perform at the IMEA Non-Competitive Music Festival here at ZMS on March 14th. Our exact time has not been posted yet, but I am very sure that we will be early in the morning. Volunteer forms should be arriving soon with your students. If you do not receive one, please contact Mr. Marvin at 873-2426 ext. 13306 for volunteering opportunities. As soon as we receive our time the students will receive a detailed handout.

From the band room, Miss Mullis and Mr. Weirich

Cafeteria News

As we enter second semester it is with great pride that I announce the positive results of recent ZCS inspections. Each school year the kitchens at Zionsville Community Schools receive a minimum of two unannounced inspections by the Boone County Board of Health. In December, every one of our kitchens passed their inspection with no violations identified.

While these inspections are a surprise, it is our hope that we perform appropriately every day of our operations, regardless of the presence of an inspector. The areas of concern that are reviewed consist of temperature checks of food and refrigeration, along with a visual review of our activities and food handling techniques. In addition, this year many of the Food Service Managers were quizzed by the Inspector as to when a staff member should refrain from working and handling food.

In order to prepare for these inspections, we have required our Cooks, Level III and Food Service Managers to successfully complete an approved food safety course and examination. The information contained in the course relates to appropriate food related temperatures and many issues related to proper food handling techniques. These courses actually allow us to comply with the Indiana State Department of Health requirement that one person in each eating establishment be identified as "the person in charge" and become knowledgeable of food handling concerns. The Manager is the person in charge and yet we have additional staff members who are equally as knowledgeable.

In fact, at this time, 23 of our current 59 staff members, or over 1/3 of our staff have successfully completed an approved and accredited program. This far exceeds the required eight individuals who would be designated as "the person in charge" of our eight eating establishments.

Thanks for your continued confidence in and support of our program. Please check out our webpage for the current month's menu at your child's school. www.zcs.k12.in.us/cafe/index.htm .

Jan Swander, ZCS Food Service Director

Community News

ZIONSVILLE EDUCATION FOUNDATION BRINGS HOLIDAY CHEER TO GRANT RECIPIENTS

Representatives of the Zionsville Education Foundation (ZEF) spent Friday, December 12, spreading happiness to all Zionsville Community Schools. ZEF awarded more than $36,000 in educational grants during its fall grant cycle and grant recipients were notified in person.

"Awarding the grants to the teachers in person really gives you an understanding of how much the teachers appreciate the educational opportunities that these grants represent," said Peggy Edwards, chair of the ZEF grants committee. "We know that they will share that excitement and enthusiasm with their students and that will continue to foster academic excellence in all of our schools," she continued.

ZEF grants provide funding for academic excellence and innovation; community and school partnerships; and leveraging external grants. Grants are provided during both a spring and fall cycle. After applications are received, a committee comprised of ZEF Board members, community members and educators gives careful review to each proposal. The grant committee makes its recommendations to the ZEF Board. Based on the funding that is available for that grant cycle, the Board then approves as many of the recommended grants as possible. The level of funds raised during each year directly impacts the number and size of the grants that are awarded.

"We are so fortunate to live in a community that values education so highly," said ZEF Board President Julie Redman. "The success of our fundraising efforts, including the fall Oktoberfest event and spring InStyle fashion show, allow us to continue to increase the number and amount of grants that we are able to award," she added.

ZEF is currently accepting donations in honor of any ZCS employee through the "Eagle Honors" program. Recipients of an Eagle Honor receive notification of the donation made on their behalf and are listed in the ZEF annual report. For more information on the fall grant recipients or any other ZEF program, please contact Executive Director Lynn Kissel at 733-4805 or lkissel@zcs.k12.in.us.

2008 Fall Grant Summary ZMS

Pioneer to the New World Wendy Yuan, ZCHS, ZMS, ZWMS. The new Chinese program will celebrate Chinese New Year with traditional Chinese items. Many of these will be used in future projects. **$431.00**

Market Day News

Market Day, a fundraidsing program that benefits ZCHS Band and Orchestra programs, is offering some exciting programs in February and March. All February orders will help us to earn $250 worth of library books, in addition to regular profits. Stock up this month to help us achieve our fundraising goal! Also, Market Day's Spring Frequent Buyer program begins in February. You can qualify to earn a FREE large insulated bag that's great for frozen food, picnics, and game-day snacks! Just place an order of $35 or more any 2 months from February to April and one order of $35 or more in May to qualify. February flyer orders are due by Tues., 2/17 and online orders (www.marketday.com, acct.# 5941) are due by noon on Wed., 2/18. Orders will be available for pickup on Mon., 2/23 from 5-6pm. March orders will be due on Tues., 3/17 (flyers) and internet orders are accepted until noon on Wed., 3/18, with pick-up of orders on Mon ., 3/23 from 5 to 6pm. If you have any questions you can call Dusky Loebel at 733-0615, dloebel@indy.rr.com or Jamie Leahy at 873-2962, jleahy001@aol.com. Thanks for your continued support of Market Day!

Looking for mid-winter **Family Friendly Entertainment**?

Ridgeway & Johnson *Grand Illusion & Escape Show*

Featuring the only 747 Jet Turbine Illusion touring in the Western Hemisphere!

Friday, February 27, 7:00 p.m.

Zionsville High School Performing Arts Center

Advance tickets: $10

At the door: $12

Tickets available at MARSH ~ Boone Village & Michigan Road locations and Indiana Members Credit Union (SR334 & I-65)

After the show, join us at the ZCHS Café for coffee, drinks ~ desserts and treats

Special musical guest ~ Chad Mills http://www.chadmillslive.com/

http://www.zboponline.org/fund/2009magicshow.pdf

Proceeds benefit ZBOP for ZHS Instrumental Music Programs

The Zionsville Education Foundation announces the 3rd Annual Spring Fundraiser ZEF "In Style" Luncheon

Thursday, February 26, 2009

11 a.m.-2 p.m. Boone Meadow School

Tickets: $50 per person

Includes lunch, fashion show, silent auction and fun shopping!

Please contact your PTO President or Lynn Kissel, ZEF Executive Director

lkissel@zcs.k12.in.us

317-733-4805

February 2009

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2	3	4 8th grade to Clowes 9:00 - 11:30 am	5 4th grade concert & tour 9:30 -11:00 am 4th grade parent meeting 6:30 pm, EH	6
9	10	11	12 Boys Golf callout meeting 3:00-3:30 pm LGI	13 Staff Development 12:20 dismissal
16 President's Day No School	17 Snow Make-up Day #2 Classes in Session	18	19 Optimist Oratorical Contest 7:00 pm LGI	20 5/6 Fun Night 3-5 pm EH and SG
23 Softball callout meeting 2:45 pm LGI	24	25	26	27

For a complete listing of school activities, please refer to the ZMS Web Site at www.zcs.k12.in.us/zms/index.html.