



Weekly Salmon Pages

May 3, 2010

www.cityneighborshamilton.org

Dates to Remember:

Thu May 6: SerendiPOETRY, 6:30 PM
Thu May 6: NYC Meeting w/ 2nd and 3rd grade families, 5:30 PM
Fri May 7: **SCHOOL CLOSED** for Professional Development
Wed May 12: Spring Creative Arts Festival & Board Elections, 6 PM
Thu May 13: Board Meeting, 6:30 PM
Fri May 14: 2nd Grade Build-a-Burger Barbecue
Fri May 21: 2nd and 3rd NYC/Statue of Liberty Trip

Teacher Appreciation Week

It takes a deep commitment and belief in children, as well as a shared vision of our school to do the work of starting a brand-new school. We are lucky to have a group of teachers who care deeply about children—our children—and who strive to the best of their ability to create something as unique, as effective, and as powerful as City Neighbors Hamilton.

Thank you to the CNH Parent Group for surprising teachers this morning with a delicious breakfast along with big posters and signs made by our students thanking the teachers. This surprise and effort means so much to us. Thank you for your support!

~Bobbi~

This Week at CNH

Mon: Math Club, 3:30 - 4:30 PM
Tue: Awesome Readers Club, 3:30 - 5
Thu: Kindergarten Field Trip to Pumpkin Theatre, 10 - 1
Awesome Readers Club, 3:30 - 5
NYC/Statue of Liberty Meeting with Parents of 2nd and 3rd grades, 5:30 PM
Poetry Night, 6:30 - 7:30 PM
Fri: **School Closed** for Professional Development: No After School Outdoor Science Club

See important end-of-year calendar changes on Page 2.

Spring Fling=Great Success!

Last Saturday was a great day at CNH! Our field was filled with children and families from both City Neighbors schools, as well as community members and neighborhood folks. All contributed in making our first Spring Fling a success. We had horseback riding, a dunking booth, two huge moon bounces, games and prizes, great food, a yard sale, and a stage where we got to witness great student talent!

Our Americorps volunteers were here in force volunteering, as well as helping to organize a community art project. With the help of local artist, Lyn Dodds, we created a huge 12-foot mosaic of our logo. Many children, parents, and community members contributed to this project. Thank you to everyone for pitching in, bringing tiles, and unleashing your creativity to make this beautiful art come alive.

Through the leadership of our Director of Fundraising, Tanya Robinson, and her co-chair, Wanda Webb, and the partnership of our Director of Community Relations, Tanya Jackson, we really had an amazing event! It took a lot of time and hard work to bring this all together, but somehow it all worked out and it really was a wonderful day for CNH!

Calendar Changes!

As promised, we are updating you on the end-of-year calendar changes brought about by our historic snowfall that seems like nothing more than a distant memory now. The following changes have been made to this year's school calendar:

- June 8:** Full Day
- June 9:** Full Day
- June 10:** Full Day
- June 11:** Early Dismissal (1 PM)
- June 14:** Early Dismissal (1 PM)
- June 15:** Early Dismissal (1 PM)
- June 16:** Early Dismissal (1 PM)
- June 16:** Last day of school.

Please note these changes.

How 'Bout Dem O's?



It's now May and the weather is heating up, and so are our O's, who just swept the Boston Red Sox! After a bit of a rough start, this could be our year. Tomorrow (Tuesday, May 4) is your last chance to join in on the crackerjack at the old ballgame! The more the merrier! Questions? Contact Sean Hannigan at Hannigansean@hotmail.com.

Let's play ball!

Board Elections

Board elections are held yearly at our Spring Arts Festival, May 12. Electing our board and serving on our board is one of the many ways parents have a voice at CNH.

Make yours heard!



Getting to School On Time

We have seen an increase in the number of students arriving late to school, and it makes it very difficult to begin our mornings together in a productive, positive way. Please help us by getting your child to school on time. We know it not always easy in the morning to get young children out the door, but our teachers are prepared to begin class at **8:15**. All children should be in their classroom and ready to learn at that time. Thank you to the many parents who consistently arrive on time!

Annual Giving Campaign



Several weeks ago, all families were sent home a letter announcing the kick-off of our Annual Giving Campaign. Your tax-deductible contribution—in any amount—will be greatly appreciated!

Scholastic Books

Scholastic book orders have been issued and orders are due by Thursday, May 6 to Marnee "Captain" Keith. If you would prefer to order online, go to:
www.scholastic.com
user name: cityneighborshamilton
password: order

CNH Faculty

During last week's faculty meeting, we participated in wonderful professional development facilitated by Marnee Keith and Marilyn Mullen. Both of these excellent teachers had attended the National Art Educators Conference, and as part of our model for professional development, they shared some of their findings with the rest of the staff. I would like to thank both Captain Keith and Ms Marilyn for one of the very best PD workshops I have ever participated in! Our faculty has really established a professional learning community, and I am honored to participate in the work.

~Bobbi~

Parents are up to Something!

When we arrived at school this morning, the lobby windows and bulletin boards were covered with beautiful works and expressions of thanks by our students to teachers and school staff. I know I speak on behalf of the teachers when I say THANK YOU! It means so much to use that you worked with our students to surprise us in this way!

~Bobbi~

Travels to NYC!

This Thursday, May 6, a meeting will be held with second and third grade parents to discuss the big and long-awaited trip to NYC and the Statue of Liberty. The itinerary will be presented and everyone will have the opportunity to get their questions answered. The meeting begins at 5:30 PM and will be held in the third grade classroom.

Poetry Night at CNH

This Thursday, May 6, from 6:30 to 7:30 PM will be CNH Poetry Night. Anyone who would like to read a poem that has inspired them, please come and share! This event is open to students and families, as well as the community. Children are encouraged to share their animal poems or any poems they love.

Spring Arts Celebration

Come join us for an eventful evening of singing, drumming, and dancing as our celebration in the arts continues on Wednesday, May 12 at 6:00 PM. What a great way to follow up our Spring Fling event! Come watch our children as they showcase their talents and what they have been learning. See you there!

All-School

On Friday, May 14, third grade is hosting the All-School assembly. They will present the Symbols of Friendship project. We would love for you to join us as we share the work we have done with the school community. All-School begins at 2:45.

MD CAN!

This week is National Charter Week. MCSN has set a goal of enrolling 2,000 people in MD CAN. MD CAN spreads the word about public charter schools and supports advocacy efforts. Our goal at CNH is to have every family sign up in order to show support for our students. Sign up and learn more by visiting www.mdcharternetwork.org or by filling out the yellow cards in the school lobby. If 50% of our school's families enroll by May 15th, MCSN will arrange for a local celebrity to participate in a school event! The three schools with the highest enrollment percentage by May 15th will have \$500.00 donated to support their library.

Let's show our support for our children!

City Neighbors High School is Hiring!

Tomorrow (Tuesday, May 4), we are interviewing a finalist for the position of High School Principal. Are there any interested and available parents who could help in this effort? I am asking for a few parents to come in and meet the candidate from 3:15 to 3:45 tomorrow, and then give me some feedback that will be considered heavily in the hiring process. Please let me or Stephanie know if you are available, and I will be sure to get you the candidate's resume. Thank you so much!

~Bobbi~

City Neighbors Acknowledgements and Accolades!

Last Friday, Ms. Tyrell (CNH parent and third grade assistant), Mike Chalupa, and Bobbi attended the Maryland Charter School (MCSN) Annual Conference. They attended workshops and participated in learning more about creating a great school for children. Bobbi also had the opportunity serve on a panel to help other charter school starters consider what it takes to create a great school.

At this event, among other noted charter schools, City Neighbors was acknowledged several times during the awards ceremony, among them:

Charter School Administrator of the Year:

Mike Chalupa, Principal and Academic Director, City Neighbors Charter School (CNCS)
and City Neighbors Hamilton (CNH).
Bobbi Macdonald, Interim Principal, CNH.

Charter School Educator of the Year:

Jeany Baines, CNH
Peter French, CNCS
Jessica Hartings, CNH
Alison Mercier, CNCS

Congratulations, one and all!

Spring Fling! Thank You!

I wish to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who participated in making our first Spring Fling such a hit! Many of you have been working tirelessly for weeks planning details from the Talent Show to the yard sale. Other volunteers energetically worked the from set-up (8 AM) to clean-up (6 PM). Others swooped in to save us with providing equipment, cooking, artistic and musical talent, clowns, and so much more! We had an amazing turnout that included CNH families and CNCS families, as well as local and extended neighborhood folks. Your support and contributions were are so much appreciated and they represent how amazing our community is! Please remember to record your volunteer hours!

Thank you to those of you who let us use your grills for the event. You will find your grill in the courtyard between the school and the cafeteria.

I want to extend a special thanks to the planning committee: Wanda Webb, Marnee Keith, Peter Redgrave, Tanya Jackson, Tamara Tyrell, Kim Lane, and the CNH Student Council.

Anyone who has pictures of the event, please email them to me so that we can share them with everyone: trobenson@cityneighborshamilton.org.

With gratitude,

~Tanya Robinson, Director of Fundraising~

Walking Club!

From 5:30 to 7 PM, join other CNH community members on the CNH track and walk, run, bike, scooter, or skate with us! Get fit and catch up with other parents, teachers, friends, and community members. Don't forget to bring your water! Questions? Ekua Kendall at ekendall@cityneighborshamilton.org or Sara Khamanza at moja24@yahoo.com.