



Dawn M. Lewis
Elementary School Principal

John Safina
Middle School Principal

September 4, 2009

2009-2010 Newsletters

Welcome Back to Ellis Middle School. I'm so excited about being a part of this great school and community. Ellis Middle School will be publishing newsletters differently this year. The weekly newsletter is being changed to a monthly newsletter. This decision was based on feedback from staff. Staff felt that gathering news articles weekly was very difficult. By switching to a monthly newsletter, more thought will be put into articles submitted. With time to produce the newsletter, we will be able to send out a middle school and an elementary version. However, parents can still expect communication throughout the month. A short, informational letter, such as this one, will be produced from the Administration office once or twice a month. This will be sent out the first week of the month. Once a month a parent/school connection newsletter called "Middle Years" will be sent home. The school newsletter you are used to from last year will be sent out at the end of the month.

Middle School Open House

Our Middle School Open House will be held Wednesday, September 16 at 6:30. We hope to have a large turnout for this event. You will be able to meet teachers, hear about procedures and events for the year. There will also be an informational meeting immediately following open house for all 8th grade students and parents interested in participating in the Washington, DC trip.

Parent Forum

The Parent forum will meet monthly with the principal. The purpose of the forum is for parents to be able to dialogue with the middle school principal at Ellis on issues and concerns that will lead to improved student learning. The purpose of the forum is to provide input on decisions, provide feedback on programs, and make recommendations for improvements to the principal and to work with the staff on making those improvements happen. Our first meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 8 from 4:30-5:30 in the school library. The schedule for the year is as follows:

October 13	March 9
November 3	April 13
December 8	May 11
January 12	June 8
February 9	



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Sunny D

Scholastic and Sunny D are working together to bring twenty (20) free, grade appropriate books into elementary classrooms this fall. If your family drinks the valid products indicated below, please have your child bring the entire label or outer wrapper to school and put in the Sunny D collection container on the bookshelf in the lobby. Please be sure to indicate your child's classroom on the back of the label, wrapper or cardboard UPC. For more information about this program please go to <http://www.sunnyd.com/bookspree/why.html>

Valid Products:

Bottle labels from: 128 oz., 96 oz., 64 oz., 48 oz., 20 oz., and 16 oz.

Liter bottle labels from: 1, 2, and 3 liters

6 or 24 pack outer wraps from: 11.3 oz. and 6.75 oz.

8 pack outer wraps from: 6.75 oz.

Cardboard UPC from cases of: 12 pack 6.75 oz. bottles, 12 or 24 pack 12 oz. cans

Lost and Found

As another school year begins, so does the accumulation of items in the Lost & Found. Please take the time to write (at least) first initial and last name on the tags of important clothing, coats, books, and lunchboxes....98% of the Lost & Found has no identification and gets donated to charity three times a year.

PTA Membership Drive

PTA membership forms are due by **Friday** September 11th. By joining the PTA you are making a difference to the children in our community. When you join you are supporting the different programs that the PTA provides for the students and staff at Ellis School like field day, artist in residence, spring and fall book fairs, and the mini grant program. PTA members are also given special savings and discounts from national businesses. Visit PTA.org/benefits for more information on these savings and discounts. If you have any questions please contact Nancy Bernhardt at **895-4218** or nlbernhardt@yahoo.com.



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Fall Fundraiser

Sales begin - Thursday, Sept 17th

Orders due - Wednesday, Sept 30th

The 6th, 7th, and 8th graders can use the profits toward their class trips; Ferry Beach, AMC, and Washington DC.

Message from the President

After discussions with our Superintendent Mr. Bill Lander, he has advised us to tape the speech and make it available to teachers if they wish to integrate it into their units of study as appropriate. If the speech is used, you will be notified by your classroom teacher. Students at Ellis will not be watching the video on [Tuesday September 8, 2009](#).

Peanut Allergies

Since there are students in almost all the grades with peanut allergies, we will make the classrooms peanut/nut free. Students may eat peanut/nut products in the cafeteria and a Peanut Free table is set up in the cafeteria. Any student who eats a peanut/nut product for lunch must wash their hands with soap and water after eating.

Thank You

I want to take this opportunity to thank the community of Fremont for the warm welcome I have received. It was a great opportunity to meet all of you who attended the back to school BBQ. It was a great success. I have thanked individuals along the way, but the list is too long to put in this newsletter. Therefore, I'm sending out a big THANK YOU to everyone.

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