

Ellis Middle School
Principal's Report
January 11, 2011

Pennies for Peace

Ellis School Students participated in the *Pennies for Peace* program. This was a K-8 endeavor and we raised over 400.00 for the program.

Pennies for Peace is a program of Central Asia Institute (CAI), founded by Greg Mortenson – author of the #1 New York Times best seller, Three Cups of Tea. CAI is a registered 501(c) 3 non-profit organization that promotes and provides community-based education and literacy programs, especially for girls, in remote mountain regions of Central Asia. Founded in 1996, CAI has built, to date, nearly 100 schools in Afghanistan and Pakistan, which serve more than 28,000 students – over 14,000 of whom are girls.

Winter Testing

We have begun the NWEA winter testing. This will give us a mid year status of how our students are progressing.

NAEP Testing

Our 4th and 8th graders will be doing the NAEP Test on January 24 (8th) and January 25th (4th).

NAEP - A common Yardstick

The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) is the largest nationally representative and continuing assessment of what America's students know and can do in various subject areas. Assessments are conducted periodically in mathematics, reading, science, writing, the arts, civics, economics, geography, and U.S. history.

Since NAEP assessments are administered uniformly using the same sets of test booklets across the nation, NAEP results serve as a common metric for all states and selected urban districts. The assessment stays essentially the same from year to year, with only carefully documented changes. This permits NAEP to provide a clear picture of student academic progress over time.

Safe Home Compact

Parents received a letter from the school inviting them to pledge to join our 2010-2011 Safe Home Compact. This is being done in conjunction with Sanborn High and Middle School. By signing, parents join a network of safe households and the company of other Sanborn/Fremont parents who support the belief of providing safe homes where student activities are monitored and are drug and alcohol free. A copy of the letter is attached.

Respectfully Submitted,

John Safina

Ellis Middle School Principal