

AMOS I COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



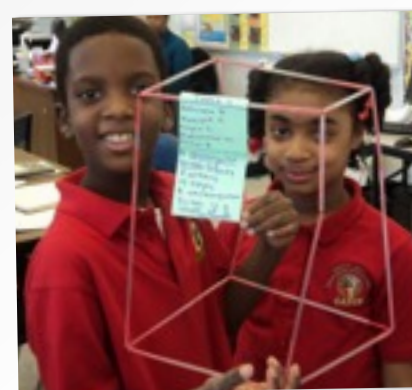
In This Month's Newsletter:



AMOS 1 SCIENCE FAIR



100TH DAY OF SCHOOL



CONSTRUCTING SOLIDS

Academy Leader's Corner

Announcements from Dr. Lewallen

WE WANT YOU BACK

As all of you should know by now, we are in the process of preparing our class lists for the 2011-2012 school year, and we want your child back with us at Amos I next year!

Letters of "Intent to Return" were sent home with all students currently enrolled in our school. Parents were asked to return the forms, with their signature, if their child would be returning to Amos I in the fall. These forms were due on February 15th. As of February 24th, only 50% of the parents have returned the forms to the Amos I office. **Your signed letter of intent is the only**

way that we can hold a space for your child for the 2011-2012 school year. We are now receiving

applications from students who are currently attending other schools in the District; however, we want your children back next year and want to reserve their spot, as soon as possible. A second letter will be given to children who did not return the first one that was sent home.

Formal registration will take place in May.

Please call the Amos I office if you have any questions!

TARDIES AND ABSENCES

As you know, your child's punctuality and regular attendance are crucial to her/his success in school.

Although there are times when situations are beyond our control, it is VERY important that your child is on time and in class every day. When a child arrives late, he/she begins the school day "behind" her/his classmates. Late arrivals also disrupt the teaching and learning process that is already taking place in the classroom. Please do everything you can to bring your children to school on time so that they may have the same opportunity to learn as their classmates. Also, when your child is ill or has a doctor's appointment, don't forget to send a signed note to place in your child's file.

PARENT/ACADEMY LEADER BREAKFASTS

Each month, Ms. Tucker and I hold a Parent/Academy Leader Breakfast in the cafeteria. The purpose of these meetings is to share information related to your child's educational program, answer questions, and basically get to know each other better. We want to hear your ideas about how we can work together to make our school a better place for your children to learn! Our next PAL Breakfast is scheduled for Friday, March 18th at 8:45am in the cafeteria. We hope to see you there!

DC-BAS

All Community Academy students in grades 3-5 will be taking the third DC-BAS test March 1-3. The DC-BAS is

given three times during the school year (November, January, and March) in order to help our students prepare for the DC-CAS examination in April. The DC-CAS will be given only to students in grades 3-5 and will measure our students' proficiency in reading and mathematics. Our teachers are working very hard to prepare our students for these important examinations! You may help at home by seeing that your children read every night and complete all assignments.

NAEP TESTING

On February 24th, all students in grade 4 were selected to represent schools across the District and the nation by participating in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). NAEP is given by the National Center for Education Statistics within the U.S. Department of Education and tells us what our nation's students know and can do in key subject areas. It is the largest continuing and nationally representative assessment and has been providing valid and reliable data on student performance since 1969. The results of NAEP are published in a report called The Nation's Report Card, which provides information about student achievement to educators, parents, policymakers, and the public.

CAPCS BOARD OF TRUSTEES ANNOUNCEMENTS

The trustees of the Dorothy I. Height Community Academy Public Charter Schools are pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Frederick Davy to the CAPCS Board of Trustees. Mr. Davy is a math content specialist and coach at Eastern Middle School in Montgomery County, MD. In this position, he leads all mathematics programs at his school, is responsible for recruitment, supervision and evaluation of all mathematics teachers and coordinates all county, state and national math testing at his school. Mr. Davy comes with over 20 years experience as a teacher in the DC metropolitan area, and we are extremely pleased that he has chosen to join the Board.

Mr. Francis Smith has been appointed as Chairman of the CAPCS Board of Trustees, replacing Ms. Sue Marshall, who served as Board Chair for 8 years. Mr. Smith currently serves as Senior Vice President/General Counsel to Chartered Health Plan, Inc. Mr. Smith will lead newly appointed Board of Trustees officers: First Vice Chair – Mr. Terry Chili; Second Vice Chair – Ms. Shelley Rawlings; Treasurer – Mr. Greshaun Fulgham and Secretary – Ms. Lynne Cowan.

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The trustees wish to acknowledge the recent appointments to the CAPCS Board of Trustees of parent member Ms. Sharon Thomas and Ms. Shelley Rawlings, who join continuing members Ms. Helen Williams, Ms. Pamela Bankett and parent member Ms. Charlene West Thomas. For more information, please see the CAPCS website for biographical information on each board member.

The trustees each join in supporting the faculty and staff of CAPCS to carry out our mission and achieve our goals and expectations of excellence.”

TOYS AND ELECTRONICS IN SCHOOL

Please help us to remind your children not to bring toys and electronics to school. They can be lost, broken, or stolen, so please make sure that they keep them at home! We appreciate your cooperation.

BREAKFAST 8:00 AM - 8:25 AM

Breakfast at Amos I seems to be going well! As you know, our kitchen closes at 8:25am and instruction begins promptly at 8:30am. Thank you for making sure that your children arrive early enough to have a good breakfast before class begins!

MORNING DROP-OFF & AFTERNOON PICK-UP

In order to protect the safety of our students, we ask that all parents be aware of children walking into the parking lot and across the driveway in both the morning and afternoon. Please remember that the driveway is “One Way”, and parents should drive slowly and carefully in order to avoid accidents. Working together, we can protect our children!

YOUNG LEADERS HARD AT WORK

The Young Leaders Club at Amos I is hard at work preparing a presentation for their fellow students. The presentation will focus on “good choices and bad choices” as they relate to children’s lives, both in and out of school. Stay tuned for more information!

ADULT ESL CLASSES CONTINUE

ESL classes for parents continue each Monday afternoon, from 4:30pm-5:30pm in the Amos I Music Room. Parents are enjoying increasing their English vocabulary and practicing conversational skills in English! If you are interested in joining our group, please contact Dr. Lewallen @ (202) 723-4100, ext. 2200.

MARCH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 1 - 3	DC - BAS Testing (Grades 3 - 5)
March 2	Hip Hop Music Concert (Grades 2 - 5)
March 4	Awards Assemblies
March 7 - 11	Read Across America Week
March 12	Saturday Academy
March 30	Data Conferences/Record keeping / PD (Full Day) <i>Students not in school</i>

Young Scientists in the Making

Amos I Science Fair

The Amos I Science Fair took place on Friday, February 4, 2011. The purpose of the science fair is to encourage students' interest in science, to develop their inquiry and investigation skills, and to enhance children's pride in completing research projects.

Students in first through fifth grade created a science project using a research method used by scientists when they do experiments which includes; making observations, asking questions, making predictions, gathering data, analyzing results, making graphs and tables, and writing conclusions.

Pre-kindergarten and kindergarten students prepared animal facts posters for the science fair. Each student selected an animal and made a poster all about their choice. Their posters included where the animal lives, what it eats, and how it protects itself.

The Science Fair was a huge success! Our students shared their projects and results with leaders from the CAPCS community. The judges listened, asked questions, and provided valuable feedback to our students. My sincere thanks to all that contributed. See you next year!

- Ms. Henry
Amos I Science Teacher



4th Grade Math: *Constructing Solids*

Fourth graders in Mrs. Ikechi-Konkwo's and Mrs. Nicholas' classes experienced hands on training in math by making 3-Dimensional shapes in Geometry. Students worked in groups of four and used materials such as straws and twist ties to construct the 3D solids.

Students prepared for the lesson by watching a presentation on the properties of solids. During the presentation they were able to "uncover" the relationship between 2-Dimensional shapes and 3-Dimensional shapes. This knowledge was a key component in helping them make the base of the 3-D shapes before building the rest.

- Mrs. Ikechi-Konkwo
Amos I Fourth Grade Teacher



Stories By Nanna

Early childhood and 1st grade students celebrated Black History month with a special performance from storyteller extraordinaire "Nanna". Using mime, puppetry, songs, and movement, Nanna invited the audience to participate by clapping, singing, and moving to the story.

Nanna is a part of the In-School Artist Residency program sponsored by the Washington Performing Arts Society. On March 2nd, a hip hop performer from the program will put on a concert for grades 2-5.

- Mrs. McDuffie
Amos I and Rand Campus Music Teacher



Celebrating 100 Days in First Grade!



So far this year we have had a lot of wonderful learning to celebrate. First graders spend a lot of time learning about and practicing using numbers all the way to 100. We have been keeping track of the number of days we've spent in school as a "count-up" to 100. We had a fun day full of lots of activities to celebrate!

- Ms. Klein
Amos 1 First Grade Teacher