

January 11, 2010

The South Viewer

A publication of South View Middle School – Edina, Minnesota

EventsView

Mon., Jan. 11

Site Council Mtg., 3pm, Media Center

Tues., Jan. 12

Parent Council Exec. Board Mtg., 11am, Ofc. Conf. Rm.

Wed., Jan. 13

Mandatory Variety Show Dress Rehearsal, 2:45pm, Auditorium

Thurs., Jan. 14

Variety Show, 3:30pm & 7pm, Auditorium

Fri., Jan. 15

Mixed Blood Theater
Performances: 8th & 9th grades: 8am; 6th & 7th grades: 9:25am

Mon., Jan. 18

No School, Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday

For the complete 2009-2010

Calendar, go to:

<http://www.edina.k12.mn.us/southview/pdfs/SVCalendar200910.pdf>

Note from the Principal...

"Recent research has shown that students' mindsets have a direct influence on their grades and that teaching students to have a growth mindset raises their grades and achievement test scores significantly." (Blackwell, Trzesniewski and Dweck, 2007; Good, Aronson and Inzlicht, 2003).

At the school level, we will continue to work on encouraging student learning, allowing mistakes and learning from mistakes, differentiated learning activities to meet students where they are, and believing that ALL students can get smarter. You can help us with this at home.

Edline can be a great tool for providing you with information so you can have a conversation with your student about how they are planning their work and getting it done. It can be a great communication tool or it can reinforce an over-exaggerated emphasis on grades, which in my opinion, does not help your student develop the continuing growth mindset for learning.

What will help kids develop a growth mindset is encouraging them to put forth the effort it takes to learn the material, continue to persist in the face of setbacks like a poor grade, and asking questions. Some kids and perhaps some parents believe that a poor grade indicates that they aren't as smart or don't have the ability. For some of these kids, they believe that if they didn't get the good grade on this test – the next test, they might cheat. Their logic is that they have to find another way to "achieve." If we believe that a poor grade means that our student's intelligence is deficient and become defensive about the "grade," we are feeding into that fixed mindset. Let's work together to encourage our students to LEARN, to figure out what they must do if their grades are reflecting a lack of mastery of the content, and to reinforce our belief that they are in control of their learning.

--Dr. Beth Russell, South View Principal

What's happening at South View?

Please check the calendar to keep up with all the great activities South View students and teachers are doing!

Just around the corner...

South View Winterfest 2010!

Friday, February 19

6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Parents – can you help?

Please email Kim@kimmelin.com

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Mark your calendar!

Edina Ed Fund Show-and-Tell Luncheon

Monday, February 8, 2010

11:30 a.m. - Registration and Demonstrations

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Program

St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Mahon Center

6820 St. Patrick's Ln., Edina

Please join the Edina Education Fund for lunch and an exciting program! You'll experience firsthand the profound impact the Edina Education Fund has on students throughout Edina Public Schools. There will be hands-on demonstrations from our most recent grant recipients, live presentations, and more. Please make your reservations on line quickly as space is limited.

Edina Education Fund • 5701 Normandale Road • Edina , MN 55424 • 952-848-4222 • www.edinaedfund.com

Help out SV teachers!

Have you checked out teachers' wish lists on the bulletin board in the office? You will see "snowflakes" with items written on them that teachers would like for their classrooms. Parents are invited to come into the office, pick a snowflake off the board, purchase the item for the classroom, and then bring it to the office. Office staff will distribute to the appropriate teacher and let the teacher know who generously granted their wish! Questions? Email lorharrison@edina.k12.mn.us

Keep our kids safe: follow traffic safety rules!

- Every car must stop for students at the crosswalk.
- For drop-offs before school and pick-ups after school, go to the west side of the building, doors 6 or 7, as it is safer than crossing traffic on the street. Please note that picking up students from after-school activities should be done here, as well, to avoid congestion when activity buses arrive at 4:45 p.m. The lane in front of the school also is a designated fire lane, so cars are prohibited from parking there at all times.
- When dropping off or picking up a student on the west side of the building, line up along the sidewalk whenever possible and not in the parking area. Students who cross traffic lanes between the school and the parking lot often run out from between cars. The lot is very icy, and some cars still zip through too fast! Teach your child to cross at the crosswalk.
- **DO NOT** drop your child off on the street on South View Lane. Students dropped off in the street often don't pay attention to oncoming cars, and cars pulling out of parking spots don't expect them to appear out of nowhere. Stopping a car at random places on the street also may cause drivers coming from behind to go around you. That passing driver may not see your child or other children in front of your car crossing the street. It also disrupts normal traffic flow on South View Lane.

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Gentle reminders: Scheduling appointments & Forgotten items

Please try to schedule doctor, orthodontic, and other appointments outside of school hours whenever possible. If you make an appointment during school hours, please send a note with your student in the morning and have him or her hand it to the classroom teacher to be excused from the room. The student then takes your note to the office, and the attendance clerk will check him or her out officially. This eliminates *our* need to interrupt class and *your* need to come into the building. If a student returns to class, they need to check back in with the office.

Also, please communicate to your student that if he/she forgets an item, and you would be able to bring it to school, it's their responsibility to come to the office to get it. There are plastic bins for each grade in the office, and parents can put most items there. (We'll keep items of value, like laptops, at the main desk.) Students have been doing a great job with this system this school year.