

King Academy Cougar News

March 12, 2010

The mission of King Academy of Extended Learning and Technology is to provide a secure, nurturing environment that embraces individuality, promotes high academic achievement and develops life-long learners who will become contributing members of a global society.

Vision

Everyone learns: Whatever it takes!

Dear Families,

Thank you for returning the Parent-Teacher Conference appointment request slips to your child's teacher. Teachers will begin scheduling appointments next week and use these requests to schedule appointment times convenient for you.

March on Reading is underway with many students reading books, posting their shovels in the hallways and voting for their favorite teacher to get a "mud pie". This week, we conducted a door decorating contest where our students decorated their classroom doors in honor of their favorite books. All the doors were very well done with a wide variety of styles and materials used. We are proud to announce that Ms. Smith's door won for the 300 pod and Mr. Kulp's door won for the 200 pod. Congratulations both of these classrooms! This week, continue reading with your child and enjoy a great new book together.

Have a great week!
Mrs. Sharon Gryzenia Ed.S.
Principal

Kindergarten Round-Up

M.L. King Jr. Academy hosted Kindergarten Round-Up on Thursday, March 4th. We welcomed many new students and their parents to M.L. King

Jr. Academy. If you were not able to attend, stop by our office and pick up a Kindergarten enrollment packet. It's not too early to get your child ready for next year. The first fifty students that register for kindergarten for the 2010-2011 school year will receive a special t-shirt for the first day of school in September. Don't be late!

Calendar Highlights

March 26th is the end of the third quarter. We will have a **half day on March 26th**, with a 10:48 a.m. dismissal. **Parent-Teacher conferences are on March 30 and 31st – with a 10:48 dismissal** for both days. **April 1st is a half-day, 10:48 dismissal** and start of Spring break.

Parking Lot Woes!

We are continuing to have difficulty with parents picking up and dropping off children using the bus loop. **The south parking lot is RESERVED for bus pick up and drop off ONLY!** We do not want children injured by walking around the bus to your car. Busses are large vehicles and have considerable difficulty trying to maneuver around cars that are parked in our bus loop. Please, use the north parking lot when dropping off and picking up your children.

Junior High Visitation

Our current sixth grade students in Mr. Marvin's and Mr. Kulp's classroom will be visiting Mount Clemens Junior High School on **Tuesday, March 16th**. It's a great opportunity to introduce our oldest students to the wonderful opportunities that await them at our own International Baccalaureate Academy Junior High – the first one in Macomb County. **Mount Clemens Junior High will be hosting an Informational Parent Meeting on Thursday, March 18th at 6:30 p.m. in the Mt. Clemens High School Cafeteria** This is an opportunity for our parents to see the facilities,

meet the teachers and administration and learn all about the International Baccalaureate Academy. Please join this informational meeting and enjoy delicious refreshments and take part in the raffle.

7 Ways to Build a Better Reader for Grades K-2

1. **Make reading part of your child's world.** Read books with her and to her, aiming for a total of 30 minutes of book-sharing time each day. Also incorporate reading into everyday activities. Post a chore list on the refrigerator, ask her to read signs as you drive, and play board games like Scrabble Junior.
2. **Take turns.** When he is ready to read to you, start by taking turns. You read one page, he reads the next, and so on.
3. **Ask deeper questions.** Help her build [comprehension skills](#) by asking questions about the story, such as why she thinks a character did something and what may come next. Talk to her about which books are her favorites and have her try to explain why.
4. **Be patient.** Wait quietly as your child tries to sound out a word he's unfamiliar with.
5. **Help her when she needs it.** If she makes a mistake but is close, quickly repeat the word correctly and let her continue without interrupting the flow. If she guesses wildly on a word, help her get the right meaning from the context of the sentence. Answer questions about the meaning of words, but don't drill her on vocabulary words as you read.
6. **Read different-level books.** It's okay if he chooses an "easy" book to read. Reading a familiar favorite is a good confidence booster. Read more advanced books to him to introduce new words and challenging stories.
7. **Praise her.** Learning to read smoothly is hard work and might frustrate her at times. Encourage her by praising her efforts, paying attention when she wants to read, and making your reading time together fun.

March on Reading events

Our theme this year is: Dig It! We will have a digging race to see who gets to China (the office) first. When a student reads a book, he/she fills out a shovel. The shovels will line the halls to see which POD makes it to China first. Here are the upcoming events:

Friday, March 12 – Read a shirt day

Wednesday, March 17 – Guest reader day

Friday, March 19 – Reading buddy day. An upper and lower class pair up to read together.

Friday, March 26 – Pajama and favorite book day. Half Day of School 10:48 dismissal.

Wednesday, March 31 – End of race to China and end of “mud” pie voting.

Friday, April 16 – Mud pie ceremony, ABC Awards and Honor Roll

All students are receiving 3 new books this month through our association with First Book.org. These books have been chosen for your child's age and grade level and are wonderful examples of good children's literature. If you would like to be a guest reader on March 17th, please call our office and one of our wonderful secretaries will be happy to schedule you as one of our “guest readers”. Join with us as we celebrate the joy of reading during March.

Safe Routes to School

The next meeting of the Save Routes to School committee will be on Tuesday, April 13th at 3:30 p.m. in the LGI room. As part of the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Building Healthy Communities grant, M.L. King Jr. Academy has developed a committee of parents, community members and teachers to assess our surroundings and develop a plan to encourage students to walk and bike to school. Join us at our next meeting and help us address these issues and make it easier for our students to walk and bike to school.

Roller Skating Party

M.L. King Jr. Academy is hosting another Roller Skating Party on Friday, March 19th. It will be held at the Sports Forum Skating Rink from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. Cost is \$5.50 at the door. This is a

family event, no student drop offs. Join us and get some great exercise as well as having fun with your friends.

Jump Rope for Heart

M.L. King Jr. Academy is again taking part in our annual Jump Rope for Heart. Throughout the day on Tuesday, March 23rd, students will be jumping rope to raise funds for the American Heart Association. Collection envelopes were sent out this week and are to be returned on March 23rd. Our goal is to collect \$1,000, which will save 20 lives. We are in need of parent volunteers to assist with this event. If you can help, please send a note or call Ms. Knopp. Let's jump together, get some great exercise and help build strong hearts.

ABC Awards

The following students were honored on Friday, March 5th for being recognized for A=Academics, B=Behavior and C=Creativity for the month of February. Congratulations to all of you and continue your great work ethic here at King Academy.

Academics

Makiyah Adams	Eric Arnold
Alexus Bojda	Airionna Collier
Michael Herrod	Dacaria Jenkins
Jerrell King	Marina Maldonado
Da'Shawn McCoy	William Sanders
Jillian Schultz	Keira Speights
Kyanna Speights	

Behavior

Aominique Andrews	Chamia Arnold
Syvana Brown	Selena Emery
Doroteya Kiza	Trevor Krause
Isaac McKenny	Aliyah Peters
Nigel Sargent	Christian Simmons
Tyesha Smith	Cranston Turner
Tamara Wilson	

Creativity

Jaylen Betts	Anthony Bojda
Jamia Bryant	DeShaun Curry
Seth Maisano	Savonna Pitts

Melicia Roby	Jayda Swift
India Ward	LaFawn Williams
Tobias Williams	

Parent Breakfast Club

The next meeting of our Parent Breakfast Club is on Thursday, March 18th. Meet us in the Media Center at 7:35 a.m. and enjoy a healthy breakfast. Our topic for March is "Take Action – Exercise!" And as always, we'll have prizes and giveaways for parents who attend. These classes are less than an hour in length. You get breakfast, great conversation, meet some other parents and start your day off right! Remember, for every meeting you attend, you will receive one raffle ticket to our final meeting in May when we will be giving away lots of prizes.

Calendar

March 16	Junior High Transition – students
March 18	Junior High Transition meeting for parents MC Junior High 6:30 p.m.
March 26	Half Day, 10:48 dismissal, end of third quarter – records day
March 29	Mobile Dentist
March 30	Parent-Teacher Conferences
March 31	Parent-Teacher Conferences
April 1	Half day, 10:48 dismissal - Spring Break begins on Friday, April 2 – School resumes on Monday, April 12
April 16	ABC awards and March on Reading wrap-up
April 22	Game Night 5:30 p.m.