



Great River News

June 2, 2009

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Community Voices

Tonight, at GRS, the last Community Voices meeting. This meeting will be for all GRS parents, guardians or interested people. This is an opportunity to socialize, learn about internet safety, and talk about issues important to the community.

6 pm - pizza from John's Pizza (PLEASE call 651-305-2780 ext 103 if you plan to eat to help us with the amount needed - \$5 per person)

6:30 pm - Internet Safety presentation by Jacob Wetterling Resource Center

7:30 pm - discussion about concerns for this year & ideas for next year

May Term Presentations

Many GRS students are off campus, on the bike trip, the Chicago, Colorado, Costa Rica or Backpacking trips. Students are hard at work on and off campus daily as well with hands on learning happening every day. What a great way to end the year!

If you are interested in finding out exactly what May Term is all about, there are several opportunities to see the product of these last 2 ½ weeks of school in the high school.

Future Events

- ◆ 6/2 - Parent Voices - 6:30
- ◆ 6/10 - last day of school & graduation (12th grade) - 7pm
- ◆ 9/2/09 - Orientation for the 09-10 Fall trips & academics
- ◆ 9/8/09 - first day of the 2009-2010 school year

murder's in the heir
a comedic murder mystery

Was it the butler? The spoiled nephew? The doting grandson? Who killed Simon Starkweather? Be a part of the investigation as the Theatre May Term presents "Murder's in the Heir" a comedic murder mystery where you help figure out whodunit. Performed as a radio show complete with live music this evening promises to be full of thrills, chills, and laughs. Monday, June 8, 2009 at 7:00 PM at GRS.

Collaboration of 4 May Term Groups

Come for an night of fun and entertainment. See students performing and presenting their hard work. The photography group will have prints from their work on display. The dance and film groups will present dances and films they have made. The Garage Band groups will perform original and cover songs. It all takes place at McNally Smith College of Music, 19 Exchange St. East in St. Paul (the former Science Museum location). They have generously donated the use of equipment and the theater. Please check our website for a map and flyer.

Schedule - June 8, 9, 10

The schedule for the last week of school is different for GRS students depending on what grade they are in and what activities they are doing. . On Monday, June 8 and Tuesday, June 9, there will be no school for A1 but May Terms for A2 & 3 will meet. On Tuesday, June 9, 7th grade volunteers are needed to help clean up from the bike trip. The last day of school Wed., June 10, will be an early release day (1 pm). Graduation for students in 12th grade is at 7 pm at Macalester College. The entire GRS community is invited to attend and celebrate with our graduates.

Registration Forms for 2009-2010

Last week, all returning students received registration forms for next year. This includes the emergency contact form, GRS News delivery form, permission for field trips and photos among others. If you did not get this form, please call Andria Siebert at 651-305-2780, ext 100. You can also find it on the website. Returning this form before the end of the year helps us be more organized at the beginning of next year and saves us money. Thanks for your cooperation.

Bird Houses at Como Park

The blue bird houses installed last fall at Como Park by Tami's EcoEd class are now inhabited. The report from the park is "Great Success with our wonderful boxes! Along with the six Great River students provided, we have four hanging nest boxes. At least 12 bluebirds have hatched so far; 6 chickadees; and there are at least 17 tree swallow eggs in four boxes." Check out the website page the city has made for the Bluebird Trail: <http://www.stpaul.gov/index.aspx?NID=3146>

Great Extravaganza

While the event was more than 2 weeks ago, we have had some tricky issues with the credit card mechanism so have not yet put those charges through. If you charged your items and the total was \$20 or less, we would really love it if you could put a check in the mail to us. If your charges were more than \$20, and you are able, we would love to get a check from you. However, we will be doing the credit card charges on Wednesday. If you are going to send us a check, please let Lydia know by calling 651-305-2780, ext 103 or sending an email to lmcanerney@greatriverschool.org. If you have tickets etc. here, we will send those out once payment is complete. Thanks so much for your donations and your patience.

GRS Staffing Changes for 2009-2010

There was an earlier article about some staffing change, and here is the latest update. While there maybe people leaving, we are excited about those new people coming and the changes. Ben Moudry will be changing positions slightly, moving back to 7/8 (A1) Social Studies and half-time Montessori Coordinator - this means he will be teaching the core Social Studies classes in the morning and doing administrative work in the afternoons next year. Nelson Inz will be moving to 11/12th (A3) as Social Studies teacher. A new Science teacher has been hired to teach 11/12 (A3) science. Since details need to be worked out with her, we will be making that announcement shortly. We are working on replacements for the 9/10 (A2) Social Studies and 10/11/12 (A2 & 3) Special Education positions. More information will be forthcoming soon.

Yearbook

We are still looking for pictures! If you have any good photos from this year's GRS events, the yearbook wants them! We specifically need photos from A1 Soccer and Basketball. The A1 Odyssey in the fall and now, the bike trip. Send photos to kdiehn@greatriverschool.org. Also, we are still taking orders for the yearbook. Attached is the order form - \$25. Thanks!

Sports Update - Ultimate practice & Games

The season is almost over with the tournament this weekend. The event will take place in Maglegrave.

2008-2009 Yearbook Order form

What will my yearbook look like?

Soft bound, 80 pages, full color, custom cover. The printing is being done professionally so you can expect a very high quality product. The soft binding is nice and durable.

When will I get my yearbook?

We want to include May Term, graduation, etc. in the book so we can't print it until those events are included. We plan to have a summertime get-together in late July/early August at GRS so you can pick up the book and get it signed, etc. If you can't make the get-together, you'll be able to pick up your book at school some time after they're printed. Information on the pick up dates will be posted in GRS newsletters, on facebook, etc.

What is the cost?

\$25

How can I pay?

Please include (with your order form) cash or check made out to Great River School.

What is the deadline for orders?

PLEASE SUBMIT ALL ORDERS AND PAYMENT BY FRIDAY, JUNE 5. You can give them Kate, the front office, or mail them in to:

Great River School (yearbook)
1326 Energy Park Drive
St. Paul, MN 55108

Please detach completed section below and turn in with payment

Name(s): _____

Total Price: _____ book(s) x \$25 = \$ _____
(# of books) (total price)

Office Use Only:

Paid



Great River School

2009 - 2010 School Calendar

Adolescent 1(A1) – 7/8th grade; Adolescent 2(A2) – 9th/10th grade; Adolescent 3(A3) – 11 /12th grade

September 2	Academic & Fall Trip Orientations (All families should plan to attend)
September 8	First Day of School
September 12 - 18	A1 - Fall Trip
September 21	No School
September 22 – 25	A2 & A3 - Fall Trip
October 15 - 16	No School (Teacher In Service)
November 4	Early Release & Conferences
November 5 & 6	Conferences (No School)
November 26 & 27	No School (Fall Break)
December 16 - 18	A2 & A3 Finals (dismissed at 1 pm)
December 18	Last day of first semester
December 21 - January 3	Winter Break
January 4	A2 & A3 – second semester begins
January 4 – January 29	A1 – J-Term
January 18	No School (Martin Luther King Jr. Day)
January 27 - 29	A1 - J-term Theater Performances
February 1	A1 - Second semester begins
February 12	No School – staff retreat
February 15	No School (President's Day)
March 10	Early release & Conferences
March 11 & 12	Conferences (No school)
March 29 - April 2	Spring Break
May 26-28	A2 & A3 Finals
May 28	Last day of second semester
May 31	No School (Memorial Day)
June 1 – 16	A2 & A3 Spring Intensives
June 7 - 11	A1 Bike Trip
June 14, 15 & 16	Early Release for all students (1 pm)
June 16	Last Day of School for all students and 12 th Grade Graduation

Early release days for Staff Development – Tuesdays, 10/6, 12/1, 3/2, 4/6, 5/4

NOTES:

- The school day runs from 8:30 to 3 pm Monday to Friday
- School Board meeting dates will be determined at the July 2009 board meeting. The public is encouraged to attend. Watch the website for more information.