

IN THIS ISSUE

- PAVE Happenings
- Did You Know?
- Spirit Week Agenda
- Dr Kahn's Featured Article

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

- 1/20 School Board Meeting 7PM
- 1/21 Spaghetti Dinner 5:30-7:30 Gym
- 1/23-1/28 Spirit Week (see inside for more details)
- 1/26- Fish ceremony 2:50 PM Gym
- 1/27 Science Fair 9am-11am Gym
- 1/27 Extraordinary Expo 6PM Gym
- 1/28 Spelling Bees 1PM 1st & 2nd grade; 1:45PM 3rd-7th Grade
- 2/15 Kindergarten Round up 6:30PM

**Late Start
10:30 AM
Wed. Feb
16th**



Director's Notes

by
Lynn Gluck Peterson

JANUARY 18, 2011

PAVE Happenings...

The purpose of the Parents Are Vital Energy (PAVE) committee is to provide a link between home and school and to promote Cologne Academy in the community. PAVE meets on the first Tuesday of every month. Each year, PAVE will sponsor several fundraisers on behalf of the school. PAVE's two largest fundraisers are quickly approaching.

**Cologne Academy's 3rd Annual Spaghetti Dinner
Friday night, January 21st from 5:30-7:30 PM @
Cologne Community Center (CCC).**

Tickets are on sale now or you may purchase tickets at the door. The dinner will be served *Restaurant Style*. Your hosts will be Cologne Academy staff and your servers will be the 5th grade students and parents. Your TIPS help support the 5th grade's 3 day, 2 night Environmental Camp experience in May.

All parents are members of PAVE! If you are interested in finding out how you can be an active member of the PAVE committee or volunteer for the school, please contact the office for more information or email PAVE@cologneacademy.org.

Save the Date—April 16th—SPRING FLING

DID YOU KNOW?

Big changes at Capitol Hill in St. Paul last week when the newly elected officials took office. This change provides an opportunity for a new governor, legislature, and commissioner to reexamine, restate, re-purpose, and reposition the mission of the Department of Education. Those in the charter school community and those in the traditional public school systems hope that Governor Dayton and the new legislative leadership will work together to support and fund education.

While no one ever imagined or predicted the voter outcomes from this fall, many are optimistic of the changes that could arise. I will keep you up-to-date as the legislative session develops.

SPIRIT WEEK

**Details
Inside**

Spirit Week...

Monday 1-24 PJ Day & Crazy Hair

Students may wear appropriate pajamas/comfy clothes and crazy hair to school.

Tuesday 1-25 Sports Team and Hat Day

Students wear their favorite sports apparel and/or their favorite hat!

Wednesday 1-26 Color Day and Fish Ceremony

Students from each grade will wear different colors...as much of that color as possible!

K— Yellow 1st— Red 2nd— Blue 3rd— Orange 4th— Purple
5th— Black 6th— Green 7th— Brown

Fish Ceremony 2:55 pm

Thursday 1-27 Dress Your Best!

Students wear their nicest clothes during the school day in preparation and anticipation for the Extraordinary Expo in the evening! Our Extraordinary Expo is the name that was given to this all school event which highlights more of our academic programming. The evening highlights our Arts programs including Spanish and Visual Arts, as well as Science Projects. In addition, the evening will feature a live auction!!

9:00-11:00 am - Science Fair viewing and judging. All projects will be on display at the community center during this time. After the judging, only select projects will be on display for the evening Expo so that we can accommodate seating for all families for the evening performance and also for the art displays.

5:45 pm - Doors open at Cologne academy for student drop off prior to the expo.

6:00 pm - The **Extraordinary Expo** begins.

Friday, 1-28 CA Pride and Spelling Bee

Students wear CA spirit wear and jeans to school today.

Spelling Bee @ the Community Center

1st-2nd grade - 1:00 pm

3rd-7th grade - 1:45 pm

Our Vision

To create an environment for K-8 children where rich character development and effective learning create self confident students who are able to achieve their personal best academically. Using advanced curriculum that is based on goal oriented results, parents will work with teachers to produce the highest possible level of academic achievement for each individual student.

Our Mission

To provide students in Cologne and surrounding rural areas with a content-rich education based on a strong foundation of knowledge through the use of the Core Knowledge Sequence and classical curriculum. We are committed to providing a community school with small class sizes where students, parents and teachers work together to achieve accelerated academic achievement and strong character development.

Cooking Spaghetti by Dr. Kahn

Recently, a mother told me a story about a time when her 14-year-old son made a disparaging remark about what she was making for dinner and she reminded him that he was welcome to make his own dinner if he would prefer. He began to boil water for spaghetti, put the noodles in the water, and began to recycle the cardboard package. So far, so good. It is the next thing that happened that led to this article.

It was at that point, as the cardboard package the noodles came in was heading for the recycling, that the mother told him not to recycle it just yet because he would need to know (from the package) how long to cook the noodles. If you have a 14-year-old you know what happened next. He got insulted (“Do you think I’m stupid?”) and things deteriorated from there. He was already in a rotten mood (before he even learned what she was planning for dinner), used a disrespectful tone, brought up a time earlier that week when she had nagged him about something else (“You always nag me, I hate it. I wish you would just leave me alone.”) To which she responded with something like “don’t you talk to me with that tone of voice, after all I do for you.” Most of us have found ourselves in similar conversations before we even realized we were heading in that direction.

When the mother and I talked it through later, we decided that you would have to believe that teenagers learn more from their own mistakes (under- or over-cooked spaghetti) than from merely being insulted by uninformed advice. Here are some other examples of the same process.

You would have to believe
they will learn more from

than by

looking in their own mirror at their own mistakes

being distracted by a response from us that is impatient or frustrated

a birthday party invitation that doesn’t come

calling the other mother and seeing if they can handle one more child

a missing assignment

being their planner

being held accountable to a school policy

using your influence to rescue, enable and bail them out

a realistic sense of their own talents

being frustrated with a coach for not enough playing time

following through on your discipline plan

feeling sorry for them and backing down

changing friendship groups

helping them get into the popular group

Cooking Spaghetti (cont'd) by Dr. Kahn

As loving parents, it is hard for us when our children are hurting or when we see them making a mistake. It is hard to maintain a long-term view in parenting. We have to be careful about helping too much or we might rob them of what they would otherwise have learned from their own mistake or disappointment. *It helps to believe that our children will learn more from under-cooked or over-cooked spaghetti than feeling insulted by our help.* There is a huge difference between nurturing them, keeping them safe, teaching them whatever we can; and thinking of them as projects to be managed, intervening too much, and running the risk of alienating them by our efforts to help.

There are four years of (free) articles about parenting at www.drstevekahn.com and they are available for downloading or forwarding to other parents. Dr. Steve Kahn is the author of *Insightful Parenting: Making Moments Count*.

Uniform Policy Update:

You now have two vendor options for Cologne Academy's Plaid. Donald's Plaid #57 and Land's End Classic Navy Plaid. A portion of your purchase from Land's End comes back to the school.



Uniform Vendor Option:

Uniforms Etc
209 West 1st Street Waconia, MN 55387
Phone: 952.442.1141 Fax: 952.442.1102



Can Recycling:

Please recycle your cans in the can trailer in the school's parking lot. Money raised will help offset the 5th grade's environmental trip in May.

