



The Eagle's Nest

Mr. Christopher Rogers, Principal
Mrs. Dorothy O'Neil, Assistant Principal

Building a Strong School Community Through Improved Student Attendance

November 2014

Dear Abner Gibbs Families,

We are very excited with the progress our school is making this year both academically and with our focus on SOAR behavior. Part of what makes our school so great is that we are a neighborhood school with a lot of families living within walking distance of our school grounds.

With that said, one of the ways we will make our school com-

munity even stronger and ensure our students are



learning and achieving at the highest levels, is with

excellent school attendance. Unless a student is really sick, it is our expectation that they are at school everyday no later than 9:00 AM. Our doors open at 8:45 and teaching and learning begin right away!!! I know if we work together with a strong-focus on student attendance, Abner Gibbs will "SOAR" to our goal of being a strong, high-performing school community for all of our children.

Special points of interest:

- ✓ Our school day for students begins promptly at 9:00 AM and dismissal is at 3:00 PM.
- ✓ If your child is to be dismissed from school, please send in a note in the morning.
- ✓ Anybody coming to school during the day must have a picture I.D.
- ✓ In case of a possible school cancellation or delayed opening due to weather, elementary families will receive a call from the Blackboard Connect system at 6:30 AM.
- ✓ If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us at 572-6418.
- ✓ Thank You for all your support of our school!!!

Spotlight on First Grade

We are very proud of the efforts put forth by our first grade students! They have been working hard at becoming successful readers, writers, mathematicians and SOARing to new heights. Here are a few highlights of what we are currently engaged in:

- *In Reading, learning new phonics principles such as long vowels, consonant clusters, and digraphs.
- *Focusing on how people and animals are important to one another.
- *Discussing and sharing about different kinds of communities and who helps to make a community a nice place to live and work.
- *In Math, decomposing numbers and adding and subtracting to 12.
- *As always, showing SOAR behavior by making good choices and being kind and respectful citizens of Abner Gibbs!

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Oliveri or Ms. Page at 572-6418. Thank you for your continuous support working with your children at home!

School Safety

One of the most important things we do at Abner Gibbs Elementary School everyday is to provide a safe school environment fostering a positive school climate. Through our school-wide meetings and in our classrooms we are always emphasizing safety, SOAR behavior, and ways to make our school a great place to be! As we continue to move forward, please help us by remembering and /or reinforcing the following safety pieces:

- ◆ Students should report to school no earlier than 8:45, when we begin to provide

supervision.

- ◆ All visitors are required to



present a picture I.D.

- ◆ Students need to be escorted across the street by a parent/guardian or the crossing guard when using crosswalks.
- ◆ Students are expected to use our playground equipment respectfully and follow all playground safety rules.
- ◆ At school, we regularly practice drills for evacuations, lockdowns, and shelter-in-place situations.
- ◆ Contact us if you have a safety concern or need to report an issue anytime at 572-6418.

PBIS Pencil Project 2014

During October, our students were asked to donate unused pencils as part of a month-long PBIS community service experience. The pencils were collected in a box

near the main office and 564 were donated by Abner Gibbs students and staff! They will be donated later this year to a school in our area where students current-

ly have to share pencils. This endeavor was brought forward by our very own Mrs. Byrne. Thank you to all who participated and helped support such a great cause!!!

Dates/Events to Remember

- 11/13 - Quarter 1 Report Cards home with students
- 11/18 - School Picture Re -Take Day
- 11/20 - School Improvement Council Meeting
- 11/26-11/28 Thanksgiving Recess
- 12/1- PBIS "Frozen Night" at MoFroYo
- 12/3 - Tree Lighting Ceremony
- 12/17- Winter Concert
- 12/23 - ERSD/Students dismissed at 12:00

Looking for more information?

Check out our website:

<http://westfieldag.sharpschool.net/>

Please join our parent/guardian email-notification system by contacting Mrs. Matyseck at 572-6418.