



THE CHÁVEZ COURIER

A newsletter of César Chávez Elementary School

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Safe Arrival Number 442-2085

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Home of the Chávez Cheetahs!



December 2006/January 2007

Dear Chávez Families;

Winter has arrived! Please keep in mind that when severe weather threatens, you should tune in to a Madison radio or television station. News meteorologists will keep us all in touch with the weather related to school closings and delays. You will see an announcement at the bottom of your television screen from 6:00 a.m. until approximately 8:00 a.m. Please do not call the school, as school lines are needed for other school business. Remember the **Safe Arrival Number is 442-2085** if your child will not be attending school for any reason. Don't put yourself or your child(ren) at risk on treacherous winter days.

Students should arrive at school on the playground no earlier than 8:15 a.m. when playground supervision begins. School ends at 1:45 p.m. on

Monday and 3:17 p.m. on Tuesday through Friday. Students should be on their way home promptly after school.

We will not go outside for recess when the wind chill reaches -10 degrees below zero. Please refer to the enclosed wind chill chart. The office will monitor the weather and communicate with staff concerning the weather conditions throughout the day. Unfortunately, we do not have the resources to offer students a choice of indoor or outdoor recess on cold days.

Please bundle up your child(ren) and remind them that it is very important to be dressed warmly for recess and for the trip home each day. Students should have a pair of shoes in their locker to change out of their boots so their feet can stay dry. It would also be helpful if your child would have an extra change of clothes in his/her locker just in case of an accident.

May you have a safe, relaxing and enjoyable winter break (**December 23, 2006 -- January 7, 2007**). **School resumes on Monday, January 8, 2007.**

Sincerely,

Linda Allen, Principal

Pam Emmerich, Asst. Principal

Wind Chill Chart

Wind (mph)

Calm	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60
40	36	34	32	30	29	28	28	27	26	26	25	25
35	31	27	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	19	18	17
30	25	21	19	17	16	15	14	13	12	12	11	10
25	19	15	13	11	9	8	7	6	5	4	4	3
20	13	9	6	4	3	1	0	-1	-2	-3	-3	-4
15	7	3	0	-2	-4	-5	-7	-8	-9	-10	-11	-11
10	1	-4	-7	-9	-11	-12	-14	-15	-16	-17	-18	-19
5	-5	-10	-13	-15	-17	-19	-21	-22	-23	-24	-25	-26
0	-11	-16	-19	-22	-24	-26	-27	-29	-30	-31	-32	-33
-5	-16	-22	-26	-29	-31	-33	-34	-36	-37	-38	-39	-40
-10	-22	-28	-32	-35	-37	-39	-41	-43	-44	-45	-46	-48
-15	-28	-35	-39	-42	-44	-46	-48	-50	-51	-52	-54	-55
-20	-34	-41	-45	-48	-51	-53	-55	-57	-58	-60	-61	-62
-25	-40	-47	-51	-55	-58	-60	-62	-64	-65	-67	-68	-69
-30	-46	-53	-58	-61	-64	-67	-69	-71	-72	-74	-75	-76
-35	-52	-59	-64	-68	-71	-73	-76	-78	-79	-81	-82	-84
-40	-57	-66	-71	-74	-78	-80	-82	-84	-86	-88	-89	-91
-45	-63	-72	-77	-81	-84	-87	-89	-91	-93	-95	-97	-98

Frostbite Times

30 Minutes 10 Minutes 5 Minutes

$$\text{Wind Chill (}^\circ\text{F)} = 35.74 + 0.6215T - 35.75(V^{0.16}) + 0.4275T(V^{0.16})$$

Where, T = Air Temperature ($^\circ\text{F}$)
V = Wind Speed (mph)

Board Policy on Gifts for Staff

Board of Education Policy (8254A) states, "The acceptance of gifts of commercial value from pupils or parents by any employee of the Board is prohibited." (The Superintendent may make exceptions in case of bereavement, prolonged illness, or death).

We know many children enjoy giving something to their teacher(s). If your child feels this way, perhaps a book, game, tape, etc. could be given to the classroom, Library (LMC) or another school program. In this way, all Chávez students will benefit. The Classroom teachers would be happy to offer suggestions and ideas if you wish.



SECOND HARVEST FOOD DRIVE

We would like to thank everyone contributed to our Annual Second Harvest Food Drive. Chavez was the elementary school that collected the most food during the NBC 15 Share Your Holidays food drive. We collected over 5,000 items!!!! Congratulations to the Chavez community on a job well done!



LABEL CLOTHING

To increase your chance of a lost item being returned, consider labeling all items. Coats, hats, mittens, shoes, shirts and boots are often found in the lost and found and lie unclaimed for the year.

FLU SEASON IS HERE

Influenza is a contagious viral infection of the nose, throat, and lungs. It is caused by three viruses - Influenza A, B, and C. Influenza is transmitted person-to-person by contagious droplets that are formed when someone sneezes or coughs. In the

United States, influenza infections lead to 20,000 deaths and over 100,000 hospitalizations each year. Some people are at higher risk from complications from influenza. Children with chronic illnesses, such as diabetes, asthma, heart conditions, sickle cell anemia, etc., are considered to be high risk for complications. It is strongly recommended that they receive the Influenza vaccination.



Symptoms of Influenza include fever, headache, muscle aches, cough, chills, fatigue, sore throat, nasal discharge, and loss of appetite. For mild illness in people who are not high risk for complications, the treatment of Influenza is often supportive. Treatment includes rest, analgesics, and increased fluids. If Influenza is diagnosed within 48 hours of the onset of symptoms in high-risk populations, there are several antiviral medications available that may shorten the duration of symptoms.

Illness and Recess

Our understanding of the common cold is still incomplete, but physicians do seem to agree on one thing – cold weather does not cause colds. There are, therefore, very few medical reasons for any of us to avoid going outside during cold weather. In fact, if we dress properly, being outside, enjoying fresh air and getting exercise will improve our health rather than harm it. Please do not ask to have your child stay in from recess because of a cold or other minor illness. (In general, if a child is well enough to come to school, he/she is well enough to go outside for recess). Instead, be sure to dress your child with appropriate winter outerwear such as boots, mittens, hats, scarves, and snowpants.

Of course, there are exceptions. If your physician feels that your child should remain inside, please have him/her write an excuse. You can be sure if the wind chill factor is low, all children will remain indoors. Please talk with your child's teacher if you have further questions or concerns.

MULTICO Performance

Mutlico, a performance company from West High School, came to Chávez to present original plays to our 2 – 5 grade students focusing on themes and ideas that relate to real life situations. It's always fun to see this production with a lot of action and musical talent. Mutlico is directed by Rebecca Jallings, a teacher and director of theater at West High School.

Chavez Pizza Fest and Book Fair is Friday, February 2nd!!

Mark your calendars for the annual pizza fest and book fair. Dinner reservations will be sent home via backpack mail. If you would like to volunteer to help with pizza fest please contact Jane McKeon (848-2878) or Teri Kelliher (848-6848).



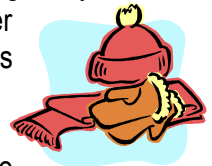
Third Annual Chavez International Fair

Come celebrate our diversity at this year's international fair! This event is a great time to learn about and share our many cultural traditions, arts and crafts, foods, music, dances, native dress and more. We need your help to make this a successful event again this year. We are looking for volunteers to represent their family's cultural heritage or the culture of a country you are familiar with or want to learn more about. **We would like individuals to join a team of volunteers to represent each country.** A small budget is provided for the activities of each country represented. If you have ideas or questions please contact Joanne Gabriel at 845-1602.



WINTER CLOTHING NEEDED FOR NURSES OFFICE

Clean out those closets and bring us your clean mittens, snowpants and winter boots. The nurses' office gives these out daily for children who are not dressed properly or forgot their winter clothing at home. We are in need of these items for all to use as needed. Thanks for your help! Drop donations off at the nurses' office.



School Crossing Guard Recognition Week

The Madison Police Department, AAA of Wisconsin, and many other public safety and education departments in Wisconsin are declaring January 8 - 12, 2007 as "School Crossing Guard Recognition Week."

This would be a wonderful opportunity for students, parents, and teachers to recognize the fine work of the adult crossing guard that serves Chavez School. We appreciate our adult crossing guard **Lloyd Smith** on Maple Grove/Keswick.



Welcome New Staff Members

Kate Peterson –Special Education Assistant
Sandra Watkins – Special Education Assistant

WELCOME

News from the PTO FROM THE PTO PRESIDENT

Dear Chávez Families,

On the 5 o'clock news tonight I was so proud to see some of our school's children representing the public elementary school that has raised the most meals per student for the NBC 15 Share Your Holidays event for the second year in a row—Chávez Elementary! As a whole, Chávez donated over 5,000 items to the Second Harvest Food Bank. That's incredible! Thank you to our 3rd grade team for coordinating the food drive as part of their "urban studies" curriculum.

When we consider what our children learn during the year at school, many people forget the wonderful opportunities such as this that add so much to our children's lives. Compassion for other people, caring about the world around us—these qualities are life lessons that are learned by example. Your child's example may have been you doing the shopping for the donations. It may have been your child's teacher explaining what a food drive is and encouraging participation. It may have been a sibling or neighbor generating excitement about community service. It was probably a combination of any of the above. What is most important is that our Chávez students have learned to "Make a Difference!"

"Make a Difference" has been my theme for the PTO this year. I am very grateful for all the volunteers that have or are planning on helping our children share in learning experiences that happen outside of textbooks. I am grateful for the participation of many of our families and staff in our fundraisers. The monies we raise to help fund special events, assemblies, field trips, equipment, etc help enrich our children's educational experience. We are telling our children that they are important. We are teaching them that families and teachers care about their education. We are setting the example. And our children are following.

Happy Holidays,
Angie Hubbard
President Chávez PTO
Make a Difference!
angiechavezpto@gmail.com or 848-7262

WE'RE ON LINE!

The Chávez PTO website is up and running at www.chavezschool.com. Thanks to Mitch Kite for all his work to make this possible!



MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Volunteers are desperately needed to serve on the PTO Executive Board!

Most urgently needed is a **President-Elect**. Angie Hubbard may stay on next year to help with the presidency, but she would like to train someone to keep the ball rolling! This would be a great time of the year for someone to join the Board to get an idea of what PTO is about and the work that we do. The work is definitely manageable. The key is organization. The work of the PTO is much easier when there is some sense of continuation from year to year. Qualifications for the role of President-Elect would include a person that is familiar with the workings of the school, the staff, and the PTO events.

Also needed is a **Staff Representative**. The staff representative will help the PTO make decisions on how to best allocate our funds, topics for meetings, and improving staff-family relations.

The final open spot for this year is **District Liaison**. Someone interested in school board politics will find this position especially rewarding. The District Liaison helps keep the PTO up to date on School Board decisions that affect Chávez.

Please contact Angie Hubbard at angiechavezpto@gmail.com or any of the PTO Board Members if you are interested!