



# THE CHÁVEZ COURIER

*A newsletter of César Chávez Elementary School*

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*Home of the Chávez Cheetahs!*



**February 2013**

Dear Chávez Parents and Community Members,

*Children have never been very good at listening to their elders, but they have never failed to imitate them.* ~ James Baldwin



*Live so that when your children think of fairness and integrity, they think of you.* ~ H. Jackson Brown

As always, thank you for sharing your beautiful children with us. They continue to be our best teachers and we continue to be challenged to create a school environment where they are safe, happy and well served as learners. They are just delightful! What a privilege we share with you as we support them in their growth.

We need your help before and after school. Just as the quotes above tell us, the children are always watching us and learning by example. We ask that you are patient with one another, our parking lot's limitations and with our staff as they try and direct you and keep the children safe.

Our children are never to cross Maple Grove except with the crossing guard. Some children are crossing between cars or being waved across the street by their rides. This is very dangerous and illegal. Please support us as we tell your children that they must always cross with the crossing guard, even if it adds a few steps to their route. Thank you for helping us. It does take a village to safely raise a child!

Sincerely,  
Linda Allen, Principal  
Becky Kundert, Assistant Principal

## School Crossing Guard

Please welcome **Andrea Romines** as our new crossing guard on the corner of Maple Grove and Keswick.

## SAFETY PATROLS

Thank you to all of the wonderful safety patrol members that help keep the students at Chávez safe on a daily basis. Thank you also to the safety patrol members that wrote essays to be considered for the Washington D.C. trip. The two members that will represent Chávez in Washington D.C. are **Bianca Barredo** and **Lauren Schmitt**. Congratulations!

Special thanks to **Quinn Marx** for being the supervisor. Thank you for our generous Chávez PTO for paying for the two students to participate in this trip.

## SPELLING BEE

The Chávez School Spelling Bee was Tuesday, January 15, 2012. Each 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade classroom was represented by three students, plus one or two alternates. Congratulations to the following students who participated in the Bee. You did a great job!

**Ms. Ahren's Class**: Katie Barden, Olivia Hebert, Alt. Alisa Bilyk; **Mr. Benish's Class**: Megan Boucher, Kiera Sweeney, Alt. Natalie Moore; **Mrs. Brand's Class**: Hannah Garrison, Ellie Hei, Alt. Cameron Henrickson; **Mrs. Bray's Class**: Diego Lopez, Calvin Obright, alt.; **Mrs. Remiker's Class**: Aarushi Vyas, Sam Stalsberg, Alt. Maddie Wissinger; **Mrs. Velden's Class**: Elena Hind, Carly McKeon, Alt. Riley Marquis; **and Mr. Well's Class**: Connie Yu, Tyler Seaton, Alt. Evan Rutherford.

Congratulations to **Ellie Hei** who was the Chávez School Spelling Bee Champion this year. She represented our school at the city-wide competition sponsored by The Wisconsin State Journal on February 9, 2013 at Edgewood College. The alternate for Chávez was **Jack Steinmetz**.



## MATHFEST 2013

Every year MMSD sponsors a Mathfest. The event is coordinated by the Talented and Gifted department for fourth and fifth grade students.

This year the Westside Mathfest was held at the UW Arboretum on Wednesday, February 13, 2012. Fourth grade representatives from Chávez included **Ellie Overcamp, Sam Stalsburg, Oliver Van Note and Emily Wadzinski**. **Ellie Overcamp and Oliver VanNote** tied for first place in the individual competition for Chávez. Fifth grade representatives were **Srihari Gopal, Natalie Tosto, Aarushi Vyas and Logan Younk**. Logan Younk took first place in the individual competition for Chávez. Congratulations to all participating students!



## FROM THE HEALTH OFFICE

**Sleep** - Studies have consistently shown that students who get adequate sleep perform better academically. Sleep helps your child concentrate, think clearer, remember, focus, and stay alert. Sleep also helps keep your child's thought processes quick. It's important that your child consistently gets enough sleep each night. Studies have shown that if someone doesn't get enough sleep on one night, it can affect them negatively for several days. In general, 3-6 year-olds should get 10-12 hours of sleep per day; 7-12 year-olds should get 10-11 hours; 12-18 year-olds should get 8-9 hours.

## IS YOUR CHILD WELL ENOUGH TO GO TO SCHOOL?

It is not always easy to decide if your child is sick enough to stay home or well enough to be in school. Children who come to school are expected, with few exceptions, to participate fully in school activities.

Here are some guidelines that might help in a parent's decision-making:

1. Fever: A fever of 100 degrees or more signals an illness that is probably going to make a student uncomfortable and unable to function well in class. Your child should stay home until he/she is feeling better.

2. Vomiting, Diarrhea or Severe Nausea: These are symptoms that require a student to remain at home until a normal diet is tolerated the night before and the morning of school.

3. Infectious Diseases: Diseases such as impetigo, pink eye with thick drainage, and strep throat require a doctor's examination and prescription for medication. Contacting the health care provider and using the medicine as directed for the full recommended length of time are necessary. Once medication has been started and the child is feeling well, he/she may return to school.

Students with chicken pox may return to school when all the scabs are completely dried and no new lesions are developing (usually 5-7 days).

4. Rashes: Rashes or patches of broken, itchy skin need to be examined by a health care provider if they appear to be spreading or not improving.

5. Injuries: If a student has an injury that causes continuous discomfort, the student should not attend school until the condition is checked by a health care provider or it improves. Injuries that interfere with class participation need a medical evaluation. If

participation in physical education classes is not recommended, a medical excuse is required.

## **Kindergarten Registration for the 2013-14 School Year is March 4**

Kindergarten registration for the 2013-14 school year for incoming students to the Madison Metropolitan School District (MMSD) is Monday, March 4, 2013 from 1:00 to 6:00 p.m. at all MMSD elementary schools. To be eligible, the child must be five years old on or before September 1, 2013.

**Kindergarten registration is only for families who have a child who has not been in a MMSD four-year-old kindergarten (4K) program or for families who are new to MMSD.** Parents of children who currently attend a MMSD 4K program do not need to register again and will only need to attend the enrollment date at their child's school in August, 2013 and call their school to schedule a kindergarten screener.

On March 4, parents or guardians should register their child at their resident area school. If you are not sure of your area school please check the website ([www.mmsd.org](http://www.mmsd.org)) or call 608.663.1879.

When parents or guardians register their child, they will be required to show proof of age and proof of residency:

- **Proof of age**- birth certificate or passport, or other proofs such as copies of medical records, formal religious records maintained by an entity other than the parent/guardian, etc. are acceptable.
- **Proof of residency**- a utility bill, lease or mortgage is acceptable.

Children are welcome to accompany parents, but they are not required to attend.

Parents who are unable to register on March 4th should contact their resident area school as soon as possible for alternate dates and times.

If parents have questions regarding early entrance to kindergarten (for children who turn 5 between Sept. 2nd and Dec. 31st), they should contact the principal of their neighborhood school. Children born after December 31 may not be evaluated for early entry.

For more information visit [mmsd.org/kinder](http://mmsd.org/kinder) or call your resident area school.

## **FOUNDATION FOR MADISON SCHOOLS**

### **ABC Funds, Easy as 1,2,3!**

The Foundation for Madison's Public Schools' ABC Funds provides schools an opportunity to fundraise without administrative challenges which can impede efforts. Individual schools, PTOs or booster clubs, and individuals have the opportunity to create an ABC Fund for a special program or project that benefits students. FMPS manages all of the clerical work by acknowledging donors, handling the accounting, processing and writing checks as well as helping promote fundraising efforts. This extra support gives you the ability to focus on making your fund's goal a reality.

The Foundation currently has 38 ABC funds benefitting both specific schools and district-wide endeavors. These funds support a diverse collection of programs by contributing to scholarships, capital projects, arts, and athletics. The ABC Funds provide students with a vast array of opportunities to enrich their educational experiences. For example, the FMPS Breakfast ABC Fund provides free breakfast to students who qualify for reduced-price lunch. This district-wide fund provided more than 55,000 free breakfasts during the 2011-12 school year! Randall School established an ABC Fund to renovate and maintain the Olive Jones Park Playground. The fund supports the playground which is used by Randall students and neighbors all year round. These examples demonstrate the wide-range of ABC Funds, providing new possibilities and improvements throughout the Madison Metropolitan School District.

The Foundation for Madison's Public Schools is dedicated to creating opportunities and developing partnerships between schools and the community. If you have questions regarding ABC Funds or would like to learn more about the Foundation, please visit our newly revamped website at [www.fmfs.org](http://www.fmfs.org). To stay up-to-date on all FMPS news and events, join our email list via our website!

## **The Institute for Chemical Education**

The Institute for Chemical Education will offer summer chemistry camps at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Each year we send information to area schools and educational partners in an effort to advertise this exciting laboratory experience to eligible youth. This year, we have online registration, accessible from the Summer Chemistry Camps webpage at <http://ice.chem.wisc.edu/Camps.html>

Our summer camps are offered to students who will be entering 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade in the fall.

Camps offered this year are:

**Fun with Chemistry, June 24 - 28**

**Fun with Inventions, July 8 - 12**

**Fun with Forensic Chemistry, July 15 - 19**

**Fun with Chemistry, July 22 - 26**

Please list the webpage link for our Summer Chemistry Camps in your parent and other newsletters and on any of your web pages that you deem appropriate.

If you need a paper copy of the information about our Summer Chemistry Camps, please contact me at the email address or phone number listed at the top of this page.

Thanks, in advance, for your assistance in spreading the word about this fun summer science program!

Sincerely,



Francisca Jofre  
Outreach Specialist