



# THE CHÁVEZ COURIER

*A newsletter of César Chávez Elementary School*

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*Home of the Chávez Cheetahs!*



**November - December 2013**

Dear Chávez Families;

Cold weather is on its way! Please keep in mind that when severe weather threatens, you should tune in to a Madison radio or television station or local Web site. 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. or the night before. 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.

We will not go outside for recess when the wind chill reaches -10 degrees. Please refer to the wind chill chart on this page. 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.

When students are outside for recess each day we strongly recommend snow pants to stay warm and dry. Students in grades K-5 must have boots on to leave the blacktop area. Students in K -1 will need snow pants and boots in order to leave the black top area.

## Wind Chill Chart

Wind (mph)

Calmm	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

Temperature (°F)

### 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 (°F)  
V = Wind Speed (mph)

## Retirement

We want to wish **Marcia James**, our clerk receptionist the best of luck in her retirement.

## **TIPS FROM THE HEALTH OFFICE AT CHÁVEZ**

### **HOW TO SUPPORT YOUR LEARNER AT HOME!**

- Have one “no screen” day a week
- Limit screen time to no more than 2 hours daily
- Encourage and MODEL daily exercise
- Emphasize (by modeling) the importance of quiet/**study**/reading time. Read for pleasure!
- Encourage social contacts with peers and family engagement. Play a game!
- Be consistent with meals and bedtime.
- Ensure adequate sleep. (3-6 year olds = 10-12 hours / 7-12 year olds = 10-11 hours)

### **Chávez Behavior Expectations**

**Be Safe**

**Be Respectful**

**Be Responsible**

This month, our school embarked on a new journey! Joined by every other MMSD elementary school, Chávez will be learning about emotions and appropriate social behaviors through an interactive curriculum known as Second Step. This curriculum is separated by grade-level, taught by the homeroom teachers, and reinforced by specials teachers and support staff. All students will be hearing the same messages as we move as a school through this comprehensive curriculum. This month students began learning “**Skills for Learning.**” Beginning in December, students will begin learning about Empathy.

We would encourage you to become involved as well! Please visit the Second Step website at [www.secondstep.org](http://www.secondstep.org) Numerous resources exist for you under the “Family” tab. To login, you may use:

Login: MMSDparent@gmail.com

Password: Parents

Would you like more information or get further involved? Please contact Andrea Reifsnider, Chávez Social Worker and Positive Behavior Support Coach (areifsnider2@madison.k12.wi.us or 442-2012).

### **Chávez Attendance: First Quarter**

It’s simple, really! In order to learn, a student must be present. Research has overwhelmingly found that when a student is absent, both for unexcused AND excused absences, they are at greater risk for falling behind. No longer are educators just paying attention to truancy (accumulating unexcused absences that lead to legal implications) we are addressing ALL absences! The term “chronically absent” refers to students who are present for less than 90% of the time. *Help us by joining the fight against chronic absenteeism and make sure that your child gets to school on time every day!*

#### **The Hard Facts**

**Overall attendance rate:** 96.66% - District Goal: 94%

**Chronically Absent (attendance less than 90%):** 8% of Chávez students – ideal goal: 0%

**At risk (attendance between 90-94%):** 11% of Chávez students – ideal goal: 0%

### **Foundation for Madison Schools**

The Chávez Endowment Fund generates income annually which is available to use to make grants for creative and innovative projects and programs at Chávez.

We were awarded a grant for \$962 to purchase a library collect for each of the Special’s classrooms: Art, Music, Physical Education, REACH (Reinforcing and Enriching Achievement for All Children) program

and LMC. This is to help support our School Improvement Plan focus on Literacy.

## **Emergency Code Red Drill**

Chávez students practice fire drills monthly and tornado drills once a year so they will know what to do in case the need arises. We have another drill to practice twice a year called a “Code Red” drill, which is a lockdown procedure for the school. We had our first Code Red drill on October 30.

The “Code Red” drill is a safety measure done to teach the students what to do in case there is an intruder in the building. We hope to learn as much as possible about keeping our students and staff safe by following these procedures during practice drills.

We are aware that for some students this may be a frightening experience. Students had discussions with their class before the practice drills. We try to keep focus on the reason for the lockdowns and evacuations so children can be at ease and feel safe. We appreciate your follow-up conversations with your children.

## **Bully Forms**

The Madison Metropolitan School District strives to provide an environment where every student feels safe, respected and welcome and where every staff member can serve students in an atmosphere that is free from significant disruptions and obstacles that impede learning and performance.

Bullying can have a harmful social, physical, psychological and/or academic impact on students who are the victims of bullying behaviors, students who engage in bullying behaviors and bystanders that observe acts of bullying. The school District does not allow bullying behaviors toward or by students, school employees or volunteers on school/District grounds, at school/District-sponsored activities or on transportation to and from school or school/District-sponsored activities.

*Bullying is the intentional action by an individual or group of individuals to inflict physical, emotional or mental harm or suffering on another individual or group of individuals when there is an imbalance of real or perceived power. Harassment is defined as: Unwanted, deliberate, or repeated unsolicited comments (oral or written), gestures, graphic material, physical contacts, verbal/nonverbal or physical conduct directed to an individual because of his/her membership in a protected class*

Students, parents or guardians, and other persons are encouraged to make a verbal or written report regarding conduct they consider to be bullying. Written reports may be made on the blue form entitled “Report of Bullying Incident” that are located outside the main office and on the second floor near the water fountain and can be turned into any teacher, Student Services staff or administrator. Verbal reports of bullying under this Policy should be clearly identified as reports of bullying and presented to a school-based administrator (such as a Principal or Assistant Principal), an Assistant Superintendent, or the head of any MMSD Department. The individual receiving a verbal report shall promptly document the complaint on the “Report of Bullying Incident” form. The written report shall be forwarded to the designated school administrator for investigation of the complaint.

The Madison Metropolitan School District strives to provide an environment where every student feels safe, respected and welcome.

## **Parent/Teacher Conference Follow Up**

Conferences are truly one of the most positive steps to ensuring your child’s success. This was a good opportunity for parents and teachers to talk about academic achievement and behavioral expectations.

Now that the conferences are over, please do the following:

- Discuss the conference with your child. First, point out his/her strengths and then talk about the areas that need improvement.
- Start immediately any actions you have decided to take. Did the teacher recommend books for you and your child to read? Did he/she suggest a better arrangement for studying at home? Working on math facts or spelling words? Did he/she propose getting outside help in a special area?

Feel free to contact the teacher to follow up on your child's progress. Teachers value positive interest on the part of the parent.

Make certain your child understands that you and the teacher are in partnership with the same goal in mind.

## **Girls on the Run**

Chávez just completed our first season of Girls on the Run on November 9 in Waunakee, WI. We were fortunate enough to fill our team with sixteen 3-5<sup>th</sup> grade girls. They learned so much and worked hard each day we met. We are proud of all their accomplishments! A huge thanks to our amazing coaching staff: Ms. Ostrom, Mrs. Jenkins, Mrs. Webb, and Ms. Green for making this season a huge success.

Girls on the Run is a positive youth development program which combines an interactive curriculum and running to inspire self-respect and healthy lifestyles in pre-teen girls. Our core curriculum addresses many aspects of girls' development - their physical, emotional, mental and social well-being. Lessons provide girls with the tools to make positive decisions and to avoid risky adolescent behaviors.

Our team meets twice a week for ten weeks using a curriculum-based program training program that includes a community service project each season. Along with our learning experiences we also train for our end of season event, running a 5K with all the other Dane County Girls on the Run teams. We are looking forward to starting up again in the spring and would love to be able to have two teams, but we are

in need of volunteer coaches. Please visit [www.girlsontherundaneco.org](http://www.girlsontherundaneco.org) for more information or contact Carissa Green at [clgreen@madison.k12.wi.us](mailto:clgreen@madison.k12.wi.us) or Sue Ellen Ostrom at [4sueellen@gmail.com](mailto:4sueellen@gmail.com) if you are interested in joining our team this spring!



Girls on the Run did a community service project to collect clothes for Easter Seals.



## **PEOPLE.POWER.PLANET**

This is the third year that Chávez is taking part in the Madison School District's People Power Planet campaign for sustainable schools. Congratulations to the following students who have been chosen to be part of the 2013-2014 Chávez Power Patrol student group:



Shanbriell Evans, Ava Lazzareschi, Emily Wadzinski, Eryn Weisensel, Amari Andrews, Zakaria Bendada, Caleigh Christy, Ian Fritsch, Molly Hagens, Piper Oberg, Kaitlin Witalison, Mason Douglas, Nicholas Groves, Elizabeth Hei, Anya Molek, Nataile Moore, Jillian Newman, Samuel Stalsberg

Our theme for this year is *Don't Waste It*. Power Patrol students will soon be busy encouraging others at Chávez to save energy! Please visit the [Peoplepowerplanet.com](http://Peoplepowerplanet.com) website and check out what is happening at Chávez. While you are there “check-in” to Chávez School and go to the “Take Action” section and “Take the Pledge”. You will help us earn points for our school!!

## **Read-Aloud Techniques**

- Select a variety of books that you'll enjoy and that will spark your child's interest.
- Read unfamiliar stories silently first to note places that may need special effects to create drama.
- Let your child open the book and turn the pages. Point to the words as you read.
- Don't read too fast and adjust your pace to the story and your child.
- Point out letters and words that you run across in daily life.
- Encourage your child's participation-joining in repeating phrases, making comments, asking questions, predicting what will happen or actually reading parts of the material.
- Allow time for after the reading for a relaxed discussion. This should involve sharing reactions, not quizzing on facts.
- Alternate parent (extended family) reading aloud so both male and female models are given. Make sure your child sees you read for pleasure.
- Never withdraw reading aloud as a punishment. That may destroy the positive effects of reading aloud.

## **Assessments**

Assessments of students' academic skills are administered at all grade levels 4K through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. The following assessments are being given during the 2013-2014 school year:

	<b>Literacy</b>	<b>Math</b>
<b>4K</b>	PALS 4K Gold	4K Gold
<b>K</b>	PALS Mondo- Reading Level Assessment Oral Language Assessment	Number Development
<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	PALS AIMSweb Mondo- Reading Level Assessment Oral Language Assessment	Number Development Fact Interview (+, -)
<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	AIMSweb Mondo- Reading Level Assessment Oral Language Assessment	Fact Interview (+, -)
<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	MAP (Reading, Language) WKCE Mondo- Reading Level Assessment Oral Language Assessment	MAP (Math) Fact Interview (+, -)
<b>4<sup>th</sup></b>	MAP (Reading, Language) WKCE Mondo- Reading Level Assessment	MAP (Math) Fact Interview (+, -)
<b>5<sup>th</sup></b>	MAP (Reading, Language) WKCE Mondo- Reading Level Assessment	MAP (Math) Fact Interview (+, -)

The above assessments are given for a variety of reasons.

- The information gathered from assessments may be used by teachers to guide future

instruction for a grade level, individual class, and/or for specific students.

- Assessments are used to help determine how well our school and/or district is doing in teaching math, reading, and other skills.
- Assessments are used to help us know how students are progressing towards grade level standards or student specific goals.

Parent/Teacher Conferences provided an opportunity for you to discuss your child's academic performance, which may have included information about his/her performance on assessments that have been administered.

When considering assessment information, it is always important to look at multiple test scores (including past and current scores), along with classroom performance, to determine where a student's skills are at. An individual test score may be high or low for various reasons, and may not provide an accurate picture of a student's skills. For example, a student may perform poorly on a given test if that day he/she is tired or not feeling well, is anxious about the testing, or has difficulty attending or focusing. Test scores are only one of the pieces of information we need to look at in order to understand a student's academic strengths and needs. If you have questions about assessments, you can consult your child's teacher, Chavez's School Psychologist (Jane Rasico-Hoffman, 442-2011), or Chavez's Instructional Resource Teacher (Mary Ann Klongland, 442-2045).

## **PTO NEWS**

Thank you all who came out to our Verona Culver's 10% Event! We raised an amazing \$550 for the school! I have heard from a lot of parents that they

felt a sense of community with their fellow Chávez families! It was also very cool to see our principals, teachers and social worker delivering food - kids really enjoyed that added fun.

Thank you to those who shopped, volunteered and baked for our Craft Fair! Lots of neat holiday items were represented such as jewelry, make-up, greeting cards, stationary, organic food, furniture, clothing items, and books. A big shout out to Little Caesar's Pizza who donated all pizzas to the Craft Fair so that all proceeds from selling went to Chávez!

While doing your holiday shopping on [amazon](https://www.amazon.com) this year (as well as for any future purchases), remember to access [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) through our school website, [chavezschool.com](https://www.chavezschool.com). You will pay the exact same price, but our school will get a small percentage of every purchase. You must click through our website every time you shop on [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) for our school to receive credit.

On a similar note, if you have a Target credit card, make sure that you have selected Chávez Elementary as the designated school to receive 1% of your purchases. Along with the 5% off you get on every one of your purchases, it makes the Target credit card a handy thing to have.

If you do not currently receive PTO news via email, please email [chavezvolunteer@gmail.com](mailto:chavezvolunteer@gmail.com) to be included on the email list.

## **SPRING HARBOR M.S. LOTTERY**

Spring Harbor Middle School is an environmental science magnet school located in the Memorial attendance area. Any student who lives in the Memorial area is eligible to apply for Spring Harbor's lottery. Priority in enrollment will be given to students living in the former Spring Harbor Elementary School attendance area and to siblings of students currently attending Spring Harbor who will continue to attend as 7 or 8 graders next year. Fifty percent of the students will come from Jefferson attendance area and 50% will come from the Toki

attendance area. Each year 90 students are selected to attend.

Spring Harbor is hosting an open house at 6:00pm on January 15 for potential incoming 6<sup>th</sup> grade parents and students. In addition, a member of Spring Harbor staff will be visiting with our fifth grade students on January 13<sup>th</sup>.

Anyone interested in attending Spring Harbor **MUST** submit an application. These applications will be mailed to you the week of December 9, 2013. Also on December 9 online applications will be available at <https://springharborweb.madison.k12.wi.us/apply>. Click on the application; complete; and submit. All applications are due on Friday, January 31 by 4:00p.m. and **MUST** be either submitted to the MMSD Student Enrollment Office, 545 West Dayton Street, Madison, WI 53703 or submitted online. No other MMSD employee besides enrollment office employees may accept an application.

## **Madison College Continuing Education**

### **New Spring 2014 Course Offering**

**Course Name:** Madison Metropolitan School District School Nurse's Assistant

**Course Description:** This course is designed to give a background on childhood injuries and illness for students Pre-K through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. It also includes preventive measures as wellness for all students. This course is for you if you are interested working in the MMSD assisting a School Nurse. This course does not provide the necessary information for taking the CNA Certification exam to work in a long-term care facility, hospital, or clinic.

**Class Number:** 64199

**Fee:** \$229 (Fee includes \$30 Textbook)  
Textbooks available from the instructor during the first class

**Instructor:** Dawn Sebranek, RN, MS  
**Schedule:** Every Wednesday evening for 8 weeks (No Class: 3/19/14)

**Course Dates:** Wednesdays, February 26 – April 23, 2014

**Time:** 500 – 8:00 p.m.

**Location:** Truax Campus, 1701 Wright Street

**Registration:** Students may register **in person** at any of the Madison College campuses during regular business hours, **by telephone** at (608) 258-2301 or (855) 473-2301. Students may also register **online** at [www.madisoncollege.edu](http://www.madisoncollege.edu). First-time students go to student-status to Create a Student Account; Previous students can go directly to MyMadisonCollege and enter the five digit code above.

**Information:** Madison College Continuing Education, (608) 258-2301

## **DATES TO REMEMBER:**

November 28: **Happy Turkey Day**  
November 29: No School

December 3: PTO Board Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.  
December 20 – Sparkle Day  
December 23 – January 6: **Winter Break**