

# Kent City School District

October 2016 Volume 12, Issue 2

# Parent Resource Newsletter

Parent Tips for School Success

Start the new school year with strategies for academic success

**H**ow you start the school year can determine how well the rest of the year will go. Here's how to make sure your child gets off to a great start this year.

- Review school safety. Talk to your child about the importance of following school rules. Also talk about ways to be safe when riding the school bus or walking to school.
- Get to know your child's teacher. When parents
  and teachers are on the same team, kids do better
  in school. Once you've met face to face, you'll find it
  easier to ask a question or share a concern about
  your child.
- **Set goals.** Students who do best in school have both short- and long-term goals. Whether it's earning an A in math or preparing to become a veterinarian, your child needs goals to keep him on the right track.
- **Settle into a routine.** Kids thrive on predictability. So have a regular time for homework. Set—and stick to—a regular bedtime. Plan a morning routine that gets everyone out the door on time.
- Don't overschedule your child. Give him time to unwind after school—especially during the first few weeks.
- **Be genuinely interested** in your child's schoolwork. Ask him about school every day.
- **Insist that your child** give his best effort in school. If your child knows that school is important to you, it will be important to him.

**Resource:** The Parent Institute; <a href="https://www.parent-institute.com">https://www.parent-institute.com</a>; Copyright 2015;

#### **Quotes to Inspire**

"Do more than belong: participate. Do more than care: help. Do more than believe: practice. Do more than be fair: be kind. Do more than forgive: forget. Do more than dream: work."

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 William Arthur Ward - American author, editor, pastor and teacher.

# WHAT PARENTS CAN DO

Helping Your Child Succeed in School



### **Fall Parent Night Held**

On September 29<sup>th</sup>, our Title I staff hosted our "Fall Title I Parent Information Night". It was held at Davey School. We appreciate those that came and hope you went away with some great information to help you and your children with the coming school year.

We also hope you enjoyed the coffee and cookies provided by our Davey PTO and community businesses. During the evening, parents were presented with material about the Title I program and "How Your Child Qualified for Title I". We also shared our Title I Policy and instructions and strategies we use in supporting your children as well as sharing strategies that can be used at home.

The Title I staff enjoyed meeting with parents and having time to share more information that will help continue your student's growing understanding of Reading and Math.

We know how hard it is to take time out of your busy schedules to spend an evening with us and we appreciate it and **THANK** all of you for your attendance. We also want to thank you for your daily support and encouragement at home. As always, you may contact us with any questions. Hope to see you all again in November at our Parent conferences.



Literacy Coaches; Rachel Yohn and Kristin Garner talk to parents about Title I.

#### Did You Know?



National Make A Difference Day is an annual community service event which is held on the fourth Saturday in October (this year October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016).

HISTORY: National Make a Difference Day was created in 1992 by USA WEEKEND magazine and joined by Points of Light. Together they have sponsored the largest national day of community service for more than twenty years.

We all have opportunities every day to change the world, whether we're adopting a highway to patrol for litter or volunteering at a local shelter to help the homeless. It's amazing what just a small effort by an individual or group of individuals can do to change the world, or at least their local neighborhood. Millions of people have united in the common mission...to improve the lives of others.

For more information on **National Make A Difference Day**, an "unofficial" national holiday, see:

http://makeadifferenceday.com/

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# TITLE I NEWS

## Getting to Know Your Title I Staff at Holden

As mentioned in our September newsletter; Title I is a federal education program that provides funds to help schools and districts improve student achievement through additional instruction for students, and educational materials and activities that help parents support their children's education.



Our funding has provided us with an excellent staff serving our Title I students in additional instruction in **Reading** and in **Math**. They come from diverse backgrounds in education and bring a wealth of knowledge and expertise to Holden. Our teachers/tutors are "highly qualified," certified and knowledgeable about the subject matters they teach. If your student has worked in Title I in the past; you may have met some of these fine hardworking teachers. If you are new to the Title I program, then we can't wait to share with you more information and facts about our Holden Title staff members and the work they are accomplishing with our students. These persons serve as liaisons between the Title I education program and our parents. We hope by getting to know them better; it helps in building a strong foundation for parental involvement.

If you did not have a chance to meet during Title I Parent Night, here are the following Holden Title I teachers/tutors who work with individual and/or groups of students primarily in **Reading** and **Math**. They are:

*Mrs. Kristin Garner* – Our **Title I Literacy Coach**. Mrs. Garner is starting her second year as Literacy Coach at Holden. She has been with Kent Schools for 14 years.

*Mrs. Jeanne Smith* – A **Title I Reading/Math Tutor**, returning to Holden for her third year here as a Tutor; however, she has been with Kent Schools and teaching for 27 years.

**Miss Kelsey McConnell** – New this year to Holden as a **Title I Reading/Math Tutor**; however, Kelsey is not new to Kent Schools. She is starting her fourth year at Walls.

*Mrs. Jeanie Wills* – Starting her second year at Holden as a **Title I Reading/Math Tutor.** 

*Mr. Emmet Drugan* – New this year as a **Title I Reading/Math Tutor** at Holden; however, he Emmet is not new to Holden.

These teachers/tutors are dedicated to your child's success. We hope you take the opportunity to meet or talk to them throughout this school year. Watch for future Title I Connection newsletters where we will share more information and facts on our Title I staff and our Title I program here at Holden.

#### Site Review

#### Resources available for Parents and Families:

#### Check out this website:

<u>FunBrain.com</u> - The number one site for online educational games for kids of all ages. Since 1997, kids, teachers, librarians, and parents have enthusiastically turned to Funbrain for its free educational games, online books, and comics. Funbrain, created for kids ages preschool through grade 8, offers more than 100 fun, interactive games that develop skills in math, reading, and literacy.

#### Kids' Corner: Make a Difference

Remember October 22nd is

#### National Make a Difference Day.

#### How can you celebrate?

The ways to celebrate are limited only by your imagination, and your willingness to contribute your time and efforts to changing the world.

You and your family can start celebrating by alerting people on social media to the upcoming opportunity to make a difference,

(use #MakeADifferenceDay) to post on social media and then it's time to get truly ambitious.

Help organize a food drive for your local Food Banks to help the hungry and the needy, approach businesses for donations to homeless and domestic violence shelters. Members of your family can even volunteer with your local blood bank or at a free clinic to help sign people in. There are hundreds of opportunities for those interested in changing the world, to get involve...and dozens of organizations you can contact to help you get involved.

Remember, making a difference doesn't have to involve a grandiose gesture, it can be as simple as buying a coffee for a co-worker who's looking down, or walking groceries out to the car of an elderly shopper, or buying lunch for your shut-in neighbor. You can even donate your old clothes and blankets to shelters to help people get back on their feet and stay warm.

Here are the 2016-2017 Title I Contacts for our Title Program at your School:

#### Literacy Coach; Mrs. Rachel Yohn:

Davey School (330-676-7409) Longcoy School (330-676-8379)

### Literacy Coach, Mrs. Kristin Garner:

Holden School (330-676-8400) Walls School (330-676-8300)

#### Parent Involvement Coordinator,

Ms. Pam Bose: All Schools (330-676-7425)

**Federal Grants Coordinator**, Mrs. Karen Rumley, Director of Instructional Program: *All Schools (330-676-7600)* 



Parents
plus
Schools
equals
Success