

News From Longcoy School

1069 Elno Avenue

Kent, OH 44240

(330) 676-8350

Janice Swan, Principal

October 2009

Absence Line 678-7500

Darlene Baird, Secretary

Longcoy School Vision Statement

"All Longcoy students will learn...whatever it takes."

Dear Longcoy Parents and Students,

Greetings! It is already October and the first grading period is almost over. As you can imagine, the learning process is well underway at Longcoy School and the teachers are focusing on teaching the Ohio Academic Content Standards. If you are interested in knowing exactly what these standards are for your child's grade level, just Google "Ohio Department of Education" and follow the links to the *Academic Content Standards*.

In addition, Interim Reports were sent home last week with all students in grades 1-5. Hopefully, you have reviewed this important feedback with your child. Please feel free to set up a parent-teacher conference if you have questions or concerns regarding how your child is doing academically, socially, behaviorally and/or emotionally. The Longcoy teachers are always ready and willing to meet with parents or communicate with parents by phone or email.

Last, I feel the need to address the recent disciplinary matters involving Longcoy students. As you may have heard, there have been a few incidents where students have talked of bombs and created panic as well as some students being verbally/physically aggressive to the point that other students were harmed. I remind you that at no time will it be tolerated for students to incite panic, say they are going to kill someone, draw pictures depicting a staff member or other student being harmed with guns or other weapons or bring weapons to school or school functions. It is your responsibility as a parent/guardian to read and discuss the *Student Code of Conduct*, which can be found in the Longcoy Student/Parent Handbook that was sent home at the start of the school year. Mrs. Romeo has visited all the classrooms and touched on the safety and behavior expectations for our school and I will be meeting with the grade levels to reinforce this message. Students are being, and will continue to be, held responsible for the choices they make. Thank you for your support in conveying clearly to your children the need for them to think before they act. I always tell kids "Good Choices - Good Things Happen" and "Bad Choices - Bad Things Happen" and this seems to help students see the relationship between their actions and the consequences that follow.

As always, if you have any questions or you would just like to share an idea or suggestion with me, please email me at ke_jswan@kentschools.net or call me at the school office.

Remember: Students + Parents + Teachers = SUCCESS!

Kindest regards,

Janice Swan, Principal

No School

There will be no school on Friday, October 16th for NEOEA day.

Longcoy Goes Green!

Beginning this month, Longcoy's Parent Newsletter will be sent by email to those families who provided email addresses on their child's paperwork at the beginning of the school year! The Newsletter is also posted on our website www.kentschools.net/longcoy/. This is yet another way we are helping teach our Longcoy students about saving our environment by cutting back on the amount of paper we use! The Newsletter will still be available by hardcopy for those who do not have email available. If you did not receive the newsletter by email, and want to be added to our email list, please send a note to the office. Be sure to include your child's name and your email address.

Early Release/Late Start Days - PLEASE SAVE THIS INFORMATION

Our District will once again have early release days. Our first early release day will be held on Thursday, October 15th. Students in grades 1-5 will be dismissed at 1:00 p.m. For this Early Release Day, there will be no afternoon kindergarten or extended day kindergarten classes. All morning kindergarten students will be dismissed at 11:30 a.m.

The dates for our other three early release days are: Friday, January 22nd, Monday, March 22nd, and Tuesday, April 13th. (At this time we do not know if the morning Extended Day Kindergarten class will be held on the other three Early Release Days. More information will be provided).

This year we will also have one LATE START DAY. On Wednesday, February 24th, students in Grades 1 – 5 will not come to school until 10:15 a.m. Buses will pick up students exactly 1 hour & 35 minutes later than normally scheduled. Breakfast will not be served to students on late start day. Miss Pletzer's morning kindergarten will not have school. (At this time we do not know if the afternoon Extended Day Kindergarten class will be held on Late Start Day. More information will be provided).

Please mark your calendars. We hope that sharing this information with you now will help in making arrangements for your children. Car riders need to be picked up promptly on early release days as teachers and staff will be participating in in-service activities.

Benny Cowgill Classic

Benny Cowgill was an outstanding young man who displayed great courage during difficult times. He was a Kent Roosevelt student-athlete who continually worked hard to achieve success. During Benny's fight against bone cancer many people became aware of this tremendous determination. After a long, courageous fight, he lost his battle to cancer. Now every year Roosevelt High School celebrates his life by dedicating a football game, the Benny Cowgill Classic, to Benny. This year the game was held on Friday, October 2nd.

Every year all five elementary schools choose two students from each 5th grade class who share the same qualities as Benny to represent their school at the Benny Cowgill Classic football game. We are proud to congratulate Hannah Mossor, Zachary P., Sarah Jenkins, Damon S., Bailey James, and Olive Asare who were selected to as Longcoy's representatives.

Book Fair

We would like to thank LSA for sponsoring our Fall Book Fair. We hope our students and families enjoyed the event and take the time to thank our LSA officers and volunteers who made the Book Fair a huge success.

Congratulations to the following students who won a free book for being the person in their class to guess the correct number of pieces of candy in a jar (100). Kylie Bartley, Demetri M., Ashleigh Bonds, Samantha Grattan, Ty Bates, Curea Boggs, JB Solomon, Lance Miller, Bryce Harvey, Jenna Welch, Taijanae Johnson, Colton Moore, Meredith Hartsook, Stockler Keener, Cody Zink, Sean Fincham, and Hannah Mossor

Student Council News

Congratulations to the following students who will act as their Student Council Representative for the first semester:

| | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| Samantha Baron | Miss Pletzer - AM | Hailey Callaway-Frazier | Mr. Draper |
| Owen Cooper | Miss Pletzer - AM | Marquet Graves | Mr. Draper |
| Kelley Gaines | Miss Pletzer - PM | Samuel Kirbabas | Mrs. Mandalari |
| Eleasha Garrett | Miss Pletzer - PM | Abigail Pease | Mrs. Mandalari |
| Abbie Carpenter | Mrs. Chilcoat | Anthony Fitzgerald | Miss Revis |
| John Schwaben Jr. | Mrs. Chilcoat | Alva Mao | Miss Revis |
| Mitch Bates | Mrs. Rainier | Bryson Carlton | Mrs. Rosche |
| Justin Fronek | Mrs. Rainier | Valerie Thrasher | Mrs. Rosche |
| Ty Bates | Mrs. Tonelli | Sarah Bush | Mrs. Shorr |
| Ava Bozich | Mrs. Tonelli | Dalton Vanderpool | Mrs. Shorr |
| Misao Christian | Mrs. McCombs | Mariah Graves | Mrs. Benshoff |
| Gabriel Gaines | Mrs. McCombs | Spencer Steele | Mrs. Benshoff |
| Jordan Carlton | Mrs. Wade | Je'rell Huddleston | Mrs. Elliott |
| Zachary Johnson | Mrs. Wade | Sydney Pryor | Mrs. Elliott |
| Daniel Larison | Mrs. Wollam | Savannah Franks | Mrs. Ramey |
| Brooke McInnes | Mrs. Wollam | Cody Zink | Mrs. Ramey |
| Gregory Boggs | Mrs. Dunlap | | |
| Devon Stahl | Mrs. Dunlap | | |

Student Council would like to remind all families to continue sending in aluminum cans, used cell phones and ink jet cartridges. All of these items get recycled to raise money for the many student council sponsored activities.

We would like to thank Mrs. Hoskins and Justin Doty (Mrs. Doty's son) for helping take all of the cans to the recycle center. All of the cans that were sent in last year totaled an amazing 1,212 pounds! That is more than a ½ ton of cans. We recycled 125 more pounds this time compared to the last time. Way to go Longcoy!!! Please take the extra effort to put all of your aluminum cans in a bag and send them to school with your child. If you have a large amount, leave a message at school and Mr. Bates will come pick them up. It would be greatly appreciated if you could send in your cans already crushed. Imagine how much space is needed to store 42,420 cans. We end up crushing all of them before they get recycled.

Running Club

If you drive by Longcoy during our students' lunch-recess time you will see a bunch of kids running in circles! This is our running club. We would not be able to have the running club without our parent volunteers who keep track of student laps. Thank you to Mrs. Neubert, Mrs. Hartsook, Mrs. Sturgeon, Mrs. Huettmann, and Mrs. Larison who have volunteers so far. If you would like to volunteer a couple hours of your time to help out with our running club, please contact Mr. Bates at 330-676-8372.

ParentBroadcast System-CORRECTION!

Please note...additional phone numbers may be added to the ParentBroadcast System by calling 1-800-846-4976. You must call from your main phone number to add an additional phone number to the system. The incorrect number was published in the September Newsletter. We apologize if this caused any confusion.

Before/After School Child Care Program

Are you a working parent who needs care for your child before or after school? Kent Parks and Recreation offers child care for students right here at Longcoy in room 136. No transportation needed! Daily activities, snacks, homework help, games, crafts and outside play are all a part of the fun! We offer reasonable pricing and accept county vouchers. Call Megan at 330-673-8897 to set up a tour of the program or just stop by our office at 497 Middlebury Rd. to register. Be at ease knowing your child is a part of an award winning Step Up to Quality site!

LSA Meeting

Please join us at the next Longcoy School Association (LSA) meeting on Thursday, November 5th. We welcome all parents and staff members to attend.

Community Dinner

Our Student Council members will be showing “RESPECT FOR SELF AND OTHERS” by helping at a dinner being held on Saturday, October 17th, at 5:30 p.m. at New Hillel Jewish Community Center at KSU for our community. This free dinner is open to the public and all are welcome to attend.

Culture, Climate, and Safety

Did you know that the Kent City School District has Board of Education Policies that address issues related to student and school safety? Please go to the Kent City Schools website www.kentschools.net to learn more about these policies. Please click on the Board of Education link, where you will find the Kent Board of Education Policies to see specific policies on student hazing, bullying, child abuse, sexual harassment, and school safety in general. Please contact your building administrator for more information. Thank you, Timothy A. Dortch, Ph.D.

Children in the Middle

Is your family experiencing stress because of divorce, separation, or parents living separately? Townhall II, a nonprofit organization in downtown Kent, is offering a free program, “Children in the Middle,” for children and parents/guardians going through these life changes. “Children in the Middle” is available to all Kent City School District families and begins Monday, November 2nd. The program will continue November 9th and 16th, meeting from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. each Monday at Longcoy Elementary. “Children in the Middle” looks to reduce conflict and stress between family members. Families learn problem solving, coping, and communication skills to help adjust to their family’s changes through videos, discussion, activities and workbooks that families keep. A free dinner will be provided for each of the three sessions. The registration deadline is Monday, October 26th and you may contact Karen Tomaszewski at 330-346-3033 or Karent@townhall2.com with any additional questions or to register.

Character Education In Kent City Schools

The character trait for October is “RESPECT FOR SELF AND OTHERS”. The goal is for students to realize their worth and dignity as human beings, and account for their strengths as well as their weaknesses. They should display good manners and politeness, showing the same respect for others, as they would wish for themselves.

Related terms under this topic are: courtesy, esteem, dignity, and pride. Some practical applications would include such behaviors as:

Shows gratitude by expressing appreciation orally or in a note.

- Follows rules and instructions set by parents and those in authority.
- Realizes the careless or intentional injury of another is unacceptable.
- Keeps neat, clean, rested, and in shape.
- Respects the differences among individuals.

We hope everyone will make a great effort to model these traits. The school and home, working together, can make great progress in these areas.

THE COUNSELOR'S "SPOT"



WOW! It is hard to believe that we have been in school for over a month now. I have had the opportunity to visit your child's classroom three times already. The first was my counselor "Hello" lesson. I dressed up as several interesting characters—like a fisherperson, a coach, a detective, and a doctor. Ask your children which one I was in their classrooms. Each classroom has also had a lesson on good listening skills. Becoming an "active" listener is a learned skill and so important in making friends, gaining knowledge, staying safe, and having fun. The students all know the saying: "Safe feet, safe hands, quiet mouth, watching eyes, listening ears, and a brain in gear." Ahh—that "brain in gear" part is challenging even for us as grownups.

The third lesson centered on safety. Parents and schools working together is an essential part in helping create a safe school environment conducive to learning, enrichment, friendships and fun. In looking around the web for school safety ideas for parents—I stumbled upon a site which I felt listed a lot of good ideas. Some of them were as follows:

1. Discuss the schools conduct code with your children. (It can be found in you parent handbook.) Show your support of the rules and help your child understand the reasons for them.
2. Involve your child in setting rules for appropriate behavior at home.
3. Talk with your child about the violence they see on television, in video games, and possibly in the neighborhood. Help your child understands the consequences of violence.
4. Take some time to review and evaluate the movies and video games your children are watching and playing. Many times they are watching/playing things rated for teens or that involve violence far above what is appropriate for their age level.

**When children are exposed to so many violent events in games and movies, they often become numb to the actual effects violent words and actions can have in real life.
5. Teach your child how to solve problems in a peaceful way and praise them when they follow through.
6. Help your child find ways to show anger that do not involve verbally or physically hurting others.

7. When you get angry---use it as an opportunity to model appropriate responses for your child.
8. Keep lines of communication open with your child—even when it is tough.

If you would like to read more suggestions that I found on this site, you can go to: www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/News/violprev/html. Or, like me—you can just type in “school safety ideas for parents” and it is the top entry.

Ask your children about the reminder “bees” in their lockers which say:

STOP----THINK----“BEE SMART”---BE SAFE!!!

As always, thank you for sharing your children with us. If there is anything I can be of help with don’t hesitate to call.

Mrs. Romeo
School Counselor



Important Dates

| | |
|----------|--|
| 10/12 | 5:30 p.m. – Market Day Pick Up |
| 10/15 | 1:00 p.m. – Early Release Day – Students dismissed at 1:00 p.m. (no PM Kdg) |
| 10/16 | NEOEA Day – No School |
| 10/17 | 5:30 p.m. – Kent Community Dinner at KSU New Hillel Jewish Community |
| 10/19-30 | SBA Writing #1 – Gr. 1-5; Rigby Benchmark Assessment #1- Gr. 1-3 |
| 10/19 | Kindergarten Field Trip to Rufener’s Farm |
| 10/20 | 7:00 p.m. - Board of Education Meeting at Davey Elementary School |
| 10/21 | Bus Safety Assembly |
| 10/30 | 2:15 p.m. – Harvest Parties End of 1 st Grading Period |
| 11/02 | 5:30 p.m. – Town Hall II “Children in the Middle” |
| 11/03 | No School For Students – Professional Development for Staff Voting Day |
| 11/04 | 6:00 p.m. – District Title I Family Night at Davey Elementary School |
| 11/05 | 7:00 p.m. – Longcoy School Association Meeting |
| 11/09 | 5:30 p.m. – Market Day Pick Up 5:30 p.m. – Town Hall II “Children in the Middle” |
| 11/11 | Picture Retake Day |
| 11/12 | Kindergarten Parent-Teacher Conferences (by schedule) Vision-Hearing Screening (Grades 1, 3, 5) |



Quick Tour Of the New IEP Form



Presented by
Suzanne Frank
Assistant to the Director of Student Services
Kent City Schools

Wednesday, October 21, 2009

6 pm until 7:30 pm
Kent Free Library
312 W Main Street
Pizza and beverage provided

Registration required
Leave message on the Parent Mentor
voicemail 330-676-7661

*It is critical to understand the IEP, the basic document
which drives educational supports. Here is your
opportunity to learn more about the new IEP form.
Parents, students, educational staff, and community agency
members are all welcome!*

Sponsored by the Kent City/Woodridge Local Schools Parent Mentor Program
Contact Jeanne Schmidlin or Susan Foley if you wish to speak to a Parent Mentor,
330-676-7661 or ke_parentmentor@kentschools.net