

Tiger Tales



November, 2008

PTA Contact Information

Listserv

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Meetings are usually held the first Thursday of each month. Meeting notices go out via the listserv and paper copies in the students' backpacks. Notices are also posted on the bulletin board outside the main office.

Newsletter editor:

Gail Brisson
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BJM Calendar

November 2008				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
10 2 nd Equity Report Card Meeting 7p ICSD Board Room	11 NO SCHOOL Veterans Day	12	13 PTA Meeting 5:30p dinner 6-7p meeting	14 NO SCHOOL Parent-Teacher Conference Day
17	18	19 Morning Program	20 Picture Retakes 2:15p Go Green Mtg 5:30p Community Night	21 GIAC Harvest Dinner 6p BJM Gym
		5 th grade Social Studies Assessments		
24	25	26 NO SCHOOL	27 NO SCHOOL	28 NO SCHOOL

Dollars for Dreams Savings Club



Encourage your students to get into the saving habit! Deposits will be collected by teachers every Tuesday morning and deposited into their individual Alternatives Federal Credit Union account. Help your student by putting their money into an envelope and reminding them of this weekly program on their way to school.

For information on how to set up an account, please contact Samantha Little at 274-2340

Meeting Notes from Oct. 28, 2008 Meeting with NYSEG, DEC and ICSD

1. Coal Tar Background
2. Concerns and Possible Impacts
3. NYSEG and ICSD Actions/Commitments
4. What to do if you have concerns about your child
5. How can you help tear down Markles Flats

Coal Tar Background

Starting in October 2008, and continuing for the next 2 years from 7:30am to 5:30pm, the city block bounded by Court, Albany, Esty and Plain Streets will undergo extensive environmental cleanup of coal tar left behind by the Manufactured Gas Plant which operated there from 1853 to 1927. These efforts include:

- Demolition of all buildings west of the Alex Haley Pool except for Markles Flats
- Installation of 54-foot-long sheet piling by vibrating hammer which will take approximately 80 working days (4 months); there will be an identical process at the end of the clean-up to remove the sheet piling
- Excavation and replacement of the top 18 feet of contaminated soil which will be trucked out by approximately 30 trucks/day
- Installation of a temporary fabric structure built over the work area with associated air handling and water treatment facilities to contain dust, fumes and odors and to filter water
- Due to the historic designation of Markles Flats, clean up efforts around Markles Flats will be limited and require long-term monitoring and maintenance by ICSD. ICSD is working to try to change this designation to allow the building to be removed so that and the clean up can be as complete as possible. Community support is welcomed to help gain city approval to tear down the building. See below for details on how you can participate.

Concerns and Possible Impacts

- Will contaminants be released into the air by the clean up?
- Will the noise (decibel), vibration and odor levels in the school building and on the playground negatively affect children and staff?
 - learning and working environment
 - behavior
 - health
- Will the vibration from the hammer cause dust and/or unsafe particulates to be released into the air in the building?
- What procedures are in place to monitor the noise, dust and particulate levels in and around the building?
- What procedures are in place to monitor and address negative affects (environment, behavior, health) in children and staff?
- What procedures are in place to address and support the individual and collective needs of students and staff, should they be affected?

NYSEG and ICSD Actions/Commitments

NYSEG Safety measures include:

1. Creation of a safety drop zone around the hammer restricting pedestrian and auto traffic;
2. Installation of sound insulation structures around the pile driver, the engine and the hammer;
3. Initial monitoring of noise levels and vibration to determine if insulation is effective in keeping levels within desired levels.
4. Restriction of pile driving to the hours of 8:00 – 1:40, 2:20-5:30

