

McCarty Elementary School – LEADERS IN LEARNING!  
2006 Illinois Honor Roll School Academic Achievement Award Winner

# Chuck Wagon Chatter

January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2010

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Kimberly A. Earlenbaugh, Principal

No School on Monday, January 18<sup>th</sup>.

## **CHARACTER COUNTS! EVERYWHERE ALL THE TIME!**

**CC! Fourth Pillar: FAIRNESS**

**CC! Word of the Week: COOPERATION**

The definitions of cooperation include: working together in a common effort; and persons associating for a common benefit.

**CC! Quote of the Week**

**“The Law of Win/Win says, “Let’s not do it your way or my way; let’s do it the best way.”**

**– Greg Anderson**

To reinforce what your child is learning in school, we hope you can take some time to discuss the components of teamwork. These components are: listening to others, taking turns, doing one’s part, showing appreciation, encouraging others, compromising, and making everyone feel needed. Discuss how you and why you cooperate with others in your work or daily life and talk about the benefits that cooperative behavior provides for all of us. Thank you for supporting us in reinforcing the character trait of flexibility!

**Suggested readings:** *Woodsie* (grades 4-6) by Bruce Brooks

*Miss Nelson is Missing* (grades 1-4) by Harry Allard

## **End of the First Semester**

Our first semester came to a close on Thursday. Report cards will be coming home with students via backpack mail on Friday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>.

It is unbelievable how fast this school year is going. Please take the time to congratulate your child on his/her efforts this quarter. The students are truly making great gains in their learning. As always, if you have any questions, please contact your child’s teacher or me.

## **Progress Monitoring**

In order for teachers and support staff to create differentiated lessons to reach and teach all students, we must regularly assess students to monitor their progress. It is a continuous improvement cycle of plan....do....check....act. This month we have had several assessments occurring. During the first two weeks of January all students completed the winter curriculum based measurements (CBMs) in reading and math. The box and whisker chart will be sent home with your child showing the progress they have made since the fall benchmark within the next two weeks. We will be completing a third benchmark in the spring. The ACCESS tests are being administered to all English Language Learners in our building. These assessments will show the improvement for each child in learning and comprehending the English language.

ISAT is scheduled for the weeks of March 1<sup>st</sup> and March 8<sup>th</sup>. Please do everything you can to help your child prepare to do their best of these assessments by providing them support

with their reading, math, and writing. Please stress the importance to do their best to show what they know. In the February Mustang Memo, look for the strategies that are provided to assist children with test anxiety and how to be successful taking standardized tests.

### **McCarty Dates to Remember**

Mon., Jan. 18 <sup>th</sup>	NO SCHOOL – Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Thurs., Jan. 21 <sup>st</sup>	Fourth grade program 7:00 p.m.
Fri., Jan. 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Report cards go home backpack mail PTA sponsored McCarty Family Hoe-Down from 6:30-8:00 p.m.
Wed., Jan. 27 <sup>th</sup>	PTA Restaurant Night at the Which Wich Restaurant (10:00-9:00 p.m.)
Thurs., Jan. 28 <sup>th</sup>	Reading Improvement Family Night 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Fri., Jan. 29 <sup>th</sup>	First grade curriculum party
Sat., Jan. 30 <sup>th</sup>	Market Day – 10:00-11:00 a.m. in the gym

### **Young Author's Entries Due February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

The Young Authors Program is intended to generate appreciation and recognition of children's writing. Students in kindergarten through fifth grade are encouraged to participate by writing and submitting an original story, essay, or collection of poems. This is a voluntary at-home project. Please see the McCarty LMC website for more details and downloadable documents at <http://mcary.ipsd.org/lmc.asp>.

**Genius is one percent inspiration and ninety-nine percent perspiration.  
–Thomas Edison**

### **EMPOWER YOUR CHILD TO SUCCEED!**

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