

From the Principal

June 2, 2008

Please note the opening and closing time on the last day of school

Start time = 8:15

Closing time = 11:15

It is Time to Say Farewell

It is never easy to say farewell to our students. I believe our students experienced an exciting learning year. Best wishes to all for a safe and restful summer.

It is just about that time to think about completing our school year. As you may recall, at the beginning of the school year, I decided to change the old, common *Back to School* phrase because at Springer we had a theme that promised to make this year very exciting.

Our theme for this year was simply titled **“07-08 It’s All About Learning.”**

Remember, I said that school was only a place to participate in activities and projects.

Learning is what is the greatest value that can be shared at the Springer Elementary School site. Our teachers and school leaders designed their lessons and projects to help and guide you to find out about how the world of language, writing, numbers, history, science and social skills connect. Some of the lessons used art or technology to build the connections.

Remember the many activities and projects that took place:

NED	Student Council	Carnival
Classroom Cooperation	Buddies	Technology in the Classroom
Kite Flying	STAR Students	Noontime Sports and Games
Science Fair	Caring	Science Fair Kickoff
Junior Olympics	Girls On the Run	World Citizens Groups

I am confident that you had many opportunities to build the connections that helped you discover that learning makes sense and is usable in the real world.

No one could be prouder of the many accomplishments in learning each of our Springer STARS has made during this fine year. I really enjoyed working and learning with each of you.

Take great care of yourself - Bob Celeste, Principal

End of Year Message

The 2007-2008 school year is quickly coming to a close. At this time of year it is important to reflect upon the success of the school year. This year, the staff and School Site Council decided a survey would be in order to base our reflection on more objective criteria. The actual statistical data is included for review.

On behalf of the Springer Elementary School Site Council, I would like to thank the community

for participating in the Springer School Survey. When the council launched this effort, the goal was to gather data for maintaining the programs and activities that were successful and to review areas of the program that should be improved or adjusted.

The council developed the following summary.

Areas for Improvement:

Communication: *It was discussed and generally accepted that many parental areas of concern on the commentary section of the survey would be assisted by an increase and perhaps formalization of communication from the classes and the school. This includes teacher to parent, as well as principal to parent communication. This adjustment could help in areas of concern such as monitoring children's progress as well as understanding the courses of action the school takes to help develop critical thinking skills.*

Supervision: *The survey indicated a need to increase supervision on the playground during recess and noontime. In addition, the survey indicated the need to restart the supervision of the parking lot to provide safety for walkers to and from the parking lot.*

Critical Thinking: *The survey indicated parents wanted to understand the emphasis on critical thinking as an instructional strategy through the grades.*

Strengths:

Exceptional Staff: *As collected from the responses, the survey indicated teacher accessibility, teacher responsiveness, principal integrity and responsiveness, quality and the responsiveness of the office staff as areas of school strength.*

Community: *The survey indicated teacher respect for children, children's respect for each other, parental support, the LifeSkills Program, and general support for a learning environment supportive of children's needs as a strength.*

Curriculum: *The recent improvements in the writing program, and technology integration that emphasizes student engagement and understanding were the areas highlighted as showing strength.*

The council agreed to open the 2008-09 school year with a goal setting session based upon the data. The resulting information would be used to adjust areas of the program to fulfill the points raised by the Areas for Improvement. In addition, the council will develop goals to maintain areas identified as strength.

With the amount of new staff members joining the staff, the culture developed by the school that are successful need to be stressed and encouraged.

Consider joining the School Site Council in the Fall and be a part of the future of Springer.