

# NEWS FROM LYON & PLEASANT RIDGE

## LYON SCHOOL WINTER PROGRAM

Friday, December 22, 2017 is the Lyon School winter program "**EVER FREE** and Other Ways That Little is Big". Show times are 10AM and 1:30PM. **Two tickets per family will be mailed home.**

## WINTER WEATHER

As the weather is starting to get colder, please remember to dress your kids appropriately. Children will go out for recess as much as possible (if the wind chill is above zero degrees). Please send your children in snow pants and boots if there is snow on the ground.

## LOST AND FOUND

Is your child missing his/her gloves, backpack, lunchbox, water bottle, hat, scarf, coat, boots, etc.? Lyon School's lost and found is overflowing. If your child is missing an article of clothing please, stop by Lyon to look through the lost and found.

## HOLIDAY HELPER

The Holiday Helper Program is well underway! Thank you to our generous families that have offered to be sponsors and provided donations. There are still other ways to help! Our Holiday Helper Food Drive runs through Friday, December 8. Please donate non-perishable food at either Lyon or Pleasant Ridge. Also, cash and grocery gift card donations are greatly appreciated! The amazing generosity of this community helps make this program a success - thank you!



Parents!

Have you logged in to your child's Artsonia digital portfolio yet? <https://www.artsonia.com/parents/> D34 schools are using Artsonia to store your child's artwork online. This portfolio will follow them through grade 8. It is an amazing tool to see your child's growth over time and is an easy way for you to share your child's artwork with friends and family. If you are having trouble accessing your child's account contact Mary Tapia in the Lyon art room at [mtapia@glenview34.org](mailto:mtapia@glenview34.org)



## IMPORTANT DATES

Tues, Dec. 5	Report Cards - sent home with students
Wed, Dec. 6	Winter Chorus Concert 6:30-7:30PM @ PR
Wed, Dec. 6 - Fri, Dec 8	Vision and Hearing Screening @ PR
Mon, Dec. 11	School Board Meeting 7:30PM @ Admin Bldg
Wed, Dec. 20	Band Concert 7PM @ PR
Thurs, Dec. 21	Orchestra Concert 7PM @ PR
Fri, Dec. 22	Lyon Winter Show 10Am & 1:30PM
Mon, Dec. 25 - Fri, Jan. 5	<b>NO SCHOOL</b> - Winter Break
Mon, Jan. 8	School Resumes
Mon, Jan. 15	<b>NO SCHOOL</b> - Martin Luther King Day
Tues, Jan. 16	PTA Meeting @ PR 9:15AM
Mon, Feb. 19	<b>NO SCHOOL</b> - President's Day
Tues, Feb. 20	<b>NO SCHOOL</b> - Institute Day

## AFTER SCHOOL @ PR

Mon, Dec. 4	3rd Grade Chorus 2:30-3:15PM Gym 2:30-3:30PM
Tues, Dec. 5	4th/5th Grade Chorus 2:30-3:15PM
Thurs, Dec. 7	Gym 2:30-3:30PM
Fri, Dec. 8	Art 2:30-3:30PM
Mon, Dec. 11	Gym 2:30-3:30PM
Wed, Dec. 13	Gym 2:30-3:30PM
Fri, Dec. 15	Art 2:30-3:30PM

\*Please check the School Calendar for all after school events.

\*\*There will be no after school Chorus until Tuesday, January 16th for 4th/5th grade chorus and Monday, January 22nd for 3rd grade

## P.E. @ PR

Dance took place this week! Students learned a variety of grade level specific steps and focused on different basic dance elements. Students watched a few short dance clips that displayed strong examples of level changes, repetition, frozen ending positions, and matching moves to the temp of the music. After grasping key concepts, students were able to choreograph their own dances to a selection of songs from the 50's, 60's, 70's and 80's. Today, we are ending our unity with the highly anticipated "Just Dance" challenges. Before winter break, students will be working on grade level volleyball skills.

I hope you all had an enjoyable Thanksgiving break with your families. It was nice to spend some unrushed time with my girls, and of course some extra relaxing time is always welcome! We now begin that final stretch of school before Winter Break. As we all know, the next month gets increasingly busy for everyone. Between school commitments, preparing for the Holidays, and everything else we have going on...we are about to enter the 'December Sprint'. I've observed that kids begin to feel the effects of this 'sprint' as we approach winter break. From my perspective, we make every effort to stick to our routines at school, and provide students with predictability and consistency. We have much to do at Pleasant Ridge and we want to keep our focus and attention on learning and growing. I wish everyone a great start to December, and good luck with the 'sprint'!



**Report Cards** - Report Cards will be coming home with students on Tuesday, December 5th. I hope report cards provide you an opportunity to reflect with your child/ren on their process of learning. I'm sure there will be celebrations for students' hard work, as well as areas to identify for future growth. If we adopt a Growth Mindset, we can help students avoid seeing grades as a 'fixed' reality that cannot be changed. Rather, they (and us as adults) can view grades as an opportunity to reflect and a place for us to begin some goal setting for the next trimester. We are dedicated to help every student achieve their best, and learning always begins with getting into the right mindset. Grading students is never an easy process, because the very nature of learning means that we don't know something...yet. If you have any questions as you review report cards, please don't hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher.

**Science Fair Information**- On Saturday, January 20th, Pleasant Ridge will be hosting the Science Fair for 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students. We are excited to invite students to explore their curiosities and share their scientific journey with others. In the coming weeks we will be sending home registration information and further details about the Science Fair. Please keep a lookout for this information in an upcoming PTA Blast.

**Outdoor Recess Reminder**- Winter is here (although our recent weather might fool you) and COLDER DAYS ARE COMING...remember that we make every effort to get students' outside for recess. Please ensure that your child leaves home each morning with the appropriate clothing for outdoor recess. It would also be helpful if you label all your child's winter items so they can be successfully returned when found on the playground. Thank you.



Erik Friedman  
Pleasant Ridge Principal

#### Need to Know Info: Lyon Winter Program Notes

We are excited to present our 2017 Lyon Winter Program ("Ever Free – and other ways that little is BIG") on **Friday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00 am and 1:30 pm**. In advance of the show, there is some information that we wanted everyone to be aware of, both from a student learning perspective as well as some important logistical details. For veteran Lyon parents, some of this will hopefully sound familiar, and your spreading the word about our intentions each year is much appreciated! For parents new to Lyon, we hope this information is helpful.



Our program takes many months to come to fruition. Our Fine Arts team begins collaboratively planning for this program well in advance so that each year the final product represents a culminating event reflecting curriculum objectives and student learning in the areas of Drama, Music, Physical Education (Dance) and Visual Art. In other words, learning in these curricular areas does not take a pause to "get ready" for the Winter Program.

While it is typical for our Winter Program to carry messages and themes consistent with the spirit of the various holidays at this time of year, it is not a typical holiday-themed show. We wouldn't want anyone's enjoyment of this wonderful event to be lessened at all by mismatched expectations (e.g., "Where's *Frosty the Snowman*?"). Having said that, there is always plenty that will bring a smile to your face and warmth to your heart.

Anyone who has attended our shows in previous years knows firsthand how crowded our gym gets on this day. Capacity and safety issues are always serious considerations, and that is why we issue **2 tickets per family** (individually numbered) to our program. The tickets can be used at either the morning or the afternoon performance, and **everyone attending the show must have a ticket (regardless of age)**. Depending upon the percentage of tickets used, we still may not have a chair for every audience member. While we realize this is not the ideal scenario, please know that we do not make this decision lightly. We have found that this approach successfully and equitably addresses our space challenge, and we greatly appreciate your cooperation and understanding. Tickets and a letter with more details will be received through the mail.

Enjoy the month ahead, in whichever ways you celebrate, especially time with loved ones. We look forward to seeing you at Lyon soon!

Kevin Dorken  
Lyon School Principal

## **PTA News and Notes by Sharon Bux, PTA President**

The holidays are just around the corner and a new year upon us! The month of December promises to be a festive and very busy one for all of us, both children and adults alike. The PTA continues to be busy with activities that support our community:

### **Holiday Helper**

The Holiday Helper Program is currently wrapping up. Many thanks to Maryellen Cozad, Andrea Downing, and Ramie Robbins for their hard work organizing this remarkable program. Holiday Helper gifts and food drive items are due next week, on Wednesday, December 6th.

Thanks to the many families who provided outerwear, gifts and foods to the 60 families in need at our schools.

### **Amazon Smile**

Please remember throughout the holiday season to use Amazon Smile when purchasing your holiday gifts. Select Lyon/PR PTA, as your charity and Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to fund our activities and events. AmazonSmile offers the same products, prices, and service as Amazon.

### **Saying Goodbye Is Never Easy**

Join us Thursday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at Pleasant Ridge 3:00pm as the PTA says goodbye and celebrates Sue Prokopowicz and her 17 years of service to our community. We will be serving cookies and hot cocoa. Please stop in.

### **PTA Meetings**

There will be no PTA general meeting for the month of December. But we look forward to seeing you on Tuesday, January 16, at Pleasant Ridge at 9:15am. We have invited Kimberly Cleveland Director of Food Services to come and speak about District 34 lunch program and menus. In preparation for the meeting if you have any questions for Kimberly please email them to [lyprpta@gmail.com](mailto:lyprpta@gmail.com) with food services as your subject line.

### **PTA's Annual Benefit**

Hope you can join us! Let the Good Times Roll! Saturday, February 24th, at The Valley Lo Club. Chairs Tracy Reeder and Gail Weiss are orchestrating a fun filled night! Look for your invitation after Winter Break! Order your tickets early – tickets are limited!

Wishing all of you and your family a joyous holiday season, a Happy New Year and a safe winter break with family and friends!

## **Guidelines for Winter Weather Closing**

*Parents and students should assume that classes are in session at the normal time unless otherwise notified.*

### **Priority on Safety**

During periods of inclement weather or in emergency situations, our first priority is the safety and welfare of our students and staff. At the same time, the closing of school can be burdensome to families due to child care and work schedules. We consider cancelling school to be an exception and we place a strong emphasis on keeping our schools open. Some of the primary factors that are considered when making a decision include:

- The safety and well-being of students and staff
- Severity of the weather (extreme cold, excessive snow, flooding, etc.)
- Timing of the weather events
- The ability of buses and cars to travel safely
- The operable condition of our buildings

Please know that if school does remain open and you feel that it is unsafe to send your student to school, please contact the school attendance office and the student will be given an excused absence.

### **Making the Decision**

The Superintendent of Schools determines when and if conditions at one or more of the schools warrant the cancellation of school. This decision is normally made in collaboration with the District Administration, other area superintendents, local Village departments, the bus service provider and the Illinois Department of Transportation, depending on the condition.

Glenview District 34 works collaboratively with Glenbrook District 225 and our Township Districts 27, 28, 30, 31, and NSSED on school closings. Because we have many families whose students are enrolled at both GBS and District 34, we seek to be consistent to create the least amount of disruption. This may not always occur, but please be assured it is a priority in our deliberations.

Data source: The National Weather Service (NWS) will be the primary meteorological source to determine and declare weather conditions such as snow forecasts, wind-chill advisory or wind-chill warnings. <http://www.weather.gov/>

### **Notification to Our Parents**

In the event of a school closing or other emergency, parents can expect to receive an automated phone call, e-mail, and text. It is the responsibility of the parent to provide this information to the school. This process was completed during registration, but must be updated if either a phone number or e-mail is changed during the school year.

## Guidelines for Winter Weather Closing continued....



School closure decisions will normally be made before 6:00 a.m. the day of closure. This allows weather conditions to be monitored overnight to avoid unnecessary closures. Closure decisions will only be made the night before if conditions are known for certain and warrant closure. Parents should establish contingency plans for possible closures throughout the school year regardless of the season.

Emergency and closing information is also available through the following sources:

- School and district websites,

- WGN's Emergency Closings website,
- Mass media including major radio and TV sources, and
- The district's social media channels

### General Information Regarding School Cancellation

School may be cancelled due to weather conditions or other emergency conditions that made the operation of school facilities unsafe. In extreme conditions or due to large-scale damage, the superintendent may close all buildings and cancel all events. General guidelines:

- School may be cancelled for all District 34 school facilities or for an individual facility as necessary.
- All after-school activities and field trips will be cancelled unless specifically announced by the school principal.
- All student events will be cancelled unless specifically announced by the school principal.
- Athletic events and practices will be cancelled unless specifically announced by the school principal.

### Heavy Snow – School Will Be Closed

If we have heavy snow that creates conditions where the safety of students and staff is at risk, travel is prohibitive, or buildings cannot be prepared for a regular school day, school will be closed. Parents will be notified by all communication methods previously identified.

Unlike cold, it is more challenging to determine if the conditions will result in a closure due to snow. More often than not parents should expect notification of a school closure due to snow in the morning.

### Severe Cold – Two Possible Outcomes

Wind-Chill Warning – Schools Will Be Closed

Schools will be closed under the condition of a Wind-chill warning. A wind-chill warning indicates that life-threatening conditions and a risk to safety exist. Measures should be taken to safeguard life and property immediately. A Wind-chill warning is typically issued when the wind-chill will be -30 degrees Fahrenheit or colder and the winds are greater than or equal to 10 mph OR the actual temperature is -15° F.

## Guidelines for Winter Weather Closing continued....

General Range – Wind-chills -30°F or lower and wind speeds 10 mph or greater or Actual temperature -15°F or lower

- Classes will be cancelled and school closure protocols will be instituted.
- All notification systems will be leveraged to send school cancellation communications to families.
- Extracurricular activities will be cancelled.

Wind-Chill Advisory – Schools Will Be Open

A Wind-chill advisory is issued when conditions do not meet the wind-chill warning criteria but still cause significant inconvenience. The weather during a wind-chill advisory is not life threatening but presents conditions that may result in inconvenience or pose moderate risk to safety. A wind-chill advisory is typically issued when the wind chill is -20 degrees Fahrenheit or colder AND the winds are greater to OR equal to 10 mph.

General Range – Wind-chills -20°F to -29°F and wind speeds 10 mph or greater or Actual temperature -5°F to -14°F

- Schools will be open and student attendance is expected.
- Fire and Police will be notified prior to the start of these school days.
- Extracurricular activities will be evaluated and may be suspended if conditions persist.
- All outside student activities will be suspended.

### Family Situation

Whenever a decision is made to cancel school or alter the school day, it is based on the general safety conditions for all students and staff. The District recognizes that conditions may vary for each individual student or family. As mentioned above, if you feel that it is unsafe to send your student to school, please contact the school attendance office and the student will be given an excused absence.

We appreciate your patience and understanding as we navigate challenging situations. Again, I would emphasize that the students' safety is our highest priority, and we will only hold school when we can assure you that they will be safe and have a productive learning environment.

Respectfully,  
Dane A. Delli, Ph.D.  
Superintendent