



ADAMS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

December 2011



Principal's Message



Hello All Star Families, I am very happy to announce **we purchased our first CPS clickers with the proceeds from the Foundation For Technology drive (FFT).** Thank you for your generous donations! Our goal is to be able to purchase a total of 6 CPS units, and this is a fantastic start. We originally planned on ending the FFT campaign at the end of this month, but many parents have expressed interest in keeping the campaign going until we reach our goal of 6 CPS units. In our PTO board meeting today, we chose to continue the campaign, and I know our students are looking forward to using the new technology soon. If you have not yet made a donation to the FFT, please consider making a donation soon. As the weather continues to get colder, I would like to remind everyone to **be sure and dress your children appropriately for playing outside.** Your

children love to be outside for recess, and we will always try to have them outside unless the temperature or a combination of weather factors causes us to have indoor recess. Please remember to dress your child for the cold! I would like to thank all of our parent volunteers who helped with **Parents Night Out** last week! We had a fantastic turn-out and your children had a great time. It is sometimes good to be reminded how much fun a child can have just by running down the halls of their school. The Boise School District (BSD) offers many unique educational programs, from classical education to a professional-technical education center to the Treasure Valley Mathematics and Science Center. Adams Elementary and the BSD deliver a range of academic programming beyond the standard curriculum, and

our four traditional high schools all ranked in the top 6% of schools on The Washington Post's list of schools in America. **Passing the levy in March will allow the District to continue to offer the accelerated classes, college and career readiness programs** that prepare students to compete in today's worldwide economy. See a full list of BSD focus schools and programs at http://www.boiseschools.org/district_info/focus.html. As I have mentioned in several previous newsletters, the Boise School District levy election will be held March 13, 2012. I strongly encourage all Adams Families to seek information on the levy and to participate in this important election. Please do contact me if you have any questions. I hope you have a great holiday season!

Jeff Roberts,
Principal

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PTO President's Message

As we enter into the doldrums of ever colder weather, Adams Elementary PTO continues to work through the shorter days and longer nights bringing our families fun activities that foster a sense of community within our school such as our recently held (and first ever) **Parent's Night Out**. The PTO would like to thank Jane Reed who chaired this event and the many volunteers who joined forces with her to make it such a success.

Volunteering is such a vital part of our school these days that without your help, we would be unable to proceed with events like the **Boo Bash, Parent's Night Out, Movie Night**, or the annual **Spring Art Auction**. More specifically, our **Math Night** committee is in desperate need of a chair person, or if needed, a two-person co-chair team. This year's Math Night is sure to be a great night of engaging, and meaningful math-centered activities, as BSU has announced that they will provide us with a key-note speaker and guidance for this event. Most of the pieces are already in place, but we are still in need of an overall coordinator or two to make this event happen. Once we are able to secure a Math Night chair, we will then be able to coordinate this PTO sponsored event. Won't you please consider chairing this event? If you have an inclination to do so, please contact me or any PTO board member to discuss this opportunity further.



Lastly, a brief reminder that if you have not yet donated to our **Foundation for Technology** fundraiser, please consider making a contribution today. Remember to check whether your employer matches funds, as a \$25 gift can easily become \$50. If we are able to reach our goal, then our students will benefit *this* school year from new technology to further support and enrich their education in ways that will keep them a step ahead of the rest. Also remember that 100% of these donations are returned to the school and that we only have two fundraisers per year—and this is one of them!

Have a happy and safe Holiday Season, and Merry Christmas,

Teresa Wittry, President 



Snow Days...

Education is important and every missed day of school represents lost learning opportunities. However, the Boise School District's primary concern is for the safety of all students, including students riding busses and walking or biking to school. If students cannot safely travel to school or if schools are not able to operate safely because of city-wide dangerous weather conditions, school may be canceled. We will not cancel school on days with normal wintery conditions. Light snowfall, cold mornings or

areas of ice are not sufficiently dangerous to force the closure of schools. With proper precautions including appropriate clothing, road deicing, and careful driving, students can travel to and from school safely.

How is the decision made to close or not to close school? Representatives from transportation agencies, the weather bureau, the highway district, city and county law enforcement agencies, and school administrators, including the Su-

perintendent, check the roads and monitor information throughout the night and early morning hours. We confer by telephone early in the morning to reach a decision. If school will be closed, we will communicate to local radio and television stations to spread the word. We will also email parents and post closure information at:

<http://www.boiseschools.org/emergency/index.html>

Adams Food Drive: The Final Score



VS.



Huddle-up!

(...and, queue the SportsCenter theme music.)

Ok, time to review the tapes. First of all, I'm really proud of you kids. I'm proud of the way you played as a team, and I'm proud of the way you fought hard until the last play. You really brought the hammer at the end when time was short, and it paid off. Because of your teamwork, we were able to donate **737 pounds**

of food - that's 614 meals! - to the Idaho Food Bank. Way to run-up the score, players!

Our special teams looked good, too. Because you emptied your pockets and piggy-banks, we were able to provide enough funds to the Idaho Food Bank to buy over **140 pounds of additional food!** That's over **108 more nutritious meals** that you rallied to donate. Touchdown! It just brings a tear to your

coach's eye, kids. You're all MVP's in my book, and I couldn't be happier with your performance!

The Final Score:

(seriously, it really WAS this close!)

Boise State: 53

U of I: 51

THANK YOU to all our players who gave their best—I hope you keep that giving spirit, kids. You should be proud!

-Coach Knipe



Adams Book Fair Re-Cap

Our Adams-All Stars *love* to read—and boy, did it show at this year’s **Scholastic Book Fair**, held Nov 28—Dec 2. According to Ms. Laurie, “Let’s just say our sales goal was \$4,200. We did \$4,700--that’s almost over \$1,000 over last year! It puts a little over \$950 in the library account (that will buy a lot of \$3 AR (Advanced Reader) quizzes). I was also able to purchase over \$400 in books, and will have almost another \$400 in Scholastic credit.”

It costs the school district an *average* of \$25 per book to put a new book on the shelf. AR quizzes—used in virtually all reading-grade levels—are almost \$3 a piece. To put a book on the shelf and pair it with an AR quiz will cost, on average, \$28.

How does Ms. Laurie feel about the outcome of this year’s book fair? “Needless to say, I’m pretty pleased with the fair itself...I could not have done it without all of the fabulous Adams volunteer parents!”

If you and your family would like to continue to help Ms. Laurie build and enrich our library today, please contact her at laurie.downs@boiseschools.org.



We’re on the web!
adamspto.com

~Calendar of Events~

Dec 13—K-2nd Holiday Program, 10:00 + 2:00

Dec 14—Band, Choir + Orchestra Holiday Performance, 10:00 + 2:00

Dec 16—Early Release

Dec 19—Jan 2—Winter Break (school resumes Tuesday the 3rd)

Happy Holidays!

Parent’s Night Out a Success

The Adams PTO delivered a successful Parents Night Out event on Friday, December 2. Co-Chairs Rebecca Anson and Jane Reed managed a flawless evening of entertainment for approximately 86 Adams children, including fabulous crafts and a gymnasium full of fun activities. Children enjoyed all-you-can-eat pizza, some healthy sides, and bags of popcorn during the movie, *Rio*, which played in the school library. The PTO extends a sincere thank you to **Mr. Roberts, Rebecca Anson, Jane Reed** and the entire Parents Night Out Committee for an awesome evening, both for our children and for the Adams parents able to take an evening out!