



Children First!



Nokomis Montessori Magnet School Newsletter

Dear Nokomis Families, February 2017

Would you like to send a sibling to Nokomis?

Applications are now being accepted for the 2017-2018 school year. Important reminders:

- **Students register to attend North campus** if they live in **Area A and Area C** (East Side of 35E).
- **Students register to attend South campus** if they live in **Area B**.
- **PreK students must be age 4 by September 1, 2017.** There is no early admit process for PreK students.
- **Students who turn 5 by September 1, 2017 register for Kindergarten classes.** Student Placement Center coordinates the Early Admit to Kindergarten process.

Pre-K – Grade 12 application deadline is

Wednesday, February 15, 2017. Applications are available online at www.apply.spps.org, school office or Student Placement Center. Acceptance priority is given to St. Paul residents and siblings of St. Paul residents.

Reminder, **our current students do not need to reapply** for Nokomis Montessori.

We're recognizing **Katerina Youngberg**, our new school counselor, for the support she provides to our students as she facilitates class lessons and small groups during **National School Counseling Week on February 6-10!**

Join us for our annual **PTA Book Exchange on Friday, February 10 from 6:00-7:30 p.m. at South campus.**

Thanks for making it a priority to join us for our **National Family Involvement Day on Monday, February 13.** Parents and younger siblings can join us for complimentary lunch provided by our school budget.

Montessori classroom teachers will send home March Parent-Teacher **conference appointment sheets** with your child on **Friday, February 24.** **Please contact your child's Montessori teacher if you need to reschedule your child's conference.** Montessori teacher direct phone numbers are listed inside the front cover of the 2016-2017 Nokomis Montessori North or South Calendar.

Library Go is your virtual **Saint Paul Public Library card**, now available for all SPPS students. A flyer is enclosed with more information.

We encourage children to wear appropriate winter clothing (jacket, hat, mittens, boots, snowpants) for outdoor recess in the winter months. **Reminder, our students go outside for recess every day unless the temperature or windchill is below 0.**

Sincerely,
Melissa McCollor, Principal

**Pre-K – Grade 12
Application Deadline
Wednesday, February 15, 2017
Applications available
online at apply.spps.org or
School Office or
Student Placement Center**

No School for Students on these days:

- **Monday, February 20** = President's Day Holiday
- **Friday, March 3** = Teacher Conference Prep Day
- **Friday, March 24** = Parent-Teacher Conference Day
- **April 3-7** = Spring Break
- **April 14** = Teacher Professional Development

**National Family Involvement Day
Monday, February 13**

Thanks for making it a priority to join us on **National Family Involvement Day on Monday, February 13 at both campuses.** All parents and preschool children are invited to join us for a **complimentary lunch** on Monday, February 13.

**Site Council & PTA Meetings
Tuesday, February 21**

Our next Site Council meeting is scheduled on **Tuesday, February 21 from 5:30-6:00 p.m.** at South campus. Our agenda items for this meeting are:

- Review Title I Family Engagement Plan
- March parent-teacher conferences & PTA Potluck Teacher Dinner
- Spring Club's Choice Fundraiser

Join us for our PTA meeting on **Tuesday, February 21 from 6:00-7:00 p.m.** at South campus. School-age childcare is provided for PTA meetings.

**Hmong CLAnD After School Classes
Begin Tuesday, Feb. 7 at South campus**

Hmong CLAnD Spring Session will begin on Tuesday, February 7 for our grade 3-5 students from 4:05-5:30 p.m. at South campus. North campus students ride the bus to South campus if they are participating in Hmong CLAnD classes. Transportation home is not provided. All parents need to pick up their child at 5:30 p.m. at South campus. A flyer was sent home. **Thanks to Bao, MaiKa and Pai for teaching our Hmong CLAnD After School classes!** If you have any questions, please call Bao at 744-7487 or MaiKa at 744-7464.

Our Hmong CLAnD students will perform on **Friday, May 5** at the district Hmong Enrichment Program at Washington Technology Magnet School

**ACCESS Testing
ELL identified students
Begins February 15 – March 2**

Our students who are identified as English Language Learners in grades K-5 will participate in the ACCESS for ELLs language proficiency test. **We will begin ACCESS testing at Nokomis on February 15 – March 2.** ACCESS for ELL students provides a standardized measurement of academic language proficiency for ELL students throughout the State of Minnesota. With this information, we will be able to monitor your child's English language progress on an annual basis. If you have questions about the ACCESS test, please contact the ELL teacher who provides instructional support to your child. Our ELL teachers are: Bao Yang at 744-7487 (North), Erica at 744-4195 (North), Tatiana at 744-7486 (South) or Kris at 744-7502 (both). **THANKS to the ELL teachers** for administering the ACCESS test! Our ELL teachers will send home an ACCESS information letter with students they serve.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

March Parent-Teacher conferences are scheduled on these dates at both campuses:

- **Monday, March 20 from 5:00-8:00 p.m.**
- **Wednesday, March 22 from 5:00-8:00 p.m. & PTA Teacher Potluck Dinner**
- **Friday, March 24 from 9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. & no school for students**

Thanks to our ELL teachers for organizing interpreters for our parent-teacher conferences!

Science Fair

Monday, March 20 at South campus

Judging 9:45-11:45 &

5:00-8:00 p.m. Science Fair Open House

Wednesday, March 22 at North campus

Judging 9:45-11:45 &

5:00-8:00 p.m. Science Fair Open House

Our **grade 1-4 students** are invited to prepare and display a Science Fair project in our annual Science Fair. If your child plans to participate in our Science Fair, your child must complete the **Science Fair Project Entry form** and bring it to Science Kelsey by **Friday, February 10.**

Our **fifth grade students** are required to participate in our Science Fair. We encourage our fifth grade parents to keep checking in with your child to see if work is completed by Science Fair due dates:

- February 10: Parent signature & testable question
- February 24: Background information, prediction, material list, procedure
- March 10: Data & graph
- March 20: Conclusion & display board

Kelsey will complete a Science Fair project during E1 and E2 Science classes to model and clarify expectations to our students.

Our school budget **provides a display board** for each child to complete their Science Fair project at home. Our students participating in our Science Fair will **receive a special Nokomis Montessori Science Fair t-shirt** purchased by our school budget.

We need parents to serve as Science Fair Judges

on Monday, March 20 at South campus or Wednesday, March 22 at North campus, please contact Kelsey Rose at 744-7463 or kelsey.rose@spps.org.

Thanks to Kelsey for inspiring our students to participate in our Science Fair!

