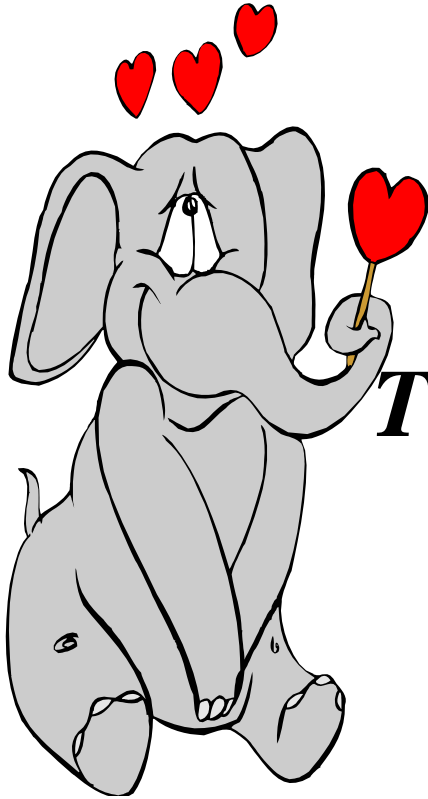


Townsend Elementary School
 126 Main Street
 P.O. Box 369
 Townsend, DE 19734
 378-5020 (office)
 378-5088 (fax)

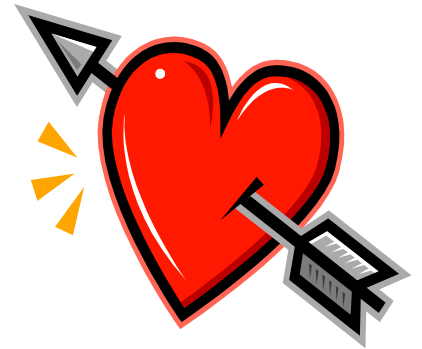
Appoquinimink School District
 Central Administrative Office
 Odessa Park Building
 223 South Fifth Street
 Odessa, DE 19730
 376-4128 (office)
 378-5007 (fax)



TOWNS-O-GRAM

*Townsend Elementary School
 February 2009*

*Mr. Charles Sheppard – Principal
 Mr. Shane Rifenburg – Admin. Intern
 Ms. Fran Baxter – Sr. Secretary
 Mrs. Joyce Foster – Secretary &
 “Townso-gram” Editor*
 School Hours – 8:50 am – 3:30 pm



TOWNSEND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL EXPECTATIONS

- *Be Responsible*
- *Be Respectful*
- *Be Safe*
- *Be Your Best*

SCHOOL CALENDAR

Feb. 9,10 PK-12 – no school –
 Staff Development
 Feb. 11,12 PK-12 – no school –
 Parent Conferences &
 Kindergarten Registration
 Feb. 13 PK-12 – no school –
 Staff Development

Feb. 16	Schools/Offices Closed
	President’s Day
Feb. 17	K-8 End of Marking Period
Feb. 27	K-8 Report Cards
Mar. 11-12	Gr. 2-10 DSTP – Math
Mar. 16-17	Gr. 2-10 DSTP – Reading
Mar. 19-20	Gr. 3-10 DSTP – Writing
Apr. 10-17	Schools/Offices Closed Spring Break
May 4-8	Teacher Appreciation Week
May 6	School Nurse Appreciation Day
May 7	Math 24 District Competition
May 16	Education Fair – 10:00 am – 2:00 pm
May 21	TES Band Concert

May 22	PK-12 – No School Staff Development
May 25	Schools/Offices Memorial Day
May 27	K-8 End of Marking Period
May 29	TES Field Day
June 5	K-11 Last Day of School (half day) * <i>If bad weather causes excessive cancellations, the last day of school may be extended.</i>
June 8	Last Teacher Day
June 15	DSTP Summer School Begins
Aug. 24	K-12 First Day of School for 2009
Sept. 4	Schools/Offices Closed
Sept. 7	Schools/Offices Closed Labor Day



**PRINCIPAL'S
MESSAGE**
*Charles Sheppard
Principal*

February is I Love to Read Month. Townsend has many activities planned for our students and information about these events will be sent home soon. One activity is the Principal's Reading Challenge. Students have been suggesting ideas for the challenge since the beginning of the year. We will narrow it down and announce the choice before the start of February. In fact, it is likely you will know the challenge before you receive this newsletter. :)

We've reached the coldest time of the year. In the event of cold weather, please don't call the school to check on whether we are closed, opening late, or closing early. We use a variety of methods to insure this information reaches you in a timely manner. These include, but aren't limited to radio broadcasts, the internet, and phone calls to each household using the **Alert Now Phone System**. Specific information regarding stations and websites is

posted later in this newsletter under the tag **INCLEMENT WEATHER**.

Conferences are coming up. We look forward to seeing you on February 11th and 12th. If you haven't already, please contact your child's teacher to arrange a time.

Don't forget that you can send your child a letter via our Wee Deliver Postal System. Just drop it off in the mailbox located in our main entrance area.

Thank you for your continued support as we work together to help your children succeed. If you ever have questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me. Charles.Sheppard@appo.k12.de.us.

YEARBOOK EDITOR

Stephanie Henley – Parent Volunteer

SCHOOL PROFILE

If you would like a copy of the Townsend Elementary School Profile for the school year 2007-08, we have copies in the office.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

A flyer regarding Kindergarten Registration is attached to this newsletter.

HEALTHY SNACKS LIST

The suggested Healthy Snacks List is always attached to the Towns-O-Gram every month.



**TEACHER OF THE
YEAR**
*Shane Rifenburg
Administrative Intern*

Does your child's teacher go above and beyond the call of duty? Does he or she make a profoundly positive impact on your child, the

class, or school? Is this teacher one of the best you've come to know?

If you can answer yes to any of the questions above or want to recognize a teacher at Townsend Elementary, a nomination for the Appoquinimink School District Teacher of the Year is one way do so. Included in this month's Towns-O-Gram is the nomination form for the Appoquinimink School District Teacher of the Year. Feel free to fill the nomination form for any teacher that works at Townsend Elementary. Nomination will need to be returned to the Appoquinimink Curriculum Office by February 23, 2009.



NURSE'S
NOTES
Pam Wilson, R.N.

Since the weather changes frequently, individual classroom teachers can make the decision on whether they will go outside or whether they will stay inside for recess or a combination of the two. If there is a weather-related reason as to why students cannot go outside, a message will be sent from Mr. Sheppard or Mrs. Wilson. Children should always be prepared for outside recess with the proper weather gear—hats, gloves, scarves, etc.

Please see “*Sick Day Guidelines*” attached to this newsletter.



WELCOME

We are happy to welcome Ms. Peggy Sommer to TES as a para. She has been a substitute in the Appoquinimink School District for over five years. During that time, she has spent a lot of time at TES, and is so happy to be

spending the rest of this year in the Bear/Moxley fifth grade class. Her favorite hobbies are reading and watching the Eagles!



FEBRUARY
STUDENT
BIRTHDAYS

Jaden Levine, Jaida Smigielski, Noah Alley, Aaron Butler, Elizabeth Page, Summer Shane, Hailey Ogden, Jacob Balan, Daniel Herzig, Rebecca Roberts, Sky Bowers, Daniel Cassell, Anthony Intermoia, Stephany Roibu, Jessica Ellsworth, Robert Gordon, Emma Marvel, Marissa Smith, Alex Eaddy, Kevin Garrett, Zachary Rittereiser, Destiny Dineen, Matthew Kalafut, Maur-Queche Evans, Adam Jagielski, Melissa Jones, Eva Pierson, Liam Cramer, Marvette Hawkins, Lauren Ashmore, Kai Boone, Daulton Borthwick, Tyler Dineen, Chidubem Uche, Izuchukwu Uche, Shane Westerfer, Michael Hainsworth, Kayleigh Fox, Sid Garvey, Michael Needles, Maya Bowers, Rocky Succarotte, Emmanuel Brokenbrough, Maysha Foster, Nyles Wiggins, La'Tejaih Queen-Milem, Zachary Seren, Dianna Sartin, Alessia Hernandez, Janell West.



FEBRUARY
STAFF
BIRTHDAYS

Carolyn McGinnis, Amy Munson, Candy Drummond, Robin Moxley.



WHAT A GIFT!
MANY THANKS!
Courtney Kaczka
Librarian

The last few years the Library Media Center has set records in the number of books

checked out to students and staff. Free choice reading and the A.R. Program have children borrowing and returning books at an amazing rate. There were 12,383 books circulated between September and November. Sound wonderful? You bet, but the downside is that someone has to reshelv all of those books. We have been blessed to have two very loyal volunteers who come one day a week, through sleet or snow, and shelve books for hours. **Mrs. Delores Sebastian** and **Mrs. Patricia Heinold** have helped keep the library stay afloat and allow Mrs. K to focus her time the many other duties of a library. I just wanted to take a moment to recognize these wonderful ladies, and the many others who stop in now and again just to help for a day. It makes a difference when a child can find the book right where it should be, not on a cart waiting to be shelved. We couldn't make it without you! Many, many thanks!

There is also an "***I Love To Read***" flyer attached to this newsletter.



POLAR BEAR PLUNGE
Robin Moxley

The 2009 Polar Bear Plunge will be held on Sunday, February 1st in Rehoboth Beach, DE. We have three teachers who will be participating: Mrs. Susan Carpenter-Hill, Mrs. Margaret Rozumalski, and Mrs. Robin Moxley. All monies go to the **Delaware Special Olympics**. Please contact the office if you would like make a contribution. Checks should be made out to Special Olympics Delaware. Thank you for your support.



NEWS FROM THE THUNDERBIRD CAFÉ
Renee Horn
School Nutrition Manager

The cold winter months are upon us and nothing jump starts a student's day better than having a hot breakfast. Encourage your student to come in to the Thunderbird Café and choose a nutritious breakfast to start their day.

We offer a variety of both hot and cold choices with an assortment of fresh fruits, juices, and milk.

March is National Nutrition Month and the week of March 2-6 is National School Breakfast Week. Not only do we hope to see your student during that week, we are hoping to have them get in to a good habit of starting their day with a nutritious breakfast now!

On January 20th we celebrated National Popcorn Day. Every student who chose a lunch that day received a free bag of low fat popcorn. Students were also able to bring home popcorn recipes to share with their families.

February is "I Love To Read" month. We will feature different food related books in which the students will be able to win when choosing a lunch.

We have so many great things coming in the future and having your student choose a breakfast and/or lunch allows them not only good nutritious meals but also a great way to be involved in all we have to offer.

A MESSAGE FOR PARENTS FROM THE THUNDERBIRD CAFÉ

Renee Horn, School Nutrition Manager

Our District's "Healthy Snack List" is provided as a guideline for you to make good healthy choices when you wish to provide a snack or treat to your student's class for birthdays or any other special occasion.

Please know that the Nutrition Department at the Thunderbird Café would be happy to supply and deliver those healthy choices for you. All you would need to do is call our office and with a little information we will take it from there. You then would be billed for the snack provided.

We have some great choices to choose from such as fresh vegetables with dip, baked chips, low fat popcorn, fresh fruit etc.

We hope you consider taking us up on this great opportunity to provide healthy snacks to your students class.

Please call 378-5020 and ask for the Thunderbird Café.



ART CLASS
Mark Ruiz
Art Teacher

Mr. Ruiz would like to ask parents to please save paper towel tubes for use in Art Class. Thank you!

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS

Officers

- Mrs. Edna Cale
- Mrs. Joanne Christian
- Mr. Ed Czerwinski
- Mrs. Julie Johnson
- Mrs. Donna Skinner

All meetings (open to the public) will be held in the Board Room at the Teacher Training Center, 118 South Sixth Street, Odessa, DE, beginning at 7:00 pm on the following dates:

- February 12, 2009
- March 11, 2009
- April 8, 2009
- May 13, 2009
- June 10, 2009



**15TH ANNUAL
BLOCK KIDS
COMPTEITION**

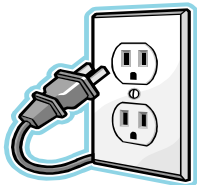
The 15th Annual Block Kids Competition will be held on:

- Date - February 7, 2009
- Place: Hodgson Vo-Tech, 2575 Glasgow Ave., Glasgow, DE
- Time – 9:00 am – noon (Registration starts at 8:15 am and Building starts PROMPTLY at 9:00 am. No children will be admitted after 9:00 am.)

NAWIC (National Association of Women in Construction) sponsors a FREE program for elementary school children (1st-6th) to learn about the construction industry. The students use 100 Lego-like building blocks, string, cardboard, one rock and foil to build something related to the construction industry (no people or animals), all of which are provided. The children also work independently in each grade group. After the projects are built, they discuss their project

with the judges, who are local construction business people, owners, and architects. Third place prize overall is \$10.00; second place prize overall is \$15.00; and first place prize overall is \$25.00. Also, one child from each grade will be awarded \$10.00.

You can go on-line to register at www.nawicde.org.



**ELECTRICAL
SAFETY
PRESENTATION**
Patty Abrams

On January 22, all fourth grades had classroom presentations on Electrical Safety. Mrs. Linda Tipton of Delmarva Power brought a model with situations demonstrating the potential safety hazards of electricity. Following the demonstration, Mrs. Tipton answered the fourth graders' questions about electricity. Fourth graders study Magnetism and Electricity as part of their science studies in fourth grade.

The fourth grade teachers would like to thank Mrs. Patty Abrams for her assistance in arranging this presentation for our students.



**TES PTA
2008 – 2009**

Officers

<i>President</i>	Norm Abrams – tespta@aol.com
<i>Vice President</i>	Sandy Ellsworth
<i>Treasurer</i>	Michael Nazarewycz
<i>Secretary</i>	Rose Krum

PTA Meeting Dates

Thursday Nights - 6:30 pm - TES Library

- February 12, 2009
- March 12, 2009
- April 23, 2009
- May 20, 2009

CUSTODY ISSUES

Joyce Foster

Reminder: Please make sure the school office always has the latest documentation regarding child custody situations, and **please update every year.**



THANK YOU!
Ms. Baxter

I would like to extend a great big THANK YOU to my Townsend staff, students and parents for the gifts and cards I received at Christmas! I spent the holiday visiting with my daughter and family in Ohio and did not return to school until January 5th where I found I had more presents to open! I took everything home and read each card and opened each gift carefully over the next few days~~delicious baked cookies, candy, candles, flowers, gift cards and more! It was like having two Christmases!

I am thankful to be part of a thoughtful and generous school "family" who took time to share the season with me! I wish all a wonderful 2009!



THANK YOU
Mrs. Foster

I would also like to thank everyone for all of their generous Christmas gifts and cards, and for remembering me at this time of year. Thank you so much!



MARCH
TOWNS-O-GRAM
ARTICLES
Joyce Foster

Please have any March Towns-O-Gram articles to me by Friday, February 20, 2009. Thank you!

The Appoquinimink School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, religion, age, disability, marital status, national origin, or other legally protected categories in its educational programs, activities, employment, or student admissions policies or practices. Inquires regarding compliance with the above can be directed to:

Section 504
Contact Kittie Rehrig, Supervisor of Student Services, Appoquinimink School District, 118 South Sixth Street, Box 4010, Odessa, DE 19730. Telephone (302) 376-4111

Section 504 Coordinator's Responsibilities: To coordinate the Appoquinimink School District's efforts to comply with the disability discrimination laws.

Title IX
Contact Matt Fallis, Director of Personnel, Appoquinimink School District, 118 South Sixth Street, Box 4010, Odessa, DE 19730. Telephone (302) 376-4275

Title IX Coordinator's Responsibilities: To coordinate the Appoquinimink School District's efforts to comply with and carry out the District's responsibilities under Title IX, including any investigation of any complaint alleging noncompliance with Title IX or alleging actions which would be prohibited by Title IX.

Community Notification

The police are responsible for notifying the community of sex offenders in the area. This information is available on the Delaware State Police web site (www.state.de.us/dsp/sexoff). By law, all adults or juveniles who are convicted or adjudicated of specific sex offenses are registered. **Please note that not all sex offenders are child predators or pose a threat to children.**

School districts and charter schools must keep notifications of registered sex offenders received from the police in a binder in each school. They must follow guidelines for distribution of notifications they receive. The guidelines will be available on the Internet (www.doe.state.de.us or www.state.de.us/kids).

The included notification may assist you in protecting your family. It is best that only parents and guardians share this information in an age appropriate manner with their child or children so that the child will understand appropriate actions for their safety.

Parents and guardians should use this information in an age appropriate way that

helps children with personal safety but does not overwhelm the child. Prevent Child Abuse Delaware, a local nonprofit agency, has developed a list of safety tips to assist parent/guardian in helping their child feel safe:

- Review safety rules for your home – tell your child not to answer the door when you are not home and establish a plan for answering the telephone.
- Make a list with your child of three safe grown-ups he/she can talk to if afraid or in trouble and you are not there.
- Talk with your child about what places are safe to visit in your community and which are not.
- Review with your child the four private places which are the mouth, the breasts, the genitalia, and the buttocks. Explain that no one should touch these places unless they are helping to keep the child healthy (exam by a doctor) or clean (bathing).
- Encourage your child to tell you if someone talks to or touches him/her in a way that makes them feel bad or that he/she doesn't like.
- Encourage open discussion with your child about his/her willingness to talk to grown-ups in your family about the things that bother him/her.
- Determine if your child knows that the grown-ups in your family will listen to him/her. Ask yourself honestly if this is true. Do you and other adults in your family really listen to the children in your care?
- Tell your child that it is not the child's fault if someone tries to bother him/her or touch him/her in a way they don't like.
- Let your child know how special you think they are, encourage him/her to think of themselves as a person worthy of respect, who also respects others.

Treat and talk with your child in a way that conveys your respect.

If you would like further information on how to keep your child safe, you can speak with the school guidance counselor or contact Prevent Child Abuse Delaware at 254-4611.

For more information about the Sex Offenders Registry, contact Delaware State Police (302-739-5882).

If you have questions about an enclosed notification or specific offenders, please contact your local police.

Report child abuse by calling 1-800-292-9582. Do report emergencies by calling 911.

Do not post this notification publicly or where non-family members may see it. Remember it is best for children to get this information from their parents and guardians.

Do not take any action that may in any way harm or harass the offender, the offender's family, household members or employer. Do not attempt to harass the offender or make unsolicited, unwanted contact. If you believe anyone is a physical threat to you or children in your care please contact the local police.

Please use the information responsibly for the safety and well-being of those in your care.

Anyone who uses this information to commit a crime against another person is subject to criminal prosecution.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

In the event of inclement weather, announcements about District-wide delays or cancellations will be made via the following radio stations:

WDEL	1150	AM
WSTW	93.7	FM
WILM	1450	AM
WDOV	1410	AM
WDSB	94.7	FM
WJBR	99.5	FM

We are not recommending television school closings.

We post the notice to the scrolling message at the bottom of our website's home page, www.apposchooldistrict.com under the heading LATE BREAKING NEWS.

We post the message to the state's school closing site. Parents can register for E-mail notification through the Delaware Department of Education's School Closing Website by clicking on this link, <http://phoenix.state.de.us/schoolclosing>.

We launch an automated phone message (**Alert Now**) if it is a District-wide delay or cancellation.

E-mail Notification: Parents can register for E-mail notification through the Delaware Department of Education's School Closing Website by clicking on this link:

<https://diss.state.de.us/DWS/public.diss>. To view the status of school closings across the state, go to <http://schoolclosings.delaware.gov>.

For Appoquinimink School District News, go to: <http://www.apposchooldistrict.com>

Middletown Area Chamber of Commerce
info@middletownareachamber.com

Delaware State Parks

<http://www.destateparks.com/lpsp/lpsp.asp>

Middletown, Odessa, Townsend Weekly Newspaper

<http://www.middletownscript.com/pages/subform.html>

Townsend Website

www.townsendde.com

Automatic E-mail notification via the Department of Education

<http://phoenix.state.de.us/schoolclosing>

TES Library Page

www.tespta.com/library/Library.htm

TES PTA Page

www.tespta.com

School Locator (allows parents to enter their street address for a list of the Kindergartens their students will attend)

<http://www.apposchooldistrict.com/transportation/locator.cfm>

Townsend School Site

www.TownsendElementarySchool.com

You can use www.PayPAMS.com to check on your child's TES Cafeteria account.

