



Nippersink Middle School Newsletter

March – 2009

Next PTO Meeting is:
Monday, March 16th
7 PM in the NMS Library

**Please join us!!
We NEED your ideas!
2008-09 PTO Board**

Rachel Emken-President
815-675-9388

Jeanne Filko-Vice
President
815-678-2305

Kay Johnson-Secretary
815-675-9266

Janet Duex-Treasurer
815-678-0333

Tim Molitor – Principal

Paul Augustyn –
Associate Principal

Visit the school website
for all the latest
information regarding
school functions, PTO,
Booster news and events,
Market Day dates, etc.

nippersinkmiddleschool.org

SPORTS

The seventh and eighth grade girl's basketball season is coming to a finish. Nippersink will be hosting the seventh grade tournament on March 9, 10, 11, and 12. The 8th grade girl's basketball tournament will be held at Parkland Middle School on the same dates. All the teams had good seasons. Our girl's intramural basketball program is has just concluded their season and had approximately 20 students participating.

ISAT UPDATE:

Staff and students have been preparing to take the ISATS by utilizing the technology based program called Study Island. Study Island is web-based which necessitates teachers taking students into the computer lab. Students practice on individual areas of weakness related directly to the Illinois State Standards. The program is interactive and fun for students. Any areas of the curriculum that is covered later in the school year can be easily addressed through Study Island. Each student has a log-in and password and can work from home. Teachers can assign homework or extra credit through Study Island as well. Study Island will be utilized throughout the entire school year to prepare for ISATS. Information gained from Scranton testing will also help determine which areas students need to work within Study Island.

PTO VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY!!

Our annual NMS Variety Show will be held Friday, April 24th at 7:00 p.m. We need a crew of dedicated, creative people to help plan this event.

If you are one of those people, please join us at our next PTO meeting. We will be discussing all things "Variety Show" on Monday, March 16th at 7:00 p.m. in the NMS library.

If you have any questions, please contact Rachel Emken at 675-9388.

NMS RAFFLE

NMS will be having a raffle soon; all proceeds will go to the purchase of an electronic sign in front of the school. Items to be raffled off are: Authentic NFL Game Football autographed by Peyton Manning from the Colts; Raymond's Bowling in Johnsbury a family of 8 bowling pass; Two Lift Tickets to Wilmot Mountain; 10-tickets to the Crystal Ice House to ice skate; 4-VIP tickets to the Shedd Aquarium in Chicago; 4-tickets to the Adler Planetarium in Chicago and 2 tickets for a Skyline Boat Tour from Navy Pier in Chicago.

DATES TO REMEMBER

March 3 – ISAT testing	March 12 – 7 th grade girls basketball
March 4 – ISAT testing	March 12 – 8 th grade girls basketball
March 5 – ISAT testing	March 13 – End of 3 rd Quarter
March 6 – ISAT testing	March 14 – Market Day orders Pick up at RGS
March 7 – P/U Market Day order SG	March 16 – PTO meeting 7:00 p.m. Library
March 9 – 7 th grade girls basketball	March 19 – Final day for Springfield money
March 9 – 8 th grade girls basketball	March 20 – Teacher Institute – No School
March 10 – 7 th grade girls basketball	March 23-27 – Spring Break
March 10 – 8 th grade girls basketball	March 30 – Return to School
March 11 – 7 th grade girls basketball	April 1 – 8 th grade pictures taken
March 11 – 8 th grade girls basketball	

BOOK FAIR

Personalized Book Fairs at NMS Reading Knight was a huge success. Thanks to Peer Helpers for the redeemable coupons that promoted our book fair. Our library received a profit of more than \$260.00 to purchase new library media for our students. Thanks to all the teachers and students who purchased from this wide selection of quality literature for all ages. Also, a special thanks to Mrs. Piesens who donated several books from the library wish list.

LIBRARY TECH TREK GRANT

Wondering what's new at your school libraries? With a new LSTA IN SYNC TECHNOLOGY grant called "Library Tech Trek " new technology is coming to Richmond Grade School Library, Spring Grove Elementary Library, and Nippersink Middle School Library. This programmatic competitive grant for approximately \$39,740 written jointly by school librarians Jane Larson and Rose Richer describes a project in which students explore print and online library materials using new technology purchased for the three libraries. Among the new library technology equipment purchased are computers, monitors, LCD projectors, whiteboards, microphones, scanners, and color printers. Students will be able to do more word processing plus teachers and librarians can do more instruction about information literacy in the library with this new equipment. Thank you to our Tech Department for all their help in writing the grant and setting up the new equipment so that we can

implement the project in late March and early April, 2009. Parents and students can already access the library program, Destiny Library Software at home from the school website to log-in to place holds on books, see what books have been checked out or returned, see if our school or school district owns a particular book, and much more. Librarians will be making parent presentations as well as instructing students about the Destiny software and library usage.

The Illinois State Library administers the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) with funds distributed by the Institute of Museum and Library Services. These grant project opportunities are made possible by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services to the Illinois State Library under the provisions of LSTA grant.

THE WINNER IS

Recently, approximately seventy six NMS students participated in the Caudill Award voting for the best 2009 nominee. The Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan is the book selected by NMS students as the best Caudill nominee this year. The Caudill Award winning title will be announced March 12, 2009 at The Children's Literature Conference in DeKalb, Illinois. Anxious to start reading next year's Caudills? Stop by NMS to check out these titles on the 2010 Caudill rack or pick up a list from Mrs. Richer, Mrs. Larson, or Mrs. Tomei.

MARKET DAY –

You can order online at: www.marketday.com

You can also access their website through a direct link on the NMS home page located in the lower left hand column, under helpful links. Make sure you use our account #2828 when ordering online and picking up at Richmond Grade School or #3031 when ordering online and picking up at Spring Grove Elementary School. Order due dates, pick-up dates and times will be posted on the NMS website.

@ RGS: Orders due by noon on March 11th. Pick up is March 14, 10-11 a.m.

@ SGES: Orders due by noon on March 4th. Pick-up is March 7, 10:45-11:45 a.m.

Please support RGS Market Day or SGES Market Day as a portion of this goes to NMS PTO!

MEIJER STORES

Please keep using your Meijer card. If you haven't sent in your enrollment yet, please do so. We receive a 1% profit on all purchases over \$100.00. Send in those applications!