

# STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

Joy Elementary School



## May 28 through June 8, 2012

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1. Welcome back! I hope you had a restful and fun Memorial Day weekend. Have a terrific week. Only seven student days to go.
2. This will be the last weekly announcements page posted for this school year.
3. ISTEP+ preliminary results are in. Here are the results: 77.6% of students passed the English/Language Arts portion (Last year 80% passed) and 70.5% of students passed the Mathematics portion (Last year 82% passed). Considering our enrollment increase, a 2% drop in E/LA is reasonable. We did have an 11% drop in mathematics. Over the next few months, I will be analyzing what happened and will then I will share this information with you. The next step in the process is to pull out the scores of any students who were not at Joy for 126 days. (Students must be enrolled at a school for a minimum of 126 days for their ISTEP+ scores to count towards adequate yearly progress.) Once I have pulled out these scores, I will let you know what the updated passing rates are for E/LA and Mathematics. In comparison to the other MCAS elementary schools, we were 4th highest in E/LA and 6th for Mathematics.
4. This summer, in Friendship Gardens, local soldiers will be honored during a peace ceremony. In an effort to promote peace and friendship, organizers of this event would like to display "Peace Posters" created by local students in the gardens at this time. We are asking you to encourage your students to participate individually, or create posters in class. There are no requirements for posters sizes, media, other than the message should convey peace. Posters should be sent to the Administration Building, attention: Betsy Kohn. The deadline is the end of the school year, or it could be a summer school project--the ceremony will be in July or August. If a student really would like to have their art work returned, indicate so on the back side of the poster along with name/school. If you have any questions, please contact Katie Haughtington at [haughtington@comcast.net](mailto:haughtington@comcast.net) or 219-873-1886.
5. Teachers—Scholarships are available for a workshop on the Great Lakes Drainage Basin and Watershed. The workshop will be at the Peggy Notebart Museum in Chicago on July 30th-Aug. 2nd for educators in grades 4-10. To apply for this exciting workshop opportunity, please visit [http://www.iisgcp.org/education/topics\\_education.html](http://www.iisgcp.org/education/topics_education.html). Send completed applications by June 1 to Terri Hallesy at [thallesy@illinois.edu](mailto:thallesy@illinois.edu) or fax: 217-333-8046.
6. The 3rd, 4th, and 5th Grade Awards Ceremony will be on Wednesday, June 6, 2012 at 1:30 pm in the gym. Parents may take their children home after the ceremony.
7. The Kindergarten Awards Ceremony will be on Monday, June 4, 2012 at 1:30 pm in the gym.
8. Lost and Found—Our Lost and Found in the hallway across from the cafeteria is overflowing. Please have your students check to see if any of these items are theirs before the end of the school year.
9. Field Day is Friday, June 1, 2012 whether it is sunny or rainy.
10. Last day for students and support staff is Wednesday, June 6, 2012.
11. Last day for teachers is Friday, June 8, 2012.
12. The School Improvement Plans are due to the IDOE by September 17, 2012.
13. Our Reading Plan is due to the IDOE by June 30<sup>th</sup>.
14. Teachers—Please make sure on June 7th and 8th to have lunch at 11:30 am. I know that you will want to go out with your colleagues for lunch. I don't want you to get stuck in the lunch rush.
15. Check the School Calendar for information on upcoming activities. If you do not have access to the calendar through your Zimbra account, please let me know.
16. PM Supervision for:

May 21-June 1, 2012

Horseshoe Parking Lot/Door C – Kanyer

Carroll Street Lot (In front of playground/Challenge Ed.) – Oberholtzer/Wigley

4th Grade Doors - Groszek

Front/Center Area – Ferraro

Horseshoe Parking Lot – Dabagia, Drake, and Schreeg

June 4-June 6, 2012

Horseshoe Parking Lot/Door C – Baldwin

Carroll Street Lot (In front of playground/Challenge Ed.) – Oberholtzer/Rozinski

4th Grade Doors - Crosby

Front/Center Area – Yelton, Beres

Horseshoe Parking Lot – Dabagia, Drake, and Schreeg

17. Professional Learning Communities/Staff Meeting Agendas

- A. Wednesday, May 30, 2012 from 3:10-4:10 pm (PLC)
  - 1. Nurses will be meeting together today.
  - 2. The Reading Plan Subcommittee will be presenting the revised plan to the staff for approval in the library.
- B. Monday, June 4, 2012
  - 1. No staff meeting today! :)

“It is the supreme art of the teacher to awaken joy in creative expression and knowledge.” -*Albert Einstein*