Tiger Tracks

A Newsletter for Parents • Ellisville Elementary School

AUGUST 2009

VOL VI ISSUE I

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Ellisville Elementary

- Missouri Gold Star School
- Ellisville has been recognized for Exemplary Gold for Physical Education by the Missouri Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (MOAHPERD). (1995, 2000)
- Recognized in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch as a school which exceeded expectations on standardized test results in 2001

For more information, please visit our Web site at:
www.rockwood.k12.mo.us/ellisville

Welcome Back!

Dear Ellisville Students and Parents,

I know many of you have been anxiously awaiting the arrival of this newsletter to learn who your child's teacher will be this year. In our effort to *go green* this year, we will be emailing this information the first week of August.

I hope you have had a restful, relaxing summer enjoying your families! Our family enjoyed a week-long trip to Fort Myers Beach, FL. We enjoyed deep sea fishing, manatee/dolphin watching, parasailing, an airboat ride through the Everglades and fireworks over the Gulf. We had a very relaxing and enjoyable time and made many special memories.

Ellisville's theme this year is "Brains, Heart, and Courage". The focus will be on teaching students the importance of possessing and practicing these character traits. Does this theme sound familiar or jog a memory, perhaps a classic movie title? We will be sharing more information as the year gets underway and involving you in our pursuit of *brains*, *heart* and *courage*.

At Ellisville, we are very excited about the 2009-2010 school year. There are very few staffing changes this year, however there has been some movement of staff to different grade levels. This year's grade level teams are listed in another section of the newsletter.

New hires include Mrs. Robin Jung, who will teach Half-Day AM Kindergarten. Robin did an excellent job taking over Mrs. Smith's FDK classroom while she was on maternity leave last year. New to first grade is Mrs. Susan Shroba. Susan was one of our teaching assistants last year. She did an excellent job working with small groups of students and has 12 years of prior teaching experience in the primary grades. We are also welcoming a new counselor, Mrs. Michelle Shaw. Michelle was a previous teacher at Babler Elementary and her most recent role was Counselor at Woerther Elementary. Michelle came highly recommended from all of those who had previously worked with her. Ms. Jennifer Byington's classroom was moved to Babler Elementary and replaced with an SSD Functional Classroom which will be led by Ms. Katie Scanlon. Katie was with us second semester last year. We are excited to welcome her back full time.

This year we are hosting an Ice Cream Social/ Meet the Teacher Night as well as a Curriculum Night. The Ice Cream Social will be held on Thursday, August 13th, for Grades 1-5. This will be an opportunity for students to informally meet their teachers and classmates prior to the first day of school. This event will kick-off in the gym with a welcome and introductions. Students will then be dismissed with their teachers to the playground. PTO is providing ice cream for the students as they exit for their activity with their teachers. Parents will then make their way to the Café where there will be opportunities to get involved at Ellisville. Students will be brought to the Café by the teachers to

(Continued on page 2)

Learn the NEW Parent Drop-Off & Pick-Up Procedures
(See page 2)

SCHOOL HOURS 9:02 PM—3:52 PM

AM Kindergarten 9:02 AM—12:02 PM
PM Kindergarten 12:52 PM—3:52 PM

Recipient of the Missouri Gold Star School Award

1425 Froesel Drive • Ellisville, Missouri 63011-2132 • 636.207.2548
Dr. Allison Loy, Principal

ROCKWOOD SCHOOL DISTRICT
Growing Together, Learning for Life

reunite with parents at the end of the session.

1st grade—1:00-1:30
2nd grade—3:15-3:45
3rd grade—1:45-2:15
4th grade—4:00-4:30
5th grade—2:30-3:00

The **Kindergarten Ice Cream Social** will be held on Wednesday, August 12th, from 3:00-4:00 p.m. This will also be the **Curriculum Night for Kindergarten**. Parents and students will meet with their teachers in their classrooms. Students will then be dismissed to enjoy ice cream and activities with staff members while parents stay and hear about the Kindergarten Curriculum. Students will be brought back to the classrooms at 4:00 p.m.

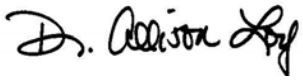
Curriculum Night for Grades 1-5 will be held on Tuesday, August 25th. **This event is for parents only.** The schedule is as follows:

6:00-6:45 p.m. – Grades 1-3
7:00-7:45 p.m. – Grades 4-5

A big THANK YOU to the ELLISVILLE PTO for their generous gifts to the school. Pleas see the PTO section of the newsletter to see the complete list of all the gifts. We are very grateful for the generosity of the PTO.

I want to take this opportunity to add that each of you is a member of a very important group of people. You are a part of the Ellisville Team! I am anxious to see you next week, and I am very proud to be your Principal. You are simply the BEST!

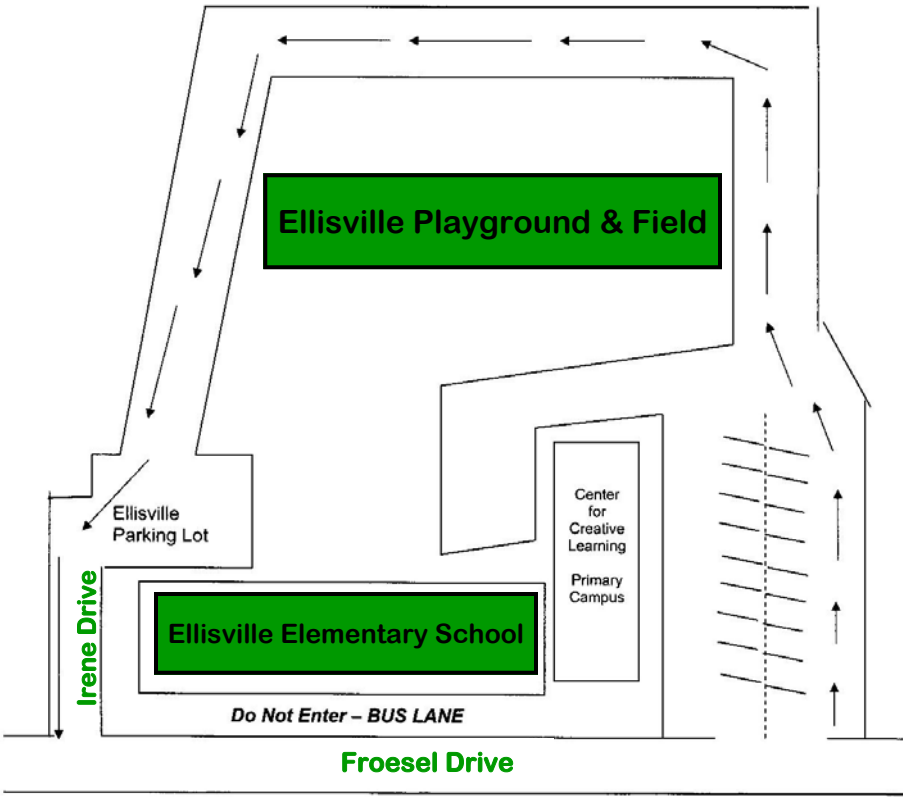
See you soon,



Allison Loy

2009 - 2010

NEW Parent Drop-Off and Pick-Up Procedures



Vehicles will ENTER the lane from FROESEL (east side of the school) via the CCL/PC Parking Lot and EXIT onto IRENE (north side of the school) via the rear Ellisville Parking Lot. This lane is ONE WAY only and will be CLOSED to traffic during school hours.

NEW ARRIVAL / DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

2009-2010

Beginning with the 2009-2010 school year, we will be utilizing our new 'lane' located in the rear of the school for Parent Drop-off in the morning and afternoon Parent Pick-up.

Vehicles will ENTER the lane from FROESEL (east side of the school) via the CCL/PC Parking Lot and EXIT onto IRENE (north side of the school) via the rear Ellisville Parking Lot. This lane is ONE WAY only and will be CLOSED to traffic during school hours.

8:30-9:00 AM – LANE OPEN
9:00 AM-3:30 PM – LANE CLOSED
3:30 PM – LANE OPEN

Morning Arrival
Parent Drop-Off Directions

Lane closes to traffic at 9:00 AM.

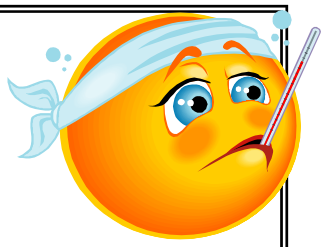
Enter the lane from Froesel. Follow the lane around the track to the rear parking lot. Students are to exit the vehicle on the sidewalk / driver's side of the vehicle and proceed into school. Vehicles continue forward and exit through the first entrance to the parking lot.

Afternoon Dismissal
Parent Pick-Up Directions

Lane opens at 3:30 PM

Enter the lane from Froesel. Follow the lane around the track to the rear parking lot. Students will enter vehicle from the sidewalk / driver's side of the car. Drivers are to continue forward and exit through the first entrance to the parking lot.

Reminders from the nurse:



Medications: Please refer to the student handbook regarding Rockwood's Medication Policy.

Keep in mind:

1. Medication should be brought to school by a parent or guardian. Please do not send medication with your child.
2. All medication given at school will need written permission from a parent along with a doctor's order. This includes "over the counter" medications.
3. Cough drops are considered an "over the counter" medication therefore it is necessary to follow the medication policy regulations.

Physical exams: All new students need to have a physical exam. These are due before the first day of school.

Immunizations: No student will be allowed to attend school unless they are properly immunized.

Health concerns: Please inform the nurse if your child has any health concerns that we should be aware of or if there are any changes from last school year.

Contact Grace Oberle, RN at oberlegrace@rockwood.k12.mo.us with any questions or health concerns.

Dear Parents,

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students over 18 years of age ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records. These rights are:
1) The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the school receives a request for access.

Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The administration will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

2) The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights under FERPA.

Parents or eligible students who wish to ask the school to amend a record should write the school principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it should be changed. If the school decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the school will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

3) The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the school as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the school board; a person or company with whom the school has contracted as its agent to provide a service instead of using its own employees or officials (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her

(Continued on page 4)

tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

4) The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the school district to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA are:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202-5920

Under the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), certain information about students has been designated as "Directory Information."

The Rockwood School Board, in regulation 2400, has identified directory information to include: student's name; student's birth date; the address of the student; the phone number of the student; grade level; major field of study; participation in officially recognized activities and sports; weight and height of members of athletic teams; dates of attendance; degrees and awards received; the most recent previous school attended; and photographs.

The Rockwood School District may disclose this directory information without a parent's consent.

This information is requested annually, and must be renewed annually. If you do not want this information released, you have the right to refuse its disclosure. You may do this by providing the district with written notice of the information you do not want to be shared about your child(ren). Attached to this letter is a "Refusal to Permit Disclosure Form."

Only return the attached form if you wish to have specific information regarding your child excluded.

If you decide to refuse the release of this information, please refer to the clarifying information below:
Names, addresses, phone numbers, birth dates: If you choose to exclude any of this information for your child, it will not be printed in the Buzz Book or on any class-type lists. This would exclude your child from being included in the Buzz Book, on lists for Valentine's Day, birthday announcements, PTO lists, etc. **If your phone number is shown as unlisted in our student management system, it will not be included in directory information.**

Degrees and awards received: This information would include activities such as winning the spelling bee, being the Geography Bee Champion, and winning scholarships. Information published for Honors Night would also fall into this category. **If you choose to exclude this for your child, any awards received by your child will be excluded from any district publications and/or awards ceremonies.**

Photographs: This includes any/all photographs taken at school. If you choose to exclude this for your child, his/her picture will not appear in any district publication, including the yearbook (this is the official school yearbook photograph taken by the contracted photographer) and/or team pictures. **This does not include candid shots taken at public events or referencing those photographs in the index of the yearbook. NOTE: If a parent has a situation in which exclusion of a child's photograph is critical, please contact Dr. Sharon Sevier.**

Military Recruiters: Military recruiters may request names, addresses and phone numbers of students. You may exclude your child's information from being released to the military by checking the appropriate box.

Refusal to Permit Disclosure forms need to be signed, dated, and returned to the main office of your child's school by **August 28, 2009.** Again, **only return this form if you wish to have information about your child excluded.** If you should have any questions, please contact me at 636-938-2391 or at seviersharon@rockwood.k12.mo.us

Sincerely,
Sharon F. Sevier, Ph.D.
Director of Guidance & Counseling

Family Educational Rights & Privacy Act (FERPA)

Refusal to Permit Disclosure

Rockwood School District, under the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), may disclose appropriately designated "Directory Information" without written consent, unless parents/guardians have advised the District to the contrary in accordance with the District procedure. This information is requested annually, and must be renewed annually.

Directory information can be disclosed to outside organizations without a parent's prior consent. Outside organizations include, but are not limited to, companies that manufacture class rings or publish yearbooks. Only a parent or student (18 years of age or older) who wishes to have any/all of the designated "Directory Information" withheld from outside parties is to complete this form.

In addition to the requirements of FERPA, two federal laws require local educational agencies to provide military recruiters, upon request, with the names, address and telephone listings of secondary students unless the secondary student or the student's parents have advised the school in writing that they do not want the student's information disclosed.

Place an "x" in front of any information listed below that you do not wish to have disclosed about your child. Sign and date the form and return it to the Main Office of your child's school by August 28, 2009. Do not return this form if no information is to be excluded.

In accordance with Board of Education policy/regulation #2400, the Rockwood School District has designated the following as "Directory Information" for FERPA:

_____Student's name
_____Address of student
_____Name of parent/guardian
_____Grade level
_____Teacher/Team/Grade Level Assignment
_____Telephone number of student
_____Date of birth
_____Major field of study
_____Participation in officially recognized activities and sports
_____Weight and height of members of athletic teams
_____Dates of attendance
_____Degrees and awards received
_____Most recent school attended
_____Photographs

Place an "x" in the following blank if you do not wish to have the student's name, address, and telephone number disclosed to military recruiters:

_____Military recruiter information

Except for the directory and military recruiter information indicated above, the District will obtain a signed and dated written consent from the parent/guardian or eligible student prior to disclosure of personally identifiable information. In accordance with FERPA and the Missouri Safe Schools Act, the Rockwood School District will disclose information to other schools in which a student intends to enroll upon request of such schools.

In accordance with FERPA and other applicable law, the Rockwood School District will disclose information to school officials who have a legitimate educational interest in the records, to authorized federal and state agencies and authorities, to law enforcement officials, to the Juvenile Court, with respect to financial aid applications, to conduct studies, to accrediting institutions, in response to a lawfully issued subpoena, in a health or safety emergency, and as otherwise required or permitted by law.

Student Name_____ Date of Birth_____

Parent/Guardian Signature_____ Date_____

Student Signature (if 18 years and older)_____ Date_____

FERPA

Please review the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) information in this newsletter. **ONLY RETURN THE FORM IF YOU DO NOT WANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR CHILD RELEASED.** Forms must be returned by **August 28, 2009**. You must return this form if you do not want information published in the Buzz Book.

ATTENDANCE!

Parents: If your child is ill, going to be late due to a doctor appointment, going on vacation, etc. you can notify the school by leaving a message on our "ATTENDANCE VOICEMAIL"

This is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Just call school, 636-207-2548 and voice prompts will guide you.

How simple is that!

Please help us keep track of where your child is.

2009—2010 BREAKFAST & LUNCH PRICES

	Students	Adults
Breakfast	$1.45	$1.70
Lunch	$2.30	$2.90
Super Lunch	$2.45	$3.10
Milk & Juice	$ .50	

Students may bring a lunch or purchase an economical hot or cold school lunch or breakfast.

So… What's for lunch on the first day of school?

Tony's Cheese Pizza
Golden Sweet Corn
Mixed Fruit
Choice of Cold Milk

NUTRIKIDS offers parents a secure system for school meals, along with other important features and benefits:

- 24/7 access to accounts and balances
- Secure online payments through credit/debit cards and PayPal accounts
- Itemized purchase history up to 30 days can be viewed in online account

Parents will need to log-in and create an account to get the benefits of this online meal system. Find out more about NutriKids by visiting online at http://www.rockwood.k12.mo.us/departments/child_nutrition

Dear Parents,
Visit KMART between 7/21/09 and 9/14/09 to

EARN UP TO 70 BONUS BOX TOPS

when you buy any 10 participating Kimberly-Clark, General Mills, SC Johnson, Avery & Nestlé Box Tops for Education® products in a single visit. Receive a certificate for up to 70 Bonus Box Tops instantly at checkout.
(Bonus Box Tops certificate will print at the register. Limit one certificate per transaction.)

The first Box Tops for Education Collection will be held in October.

ELLISVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

ROCKWOOD SCHOOL DISTRICT

SCHOOL CALENDAR

2009 - 2010

First Day of School for Students .....Tuesday, August 18

No School- Labor Day.....Monday, September 7

No School.....Friday, October 30

No School- State Teachers' Conference (Teachers on duty).....Friday, November 6

No School- (only teachers new to RSD on duty).....Wednesday, November 25

No School- Thanksgiving Holidays.....Thursday, November 26 through Friday, November 27

No School- Winter Break .....Thursday, December 24 through Friday, January 1

School Resumes; Second Semester begins.....Monday, January 4

No School- Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday Holiday.....Monday, January 18

No School- Presidents' Day Holiday.....Monday, February 15

No School.....Friday, March 12

No School- Spring Recess.....Monday, March 15 through Friday, March 19

No School- Spring Holiday.....Friday, April 2

No School- (only teachers new to RSD on duty).....Monday, April 5

Last Day for Students.....Thursday, May 27

Records Day (Teachers on duty).....Friday, May 28

The school day begins at **9:02 AM** and ends at **3:52 PM**
AM Kindergarten begins at **9:02 AM** and ends at **12:02 PM**
PM Kindergarten begins at **12:52 PM** and ends at **3:52 PM**

Ellisville students will attend CCL on WEDNESDAYS during the 2009—2010 School Year

ELLISVILLE ELEMENTARY 2009—2010 STAFF DEVELOPMENT

EARLY DISMISSAL DAYS

***Dismissal at 12:47 PM* Lunch WILL be served on early dismissal days!**

Tuesday, September 15

Tuesday, October 13

Thursday, November 5

Tuesday, December 8

Wednesday, December 23

Friday, January 15

Friday, February 12

Tuesday, March 2

Thursday, April 1

Tuesday, May 4

Ellisville Elementary School

2009 - 2010 School Supply Lists

KINDERGARTEN AM/PM

PLEASE, DO NOT WRITE NAMES ON ANY KINDERGARTEN ITEMS!

10	Small Glue Sticks	2	7” 12 Ct. Colored Pencils
1	8 Ct. Washable Thick Markers	1	8 Ct. Washable Watercolors
1	8 Ct. Washable Thin Markers	2	100 Ct. Box Tissues (A—M)
2	Red Pocket Only **Plastic** Folders	1	Roll paper towels (N—Z)
2	Blue Pocket Only **Plastic** Folders	1	Box Zipper Gallon Size 20 ct. Bags (A—M)
2	Yellow Pocket Plastic Folder **w/Prongs**	1	Box Zipper Quart Size 25 ct. Bags (N—Z)
12	Pre-sharpened #2 Pencils	1	4 oz. Bottle Glue
1	Blunt 5” Scissors	2	24 Ct. Crayons

PLEASE DO NOT WRITE NAMES ON ANY KINDERGARTEN ITEMS!

FULL-DAY KINDERGARTEN

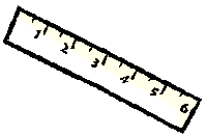
Supplies are provided through tuition money charged by the District.
Backpacks (without wheels) are not provided.

FIRST GRADE

1	Pink Bevel Eraser	3	8 Ct. Classic Thick Markers
2	Magic Rub Erasers	2	24 Ct. Crayons
1	Blunt 5” Scissors	10	Small Glue Sticks
2	100 Ct. Tissues	1	8 oz. Bottle School Glue
4	2 Pocket Plastic Folders *	24	Sharpened #2 Pencils
	**1 each of Red, Yellow, Green & Blue*	1	7” 12 Ct. Colored Pencils
1	4 Ct. Dry Erase Chisel Tip Markers	1	Roll Paper Towels
1	Box Zipper Sandwich Size Bags 50 ct (A—L)	1	Box Zipper Gallon Size Bags 20 ct. (M—Z)

SECOND GRADE

1	Yellow Highlighter	1	70 Ct. Green Spiral Notebook Wide Rule
1	Sharp 5” Scissors	1	70 Ct. Blue Spiral Notebook Wide Rule
1	Pink Bevel Eraser	1	70 Ct. Yellow Spiral Notebook Wide Rule
1	100 Ct. Tissues	2	Red Felt Tip Pens
1	Dry Erase Eraser	2	Black Felt Tip Pens
4	Small Glue Sticks	1	Green Felt Tip Pen
1	8 Ct. Washable Thick Markers	1	Blue Felt Tip Pen
12	Sharpened #2 Pencils	1	7” 12 Ct. Colored Pencils
1	Roll Paper Towels	1	48 Ct. Crayons
4	2 Pocket Plastic Folders *	1	Box of Zipper Gallon Bags 20 per box (A—M)
	**1 each of Red, Yellow, Green & Blue*	1	Box of Zipper Quart Bags 25 per box (N—Z)
1	Purple Pocket Only Folder	1	Clear School Box w/Lid 12” x 7” x 3”
		1	4 Ct. Dry Erase Markers (Blue, Green, Black, Red)



Ellisville Elementary School

2009 - 2010 School Supply Lists

THIRD GRADE

3	70 Ct. Spiral Notebooks Wide Rule (any color)	4	Small Glue Sticks
1	200 Ct. Wide Rule Filler Paper	1	8 Ct. Washable Thick Markers
4	Red Pocket Only Folders	1	4 Ct. Dry Erase Markers
1	Sharp 5" Scissors	1	Small Plastic School Box (8 ½ x 5 ½ x 2 ½ inch)
1	1/16" Wood Ruler 12 inch (Standard & Metric)	1	Red Grading Pen
1	24 Ct. Crayons	2	Yellow Highlighters
1	Black Permanent Fine Tip Marker	1	Roll Paper Towels
24	Sharpened #2 Pencils	1	100 Ct. 3x5 Ruled Index Cards
1	Black & White Composition Notebook	1	7" 12 Ct. Colored Pencils
2	100 Ct. Tissues	2	Pocket Only Folders (any color)
1	1½" Hardback Vinyl Binder	1	Dry Erase Eraser
2	Pkg. 5 Pocket Dividers (total of 10 pockets)		***NO Mechanical Pencils, PLEASE!!!***

1 Ellisville Assignment Notebook * to be purchased at school.

<u>* This item is included if you pre-ordered a Wrap Pac</u>

FOURTH GRADE

1	24 Ct. Crayons	1	Small Plastic School Box (8 ½ x 5 ½ x 2 ½ inch)
1	8 Ct. Washable Thick Markers	1	7" 12 Ct. Colored Pencils
1	1/16" Wood Ruler 12 inch (Standard & Metric)	1	Roll Paper Towels
4	Small Glue Sticks	1	6" Protractor (clear plastic - no arm)
1	Sharp 5" Scissors	1	Black Permanent Chisel Tip Marker
1	4 Ct. Dry Erase Markers Chisel Tip	1	Dry Erase Eraser
2	200 Ct. Tissues	1	Yellow Highlighter
2	200 Ct. Wide Rule Filler Paper	4	Red Felt Tip Pens
5	70 Ct. Spiral Notebooks Wide Rule (any colors)	1	Black & White Composition Notebook
4	Pocket Only Folders (any color)	1	1½" Hardback Vinyl Binder
1	Pink Bevel Eraser	2	Pkg. 5 Pocket Dividers (total of 10 pockets)
24	Sharpened #2 Pencils		***NO Mechanical Pencils, PLEASE!!!***

1 Ellisville Assignment Notebook * to be purchased at school.

<u>* This item is included if you pre-ordered a Wrap Pac</u>

FIFTH GRADE

1	200 Ct. Wide Rule Filler Paper	3	Pocket Only Folders (any color)
1	Sharp 7" Scissors	1	Nylon Pencil Bag w/3 hole punched
7	70 Ct. Spiral Notebooks Wide Rule (any colors)	1	Package 7" 24 Ct. Colored Pencils
1	6" Protractor (clear plastic - no arm)	1	Roll Paper Towels
1	8 Ct. Washable Thin Markers	4	Chisel Tip Dry Erase Markers
1	Red Grading Pen	12	Sharpened #2 Pencils
1	4 oz. Bottle Glue	1	Set of Highlighters (yellow, green, blue, pink)
1	Small Glue Stick	1	2" Hardback Vinyl Binder
1	1/16" Wood Ruler 12 inch (Standard & Metric)	2	Pkg. 5 Pocket Dividers (total of 10 pockets)
2	100 Ct. Tissues	1	Black & White Composition Notebook

1 Ellisville Assignment Notebook * to be purchased at school.

<u>* This item is included if you pre-ordered a Wrap Pac</u>

DISTRICT NEWS

August 2009

Bus Routes on e-Link

E-Link is Rockwood's online Transportation Information System. This program allows parents to determine which bus their child will ride and the bus stop times and locations.

Beginning the first week of August, you can log-on to the e-link system to find your child's bus route information. Visit the Transportation Web page at **www.rockwood.k12.mo.us/departments/transportation** and use the following information:

USER ID: parent
PASSWORD: parent

Complete bus routes are not published online for general public access due to security concerns. If you'd like to receive a complete bus route for your child's bus, please visit your school office.

Schedule:

During the first few days of the new school year, bus drivers are adapting schedules to accommodate the needs of our families. Please arrive at your bus stop at least 10 minutes early during that first week as schedules are finalized.

Safety:

Digital cameras are posted on all First Student buses. The cameras monitor activity on the bus. If there is a concern, the camera recordings are reviewed by school administrators.

Contact:

First Student: (636) 458-2044
First Student - Fenton: (636) 677-7711
Atlantic Express: (314) 721-8657
Rockwood Transportation Services: (636) 938-2232

Did you know

Parents of high-achieving students are active participants in schools and education.

» **Who:** Most students at all levels—elementary, middle, and high school—want their families to take active roles in between home and school. When parents come to school regularly, it reinforces the view in the child's mind that school and home are connected and that school is an integral part of the whole family's life.

» **When:** The earlier parent involvement begins, the more powerful the effects. The most effective forms of involvement engage parents in working directly with their children on learning activities at home.

» **Why:** Decades of research show that when parents are involved, students have the following:

» Higher grades, test scores and graduation rates
» Better school attendance and self-esteem
» Increased motivation
» Lower rates of suspension
» Decreased use of drugs and alcohol

Family participation in education was twice as predictive of students' academic success as family socioeconomic status. The more parents participate in schooling, in a sustained way, at every level — **in advocacy, decision-making and oversight roles, as fundraisers and boosters, as volunteers and as home teachers** — the better for student achievement.

Learn more about ways you can be involved in your child's education on the Rockwood Web site: **www.rockwood.k12.mo.us/parent/involvement.**

ROCKWOOD SCHOOL DISTRICT

Mission: We do whatever it takes to ensure all students realize their potential.

PTO Paw Prints

An organization of and for the parents of Ellisville Elementary School—
ALL Ellisville Elementary families are members automatically and at NO cost.

Where School News & PTO Info Intersect

August 2009

President's Notes

Welcome back or, if you're new to our Ellisville family, welcome! I hope that you enjoyed your summer and family time as much as my family did. As your newly-elected PTO President, I am honored and humbled by your trust and look forward to personally meeting you. I also want to thank you in advance for your contributions of both time and donations. It won't go unnoticed.

In June, the PTO board met for the first time to strategize and identify our focus for the 2009-2010 school year and we concluded that we needed to better articulate the reasons why our organization exists. To that end, we identified three key goals on which everything we do this year will be based:

1. **Be proactive**;
2. **Be altruistic**; and,
3. **Be rewarding**.

Now these terms may seem pretty straight forward – we all understand what being proactive and rewarding are but the PTO Board elaborated on the traditional definitions and interpreted each word to mean so much more.

Being **proactive**, not only do we want to respond to what is happening here and now, but instead be strategic in all of our endeavors for the future of Ellisville and communicate those strategies in a timely, effective manner through our many means of communication – weekly Tiger Folder Tickers, monthly newsletters, periodic AlertNow messages, and regular updates on Ellisville's website www.rockwood.k12.mo.us/ellisville. Our goal is to ensure that you're provided with answers to most of your questions through these resources. If you have unanswered questions, please feel free to reach out to any of the PTO Board members – we're here to SERVE you!

Rewarding is not only about how you and your child will benefit from your volunteering at Ellisville but it's also all about what the PTO's primary reason for existence is – to REWARD Ellisville through the PTO's financial and volunteer support. Since the PTO began using a computerized financial system in 2002-2003, Ellisville Elementary has received over $111,500 in financial support from the PTO!

Altruism is defined as being "committed, devoted, dedicated". Your PTO Board and all of the volunteers are motivated to commit their time and energy, not for their own personal satisfaction, but instead to benefit the entire Ellisville Elementary community – to improve and enhance our school, the personal experiences of each and every student, teacher, staff member and family, and to ensure that everyone who walks through the doors of Ellisville Elementary departs knowing that their experiences there were unparalleled.

We encourage your input and hope that you will contact us with any suggestions you may have. We're excited to announce that we have a new way to contact the PTO, a PTO email account: ellisvillepto@rockwood.k12.mo.us Also, **please watch for and return our survey that will be in the first Tiger Folder**. And, we absolutely welcome your involvement in as many ways as you can fit in your schedule.

Here's to a wonderful 2009-2010 school year!

Sincerely,
Jen Thomas

Contact the PTO at:
ellisvillepto@rockwood.k12.mo.us

Your 2009-2010 PTO Board of Directors:

- **President: Jen Thomas**
  636-527-0058
  jaycethomas1068@yahoo.com
- **Vice President/Fundraising & Grant Coordinator: Lisa Hartshorn**
  636-527-3875
  lisahartshorn@sbcglobal.net
- **Treasurer: Mara Ferguson**
  636-458-4432
  mbfergee@charter.net
- **Secretary: Chris Robinson**
  636-207-0851
  christinarobinson@charter.net
- **Communications Coordinator: Sara Robeson 636-458-1535**
  serob23@msn.com
- **Event Coordinator: Shemain Kenney**
  636-778-0599
  shemain.kenney@yahoo.com
- **Parent Involvement Co-Coordinator: Tammy Kirtser 636-273-5414**
  geneandtam@aol.com
- **Parent Involvement Co-Coordinator: Janine White 636-751-8966**
  tjvwhite@yahoo.com
- **Teacher Representative: Diane Werges**
  636-207-2548
  wergesdiane@rockwood.k12.mo.us

I Scream, You Scream, We All Scream for Ice Cream! Ellisville's New

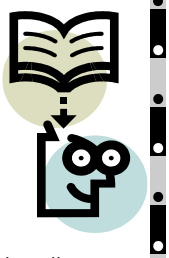
Come to the Ellisville Open House to meet your teachers, catch up with old friends, make new ones and EAT ICE CREAM!

Thursday August 13th

(Please note each grade has its own time)
1st Grade 1:00 - 1:30 PM
2nd Grade 3:15 - 3:45 PM
3rd Grade 1:45 - 2:15 PM
4th Grade 4:00 - 4:30 PM
5th Grade 2:30 - 3:00 PM

Kindergartners– Come to your own special event on: Wednesday August 12th 3pm-4pm
Don't worry! You get ice cream too!

"The Source"



Watch for our new PTO information booklet, The Source! It has all the information you need to help plan your school year! Order forms, volunteer forms, phone lists, maps etc. It is all here!! **The Source** will be available at the Ice Cream Social Open House!

09-10 Wrap Pacs

If you ordered school supply Wrap Pacs last spring, your order(s) will be distributed to your child's classroom and will be waiting for you at the Ice Cream Social Open House

Did you Know?

Ellisville parents impact our school every day! Volunteers make lunch more pleasant, the grounds more beautiful, and provide coordination (and labor!) for the many Ellisville activities. Volunteering can fit YOUR schedule and adjust to your needs. Are you a working parent? Do younger children make it hard to find time to go to school? Do you have special talents or interests? There are opportunities available for everyone!

When you spend your time, effort, and/ or money at school, you're not only investing in your child's education, but you also demonstrate to your children that their education is your priority and that THEY are your priority.

Each family will receive "The Source" at the Ice Cream Social Open House. Please take time to review the many opportunities available and decide which works best for you.

See a need, but don't see it being covered? Please contact Jen Thomas PTO President, jaycethomas1068@yahoo.com.

A heartfelt PTO welcome to our newest faculty: Ms. Robyn Jung, Kindergarten, and Ms. Michelle Shaw, School Counselor .

School Store

Don't forget to stop by the school store in our cafeteria to check out all the new stuff!! .

We still need parent volunteers to help run the store throughout the year.

To learn more, please call Melissa Peipert 636-465-4467 or Lisa McKenna 636-821-1141.

Hours: Tuesday -Thursday 8:35-9:00 am

2008 – 2009 Gifts to School

Thanks to the generosity and efforts of our dedicated Ellisville families, in 2008—2009, we raised enough money through our fundraisers to provide many requested and needed items for our school that the staff, faculty and our children will benefit from for years to come. Here are some of the gifts purchased from dollars raised in the previous school year.

1) iPod and speaker system for the Physical Education Department
2) 18 Computer Tables for new technology lab formation in classrooms
3) Renovations to the teacher's lounge - plus 2 new microwaves
4) New Copier for Ellisville office staff
5) Updated SmartBoard speakers to improve technology & acoustics
6) Stepladders for each grade level
7) Complete Interior mural work in lobby and café.
8) Digital Frame for the Reception Desk
9) Wireless Headphones for listening centers in Kindergarten and 1st grade
10) 72 Wireless Headphones for computer stations in 2nd—5th grade
11) Digital timing center for PE department
12) Library Presentation Center
13) 8 Artwork Display Boards

THANK YOU for your efforts and generosity! Your support of Ellisville fundraisers help make our school great!

GENEVIEVE'S

Our Kick-Off Fundraising Event of the Year!

We are excited to announce our partnership with Genevieve's! This will be the PTO's *biggest* and *most important* fundraiser of the year. Our sales provide the PTO with its operating budget for the year. Genevieve's expands our fall sales products to include the opportunity to sell wrapping paper, chocolates, Crabtree and Evelyn products, candles and magazines. This fundraiser begins on August 21. To be a part of this once a year project, please contact Kim Murphy at 636 207-1373 or kim_murphy83@yahoo.com.

New Family Night !

Plan on joining Principal Dr. Allison Loy, and Asst. Principal Kathleen Hager, on Thursday, September 10th at 6:30 pm for our first Principal's Coffee. Visit with Dr. Loy, Ms. Hager & your PTO Board to hear about what is planned for this school year, be familiarized with our school, take a tour, ask any questions you might have & meet other Ellisville parents.

Save the Date!

School Carnival

Friday, October 2nd
5:00PM-7:30PM

This is one of our most fun events all year!! Don't miss out! Hundreds of Volunteers are NEEDED for a successful event. Contact Monica Wilmsen at jjaammc@hotmail.com to be a part of this great school wide event.

TIGER Program

Together Investing in Growing Ellisville's Resources.
This program allows families the opportunity to make a cash donation to the school. Ellisville receives 100% of your donation and it is tax deductible! Also, many employers offer a corporate matching program.

Spiritwear

Don't forget to stop by the Ellisville Spirit Sportswear booth at the Open House Ice Cream Social! Samples will be available for you to take a look at and to help you place your order for fun items that show your Tiger Pride! Order forms will be available in **The Source**!

Yearbook

The yearbook committee is looking for people who like to take pictures. If you take digital pictures and would like to be a contact person for your son/ daughters grade or classroom please send us an email. Again we are looking for photos to be considered for the yearbook including field trips, class parties, fall carnival, groups/clubs, and of course candids of smiling faces. Also, if you have knowledge in PhotoShop that you would like to share that would be greatly appreciated. Any pictures or questions can be sent through the school to the attention of Todd Godefroid or email at ellisville.yearbook@gmail.com

Market Day Welcomes Back Our Ellisville Families!

Whether you are a new family at Ellisville or a returning family, we are excited to serve you during the 2009-2010 school year.
If you are not familiar with our Market Day fundraiser, here is a quick recap:
Each month, as a participating Market Day school, restaurant-quality food products, from the same vendors that supply many upscale restaurants, will be available for purchase. Market Day products are competitively priced and our PTO will earn profit on your purchases.

We can earn this money by purchasing products we normally purchase, without our students going door-to-door, and with the knowledge that all products are of exceptional quality and covered by a Satisfaction Guarantee! The order sheet will be coming home once a month with your oldest student in Tiger Folders. Please take a few minutes to review it and place an order.

We are confident that this fundraising program will not only benefit our PTO and the programs we support, but will also benefit you as the consumer.

You can find out more about Market Day and even place your order online at www.marketday.com. Register your e-mail address to receive reminders to order and special offers for online customers.

Our Market Day account # is 7175. Please give Market Day a try!

Your September order sheets will be in Tiger Folders on Friday, September 4th.

Order Sheets due back by Tuesday, September 15th.
Internet Orders due by Thursday, September 17th, 11pm.
Orders Pickup will be Wednesday, September 23rd, 4:00-5:30pm in the cafeteria.

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer to help with our Market Day, please contact Janine White
tjvwhite@yahoo.com
636-751-8966

A Simple Way to Help Our School

In a time when we are all looking for extra money, these companies provide an easy way to help our school at no extra cost! Ellisville earns money just for you clipping the products you already buy! Here are guidelines and the websites to refer to if you have questions:
Box Tops– Clip and save the whole Box Top$ emblem www.boxtops4education.com
Campbell's'- Clip and save only the UPC code www.labelsforeducation.com
Tyson– Clip and save the Tyson A+ labels from participating products www.tyson.com/projectaplus/

Watch Tiger Folders this fall for collection dates, but please keep clippin'!!

Attention 5th Grade Parents!

Get ready for an activity– and fun-filled school year! Numerous volunteers are going to be needed throughout the year for various planned activities.

Your 5th grade team leaders and room parents will keep you updated throughout the year on all events. But, please be on the lookout for more detailed information on initial planning meetings, dates, volunteer opportunities, room parent sign-ups, etc.

We look forward to working with all of you to make this a memorable graduation year from elementary school for your child.

Your 5th grade team leaders,

Tammy Hardie and Lori Huff

2009 - 2010 OFFICIAL PTO FUNDRAISERS & EVENTS

Mark your calendars for these PTO fundraisers and events. The fundraisers listed are the significant PTO fundraisers in which you will be invited to participate for the 2009 — 2010 academic year. Proceeds benefit PTO-sponsored events and programs and enable the PTO to provide needed program and financial support for Ellisville Elementary School.

PTO FUNDRAISERS:

August 21- September 9 Genevieve's

September 18 – October 2 Entertainment Books

January 30, 2010 Trivia Night

Ongoing Throughout 2009 — 2010

NEW!

We're excited to announce we will be participating in Campbell's Labels for Education and Tyson A+ labels! Watch Friday Tiger Folders for more information, but in the meantime check your groceries for these labels and start collecting!

STAFF APPRECIATION DAYS:

September 13-18, 2009 Custodial Worker Week

October 19-23, 2009 School Bus Safety & Driver Appreciation Week

February 1-5, 2010 School Counseling Week

March 3, 2010 School Principal Day

April 21, 2010 Administrative Professional Day

May 3-7, 2010 Teacher Appreciation Week

May 3-7, 2010 Café Staff Appreciation Week

May 12, 2010 School Nurse Day

PTO EVENTS (NOT AN EXCLUSIVE LISTING):

Wednesday August 12 & Thursday August 13, Ellisville Open House and Ice Cream Social

Thursday, September 10, 2009 Principal's "Coffee"

Friday, October 2, 2009 Fall Carnival

Thursday, October 29, 2009 Fall Parties

Saturday, January 30, 2010 Trivia Night

Thursday & Friday, February 11 &12, 2010 Friendship Parties

Friday, February 26, 2010 Variety Show

Date TBD February 2010 Donuts with Dad

*** Watch for more events like Quarterly Principal's Coffees, Movie Night sponsored by Dads Club, Kindergarten Round Up, Family Fun Nights and the PE Extravaganza!

We Look Forward to & Welcome Your Participation!