Welcome Back!

As Nash Elementary opens its doors for its 2nd year, we look forward to building on all the wonderful traditions and programs that we started in our inaugural year. From August’s Staff Welcome Back Luncheon and the Open House to June’s 5th Grade Celebration and all the months in between, there will be many opportunities for parents and teachers to work together to enrich our children’s lives and education.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to the two new members of our PTA board, Gillian Santoro as Vice President, and Holly Richards as Secretary, and would like to thank Regina Scheppa for continuing the wonderful work she has been doing as Treasurer. I am honored to take the reigns as PTA president this year, following in the shoes of our first president, Diann Root, who did an incredible job of getting our PTA off the ground and growing. I hope to serve you by encouraging you to share ideas, to feel the satisfaction and fulfillment of being involved, and to interact with school staff and other parents.

The Board and I truly believe in the necessity of meaningful, two-way communication. It is our goal this year to increase that communication. Please feel free to call or e-mail me anytime with any questions or comments. Also, check your child’s folder each week for important flyers and newsletters throughout the year, and go to the school website as we work to have links for important information there as well.

Studies have shown over and over again that parent involvement increases a child’s success. Sometimes as parents, we aren’t sure what we can do to help and support our children in school. That’s where the PTA comes in. Please plan to join us for our first PTA meeting on September 9th at 6:30, and for each 1st Tuesday of the month after that. At that first meeting, we will be voting on a budget and discussing goals for the year. At each meeting, we will also receive important information and updates from committees and will have a chance to hear from and ask questions of our principal, Marty Pitts, on different aspects of learning in the school.

All in all, we have another busy, wonderful year planned for our students and families, and we look forward to pulling it off with you by our side. Thank you for working with us to make some incredible opportunities and memories for our children.

Again, please contact me anytime!

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Daghfal   edaghfal@sbcglobal.net  942-6260

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2008/2009 PTA EXECUTIVE BOARD:

Elizabeth Daghfal - President - edaghfal@sbcglobal.net
Regina Scheppa - Treasurer - rscheppa@yahoo.com

Gillian Santoro - Vice-President - dsantoro1@wi.rr.com
Holly Richards - Secretary - hollann31@aol.com

SEPTEMBER 2008

Nash Elementary
6801 99th Avenue
Kenosha, WI 53142

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Fax: (262) 925-1550
E-Mail: mpitts@kusd.edu
Website: http://nash.kusd.edu

CLASSROOM HOURS
Beginning Bell: 8:20am
Dismissal Bell: 3:10pm
Wednesdays:
Early Release: 1:55pm
1/2 Day Release: 11:45am

PTA Meetings
- First Tuesday every month
  (unless otherwise noted)
- In the Nash library
  - 6:30pm-8:00pm
Can you believe it? The first chilly mornings have arrived, back to school shopping is in full swing, children are practicing football and soccer, phone lines between schoolmates are buzzing, and Brewer and Cub fans could very well be playoff-bound! The back to school spirit is in the air! It is with great enthusiasm and joy that I welcome and welcome back all new and returning members of our Nash Family. As children, parents, teachers, and support personnel, we can all appreciate the excitement and anticipation that are a part of the two weeks prior to the first day of school. I am very pleased to say that our Nash Family has many reasons for which to be excited this year.

Our desire is to lead all of our wonderful children towards maximizing their full potential, growing in self-confidence, and acquiring a life-long love for learning. It is this noble mission which guides all that we do at Nash School. As a member of our Nash Family, we hope you will make this mission your own and contribute towards its successful pursuit. There is no doubt that the active involvement of all stakeholders will allow us to achieve to our greatest potential as a school family.

The following staff members have moved to other schools or districts: Ms. Sharima Jackson (4th Grade Teacher), Ms. Katie DeBartolo (4th-5th), Ms. Carol Cooney – (2nd-3rd), Ms. Jamie Johnson (2nd), and Ms. Mary Ellis (Multi-age Teacher). We thank them for their many contributions last year and wish them well in their future endeavors.

We can consider ourselves very fortunate to have been able to add some exceptional people to our staff this Fall. They include: Ms. Kathryn Chiarappa (4th-5th Grade Teacher), Ms. Mollie Weisztor (2nd-3rd), Mr. Ray Bishop (5th), Ms. Marlene Quigg (4th), Ms. Kelly Albrecht (2nd), Ms. Karen Dirks (2nd), Ms. Sarah Host (K-1st), Ms. Michelle Davies (Multi-age Teacher), and Ms. April Anderson (1st). We are happy to welcome them into our Nash Family!

We have a number of individuals who will be pursuing new assignments this year. Among them will be: Ms. Cara Gorr (4th Grade teacher), Ms. Lacy Lindstrom (3rd), and Mr. Tim Marciniak (3rd); I am confident that each of the individuals I’ve mentioned will serve our children extremely well!

Thanks to our first-rate facilities department and our tremendous custodial crew, our building is spotless. You’d be hard-pressed to find a speck of dust anywhere, and our floors are gleaming! We appreciate the hard work of Nash Custodians Mr. Mike Lemke, Mr. Nick Allen, Mrs. Robyn DeBetaggies, and Mr. Carl Bielewicz. You’ll also notice new playground equipment has been constructed thanks to the hard work of our parent volunteers and District Facilities Department. Our children will enjoy it for many years, I’m sure!

As I’ve stated in our Student Handbook, parent involvement takes many forms at Nash School. Reading nightly with your children is of supreme importance. Examining homework and communicating with teachers through assignment notebooks, e-mail, telephone, or personal visits is a must. The classroom doors are always open to parents who wish to help us better meet the needs of our students. If possible, I encourage parents to contact teachers and schedule times for volunteering. Our outstanding PTA has provided a variety of avenues through which parents can become actively involved in curricular and extracurricular initiatives and activities. You will not meet a stronger group of advocates for children than our parents serving our Nash PTA. They are truly an exceptional group of individuals. I strongly encourage you to become an active member of our Nash Family.

The start time for Nash School is still 8:20. Teachers will be required to arrive no later than 7:50 a.m. Teacher’s outside supervision of children will begin at 8:10 a.m., with students being dismissed from buses at that time. We will have students enter the building at 8:20 a.m., and the tardy bell will ring at 8:25. Our school day will conclude at 3:10 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, and 1:55 p.m. on Wednesdays.

Finally, our staff is eager to continue providing our children with exciting, engaging, and relevant learning experiences which allow them to achieve to their potential. We look forward to continuing to strengthen the excellent partnership that has been established between our staff and parents. Year two at Nash Elementary School promises to be a great one! In the spirit of kindness, respect and hard work, together let’s enjoy a tremendous year!

Mr. Marty Pitts
I know we can all agree that the safety of our precious children must remain the number one priority of our Nash Family. Please take the time to read over and understand the system that is in place for dropping off and picking up students at Nash School.

**PICKING UP AND DROPPING OFF STUDENTS AT THE NORTH CIRCULAR DRIVE IS PROHIBITED.** That is our BUS area. It is essential that busses are able to navigate freely through the North semi-circular drive and have free access to the student loading and exiting point. This becomes impossible when automobiles and trucks are parked in the North circular drive. When vehicles do this, it becomes increasingly hazardous, especially in poor weather conditions.

**Secondly, DROPPING STUDENTS OFF AT ANY SPOT OTHER THAN THE FRONT CURB/SIDEWALK ADJACENT TO OUR SOUTH SEMI-CIRCULAR DRIVE IS PROHIBITED.** Last year, we occasionally had a number of students exiting their vehicles in the middle of the road. That is a tragedy waiting to happen. PLEASE DO NOT ALLOW YOUR CHILDREN TO EXIT YOUR VEHICLES IN THE MIDDLE OF THE ROAD OR ON THE ROAD SIDE OF YOUR VEHICLE.

- We have a large semicircular drive outside our main south entrance, and I encourage parents to use the entire curb area for dropping off students. If students only exit near our grades 2-5 line-up areas the amount of time it takes for students to exit vehicles increases dramatically. If parents pull ahead, their 2nd - 5th graders may exit near the main doors or K-1 area and walk along the front sidewalk around to the grades 2-5 line up areas.

- We ask that parents be courteous and take turns entering the driveway. Also, pay special attention to students crossing the driveway. Your patience and attentiveness will save lives. If you chose to drive your children to school in the morning, we appreciate your patience in complying with the safety regulations that we have established. With over 600 students attending Nash, it is of paramount importance that parents understand that drop off and pick up procedures will take time and patience.

- Please keep in mind that the reason our rules are in place is because we care deeply for our children and are committed to seeing to it that they remain safe. We appreciate your cooperation and understanding. Finally, remember that choosing to walk or carpool are two great ways for us to cut down on morning traffic congestion and decrease morning drop off and pick up times!

**OTHER FORMS OF TRANSPORTATION**

**Walkers:**
- Please cross at designated crosswalks with a crossing guard or safety patrol member.
- Any child may also feel free to walk along with a member of the Nash Friendly Parent Patrol (more information on next page).

**Bicycles:**
- Bike racks are located on the southeast end of the school (near the 2nd-3rd grade entrance).
- All bikes should be locked.
- The school cannot be responsible for damaged or stolen bikes.

It is requested that students do not bring scooters or skateboards to school.
Kindergarten Parents... You're Invited...

**What:** Nash 2nd annual "TISSUE TEA"
**Where:** Nash Library
**When:** First day of school - immediately after drop-off.
**Why:** The first day of kindergarten is a big step for kids and parents.
Come enjoy a treat and receive some emotional support!

Nash Friendly Parent Patrol...
- All members have a photo ID badge worn around their neck or clipped to their shirt or coat.
- All members have passed a criminal background check.
- To become a member, inquire in the front office.

Become a PTA Member...
- Dues are only $5 per school year, per parent/member.
- Only currently-paid members can vote on issues at PTA meetings.
  (Non-members are welcome to attend meetings.)
- Contact the membership chairperson, Leihla Hamilton, via e-mail at leihlahamilton@aol.com or by phone at 697-5017.

**A Note of Thanks...** We are proud to have completed Phase 1 of our play system. As you may have seen, there is a brand new play structure in place for grades 2-5 on the east side of Nash Elementary. We would like to thank the Nash Family for its support for this very important project. We hope to have your continued support as we plan and begin to fundraise for phase 2. The play structure was built on August 22nd by a number of parent volunteers with the assistance the school district. We would like to give a special thank you to our committee members whom without their hard work and dedication this milestone would not have been possible.

   An extra-special thanks goes out to our construction team: Jason Schill - Team Reil, Norris Jones, Joe & Sue Kuryanowicz, Michael & Michelle Polenzani, Gillian Santoro, Elizabeth Daghal, Kevin Cristoun, Mike Jaworski, Ben Stewart, Cal Becker, Dave Dummer, David & Lynda Bogdala, Regina Scheppa, Marty Pitts, and the staff from Pat Finnemore's School District Facilities Department. The construction team would also like to extend a thank you to all those who donated snacks and/or drinks throughout the day: Brian & Kristina Dean, Dan & Jennifer Shelin, Jeff & Natalie Tinney, Angelo & Kristin Finaldi, and the Walgreens at I-94 & Hwy 50. (We apologize if we neglected to mention anyone.)

Michael & Michelle Polenzani - Playground Committee Chairperson
Turning your purchases into profits for our school is as easy as...

1. Do your regular grocery shopping.
2. If you've bought any of the items listed below, simply cut out the required item.
3. Turn them in to the PTA box in the front office or send in your child's backpack.

- **Box Tops for Education** - www.boxtops4education.com
  Clip from products & earn more for Nash by ordering from select on-line retailers. Watch for collection & class contest information from our coordinator.

- **Tyson's Project A+** - www.tyson.com
  Find on box or bag tops of your favorite chicken products.

- **Campbell's Labels** - www.labelsforeducation.com
  Find on soup cans, goldfish bags/boxes, Prego Sauces, V8 Juices, and more. Clip & submit the UPC code with the logo pictured to the left.

- **McDonald's Receipts** - http://neighbors.mcstate.com
  Save from any Wisconsin McDonalds and we earn school supplies, gym equipment, etc. It's the number of receipts that counts, not the dollar value.

- **Milk Caps** - Save marked milk & juice caps listed below.
  Kemps, Swiss Valley Farms, Foremost Farms (Golden Guernsey & Morning Glory), and Kwik Trip.

- **Nestle Pure Life Water Labels** - www.goplaylables.com
  Peel labels off water bottles and we earn gym equipment.

- **Ink Cartridges and Cell Phones**
  We earn money for recycling.
KENOSHA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1
Kenosha Wisconsin
2008-2009 SCHOOL CALENDAR

August 20, 21, 22, 25, 26 (Wednesday-Tuesday).......................... New Teacher Orientation
August 27 (Wednesday)....................................................... Convocation/Building/Staff Meetings
August 28 (Thursday).......................................................... "Teacher Workday"
August 29 (Friday).............................................................. Inservice Day
September 1 (Monday)............................................................ Labor Day
September 2 (Tuesday)............................................................ Students Report
September 17 (Wednesday - ½ Day)........................................ Professional Inservice
October 15 (Wednesday - ½ Day)............................................. Professional Inservice
October 30-31 (Thursday-Friday)............................................. Convention Days
November 5 (Wednesday - ½ Day).......................................... First Quarter Ends (45 Days)
November 27-28 (Thursday-Friday)......................................... Thanksgiving Recess
December 19 (Friday - Close of Session).................................. Winter Recess Begins
January 5 (Monday - Schools Reopen)..................................... Winter Recess Ends
January 19 (Monday).............................................................. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Day - ½ Day (A.M.) for Staff and Students
January 23 (Friday)............................................................... Second Quarter Ends (45 Days)
January 26 (Monday).............................................................. "Teacher Workday"
February 11 (Wednesday - ½ Day)........................................ Professional Inservice
March 2 (Monday)................................................................. Midwinter Break
March 30 (Monday - ½ Day).................................................... Third Quarter Ends (44 Days)
April 9 (Thursday - Close of Session)........................................ Spring Recess Begins
April 20 (Monday - Schools Reopen)........................................ Spring Recess Ends
May 13 (Wednesday - ½ Day).................................................... Professional Inservice
May 25 (Monday)................................................................. Memorial Day
June 11 (Thursday)............................................................... Fourth Quarter Ends (46 Days)/End of Year for Students
June 12 (Friday)...................................................................... "Teacher Workday"

Notification of teacher conference dates and any other events specific to Nash Elementary early dismissal, 1/2 days, or days off will be published as the information becomes available.
BACK TO SCHOOL

Q T
US JH
EE ILS H
Y DZA JFC O
LABP FCF DHK
YRF IJX QFZF OA
C GGC IARI UEVFUOE
V WHN BGNI DAER IY LC
BE WISP KZEBH NIP KTXC
PORRLI AANNVLBZXN UsPN
OTPAPQ SNI JEGNE A JVF B
YLIR A RYAGRPDRLVKE
ETMWW KRNZHUYEXHO
AXQINMJP TTHFZT
HDZJTHSBCSI I
SAAUBTAC T N
O OVP E XPR
NV TNHP
EDVZ
KB

In the diamond above, find the 11 words listed to the right. They may be listed horizontally, vertically, diagonally, forwards or backwards.

Watch for another fun activity in the next newsletter!
SEPTEMBER 2008

Sept. 9 6:30pm - PTA Meeting - Nash Library

Sept. 16 6:30pm - Cub Scouts - Cafeteria

Sept. 17 11:45am - 1/2 Day

Sept. 18 6:30pm - Cub Scouts - Cafeteria

Sept. 19 Class Pictures Will Be Taken
Fall Fundraiser Begins (runs through Oct. 7)

Sept. 23 6:30pm - Cub Scouts - Cafeteria

Sept. 29 Kick-Off of Reflections Creative Arts Program

Sept. 30 6:30pm - Cub Scouts - Cafeteria

Have an item you'd like to get published in the newsletter?
Contact Syndi Vazquez at 262-948-1498 or e-mail me at romsyn@aol.com
(Kindly put "newsletter" in the subject matter so I'm sure to open it!)