



**Weekly Newsletter**

May 2, 2008

## North Star Hosts College Night

North Star Charter School presents a workshop for eighth and ninth graders on preparing for college. **"The Insider's Guide to the College Game: Selecting the Right School for the Right Price"** will be held on Thursday, May 8th, from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m at the Landing Community Center, 175 Mission Street in Eagle. All eighth and ninth graders are encouraged to bring their parents and a friend. For more information, please call North Star Charter School at (208) 939-9600.

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## Date Manager

- May 6 - PTO Meeting at 7:00 pm
- May 7 - Board Meeting 6:00 pm
- May 8 - College Information Night, The Landing Community Center , Eagle
- May - 9 Fun Run FUNdraiser
- May 10 - Meridian Speedway Family Night for NSCS
- May 12 -16 Teacher Appreciation Week
- May 15 Election Day for Trustees of the Board, ballots due at 3:00pm
- May 26 - Memorial Day, school closed
- May 30 - End of Fourth Quarter
- June 4 - Early Release at 12:00 noon, last day of school

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## Carnival

Hello North Star Families! Only 5 weeks until the Carnival, and we have only received a handful of volunteers! We realize that you are probably as in need of a summer break as your children at this point. However, just ask your kids how hard they are working to earn tickets to the carnival - just ask them how excited they are for the big event!!! There are so many ways that you can help, both big and small! Please help make this end of year celebration a day to remember for our children! Hope you can join the fun on Monday, June 2nd from 9:30 am - 12:30 pm!

- CARNIVAL BOOTHS DESPERATELY NEEDED! Please ask Melissa for ideas, or log on [www.schoolcarnivals.com](http://www.schoolcarnivals.com) for a bonanza of games! Carnival booth deadline is Friday, May 2nd. More than 180 children will participate in the Carnival. Let's overwhelm them with fun!
- VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO WORK IN THE CARNIVAL BOOTHS! You are guaranteed a few hours of fun!
- CARNIVAL PRIZES NEEDED: Please place prize donations in the purple tub located near the front desk.  
180 children x 10-20 games = the need for lots of prizes!
- BAKERS NEEDED: A Carnival isn't a Carnival without a Cake Walk! Please watch for further information in the near future.

THANK YOU for making the Carnival a success! Please contact Melissa Hackett at 453-8051 or [hackett5@msn.com](mailto:hackett5@msn.com) to help.

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## NSCS Night at Meridian Speedway

WHEN: Saturday, May 10th (Qualifying starts at 5pm, Racing starts at 6pm)

COST: \$5 per ticket, \$25 per family

The North Star Charter School Student Council is excited to announce this great activity and fundraiser. All proceeds (100%) of the ticket sales will come back to North Star Charter School. This is a great event for the whole family. Everyone is encouraged to invite their friends and family to participate at these ticket prices.

Highlights of the evening will include Mr. Whitt participating in a Ride Along with Kenny Hamilton (father of Davey Hamilton who finished 9th in this year's Indy 500).

Tickets go on sale Friday, May 2 with students selling them during the middle school lunch hour. Tickets may also be purchased by sending a check or cash with your student and the tickets will be returned home with your student.

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## Summer Basketball Camp

Summer Basketball Camp for Girls grades 3-8. It will be held at Rocky Mountain High School June 9-12th. If you are interested in a brochure with more information, please e-mail [dwold@northstarcharter.org](mailto:dwold@northstarcharter.org)

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## Yearbook Orders

There are about 60 yearbooks available to purchase on a first come, first serve basis. If you want one to be yours, then hurry and get your order in!

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## PTO General Membership Meeting

**May 6, 2008, 7:00 p.m.** at the school

Please plan to attend the May general membership meeting. We have many projects we are currently working on and welcome parent volunteers to join in the fun. The following are some of the topics to be addressed:

- Election of 2008-09 PTO officers
- Planning for teacher appreciation week (week of May 12)
- Update/Progress on Fall Fundraiser
- Upcoming events status/reports on Fun Run and Carnival
- Discussion on structure of PTO as a result of school expansion

Contact Lisa Szentes for questions or more information: [szentes@cablone.net](mailto:szentes@cablone.net)

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## Enrollment Information Due

All new students must turn in an enrollment form, copy of birth certificate, immunization records, and proof of Idaho residency. This applies to North Star siblings that will be joining us next fall.

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## Fun Run

North Star Parents,

We are looking for volunteers to help with our Fun Run fundraiser on May 9th. This will be a fun way to spend time with your kids while being outdoors enjoying the fresh spring air. What could be better!

### Class Run Times

9:30-10:00 am	Kindergarten, 1st grade
10:15-11:00 am	2nd, 3rd, 4th grade
12:45-1:30 pm	5th, 6th, 7th grade
1:45-2:30 pm	8th, 9th grade

We need :

- 2 parents/grade to punch holes in name cards
- 4 parents per time slot to mist runners
- 4 +/- to help assemble packets, cards, etc days leading up to run
- 4 for set up (could be parents of kids who run first and come a little early)

If you have any questions, or to volunteer, please feel free to contact Ellen Hullinger: (938-9618 or 860-5558). [twoclaires@yahoo.com](mailto:twoclaires@yahoo.com)

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## Election Day for Trustee of the Board

Information about nominees for Trustee of the Board as well as election procedures are posted at the school and on the website. Election day will be May 15th. Ballots need to be received by 3:00 p.m. that day and posted voting procedures need to be followed.

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## The Paradox of “Fun” in School Physical Education

For many years in Physical Education conferences, seminars, trainings, and schools the following topic has been continually discussed; do we keep “fun” or “learning” at the forefront of Physical Education. The first idea to keep in mind is that there are similarities and differences (even misconceptions) between school physical education, physical activity [recess or afterschool neighborhood play], and athletics. The theory is that they serve three distinct areas of being a physically active person and have a unique place in the school life of a student. The trouble has arisen from trying to blend [PE teachers] or considering [students, parents] the three distinct areas as one homogenous mix.

Recess serves as a freelance or guided self-actualized activity, recreational in nature were the student has a choice that if they don't find the activity “fun” for them they choose another activity [physical or non-physical]. Monitoring of behavior may be available but no organizational plan or instruction takes place.

Athletics is a competitive arena where students can challenge themselves in a high level environment with potential failure [cut from team, playing time, losses] as well as potential achievement [contributing player, individual awards, wins] as probable outcomes. Highly individualized learning takes place with an emphasis on skill performance.

Physical Education is guided by curriculum standards on the National, State, and Local

levels. National standards state that a physically educated person demonstrates competency needed to perform a variety of physical activities, displays understanding of strategies and tactics as they apply to the learning and performance of physical activities, participates regularly in physical activity, achieves and maintains a health-enhancing level of physical fitness, exhibits responsible personal and social behavior in physical activity settings, and values physical activity for health, enjoyment, challenge, self-expression, and social interaction.

Within the context of contemporary school physical education, the notion of fun as the core goal is a problematical undertaking. Fun is a subjective value about one's experience, highly individual and often illusory. Much like identifying beauty, fun is in the eye of the beholder. Activities that might be "fun" for some students may be boring, even dreadful, for others. Words have different connotations and there is little reason to believe they have common understanding. "Fun" has multiple meanings depending upon one's reference point. Watch students at recess and you might notice that tripping, pushing, jumping on another's back and laughing when someone falls is considered "fun"; whereas, adults might consider working in the garden or taking a walk as being "fun". This word "fun" has crossed over from the recreational world and is being used to describe what educators do in Physical Education classes. A connotation of "fun" physical activity could be entertainment, distraction/ diversion, amusement, mirth, and novelty. It's common for these descriptors of fun to be analogous with the "roll-out-the-ball" physical education to amuse and entertain youth. There is an inconsistency when the focal point of our teaching and learning is "fun" while simultaneously claiming standards-based instruction, developmentally appropriate practices, evidence-based teaching procedure, and other indicators of quality physical education. A passion for lifelong physical activity results from the development of competence, confidence, and self-efficacy.

At the September 2007 Physical Activity in Contemporary Education conference, Judy Rink, Professor at the University of South Carolina and researcher in teacher effectiveness, instruction, and teacher education argued against physical education programs that primarily focus on "fun activities" and shared that research has demonstrated that motor skill competence positively affects physical activity participation in youth.

In Physical Education there is a distinction between "fun" and "student interest" where captured student interest produces engagement, curiosity, commitment, challenge, adherence, and ultimately learning. Much like learning to read, physical education must not only be interesting, but it must help students learn essential knowledge, skills, and dispositions that lead to a lifetime of physical activity.

Dan Conti

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## Attendance Report

For the week of 4-24-08

*Remember: We receive full funding for our school when we are at 96% average daily attendance or above.*

Kindergarten	98.1%
1stGrade	99.1%
2ndGrade	93.3%
3rdGrade	98.8%
4thGrade	97.7%
5thGrade	96.9%
6thGrade	94.1%
7thGrade	93.4%
8thGrade	98.3%
9thGrade	95.7%
<b>School%</b>	<b>96.5%</b>



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