



AAA SCHOOL HOUSE

ACCOUNTABILITY + ADDED VALUE = ACHIEVEMENT
Detroit Public Schools Employee Newsletter

CARSTENS 'ANGELS' LEND A HAND



Carstens Elementary School received a special visit from several of their 'angels' before the Thanksgiving holiday. Mark Wagner, of Mark Wagner Enterprises and several of his employees along with some youth, delivered enough turkeys for every family at Carstens! They were thanked in a special assembly in which Vilanda Prograis' 4th and 5th graders thanked him with the following words:

M is for magnificent man. A is for admiration. R is for reliable. K is for kind. W is for wonderful. A is for angelic. G is for gem. N is for noble. E is for energetic. R is for he remembers us every year.

That spells Mark Wagner, who made sure every Carstens family had something to be thankful for this year!



DPS BOARD ANNOUNCES OPPORTU- NITY FOR STUDENTS TO TAKE PART IN HISTORY

The DPS Board of Education is announcing the Presidential Inauguration of Barack Obama and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Creative Expression Contest in recognition of the work of Dr. King and the promise of Senator Obama. 49 winners will be selected in the contest, and all will receive the prize of a lifetime-an all expense paid trip to the inauguration of the Nation's 44th president! Every DPS student in grades 1 through 12 is eligible to submit an entry choosing from several categories – essay, poem, music/Rap, power point /video or artwork. Students must use one of these two themes as a guide:

- The Dream Promotes Change
- “Rosa Parks sat so (Dr.) Martin Luther King, Jr. could walk. Martin walked so Obama could run. Obama is running so we all can fly.” – Jay-Z.

Entries must be turned in to the Board of Education office NO LATER than December 19th.



*This month's
Conversations
with the
Superintendent,
Connie K. Calloway,
Ph.D., will be*

held on Monday December 8th at 5:30pm at Renaissance High School located at 6565 W. Outer Drive. For additional information contact the Office of Parental Involvement at (313) 873-7490.

THREE DPS HIGH SCHOOLS NAMED GRAMMY SIGNATURE SCHOOL FINALIST

Three DPS High Schools were recently selected as finalist in the GRAMMY Signature Schools program! Detroit School of Arts, Renaissance and Southeastern are among a total of 31 schools from around the country up for the award. The grand prize winning school will receive a grant ranging from \$1000 up to \$10,000 to be used towards their schools music department. The GRAMMY Signature School program is sponsored by the Grammy Foundation whose focus is on education through music. The winning school will be announced in the spring of 2009!



DPS choirs will be performing in the lobby of the Fisher build-

ing spreading holiday cheer from now through Christmas! The remaining schools and dates are:

- John R. King ES- 12/08
- Cass Tech 12/09
- Greenfield Union ES 12/11
- Martin Luther King HS - 12/12
- Roosevelt High - 12/15
- Pershing HS - 12/16
- Butzel MS- 12/18
- Edmonson ES 12/19
- Detroit School of Arts 12/22

DETROIT COLLEGE PROMISE HOPES TO SEND ALL DPS STUDENTS TO COLLEGE

Cody High School seniors are part of a ground breaking program that will hopefully help send all DPS students to college! Seniors at Cody are encouraged to turn in their applications for the Detroit College Promise scholarship that will pay between 65-100% of their college tuition to a public Michigan college or university. This is a pilot program being mirrored after the Kalamazoo Promise and the executive director of the initiative Nat Pernick says it will be expanded to other DPS schools when "funds become available." For additional information visit www.DetroitCollegePromise.org.

OPEN CASTING CALL!

Do you know any students interested in being on TV or working behind the scenes? YouthVille Detroit is hosting open auditions on December 6th for their new program "Think Squad." Think Squad is a new 30 minute investigative science based program. The auditions will run from noon until 5pm and are open to students between the ages of 11 to 19. The show is an excellent way for students serious about television production to get hands-on experience learning how to shoot, edit, direct, ect. Students interested in being talent are asked to bring a headshot along with their resume. The auditions will be held at YouthVille Detroit located at 7375 Woodward Ave.



'THE YAK' REWARDS STUDENTS WHO READ!



Photo courtesy of the Detroit Free Press.

Priest Elementary was recently featured in the Detroit Free Press after the 'Yak's Corner' delivered 1,000 new books to one of the 4th grade classes at the school! Ms. Vida Wilson's students were awarded the books after winning the Yak's Corner Library Legacy program. Ms. Wilson and her students say they plan to do a lot of reading but also a lot of sharing with other classrooms. FLICS was also chosen as one of the six runner up schools and received 50 free books! The Yak's Corner Library Legacy has been awarding books to students for 5 years and says Ms. Wilson's class' New Year Resolution should be "to read as many new books as they can in 2009!"



**HAVE A STORY FOR THE AAA
SCHOOLHOUSE?
SEND YOUR SCHOOL'S STORY AND
PHOTOS TO: [JUNE.MCCLELLAND@
DETROITK12.ORG](mailto:JUNE.MCCLELLAND@DETROITK12.ORG)
OR FAX IT TO (313) 873-6269! YOU CAN
ALSO SEND INFO. TO
MATTIE.MAJORS@DETROITK12.ORG.**

CHADSEY MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS HEAD TO THE OPERA WITH HELP FROM GRANT

Chadsey High School has recently been awarded \$1,584.00 from the Michigan Department of Education Cultural Access Grant! The award will allow the schools 7th and 8th grade students to take a field trip to the Detroit Opera House to see the Nutcracker! Middle school teachers at Chadsey thought their students were most deserving of the award and collaborated to write a grant so students could attend. The teachers involved were: B. Brown, R. Pitts, C. McPherson, R. West-Bowlen, B. Selly, A. Ellington, and Curriculum Leader J. Peart. Congratulations to Chadsey's middle school and have a wonderful cultural experience.

RUTHERFORD ACADEMY CELEBRATES MORE THAN JUST THE HOLIDAYS

Rutherford Academy recently held their sixth Annual Harvest Feast. Students, staff and parents came together to share a special meal of Thanksgiving. Parents and staff generously contributed money and the delicious food. Those involved say that even though the food was great, what was even better was the interacting between the parents and staff. It served as a wonderful reminder of what everyone truly has to be thankful for.