

W.B. Simpson Monitor

Caesar Rodney School District

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Editor: Christine Calhoun

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Principal's Corner

Mr. Michael Kijowski, Principal

Mr. Jason Payne, Asst. Principal

Brick by brick...brick by brick. That is the slow, but important, work being done as W.B. Simpson continues to be rebuilt in Wyoming. Although the progress seems slow at times, any construction worker will tell you that it is important to build a solid foundation. Each brick plays an important role in the construction of a new building. Although we are temporarily housed on the Dover Air Force Base, the whole staff knows the importance of building a good foundation not only on the exterior but within the walls as well.

The entire staff of W.B. Simpson Elementary School is committed to the vision of *providing our students with an optimal school experience during the physical renovation process.* We work everyday to meet this challenge within our four multiple sites. One key priority in executing this vision is to enhance reading instruction through small groups. This year, all teachers have at least three reading groups. All the groups meet with their homeroom teacher for at least thirty minutes per day for small group instruction. In small group, all the students are reading books on their instructional level. At Simpson, it is our intent to provide quality reading instruction to all students reading below, on, and above grade level. We have also had a lot of training in how to teach reading comprehension to different levels of readers. Currently, our teachers are working with the "reciprocal teaching model". This teaches the students to monitor their own skills in summarizing, predicting, clarifying, and questioning. The students are still working with vocabulary and written response in the reciprocal teaching model. So far, the students and teachers have found it to be successful.

Another key priority for this school year is to implement a revised Positive Behavior Support (PBS) program. This summer, the staff met to overhaul the PBS program. As a result, the students are earning PRIDE Bucks for demonstrating the following character traits: **Positive, Respect, Integrity, Determination, and Empathy.** The students can cash in their PRIDE Bucks for special items or rewards. However, the hallmark of the program is the PBS Kick-Off Assemblies and PBS Celebrations. Each month, we focus on a character trait from the P.R.I.D.E. acronym during a school-wide assembly. We teach the students about the character trait and why it is important. All month long, the staff will emphasize this character trait. At the end of each month, the students can attend a special celebration for 100 PRIDE Bucks. All of our monthly celebrations have been well received by the students. All of our staff members are intimately involved in planning and running the PBS

As you can see, the W.B. Simpson staff is laying a solid foundation in reading instruction and character education for all of our students. The teachers supply the bricks of knowledge for the foundation, but the families are the mortar that holds the bricks together. We cannot have a solid foundation with you! We need parents to be active in the school. Our PTO is always looking for new and active members. Our PBS Committee desperately needs family members (We love grandparents too!) to help with the monthly celebrations. Our next PBS celebration is on March 31, 2011 at 10:00 AM and again at 2:00 PM. Our focus is a "March Madness" basketball theme. The students will rotate to different stations for relay races, crafts, and games. To accomplish this, we could use a lot of parent support to run the stations. We will prepare everything; we just need parents to run the stations. You do not have to work both times to help out. If you are interested, please send a note to your child's teacher. Helping out for a PBS celebration may not seem like much, but it is greatly appreciated by our staff and the all of the students. As Anthony Worrall-Thompson once said, "The work of volunteers impacts on all our lives, even if we are not aware of it."



PTO News

W.B. Simpson PTO will be meeting on the 2nd Monday of each month.
As always we will collect Box Tops each month. <http://www.boxtops4education.com>

DATES TO REMEMBER

March

24 ~ End of 3rd Marking Period
25 ~ School Closed for In-service

April

6 ~ Report Cards Issued
8 ~ $\frac{1}{2}$ Day
9 ~ CRHS Dessert Theater 6:30 PM
11 - 15 ~ Kindergarten Registration
11 ~ PTO Meeting 7 PM
19 ~ Board Meeting @ Stokes 7 PM
21 ~ Choral Festival 1:00 PM
22 - 29 ~ Spring Vacation

May

2 - 6 ~ School Nutrition Appreciation Week
3 ~ Teacher Appreciation Day
4 ~ Interim Reports Issued
9 ~ PTO Meeting 7 PM
17 ~ Board of Education Meeting @ FMS 7PM
26 ~ Field Day (GR. 1-2)
27 ~ Field Day (GR. 3-5)
30 ~ Memorial Day Schools Closed

Please be aware that dates and times are subject to change. Make sure to check your students Wednesday envelopes for further notices on special events at WB Simpson.



W. B. Simpson is officially on Facebook Look for our fan page where we will post upcoming events to help keep everyone informed.

The CR Report is now available online through the districts webpage at <http://www.cr.k12.de.us/>. The CR Report is updated periodically, so be sure to check back often to view district information and the next highlighted school.

10 Steps to Keep Ahead of Head Lice

- 1) Watch for signs of head lice, such as frequent scratching. Anyone can get lice, mainly from direct head-to-head contact, sharing hats, brushes, etc.
- 2) Check all family members for lice and nits (lice eggs) at least once a week.
- 3) Be sure not to confuse nits with hair debris (i.e. dandruff, hair spray droplets, or hair casts). Nits are yellowish-white, oval shaped and are attached at an angle to the side of the hair shaft.
- 4) Consult a pharmacist or health care provider before applying pesticides or other lice treatments if anyone involved is pregnant or nursing, has allergies, asthma, or has nits in the eyebrows or lashes. Never use a pesticide or other lice treatment on or near the eyes.
- 5) Consider all of your treatment options. Remember, lice killing products are pesticides and must be used with caution, following directions carefully. If you choose alternative methods, they may not have been studied thoroughly enough to determine long term outcomes. The only completely safe alternative is manual removal by combing.
- 6) Remove all nits. Separate hair sections and remove nits with a lice comb, baby safe scissors, or your fingernails.
- 7) When using lice treatment, always follow package directions carefully.
- 8) Wash bedding and recently worn clothing (within the last 3 days) in hot water and dry in high heat for 30 minutes. Combs and brushes should be soaked in hot water for 10 minutes.
- 9) Avoid lice sprays! Vacuuming is the safest and best way to remove lice or nits from furniture, rugs, stuffed animals and car seats.
- 10) If lice are found on your child, notify your child's school, child care provider, playmates, and neighborhood parents. **Check for lice on a regular basis.**

Contact Mrs. Hoffmann RN School Nurse if you have questions or need additional information at 697-3207.