



**Newsletter**  
March 25, 2011

## **Photo of the Week** **Chief Deputy Lunde Visits**

Leif Lunde has visited GES many times to educate students about safety, including D.A.R.E. and Halloween programs. This week, he spent time at our all-school morning meeting to address the issue of bullying: why it happens and what we can do about it. Students helped with demonstrations and contributed their thoughts on the issue. The bottom line: Speak up! If we work together to stop it, bullying stops.



## **Thank You for Your Help!**

We had yet another great week of volunteer support! Thank you to Amanda Hand, Hartley Acero, Chris Callender, Kevin Kager, Rae Piepho, and Lisa Walton for your efforts. The range of your combined impact on our students and school is tremendous! Thanks, too, to the steadfast support of our Great Lunch volunteers. This week featured the contributions of Fawn Smith, Karina Roth, Megan Peterson, Angie Works, Alisa Berns, Alyssa Hedstrom, and Gina Macy. Thank you, all, so much!

## **What's Happening at GES**

**Application Deadline is NEXT THURSDAY!** We're repeating this just to be as clear as possible: Our window for accepting applications for next fall ends March 31, 2011. It is important that anyone interested in enrolling for next fall apply by that date to have an equal chance at any openings. After April 1<sup>st</sup>, spots can be granted only on a space-available basis. **Siblings of existing students** are given priority for enrollment, but **must still apply before the deadline**. You can find an application at the office or our website. Existing students do not need to reapply.

**Parent-Teacher Conferences Next Week** The spring conference is one of the most eagerly anticipated, because it includes examples of student work. Please call the office if you have not yet secured a time slot.

**Extra Hands Needed for Activity Day!** We will be taking an all-school trip to North House Folk School next Wednesday, March 30<sup>th</sup>. Students will engage in a variety of hands-on activities, and we could use some *extra* hands to help with crafts, woodworking, baking, and harbor walks. Please give us a call if you are able to help out. We will be serving the regular soup lunch on that day, so students may choose to bring a lunch or a ticket. Either way, they will have a chance to sample some fresh-baked pita bread with their meal! Please call with questions.

**Facilities Working Group Meeting Tuesday, March 29<sup>th</sup>** Join us at 5:00 as we look at important decisions regarding how to deal with our increased enrollment and the limitations of our current facility. No R.S.V.P. needed!

**Otters and Moose Headed to Aquarium** On Monday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, the Otters and Moose are heading to the Great Lakes Aquarium in Duluth. This outing is an extension of the students' work on the watershed, ecology, and natural systems. In addition to seeing the exhibits, they will be attending a program led by the aquarium staff.

**Bulbs in Bloom!** Spring flowers may be months away, but not those that are part of the Great Expectation Foundation's fundraiser! Watch for more info, because we'll be selling these potted beauties starting next week!

**Next Board Meeting to Review Preliminary Enrollment/Budget Numbers** Parents and community members are always welcome at GES school board meetings. There is an opportunity to address board members ahead of the meeting, and we would love to hear your thoughts. Comments can be sent to the school ahead of each meeting, as well. The board will be getting its first look at FY12 budget information at its meeting on April 19<sup>th</sup>.

## **Important Calendar Reminders (please call the school with any questions)**

**Conferences March 28 - 30:** Meet with teachers and review student work. Please call to schedule a time.

**Facilities Working Group Meeting March 29<sup>th</sup> at 5:00:** All parents are welcome to attend this meeting.

**Activity Day, March 30:** All-school visit to NHFS. Soup lunch will still be provided for interested students.

**NO SCHOOL April 4 - 8:** Spring Break! School resumes on Monday, April 11<sup>th</sup>. (Be ready for aquarium visit!)

**Aquarium Field Trip on Monday, April 11<sup>th</sup>:** Otters & Moose need transportation arrangements for 4:30pm.

**Next Board Meeting April 19<sup>th</sup>** Community input welcome at 3:30. Board meeting begins at 4:00 p.m.