



**Newsletter**  
September 30, 2011



### **Annual Report Available:**

The FY11 Annual Report for GES is now available on our website: [www.GreatExpectationsSchool.com](http://www.GreatExpectationsSchool.com). Take a look at this summary of our activities, accomplishments, philosophy, and plans. Thanks to everyone for making it a great year!

### **Photo of the Week – All-School Beach Day**

All-school activities are an important part of our intentional social and emotional curriculum. Whether regular events, such as Friday morning meetings, or special occasions, like last week's beach day, each helps to connect students with one another in a meaningful way. They present opportunities for mentoring, modeling, aspiration, and inquiry; and help develop cooperation, empathy, and responsibility in all students.

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

Our thanks once again to volunteers Chris Callender and Lisa Walton for their work each week. We'd like to welcome back -- and thank -- Lyle Gerard for reading in class. Of course, we'd like to thank this week's Food Committee volunteers: Karina Roth, Anna Sorenson, Mike Schelmeske, Myra Theimer, and Kate Fitzgerald.

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

**Pie and Ice Cream Social THIS SUNDAY!:** This Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> from 2-4 p.m., we will celebrate the beginning of the new school year with pie and ice cream. Bring a pie if you are able, but please don't feel obligated. Ice cream and drinks will be provided, and all are welcome. Hope to see you there!

**Food Committee Urgent Need!:** For us to continue offering soup on Wednesdays, we need two additional volunteers to take on lunch duty just one Wednesday each month. Please call Karina (387-1876) if you can help!

**MDE Releases AYP Data:** On September 30<sup>th</sup>, the Minnesota Department of Education released the mandatory Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) data for FY11. GES has once again met this requirement of the federal No Child Left Behind provisions that measures school performance based on student scores on standardized tests (in our case, the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment, or MCA tests). While we feel the movement away from this form of accountability is positive, we are pleased that we continue to demonstrate success in this area.

**Pertussis in Cook County:** You may have heard reports of pertussis (whooping cough) diagnosed in Cook County. While this is true, there have been no reports of students at any of the schools being infected. If that were to happen, we would notify all our parents immediately. A good summary of the facts and precautions can be found at [www.boreal.org](http://www.boreal.org). Covering your cough or sneeze and adequate hand washing are key! If you have any questions or suspect your child may have contracted the disease, please contact the school as soon as possible. Thank you for your efforts to keep our students, families, and community healthy! GES School Nurse Amy James

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

**Pie and Ice Cream Social, Sunday Oct 2<sup>nd</sup>:** Join us anytime from 2-4 p.m. No agenda, everyone invited!

**Next Board Meeting SCHEDULE CHANGE!:** We will be meeting at 4:00 on October 11, due to conferences.

**Parent/Teacher Conferences:** Goal-setting conferences after school on 10/17 & 10/18. Watch for more info.

**MEA Break Oct 19 - 21:** NO SCHOOL Wed - Fri. Classes resume as usual on Monday, Oct 24.

Office Phone: 218-387-9322

Email: [learn@GreatExpectationsSchool.com](mailto:learn@GreatExpectationsSchool.com)

Check us out online at [www.GreatExpectationsSchool.com](http://www.GreatExpectationsSchool.com)