



Discovery Elementary School

2009-2010 Year
October 2009

Discovery Elementary School
Lisa Bailey, Head Secretary

2100 E. Leighfield Drive; Meridian, Idaho 83646

Phone: (208) 855-4090

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Principal Tribute

Welcome to an outstanding school year! Discovery Elementary's vision is to help develop, monitor, and support the district's vision and work within the values and goals of the strategic plan set by the school district to help design and participate in activities that create a shared vision of success for all our students. An important part of this process is understanding how to monitor and sustain a culture of teamwork and collaboration.

Discovery Elementary recognizes that our vision must be based on the needs of all partners and stakeholders. Teachers, staff and parents need to be empowered to complete their responsibilities and encouraged to handle items that arise using common sense and discretion. As we work together, we are looking forward to an outstanding and productive school year!



Smiling at you,
Mr. Dudley, Principal

**The 2010 US Census is coming
April 1, 2010.
Watch for more updates!!!**

Safety First!

Visitor Badges: All parents, volunteers and visitors must sign in at the office and wear a pink visitor sticker while on school grounds. Please check in at the front office to obtain a visitor sticker.

Even if you are only going to the playground, please sign in at the office and wear a sticker.

Our staff and duties are very diligent and will ask you to go immediately to the office!

Bus Zones: Please do not park in the bus parking lot. This lot is used for bus pickup and drop-off only. If you are picking up your students, please park in the

main parking lot directly in front of the school. Non-bus riding students should be dropped off in front of the school only. Please do not enter bus zone.

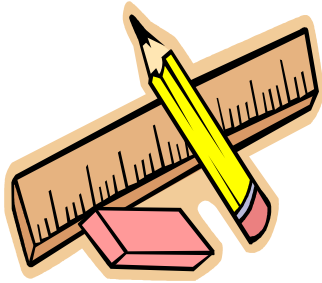
Student Drop Off: When dropping students off, please have them exit your vehicle on the sidewalk side of your car. Students should not walk in front of vehicles. If you would like to escort your child into the building, please park in a designated parking spot and NOT the drop off zone. Also, please do not cut through the playground area to drop off and pick up your children. You must check in at the office before going on the playground.

Pets/Animals: Please do not bring dogs to pick up and drop off students. Animals in the building are for classroom use only as long as they are required by the unit of instruction being taught. Please do not bring animals on the playground or into the building. Dogs should not be on the playground while students are present. All animals must be approved by the principal.

Mark Your Calendar:

- 09/ 24: Back to School Night 5:00-6:30. Parents/Guardians only.
- 09/25 & 09/28: IRI Testing.
- 10/01 & 10/02: No School.
- 10/05-10/09: "Bully Awareness Week"
- 10/06-10/09: Book Fair!!!
- 10/07: Book Fair Pizza Night. 4:30-7:30.
- 10/12: Last day for "Buy Idaho Fundraiser"
- 10/16: Spirit and Popcorn Day 25¢
- 10/19-10/23: "Red Ribbon Week"
- 10/21: Buy Idaho Distribution
- 10/22: Picture Retakes 8:30am-9:30am
- 10/23: Buy Idaho Fundraiser Pizza Party
- 10/29: Holiday Parties in classrooms.
- 10/29: PTA "Frightful October-fest" and Family Spaghetti Dinner. 5:30pm-8:00pm
- 10/30: No School.
- 11/04: No AM or PM kindergarten. Parent/Teacher conferences.
- 11/05 and 11/06: No School K-5th grades. Parent/Teacher Conferences.
- 11/21: PTA Bazaar 8am-3pm
- 11/24: Make-A-Wish Assembly
- 11/24: Early Release
K-5 start @ 9:10am
AM Kinder out @ 11:10am
PM Kinder start @ 11:45am
1st-5th out @ 1:45pm
- 11/26-11/27: Holiday No school.





Thank you Assistance League of Boise!!!

Thank you Operation School Bell and School Supplies!

Operation School Supplies (OSS) is a philanthropic project of Assistance League of Boise (ALB). OSS has been providing school supplies to the children of Ada County since 1996. This year we are able to provide 80 elementary, middle, high and charter schools with approximately \$47,000 worth of school supplies. The 6,800 students selected by school

counselors or teachers will receive supplies which include crayons, erasers, pencils, pens, glue sticks, rulers, notebook paper, spiral notebooks, paints, felt markers, and colored pencils.

ALB is a member of the national Assistance League and we are an all-volunteer, non-profit organization that puts caring and commitment into action through philanthropic projects in Ada County.

Other ALB programs include Operation School Bell, History in the Brown House, Cinderella's Closet, Project Hearing, and Baby Bundles. Funds for our programs come from community donations, private contributions, grants, and the operation of the ALB Thrift Shop at 5825 Glenwood Avenue. The public is invited to visit our Thrift Shop, and to support our programs by donating good quality used clothing and small household items.

Help for Families in Need

There is some help available for students who may need school supplies and school clothing through Operation School Bell and food during the weekends through the Weekend Backpack Food Program. Please contact our School Counselor, Lynn Chapman, at 855.4090. Confidential.

Students are not to come to school before 8:45 am. There is no supervision for students who arrive prior to 8:45. Students must be picked up no later than 4:00.

Please send your child to school in shoes that can be worn securely on the foot.

No flip-flops



Absence / Tardy Reporting

Please call 855.4097 by 9:30 am if your child will be absent or tardy for any reason. Please state your child's name, teacher's name, and reason for the absence.

You may leave a message 24 hours a day.



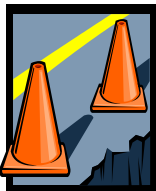
New Staff

We have a lot of new faces this year! Please help us in welcoming the following teachers to our Discovery Family!

- Mrs. Lauri Wright**
AM & PM Kindergarten
- Mrs. Melissa Slocum**
1st Grade
- Mrs. Caryn Walters**
4th/5th Grade Combo

- Mrs. Dianna Johnson**
4th/5th Grade Combo
- Mrs. Diane Bonebrake**
5th Grade
- Mrs. Julie Bennett**
PBI Teacher
- Mr. Duane Penner**
PE Teacher
- Mrs. Amy Nixon**
Nurse

Just a heads up—Road work has been tentatively scheduled for October 1st and 2nd. Access to Discovery from Locust Grove will be re-routed through the Medical Charter High School parking lot.



Joint School District No. 2 is following carefully all guidelines to limit the spread influenza in our schools. Working together we can hopefully limit the numbers of students and staff exposed to and infected with influenza this year.

Thank you for your help keeping our school a healthy place.

Flu Season is Here!

Actually, cases of seasonal and H1N1 influenza never left our area this summer. With the return of students and staff it is EXTREMELY important that everyone work together to limit the spread of flu in our school community.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends 4 main ways you and your family may keep from getting sick with the flu at school and at home:

- 1) Practice good hand hygiene by washing your hands often with soap and water, especially after coughing or sneezing. Alcohol-based hand cleaners are also effective.
- 2) Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. If you don't have a tissue, cough or sneeze into your elbow or shoulder; not into your hands.
- 3) Stay home if you or your child is sick for at least 24 hours **after** there is no longer a fever or signs of a fever (without the use of fever-reducing medicine). Keeping sick students at home means that they keep their viruses to themselves rather than sharing them

with others.

- 4) Get your family vaccinated for seasonal flu and 2009 H1N1 flu when vaccines are available.

Follow these steps to prepare for the flu during the 2009-2010 school year:

- *Plan for child care at home if your child gets sick. Remember: Students cannot return to school until they are symptom free for 24 hours, so they will not return to school the day after becoming ill with any influenza like illness (even if they appear to be better).
- *Plan to monitor the health of the sick child and any other children in the household by checking for fever and other symptoms of flu.
- *Identify if you have children who are at higher risk of serious disease from the flu and talk to your health-care provider about a plan to protect them during the flu season. Children at high risk of serious disease from the flu include: children under 5 years of age and those children with chronic medical conditions, such as asthma and diabetes.
- *Identify a separate room in the house for the care of sick family members.
- *Update school emergency contact lists.

Please notify the school if your child is out with influenza or flu like illness.



Mrs. Jensen would LOVE to have parent volunteers help with Discovery Dashers this year. Discovery Dashers is our school Run/Walk program that meets on the track every Tuesday and Thursday during last recess (2:30-2:45). Volunteers are critical at the beginning of our program, as MANY students are eager to participate. Students track their miles by receiving a stamp for every lap they run, so volunteers would help with the stamping process. Students receive their name over the morning announcements, along with prizes, for every 5 miles they run. Discovery Dashers is a wonderful program that promotes physical activity and wellness, while also providing students with an alternative recess activity. Please call Mrs. Jensen at 855-4090 (ext. 1148) if you would be willing to volunteer your time. Thank you!



Book Fair

October 6th - 9th

Tuesday

10:30am to 4:00pm

Wednesday

8:30am to 4:00pm



Thursday

8:30am to 4:00pm



Late Night and Pizza Dinner

**Bring your family, have dinner, and
browse the books!**

4:30pm to 7:30pm

Friday

8:30am - *Book fair closes promptly at 10:30am!!*



Notes from the PTA...

Our new school year has started off with a bang! We've already had our first fundraiser and the Buy Idaho Fundraiser will be sent home next week. We have tried to be mindful of the economy and hope that we are providing you an opportunity to buy local, quality products to benefit our school.

I am back to serve as your PTA President, Coleen Cataloni will serve one more year as the VP of Membership and Amy Senethavilay will serve as our Treasurer. We still have room on the Board for a President-Elect (someone who has interest in becoming President) and a secretary...We also have several committee positions that need a good leader! Please contact me at DiscoveryPTA@gmail.com if

you have an interest.

Reflections Art Program: A way for your child to showcase their artistic talents. Flyers have gone home about the program, but if you need more information, please visit www.IdahoPTA.net.

We have two very fun family events for the fall: Frightful Octoberfest will be held on October 29th. This will be a family spaghetti dinner (\$5 per person) and a little trick or treating in classrooms! We are also organizing a holiday bazaar on November 21st. Do you make or bake something great? Booth space is \$25 and we will promote this bazaar to the community—the community will be able to do some holiday shopping while supporting our school

and families!!!

Please be sure to contact us to find out what volunteer opportunities are available at our school! If you are unsure of what is needed, please contact me at DiscoveryPTA@gmail.com.

Go Mustangs!

Sara Bell, PTA President

**Frightful
Octoberfest and
Family
Spaghetti Dinner
October 29th
5:30pm-8:30pm**

*See attached flyer for
more details!!!*



the difference
i can make.

We are always collecting Box-Tops (found on most General Mills and Kleenex products!) BoxTops earn money for our school and most importantly - our children!

While we collect BoxTops all year long, Patsy Gardner will be tallying BoxTops each week between Sept. 28th and Nov. 30th. This friendly little "competition" has a big payoff at the end - the teachers get to keep the money their classrooms make!

Last year the PTA gave teachers over \$2,500!!

Popcorn Friday!!!

**October 16
November 13
December 18**

**25¢ per bag
1 bag per student**



PTA Meetings! With Childcare!

*First Tuesday of the
month at 4:00 p.m.*

Questions?
DiscoveryPTA@gmail.com

Projectors!

This fabulous new technology will be shown to parents at Back To School Night! The PTA is thrilled to have bought 4 projectors for our teachers and students. The projectors will be placed in the 4th and 5th grade classrooms and we will continue to buy more as funds are available.

