

# Galileo Math & Science Magnet School

“Galileo Falcons Exploring the Great Unknown”

Suanne McCullough, Principal

Attendance: 350-4106 Office: 350-4105

[mccullough.suanne@meridianschools.org](mailto:mccullough.suanne@meridianschools.org)



## Galileo Calendar

**Mar 23-27:** Spring Break. No School

**Apr 3:** Parent Teacher Conferences. No School K-8

**Apr 7:** Galileo Math Night, 6:00-7:30 p.m.

**Apr 9:** Middle School Open House for 5th-6th graders at all traditional Middle Schools

**Apr 10:** Junior Engineering Day. Student information forms for 2009-2010 classroom placements due to classroom teachers

**Apr 19-25:** National Volunteer Week

**Apr 24:** District Art Show

**Apr 25:** Meridian District Fun Run at Meridian High School 10 a.m.

**Apr 28-May 1:** New Book Fair Dates

**Apr 29:** Kindergarten Registration 9:00-3:00. You must have an appointment

**Apr 30:** Pizza Night at Book Fair

**May 3-9:** National Teacher Appreciation Week

**May 15:** Rendezvous for 4th grade

**May 19:** School Board Election

**May 21:** 7:00 p.m. Band, Choir and Orchestra Concert at Galileo

**May 25:** Memorial Day. No School or Work

**Jun 3:** Early Release. Last Day of School

### Attendance Line: 350-4106

Please call this number between 8:00 a.m. and 9:15 a.m. if your child will be absent for any reason. Please state your child's name, teacher and reason for absence.

## Message from the Principal:

### Class Placements

Can you believe it is time to start thinking of class placements for the 2009-2010 school year?

Our teachers work very hard to place students in classrooms that will support each student's instructional and emotional needs. The actual make up of the 2009-2010 classes will take us about six weeks of thoughtful consideration. The classes will be formed with as equal a number of boys and girls as possible. All classes will have students who have a variety of academic ranges. This year's teacher teams will create the class lists, then next year's teacher teams and specialists will review the lists. Finally, I will make final adjustments to the lists. The class lists will be posted in August before school starts.

If you would like to add your input for your child's classroom placement for the 2009-2010 school year please fill out the form at the end of this newsletter and send it to your child's classroom teacher or to me. Forms are due **April 10, 2009**.

### Math Night

Who knew math could be so fun? Help us kick off Math Night by attending a **FREE SHOW** (Thanks PTA!) presented by Bob Bishop, Math Magician. You won't believe what you can do with math! Doors for the show open Tuesday, **April 7** at 5:45 p.m. with the show starting promptly at 6 p.m.

Need some fresh ways to practice math? Come check out **games to purchase** in Andrea Baerwald's room 303. For a **sneak preview** of the games check them out on the web at

[www.andrea.baerwald.simplyfun.com](http://www.andrea.baerwald.simplyfun.com). Part of the money from the purchases will go back to Galileo to buy math games and manipulatives. Also, be sure to check out teacher wish lists as teacher appreciation week is the first week in May!

Math night is about proving math is a fun and challenging family activity! Math Puzzles, Games, and Brain Teasers will assure a good time for parents and their children using Math Fun d' Mentals. Centers will run from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Open to all students and their parents. (Or uncles, aunts, grandparents, guardians) **Registration forms** are available in the office if you did not receive one.

If you aren't able to make it to math night, or want to **order online**, please go to [www.simplyfun.eventuity.com/e/13192](http://www.simplyfun.eventuity.com/e/13192) and Galileo will still get credit for your order.



### School Board Election

The Meridian Joint School District will hold a School Board election on Tuesday, **May 19, 2009**, in Zone No. 1 and Zone No. 3 (see map page 3). The Zone No. 1 position is currently held by Reid Olsen, the Zone No. 3 position is currently held by Jana Nichols.

To qualify as a candidate for the board of Trustees, a candidate must:

- Be a registered voter in the county in which he or she resides
- Be a bona fide resident of the state of Idaho
- Be at least 18 years of age
- Be a citizen of the United States
- Reside in the zone he or she wishes to represent

Qualified candidates will run for a 3-year term of office. Those interested can get further information about the trustee application process by contacting **Trish Duncan**, Clerk of the Board, at 350-5022 or by e-mail at [duncan.trish@meridianschools.org](mailto:duncan.trish@meridianschools.org). The application deadline is Friday, **April 17**.

### Fun Run

Annual Fun Run **Saturday, April 25, 2009**, 10:00 am at Meridian High School on the track. Registration forms went home the week of March 16!



## April Food Bank Drive



The food drive item for the month of April is **cereal!** Let's see how many boxes of cereal it will take to fill the barrels! Thanks for all of your support! **Tammy Kern** 938-0199 or [pamperedtammy@msn.com](mailto:pamperedtammy@msn.com)

## PTA Needs You In 2009/10

The PTA is seeking enthusiastic people for the following positions:

1. Calling all parents who have good organizational skills, enjoy seeing a project completed, and have a heart to continually make Galileo a better school! We have positions open for chairing or co-chairing the **Ice Cream Social, Fall Fundraiser, and Italian Dinner** for the 2009-2010 school year. We need your talent and energy and would love your fresh input and ideas.
2. Do you spend your free time on the computer? Do you enjoy doing **data entry**? The PTA needs you! We have all kinds of information that needs to be input throughout the year. You can do this from home and still help contribute to the needs of our school. Think about it!
3. Are you creative and passionate about getting people involved in school? We are looking for someone to head up our **Membership** Committee for next year.
4. Is organization your middle name? We need someone to spearhead putting together our **school directory** for next year.



Please contact **Shannon Brandt**, [sbb123@msn.com](mailto:sbb123@msn.com) to become a part of the Galileo team of volunteers. There will be a great transition party in May where you will be invited to join the current PTA chairs as they pass the baton (and all helpful information they have).

## Interactive Math Web Sites

[www.hbschool.com/glossary/math2/index\\_temp.html](http://www.hbschool.com/glossary/math2/index_temp.html)  
[www.teachers.ash.org.au/jeather/maths/dictionary.html](http://www.teachers.ash.org.au/jeather/maths/dictionary.html)  
[www.mathplayground.com](http://www.mathplayground.com)

## Box Top & Label Collection

It's spring cleaning time! The school wide collection for box tops and labels begins today and ends April 3! So, parents and teachers alike, clean out those drawers and send in your Campbell's soup labels and Box Tops coupons. Hop to it before time runs out.

A celebration will be planned for the class that collects the most coupons!

For a full line of participating products you can go to [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com) and [www.labelsforeducation.com](http://www.labelsforeducation.com).



Contact **Crystal Friday** for more information: [crystalfriday@cablone.net](mailto:crystalfriday@cablone.net)

## Legislative "Calling" Tree

NEW! Stay informed of how the legislature is changing education! Our school will be implementing a legislative "calling" tree to keep you up to date on proposed bills regarding education, giving you the opportunity to voice your opinions to our designated legislator. This calling tree will use email as the main form of communication.

## Idaho PTA Reflections Winners

Two of our four Region 8 winners won at the 2008-09 State competition! Both were in the category of **Intermediate Musical Composition**. And the winners are...

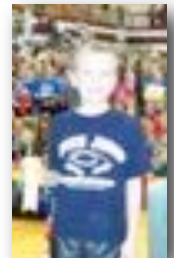


- Award of Excellence – **Oliver Dahl**
- Award of Merit – **Anna Black**

## Speed Jump Championship

The 17th Annual Meridian Speed Jump Championship was recently held at Centennial High School. It was an awesome event that filled the gymnasium with hundreds of cheering fans. Galileo was represented well by **Allie Tait, Sarah Trumble, Jared Montierth, Allie Peery, Maddie Bowman** and **Brooke Kemmsies**. All of these students did a great job and Jared Montierth placed 5th in the Boy's Forward Jump category. Mrs. Montierth was the coach. Every year we have many sponsors that choose to support this event. Thank you to the following businesses who so generously gave prizes to all contestants and/or the champions:

- Jackson Food Stores
- Primo's
- Idaho Dairy Council
- Red Robin
- Bogus Basin
- Po-Jos and Game World
- YMCA
- Roaring Springs
- Pro-Am Sports
- McDonalds
- Wahooz
- Meridian Bowling
- Idaho Ice World
- Fed Ex/Kinkos
- The Pulse Running & Fitness Shop
- Wings Center



## Available Flyers

Galileo has a display of flyers in our main entry vestibule. We currently have flyers displayed from the agencies listed below. If you are interested in any of the above, please feel free to come by and pick up what you need!

- Hope Lutheran Preschool
- Treasure Valley Family magazine
- Idaho Botanical Gardens Youth Education Programs
- Treasure Valley YMCA Before and After School Programs
- The Landing Community Center After School Programs
- The Discovery Center of Idaho Science Saturdays
- Parenting Tools For Healthy Families Classes
- S.O.S. Save Our Schools WeTiP Hotline
- Girl Scouts of Silver Sage Council
- Upward Basketball and Cheerleading
- The Landing Teen Center
- Keeping Your Child Healthy What You Need To Know about Vaccinations
- Idaho Math Initiative It All Adds Up. Math Matters
- A Parent's Guide to Video Games, Parental Controls and Online Safety
- The Raising Kids Who Don't Smoke Series
- Peer Pressure and Smoking
- Ideal Idaho College Savings Program



## You ♥ Galileo!

**Bravo! Bravo!** A big thank you to all of you for once again making our annual Galileo PTA Auction and Italian Dinner an overwhelming success.



Our online auction generated a whopping \$15,000 plus in income for our school. Special thanks to **Kristina (KC) Warner** our Auction Committee Chair and **Shannon Baldrey** our Procurement Committee Chair, for all the hours they put into obtaining, coordinating and recording all the great items which were up for bid. They did an amazing job! Special thanks to **all the teachers** for sending the kiddos home with auction stickers, **Principal McCullough** for her daily auction and event announcements, **Susan Jasper** for forwarding countless e-mails, **Mrs. Hally**, Librarian, for allowing us to display the Class Baskets and use

the library numerous times, custodians, **Antonio** and **Mark** for all their help with signs the day (and night) of the event, and all the local businesses who displayed our posters and our title sponsors; **Sam Smith Orthodontics**, **At Home Media**, **The Art of Framing**, **Kam Taylor Photography**, **Regal 360**, **Rivers Edge Orthodontics** and **RSquared Digital Media** who provided all of our graphic design work pro-bono.

A wonderful time was had by all at the Italian Dinner as 525 members of our Galileo family stepped into the charmingly transformed “Buca di Galileo Secondi” in the Eagle High School cafeteria. **Jen Butler** and her crew of many helpers turned the Eagle High cafeteria into a cozy corner Italian bistro, complete with little white lights, red and white checkered tablecloths, balloons, streamers and artwork. The centerpieces were made by our own kindergartners and assembled by **Theresa Needs**. **Lynnae Gliege**, headed up our Italian Art Contest which produced some amazing masterpieces by our very talented students. Who says scientists aren’t artistic?! **B&B Photography** came to school and photographed each child who entered the contest and all of our outgoing eighth graders. The photos are beautiful and if you didn’t get a chance to see your child’s or would like to see it again, they are available for purchase for \$25 each with all the profits going to Galileo.

Attendees were greeted by the smell of garlic bread and a wonderfully aromatic baked ziti as they arrived to enjoy the event. We received numerous comments about the wonderful food once again prepared by our own parent, **Chef Tom Atkins** and his helpful crew consisting of **Dale Shepherd** and EHS’s **Luann Losh** from the kitchen. The crowning jewel in the evening seemed to be the smiling and eager faces of our upper class students who added a wonderful touch as our servers for the night. **Rhonda Clinkscale** did a fabulous job organizing the kids and getting them server ready! They all did a fantastic job!

Did you see the desserts? Everyone was tantalized by the beautiful creations displayed. **Kim Tiedeken** outdid herself again this year organizing our dessert auction. These were serious desserts provided by both local businesses and Galileo moms. The dessert auction alone raised \$1,500 for the PTA/School. Kim was also so helpful as our “inside” person at EHS. We have to thank **Chad Webster** and all the staff at Eagle High who were so wonderful to work with and patiently tolerated all of our visits and many questions.

We would also be remiss if we didn’t thank **Nancy Cox** and all the room parents who put together the phenomenal class baskets – wow, were our baskets ever great this year; the **Galileo Staff** for their generous “teacher feature” donations and their support, **Cindy Atkins** for organizing and spearheading our auction distribution process, **Sherry Shepherd** our treasurer and “money” lady, **Desiree Roach** for being our ticketmaster and handling all the ticket sales and reservations (sorry to those of you who weren’t able to get tickets – don’t wait next year!), **Christy Daher** for being our hostess for the night, **Mr. A** (Crist Aldinger) for serving as the MC for the evening, **Amanda Richey**, Miss Meridian 2009 for her lovely vocals and **Suanne McCullough** for her continued support of our PTA activities.

There are also **many volunteers** who helped the day of the event, too many to mention by name – thank you for your help! We also want to extend a heartfelt thank you to all the businesses who donated items to our auction and to those of you who purchased items – our success would not have been possible without your generosity. We will be putting out a list of those businesses and we hope you will patronize their establishments/services and give them a “Galileo” thank you in person.

We are still in the process of collecting auction funds owed and tabulating expenses, etc., but we definitely **surpassed our goal of raising \$20,000 for the PTA!** We will publish the exact number in the next issue. Look for an upcoming survey via e-mail so you can tell us what worked about this event/auction and what we could make better. Until next year Galileo, Arrivederci!

\*If you’d like to see the photos taken by B&B photography of the eighth graders and Italian Art Contest entrants, please contact **Daphne Pulver** at 571-3684 or at [kdzlr@yahoo.com](mailto:kdzlr@yahoo.com)

## Galileo Activities

**Bank Day:** Every Monday at noon.

**French Group:** Every Monday - 3:30 to 4:15 p.m. in the elementary engineering room

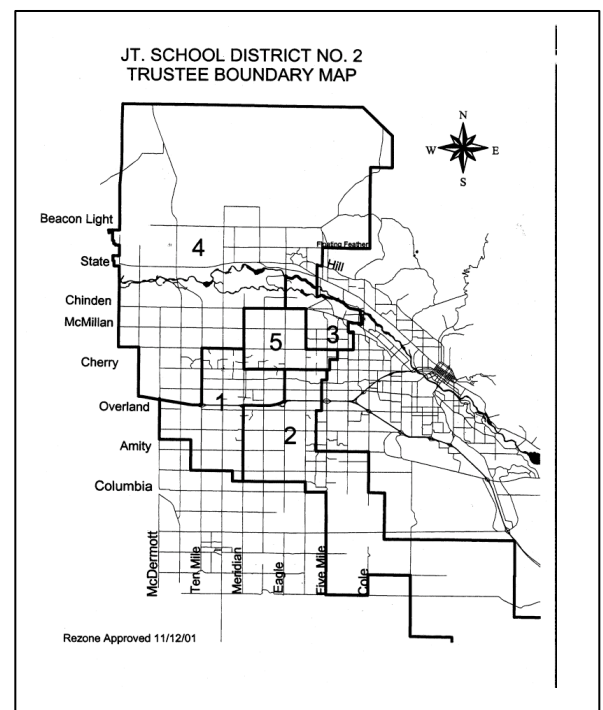
**Engineering Group:** The first Wednesday of each month in the cafeteria - 3:40 to 4:30 p.m.

**Chess Group:** Every Wednesday in the cafeteria - 8:20 to 9:00 a.m.

**Jump Rope Group:** Every Monday in the gym from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

## Galileo Information

If you need information about Galileo, want to view the 2009-2010 grades 6, 7 and 8 course description handbook, want to view an old newsletter, or find out more about the new standards based grading and reporting system please visit our school web site. [www.meridianschools.org](http://www.meridianschools.org), schools, elementary schools, Galileo.



School Board Election Map

Galileo Math and Science Magnet School  
Parent Survey Form for Student Placement  
2009-2010

Please completely fill out this form and return it to the office by April 10, 2009  
Please use one for each student.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Teacher Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check any of the following descriptors that fit your child:

\_\_\_\_\_ needs more activity than the average child

\_\_\_\_\_ is shy and sensitive

\_\_\_\_\_ concentration is hard for him/her

\_\_\_\_\_ works best independently

\_\_\_\_\_ works best in a quieter environment

\_\_\_\_\_ works best with an interactive class

Describe the best learning environment for your child: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Describe the best teacher for your child: (Please do not request a teacher by name)

\_\_\_\_\_

Special interests: \_\_\_\_\_

Areas of most success at school: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Areas of greatest concern at school: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Anything else we should be aware of in placing your child: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

The Meridian School District holds the building principals responsible for classroom assignments.

Galileo Math and Science staff will determine classroom placement through a team effort involving staff, the principal, and the parent input form.

In an effort to provide the best education possible, our team considers the class size, ratio of boys to girls, special needs, student abilities, personalities of students and teachers, and students who need to be separated. At the completion of the placement process, the principal will be responsible for making the final assignment. Class list for the 2009-2010 school year will be posted in August, prior to the start of school.

**Please return this form by April 10, 2009**

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_