

3-6 Fireweed Academy Newsletter

Week of February 11, 2013

Notes on Fireweed Mission and Methods

Greetings,

I will be starting to add notes to the weekly newsletter to provide you with more information about Fireweed's Mission and Methods. Why? Many folks have told me that they love Fireweed, but can't really explain or articulate what it is that works so well, why it works so well. The school was founded on a mission to address the whole child through six learner outcomes: Reasoning Ability, Self-Reliance, Creativity, Cooperation, Personal Growth and Academic Achievement. The founders outlined goals and objectives and some of the preferred methods of reaching them. It wasn't until a year later that Theme Immersion was adopted as a delivery model and Constructivist principles as the foundation for that model. Over the next few weeks I will be sharing my perspective on each of these five principles.

Cheers! Kiki

5 Principles of Constructivist Classrooms:

1. Posing problems of emerging relevance
2. Structuring learning around primary concepts
3. Seeking and valuing students' points of view
4. Adapting curriculum to address students suppositions
5. Assessing student learning in context of teaching

BP Teachers of Excellence

Do you have a favorite KPBSD teacher? Please make time to nominate the educator you want to be recognized as a 2013 BP Teacher of Excellence! Go to the www.kpbsd.org website and fill out the form—respond by February 15, 2013.

Afterschool Math Homework Help

Stephanie will continue Math homework on Mondays from 3:15 - 4:15. All grade levels are welcome.

Afterschool Film Club

Stephanie will be continuing afterschool film club on Wednesdays. Pick up time is at 4:15. There was a typo on the permission slip regarding pick up.

Afterschool Skiing

Stephanie and Kiki will continue afterschool skiing on Thursdays through March 7th just before Spring Break. Stephanie will be on her own this Thursday. Is there a parent who would like to join us?

Valentines Day Question and Answers

Do we celebrate Valentines Day? We honor the choice of students who want or don't want to exchange Valentines. During Snack Time the 2nd, 3rd and 4th grade students will have paper bags with their names written on them. Students who want to give valentines out need to include all students 2nd - 4th. Student who do not want to give Valentines out do not need to. There is a student list on the classroom doors. Students are welcome to copy the names. We cannot email nor print out class lists.

Volunteers Welcome in 2-4 Literacy

Volunteers are welcomed to join literacy in the mornings from 8:45-9:50 for 4th grade and 10:10-11:15 for 2-3rd grades. Ways to help include reading or writing with students, helping students type their stories, organizing our classroom library, sharing a story with the class, or just coming in to visit. Please R.S.V.P. -Mindy

Absent students

Parents: Please, please Call Janet at the FWA office (235-9728) to let her know if your student will be absent from school for any reason.

<u>Upcoming 3-6 Dates: Mark your calendars!</u>	
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March 8 th	No School - Teacher In-Service
March 11 th - 15 th	No School - Spring Break
April 2 nd , 3 rd and 4 th	<u>Standards Based Assessment Testing (please do not schedule vacations, medical appointments, etc. during this time)</u>
April 19 th	No School - Vacation Day