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PENN LONDON VOICE

February 5, 2010

Visit us on the web @ www.avongrove.org/ples



KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR 2010-2011 SCHOOL YEAR

We are now accepting requests for Kindergarten Registration Packets. Please call the school office (610-869-9803) to get on the mailing list to receive a packet, which will be mailed out mid February. The packet includes registration requirements as well as specific dates and times. Kindergarten Registration will be held the week of March 22nd.

Eligibility as per Avon Grove School District Board Policy No. 201, Title 22, Sec. 11.14 states "A child is eligible for admission to kindergarten if s/he has attained the age of five (5) years on or before September 8th of each school term."

Title 22, Sec. 11.15 states "A beginner (grade 1) is eligible for admission to the lowest grade of the primary school above the kindergarten level if s/he has attained the age of six (6) years on or before September 8th of each school term."

REMINDER

If you called and made an appointment for your child for "Sealant Saturday," remember that it takes place **tomorrow**, February 6. It is important that you keep the appointment.

Si Ud. Llamara e hiciera una cita para su niño/a, favor de recordar que mañana, el 6 de febrero, es **SELLANTE DEL SABADO**.

ART DEPARTMENT-Youth Art Month

It's time to get ready for the 8th Annual "Youth Art Month". February 4-12 the students at PLE will be tracing this year's animal, "**Romping Rabbits**" on a 12 x 18 piece of oak tag and bringing it home, along with a pink paper explaining this activity. Take some time this month, get everyone together, and work on this **family** project. You have until **March 2** to complete the project and bring it to school. They will be displayed throughout the school in March, and everyone will enjoy looking at the rabbits during parent/teacher conferences. Thank you and have fun. Mrs. Shiley



PTA REFLECTIONS Regional Winners

PLE Regional winners include: **Benjamin Grace, Annika Pfaff, Brayden McCoy, Hayley Weber, Eliza Wright, Daisy Eckman and Jack Reilly**. These winners will move on to State judging and possibly National judging. Winners have been invited to a regional reception at Owen J. Roberts High School in Pottstown on March 26, 2010. Congratulations to each of these students for their accomplishments and hard work!

BOX TOP Winners: Karly Wilson, Brendan Pastorius, and Chad Anderson. Each received a \$5 gift card from Dairy Queen (Jennersville). Congratulations. February collection sheets are due on March 2nd. Three lucky winners will each receive a gift card from Tangles Salon and Party Place (Oxford).

AFTER SCHOOL ENRICHMENT: Over 260 students are enrolled in After School Enrichment classes this year. This program is organized and maintained by the Penn London PTA with the support of Penn London Elementary School in accordance to PTA guidelines and Avon Grove School District Policy. Thank you for your interest and participation in the program. As a reminder, please be aware of the following:

1. A note for dismissal is required **every week** for each After School Enrichment class a student attends. Faxes, emails and voice mail messages **will not** be accepted.
2. The student car line pick-up procedure is in effect for dismissal. Procedures are in accordance with Avon Grove School District Policies 904 and 907.
3. Ongoing updates will be posted on the PTA website: www.plepta.org/programsservices/afterschool enrichment, as appropriate.

NO SCHOOL FEBRUARY 15

DATES TO REMEMBER



BLACK HISTORY MONTH

February 5	Circus Ticket Orders Due "Super Coins" Project Ends
February 6	Sealant Saturday Sellante del Sebado
February 11	School Board Meeting AGI, 7:30 PM
February 12	Lincoln's Birthday
February 14	Valentine's Day
February 15	NO SCHOOL Presidents' Day
February 16	PTA Meeting, 3:45 PM
February 17	Market Day Pick Up 4:30-5:30 PM *School Board Meeting AGI, 7:30 PM
February 22	Washington's Birthday



MUSIC IN OUR SCHOOLS MONTH YOUTH ART MONTH WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

March 1	NO SCHOOL Teacher Inservice
March 2	Read Across America Dr. Suess's Birthday

***note date change**

NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY: The Avon Grove School District is an equal opportunity education institution and will not discriminate in its educational programs, activities, or employment practices on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, sex, age, religion, ancestry, sexual orientation, handicap/disability, union membership, or other legally protected classification. Announcement of this policy is in accordance with state and federal laws, including Title VI, Title IX, and Section 504. All inquiries should be made to Dr. Wendi Lee Foltz, Director of Personnel, Avon Grove School District, 375 South Jennersville Road, West Grove, PA 19390, (610) 869-2441.

The Avon Grove School Board of School Directors passed the following Resolution at the January 28, 2010, School Board meeting:
 A Resolution urging legislative action on school employee pension reform
 By the Board of Directors of the
 Avon Grove School District
 #10-04

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Pennsylvania Public School Employees Retirement System (PSERS) has voted to increase the employer contribution to the system for the 2010-2011 school year to 8.22%, a 72% increase over the 2009-2010 rate; and WHEREAS, the employer contributions rate is projected to increase sharply in the next four years, reaching a peak of 33.60% in the 2014-2015 school year; and WHEREAS, the employer contribution rate is projected to remain over 30% until the year 2020; over 25% until the year 2027 and over 20% until the year 2032; and WHEREAS, the projected increases in employer contributions would cost the Avon Grove School District and its taxpayers an additional \$15,628,345 between the 2010--2011 school year and the 2014-2015 school year, calculated as follows:

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Fiscal Year	Contribution Rate	Annual Cost Increase	Cumulative Cost Increase
2010-2011	8.22%	\$552,047	\$552,047
2011-2012	10.59%	\$427,438	\$1,531,532
2012-2013	29.22%	\$3,106,840	\$5,617,857
2013-2014	32.09%	\$676,812	\$10,380,994
2014-2015	33.60%	\$484,214	<u>\$15,628,345</u>
		<u>\$5,247,351</u>	

and; WHEREAS, these projections present critical problems that effectively force the addition of significantly higher financial burdens on taxpayers, school districts and the commonwealth and consequently demand both a short-term and a long-term solution; and WHEREAS, a meaningful solution to these problems must involve the identification of another funding source for PSERS, decreasing or cutting the costs/liabilities of the system, including benefit levels, and deferring the system's liabilities.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the board of school directors of the Avon Grove School District calls upon the General Assembly to begin immediate consideration of school employee pension reform with the dual purpose of reducing projected employer contribution rate increases over the next four years and reducing projected costs to schools districts, taxpayers and the commonwealth over the next two decades, while maintaining an appropriate pension benefit for school employees; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the General Assembly approve HB 2135 or SB 1185, both of which would make PSERS a hybrid defined benefits/defined contribution system for future school employees, as a potential solution to the long-term cost issues presented by projections in the employer contribution rate.

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