



March 7, 2008

Eye on the Eagles

Thank you to Devan Buescher and Congratulations to Mrs. Chambers!

Thank you to second grader, Devan Buescher, for taking the time to thank a teacher. Devan's thank you letter resulted in Mrs. Chambers being honored at the "Nebraska Teacher Recognition Day" this week. Mrs. Chambers, Devan, Mr. and Mrs. Buescher, Mrs. Aron, and Dr. Reckewey participated in a breakfast at the Governor's mansion to honor Mrs. Chambers. Devan read his letter at the breakfast and he also read it for the whole school later that same day. Mrs. Chambers is an excellent teacher and Devan wrote a great letter, so she was one of only six teachers selected for this award. Other speakers at the breakfast included Governor Heineman, First Lady Sally Ganem, Lincoln Public Schools (LPS) Superintendent Dr. Susan Gourley, and radio personality Mark Taylor. This event was sponsored by KFOR, KFRX, LPS, Lincoln Education Association, and the LPS Foundation. Kudos to Mrs. Chambers!

PLC Info

Eastridge teachers continue to meet once each month in our Professional Learning Communities (PLCs). Teachers review what the most important curriculum components are for the next month – we call them essential learnings. They plan ways to help students learn the concepts and materials and determine how progress can be periodically measured, rather than just assessing student achievement at the end of a unit or lesson. This assessment helps to guide instruction. Teachers talk about how students who struggle can be supported and how they can further challenge those students who master the objectives. When there is a challenging concept that will be taught, teachers develop plans to best help students learn. They consider group instruction and individual needs of students. Teachers develop specific goals that are measurable and achievable in certain timeframe. For example, kindergarten's goal was to have 95% of the students know upper case letters and 85% know lower case letters by the end of January – they met their goal! PLCs provide time for teachers to focus on the most important instructional components and how they can help students learn. The dialogue they have in supporting one another is rich – they work interdependently to guide instruction, develop formative assessment, and to develop specific strategies to help students learn. There is a high level of professionalism in these discussions as teachers continue to improve their pedagogy.

Mark Your Calendars!

March

- 11 Eastridge Science Fair
- 18 School dismissed early – 2:18 PM
- 27 Skate Party, 40th & Old Cheney, 6-8, \$3
- 21-28 Spring Break, No School



April

- 1 LPS Science Fair
- 1 PTO, 7:00 Media Center
- 7-18 MAT8 Testing, Grades 3&5
- 14 Volunteer Appreciation Week
- 21 Elementary Plan Day, Students do not attend