

Coming Soon:

The Rapid City Winter Carnival is scheduled for February 7th!

Eighth graders are planning annual trip to the Nation's Capitol

The annual trip to Washington, DC and the Gettysburg, PA area is scheduled for April 15, 2009. Eighth grade students will tour for two days and return home the morning of Sunday, April 19.

If you are interested in sending your eighth grade student and have not received the information, please call Mr. Doug Brown at 258-4040.

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Kalkaska Public Schools

Board of Education Regular Meeting Schedule 2008-2009

Board Meeting Room
315 S. Coral Street
Kalkaska, Michigan

Monday, January 12, 2009
Board of Education Room 7:00 p.m.

Monday, February 9, 2009
Board of Education Room 7:00 p.m.

Monday, March 9, 2009
Board of Education Room 7:00 p.m.

Monday, April 13, 2009
Board of Education Room 7:00 p.m.

Monday, May 11, 2009
Board of Education Room 7:00 p.m.

*Monday, June 15, 2009-Budget Hearing & Mtg. Board of Education Room 6:00 p.m.

*Monday, July 20, 2009-Organizational Meeting Board of Education Room 6:00 p.m.

Board minutes are kept at 315 S. Coral Street, Kalkaska, Michigan, 49646. *Tentative Dates.

“I want Money... lots and lots of money....!”

By Mrs. Lisa Sutton,
first grade teacher

Children LOVE money and know at a very early age that it is an important part of life. They realize that they need money in order to purchase the things they want and also the things they need.

Money can be very confusing for kids. Identifying the coins, remembering the value for each, and then adding the up to see how much you have is all very difficult. Dimes are worth more than a penny but they are smaller, bills are all the same size but have different values! UGH!

Because money is so important and a great motivator for learning, the kids in Mrs. Lisa Sutton’s first grade are learning about money everyday by earning money for different things. They have a shopping day when they are able to go to the classroom store and purchase items. They are taught coin values, how to count with them, and how to purchase items that they can afford. Another lesson is the lesson of saving money to purchase bigger items. There are items in the classroom store that are 3 cents all the way up in differing values up to \$1. They are required to count their money and spend what they have, no extensions of credit!

This year Matthew Torres decided to save his money to purchase a kite for \$1. He worked hard to earn the money and then chose to save it even though he had plenty of spending opportunities. He chose to purchase the Pokemon kite! He was so proud of himself for earning a dollar, saving it while many of his classmates purchased things in the store, and then making his large purchase. He taught all the children a great lesson in setting a goal and he now knows the feeling of achieving a goal. He has also helped to motivate his classmates into saving! Congratulations, Matthew!!



Earlier this fall, students from Mr. Andy Urquhart's astronomy class met at the high school football field. Their Mission: Launch Rockets.

One of the challenges was to cradle a raw egg in each rocket, send it to the skies and have the entire unit land, hopefully without "killing" the egg.

Students used soda bottles, mailing tubes, balsa wood, and duct tape –whatever they could find to hold their rockets together—to build their creations. They cradled their eggs in marshmallows, cotton balls, or bubble wrap in the attempts to protect them.

The launches were a great success. Students had to record data on velocity, distance, trajectory, and a host of other scientific factors as part of their grades.



KPS PARENTS – DID YOU TAKE ALGEBRA 2 AND CHEMISTRY WHEN YOU WERE IN HIGH SCHOOL?

By Dale Kasza, KHS Principal

I ask this question because this is now the standard. All students in Michigan will be taking Algebra 2 and Chemistry beginning with the Class of 2011 – KHS sophomores. These are only two of the requirements in the new Michigan Merit Curriculum. Expectations have increased in the state of Michigan as all students must pass these courses to receive a high school diploma:

- 4 credits of English
- 4 credits of math – including Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2
- 3 credits of science – Earth Science, Biology, Chemistry or Physics
- 3 credits of social studies – Civics, Economics, American History/Geography, World History/Geography
- credit of Health/Physical Education
- credit of Visual, Performing, Applied Arts
- An on-line experience (included in Computer Applications)
- Class of 2016 – 2 credits of a World Language

Any questions – please contact me at 231-258-9167.

Students must now have sufficient high school credits to be “official” juniors. The Board of Education recently voted to require students to successfully complete 14 credits prior to being considered eleventh graders. This is a significant change, because in the past, students only needed to enter their third year at high school to be considered juniors. Several schools in the area have made credit requirements before grade level advancement.

