* Dear Lafayette Families –
* April showers have indeed brought May flowers…and sunshine, and Spring Fairs, and Arts Nights, and all sorts of great activities! This week is Teacher Appreciation Week. This is a great opportunity to tell all of our teachers and staff just how special they are to our students and to us. Thanks to the HSA for coordinating such a terrific week to show our love and appreciation!
* This week is also Bike to School Day on Wednesday. This is a great opportunity to dust off your bike and enjoy the ride to school! Walkers are also welcome! Contact Katie Burke for more information. Also in the works this week is the Track Championship and our very own Drama Club’s performance on Friday, 5/8.
* This weekend, our very own Archery Team is headed to the NATIONAL ARCHERY TOURNAMENT in Kentucky. In case you missed it, our students were featured in a Fox 5 news story on Monday evening (<http://www.myfoxdc.com/story/28974394/dc-students-archery>). Ms. McClure and our 4th/5th grade students recently won the city-wide tournament and are headed to test their aim on a national level. I’m so proud of the hard work and discipline displayed by these athletes! Thanks as well to DCPS and our parents for helping to make this possible.
* This past weekend was my first ever Spring Fair. Everything WAS awesome – just as our co-chairs (Will Caggiano and Vince Frillici) promised! After my brief stay in the dunk tank (yes…I was dunked 5 times according to the students ☺) I had to opportunity to fully appreciate the spirit of community and togetherness that was pervasive this past Saturday. A huge shout out to Vince and Will for leading the charge, and all the volunteers and HSA board members who helped make this event possible.
* As many of you know, next year we will be offering World Language as part of the curriculum for students during the school day. Thank you to the 360 parents who shared their vote for which language they would like to see offered. Drum roll please…..SPANISH was the front runner with 49% of the vote. A poll of the faculty at Lafayette also identified Spanish as the number one preferred language. Moving forward, there is a World Language Task Force that will be looking at how to structure the new program for next year. Additionally, I will be working to hire two new Spanish teachers.
* Arts Nights are here! Last week I had the pleasure of watching 5th grade’s informance on ecosystems. They also shared their visual and musical arts with the audience. It was an amazing integration of arts and science. This week, **Arts Night I w**ill be held on **Thursday, 5/7** for **Grades 2nd – 4th.** Arts Night II will be held on Thursday, 5/21 for **Grades PreK – 1st.** Please be sure to volunteer to help hang art! Mrs. McLaughlin and Ms. Perll do amazing things with our students every day, but need some additional help with displaying all the works of art. A huge “Thank you” as well to Joel Holmes for the musical numbers he has perfected with the students.
* I will wrap up this edition with a final plea for enrollment packets. As of Monday, we have enrolled 416 students. We are over 50% of the way there! We need all enrollment packets for students by May 15th. We are working hard to collect all paperwork before the end of the year. With the construction and the move, it’s going to be a bit hectic. Please help us meet this goal of 100% by May 15th. We are accepting enrollment paperwork M–F from 8 am–3 pm and until 6:30 pm on Wednesday.
* Enjoy the weather, the community, the amazing events, and most importantly, our students. I know that I am grateful everyday for the experiences I watch unfold. Spring is a great reminder of all that is spectacular around us.
* Take care,
* Dr. Broquard