



The Ram Report

Rousseau Elementary School • 3701 South 33rd Street • Lincoln, NE 68506

— CALENDAR —

SEPTEMBER

- 15 PTO Board Meeting – 6:30 PM
- 16 HyVee Box Top “Promo” Ends
- 17 Health Screening Grades K, 1, & 2
- 22 Registration Begins for Before/After School Classes
- 22 First Day of Fall (Autumn)
- 23 *Ram Report* Deadline
- 25 Great Pumpkin Run Registration Deadline



- 30 Professional Learning Communities (PLC) Early-Release Day
K-5 will be dismissed at 2:18 PM

Keep collecting Box Tops!
Another collection contest is coming up soon!



Autumnal Equinox Begins
September 22 – 11:44 AM (EDT)

From the Principal’s Notepad

by Sue Braun



sbraun@lps.org

Dear Rousseau Families,

Thank you to those who were able to attend Curriculum Night last Thursday evening. Our hope is that you received information that will give you a good picture of what the learning objectives and expectations are for your child and for how we can work together to help your child succeed in school. For those unable to attend, your child’s teacher will send home information shared. You can also access grade-level and content-area specific objectives online at www.lps.org. Go to the Instruction & Curriculum page, select Curriculum/Subject areas from the menu on the left, then click on Elementary Curriculum Objectives: by grade level.

The following is a summary of my comments at Curriculum Night regarding our school-wide behavior management plan.

Increasing student learning time, stopping disruptive/hurtful behavior, and teaching skills that will lead to school and life success have been a priority focus of the Rousseau staff for the 2008-2009 school year. We are working hard to implement a consistent and positive school-wide behavior management plan and are examining our current practices, structures, rules, routines, and procedures in an effort to sustain a culture and a belief in teaching and protecting children. We have a wonderfully positive school culture at Rousseau School and we believe that by responding in a positive and consistent way to behavior that is disruptive or hurtful will help us achieve our ultimate goal of increased student learning for all.

You have likely already heard your child talk about the 3 life goals:

1. I can be OK even when I have an overwhelming feeling.
2. I can be OK even when others are not OK.
3. I can be productive and follow directions even when I don’t want to.

Rousseau staff are using this consistent language across the building in partnering with children to develop the skills needed to reach these goals.

You also have probably heard a few other new terms related to school rules, routines and procedures or will hear school staff use these terms:

- Early intervention – This is when an adult provides one redirection for disruptive behavior. The adult uses consistent language as well as non-punitive actions and intent. It might sound like, “I can see that

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■ **NOTEPAD (continued from page 1)**

the long lunch line is hard for you today. Can you stand calmly with your hands to yourself even though it's hard?" or, "Can you be OK even though others are not OK?"

- Safe seat – The safe seat is a designated seat in the child's regular classroom intended to provide a safe place where the disruptive behavior can stop. The student is not in trouble. The safe seat provides a place to keep the student out of trouble. A student can place him/herself in the safe seat as well as be assigned by an adult.
- Think Time sheet – This is a form to help students reflect on how to change their disruptive or hurtful behavior.
- Processing – This is the discussion between the adult and the student to develop a plan to be accountable for and change the disruptive or hurtful behavior.
- Buddy Room – This is a safe seat in another classroom when, for a variety of reasons, a student needs an alternative safe seat. If a child needs to go to a buddy room, the teacher will contact parents to discuss the situation and ask for help in partnering.
- Recovery - Should a child experience difficulty in changing a disruptive or hurtful behavior, they may be assigned to the recovery room. This is the assignment to a safe seat or buddy room for an extended period of time and would include parents and staff sitting down together to write what we call a protective plan, designed to provide the structure and the support to stop the student's disruptive or hurtful behavior and to teach the student needed missing skills.

At Rousseau School, the bottom line is that it's not OK to be disruptive and it's not OK to be hurtful. This plan is about teaching and protecting students and your help and support in partnering with us is critical. If your child's teacher talks to you about his/her behavior, please partner with us! Talk to your child and reinforce positive behavior at school, encourage your child to accept responsibility for his/her behavior and to make appropriate choices, and show your child how strong the school, teacher, family partnership is. Together, we can insure a learning environment where students feel safe, responsible, and respected.

Most sincerely,

Sue Braun

FALL CLASSES SPONSORED BY THE ROUSSEAU PTO

Before and after-school classes will be offered for the fall semester. Registration begins Monday, September 22.

- Registration forms to be sent Friday, September 19, in your student's Friday Folder.
- All classes will begin the week of October 6th and conclude prior to the week of December 8.
- Classes will be held immediately following the dismissal bell.

If you could volunteer to assist with an after-school class, your student's tuition will be waived. We must have volunteers to assist in order to offer these classes, so please consider it.

For the fall semester we would like to offer the following classes (minimum enrollment is 8 students per class):

- Jumpstart Spanish
- Before School Fitness Class
- Chess
- Start Swinging
- Dance Training
- Theater Fun
- Destination Imagination Preview Class (Grades 3-5)
- Rising Stars (K-2) – Rising Stars is the young children's version of Destination Imagination, a creative thinking and problem-solving program.



Buy 10 box top products and the Hy-Vee receipt at check-out will print you a bonus 50 box tops! We will be having a fall box top collection contest, so stock up! The box top "promo" runs until September 16.



Each week for ten weeks, Hy-Vee will hold a drawing to select ten winning students, for a total of 100 winners by the end of the program. Each of those students will receive a laptop computer, and each of their schools will receive a donation of \$5,000 from Hy-Vee. Winning schools and students may also be featured on the local TV news. Parents, teachers, and staff from Rousseau can visit their local Hy-Vee store and register students' names for the drawing.

The Great Pumpkin Run



2008

Dear Parents and Students,

I would like to invite you to participate in the seventh annual cross-country fun run for kids - The Great Pumpkin Run. The event will be held on **Saturday, October 4, 2008 at Pioneers Park.** The distance will be **1 mile** and will start at **8:30 a.m.**

The kids will enjoy their run/walk on the grass course, which is designed to provide for maximum spectator view. The Great Pumpkin Run will be similar to the Mayor's Run in many ways. It is a **non-competitive event** and no awards will be given for finishing in front. However, many prizes will be randomly given away at the finish line. Plaques will be given to the schools with the most participation. All participants are guaranteed a Pumpkin Run T-shirt **IF** their registration is received **before September 25th.** Refreshments will be provided after the run.

Parking: It is best to enter Pioneers Park from the West Van Dorn Street entrance. Parking attendants will direct you to the parking area.

An entry form for the run is attached below. Please note there is a family discount if more than 1 child per family participates. Parents are also encouraged to join their children in the fun run (no charge for parent participation). There are 2 ways to submit your child's entry:

Mail your entry and fee to: OR

The Great Pumpkin Run
PO Box 6571
Lincoln, NE 68506-6571

Bring to school BEFORE SEPTEMBER 19TH

Bring your fee and registration to your PE teacher and they will take care of the registration for you.

Runner Packets: I will pick up packets and shirts and deliver them to students in school the day before the run. I hope many students decide to try this very fun event on October 4th.

Sincerely, Mrs. Peterson, Rousseau Physical Education Teacher.

ONE CHILD PER ENTRY---- THE GREAT PUMPKIN RUN

Entries must be received by Thursday, September 25th. No T-shirt with late entries!

Name (Last) _____ (First) _____ Age _____ Sex: M ___ F ___
Street _____ City _____ State Zip _____
Date of Birth _____ Current Grade _____ School _____

Check _____ \$9.00 **On or Before Sept. 19th (First Entry)**

One _____ \$12.00 **Sept. 20th - Sept. 25th**

Only _____ \$7.00 **Additional Family Member**

(Check Payable to Lincoln Track Club) **T-Shirt Size:** Child: M L Adult: S M L XL

Date: _____ Signature of Child _____ Signature of Parent/Guardian _____

Waiver - I know that running a cross country race is a potentially hazardous activity. I should not enter the run unless I am medically able and properly trained to run the distance of this event (1 mile). I agree to abide by any decision of the race official relative to my ability to safely complete the run. I assume all risk associated with running this event, but not limited to: falls, contact with other participants, the effects of the weather, including heat and/or humidity and the condition of the running course, all such risk being known and appreciated by me. Having read this waiver and knowing these facts and in consideration of your accepting my entry. I for myself and anyone entitled to act on my behalf, waive and release the Lincoln Track Club, The Great Pumpkin Run race organizers, the city of Lincoln and all sponsors, their representatives and successors from all claims or liabilities of any kind arising out of my participation in this event thought that liability may arise our negligence or carelessness on the part of the persons named in this waiver.



Triple Box Tops on packages now!


Right now, hundreds of your favorite products are carrying **2 Bonus Box Tops**—plus the regular Box Top—for triple the earnings, or 30¢, on every package! Be sure to take advantage of this limited-time opportunity to earn extra cash for your school!

Look for Double Bonus Box Tops on these favorite brands:

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- Betty Crocker® Potatoes
- Betty Crocker® Warm Delights® Desserts
- Cheerios® Cereals
- Chex Mix® Snack Mix
- Cinnamon Toast Crunch® Cereals
- Cookie Crisp® Cereals
- Country Hearth® Bread
- Green Giant® Giant Bites™ Vegetables
- Hamburger Helper®
- Nature Valley® Granola Bars
- Old El Paso® Taco Kits
- Pillsbury® Read-to-Bake!™ Cookies
- Pillsbury® Toaster Strudel™
- Pop Secret® Microwave Popcorn
- Reese's® Puffs®
- Suddenly Salad® Mixes
- Yoplait® Go-GURT® Yogurt
- Yoplait® Trix® Yogurt



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(OFFER ENDS TUESDAY, 9/16/08)

When you buy any **10** Kimberly-Clark or
General Mills **Box Tops for Education**
Products* in a single visit, **HY-VEE** will issue a

Box Tops Certificate worth **\$5.00!!**

Tell all your neighbors and family!

(See end of register receipt for certificate.)

While you're shopping,

Look for Triple Box Tops products!

In stores now through the end of September.

(See back of flyer for names of participating products.)

HY-VEE Locations

6919 "O"

2343 North 48th

5020 North 27th

7151 Stacy Lane 6001 Village Drive