



# STRIDE

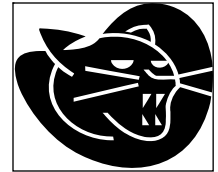
ACADEMY

We are pleased to announce that the students are doing very well, in fact they are doing very, very well. We continue to marvel at the effort of the students, the support from our parents and families, and the acceptance in the community that STRIDE Academy is fulfilling its promise to improve student achievement. It is important to remember that progress is what is important to all of us and many of our students. Almost all of our students have made gains in some capacity and I think this provides evidence that Direct Instruction, Saxon Math, Character Development, Leadership education, and the Core Knowledge framework are powerful and they work for students. Success builds confidence, confidence increases motivation, and motivation builds a desire in our students to learn and learn more. Our kids are expected to learn and do more and we believe they can, so they believe they can. Our students will be able to do more and they will eventually be the new leaders of the communities they decide to live in.

We also believe that we can do more and we are constantly looking for new ways to improve what we do at STRIDE Academy. In addition, we have an enrichment program that is presently designing a gardening project, our music program continues to work towards developing our students musical talents with instruments and their voices and we continue to be marveled at the way this STRIDE Academy family works together. One thing we want to do is to do things right and not rush into something because of a passionate need or desire of an individual or group, but instead, examine and research what is best for all of us at STRIDE Academy so that it is done correctly. - Dale Beutel

Live, love, learn, leave a legacy.  
What will be your legacy?

## STRIDE Pride Newsletter



March 26, 2009



Book Fair will be held on April 7th-9th.



Parent/Teacher conferences will be held on April 9th.



Due to our cancelled school day on Friday, January 16th, we will have a make-up day on Monday, April 13th.

**4<sup>th</sup> Grade News:**

The fourth graders have completed so much already this year. I am so proud of the service project we headed up last November for winter wear items. We gathered (thanks to all of our wonderful families) so many coats, hats, mittens... that Catholic Charities was thoroughly impressed. You should be proud of your children for the compassion that they have shown at such a young age. We will begin our second service project this week by collecting, separating, and weighing our lunch room trash for a compost site right here on our school grounds. We have a master gardener helping us with this and our goal is to eliminate so much waste and to teach the rest of the students about reusing what materials we can.

Besides the service learning projects your child has been introduced to African Kingdoms, Islam, fossils, dinosaurs, cloud types, the circulatory system, poetry, classic novels, saying and phrases, and practical and narrative writing. We have many things left to cover before the end of June. As far as the curriculum goes, I believe STRIDE is leaps and bounds above the other elementary schools. Your fourth grader will move to fifth grade with such a broad range of topics that even you will be impressed.

I would like to personally thank all of you for making the choice to send your child to STRIDE Academy. The volunteering hours that parents have put in are well above that at other schools. We do appreciate your help. We know how important it is to keep parents involved in their child's education. As you may have heard on the radio, here at STRIDE "we keep your child a step ahead".

Mrs. Angela Schmitz



**Many Thanks!!**

Our First Annual Ice fishing contest for the Fifth and Sixth graders was held on March 12th. Beside the fact the students had a really fun time and every student caught a fish with the biggest one being caught by Alyssa Hoeschen. STRIDE wants to thank all the volunteers that helped with everything that day. Woody Sankey, Dale Beutel, Mike Smitty(Schmidt) and Dan Thole did an amazing job putting this event together and it was a good time had by all.

Without parent volunteers some of the stuff we do at STRIDE would not be possible. Thank you for everything you do for STRIDE.



**When is STRIDE Academy giving the MCA test?**

Grades 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Mathematics: April 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>

Make up test: April 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>

Grades 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> Reading: April 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>

Make up test: April 30<sup>th</sup> and May 1<sup>st</sup>

Grade 5<sup>th</sup> Science: May 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>

Make up test: May 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>



**What are we doing at STRIDE Academy to prepare our students for the state test?**

1. Students in grades 2-6 have taken the MAPS assessment. The results from this assessment have helped us identify at risk students and curricular areas in which we can improve.
2. Students have also taken a sample MCA test. This has helped relieve some test anxiety and prepare them for following specific directions given on the MCA tests.

**How can we help our child prepare for the MCA tests?**

Children should get a good night sleep the week of the MCA test?

Breakfast is very important to start the day off right.

Encourage students to participate in practice sessions at school. You can also practice at home.

See website info. on brochure.

More info. in the brochure.

Our first three years at STRIDE Academy has been very successful. Schools should be judged as a whole body of work and not just test scores. However, the reality is test scores are very important to the many community members. We are doing every task possible to ensure our students work hard to reach their full potential. Please emphasis to your child to give their maximum effort. We want to be judged on our best performance possible.

Thank you Jason

**Spring News**



PARENTS: Spring has sprung...please make sure to dress your kids appropriately for recess...We will go outside for recess and there may be mud and puddles.....



STRIDE Academy would like to have 5<sup>th</sup> -6<sup>th</sup> grade baseball and softball this spring. To offer this programming we need to make sure that we will have enough students participating to fill a team. The schedule would be similar to the programs this fall and winter, with two practices a week and approximately 5 games.

Contact Mr. Lutterman if you have any questions or if you would like your child to participate in baseball or softball. If you have already sent a sheet back stating that you would like your child to participate in baseball or softball you do not have to contact Mr. Lutterman. I will inform you on the status of spring sports as soon as possible.

Thank you,

Luke Lutterman

llutterman@strideacademy.org

230.5340 ext. 144

To the teachers, staff, and families of STRIDE Academy from Mary Volgman and her family

## **Thank you from Mary**

As most of you know, our home was destroyed by a fire on Christmas Eve day, leaving us with virtually nothing. In the midst of this devastating loss, the people from STRIDE stepped in and donated food, clothing, furniture, bedding, toiletries, cleaning supplies ... everything we needed to start over. Our entire apartment was furnished by STRIDE Academy.

Without your help, I don't know how we would have managed. Thanks to all of you, although we lost many personal and irreplaceable things, and most of our material possessions, we gained something of great value in its stead: restored faith in the goodness of humanity. Your kindness and generosity have been nothing short of a miracle in our lives. To the Volgman family, you have proven that there are, indeed, angels here on earth. We thank each and every one of you from the bottom of our hearts.

—The difference between genius and stupidity is that genius has its limits. — Anonymous

## **Thanks to Performance Film**

THANKS TO PERFORMANCE FILM AND CHRIS RITTER FOR THE TINTING OF OUR WINDOWS AT NO CHARGE TO STRIDE.

ONCE AGAIN, THE FAMILIES OF STRIDE MAKE US WHO WE ARE...



