



August 8, 2008

# It Makes Sense!

## ① A Note from Dr. Lasmanis ~

Those of you who are not new to SENSE know that attendance is the only area where we, as a school, have not met the state standard AND until last year have failed to show adequate yearly progress.

Last year, our overall attendance rate missed the goal of 96% but it did show a two percent increase over the previous year. If we can increase the attendance rate by another two percent this year we will have hit the 96% target! BUT you are the only ones who can affect attendance!

**Attendance is the only aspect of your child's education that is NOT under the direct control of your child or the school! This area of responsibility is 100% yours for your child and 100% mine for the school as a whole. In summary, while our teachers and students continue to excel – you and I, while showing some improvement still flunked!**

The state requires an average attendance rate of 95% for the school as a whole. We are only one percent away from meeting the minimal standard. But meeting the minimal standard is not EXCELLENCE! That is get by and we are SENSE - Southeast Neighborhood School of Excellence, not SENSGB - Southeast Neighborhood School of Get By. **You can do it! For the first week and a half of school the attendance rate was 98.16%!**

**At school we are going to continue our attendance incentives from last year:**

**Each Monday**, the class with the best attendance record for the preceding week will be recognized with a traveling trophy and an award.

**Each month**, the class with the best attendance record will receive a certificate and a prize.

**Each grading period**, students with perfect attendance will be recognized and receive a SENSE logo shirt and a perfect attendance pin.

**At the end of the school year**, students with perfect attendance for the whole year will receive a prize that their families will be able to share in. Last year that was lunch and \$160 for each family to spend at the United Art & Education store in Greenwood.

**Now for the other side of the incentives coin.** If your stu-

## REMINDERS

Thurs., Aug. 14 ~EARLY RELEASE~ 1:00PM

Friday Aug. 15 **NO SCHOOL**

The magnetic calendar some of you have is incorrect.  
**There is NO School next Friday.**

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**SENSE Board of Directors Meeting**

**Monday, Aug. 11, 6:00 PM**

dent has unexcused absences: You will be hearing from Mr. Horsman, our School Counselor; you and I will be meeting in my office or I may come knocking on your door at home; and, if you have 5 unexcused absences you will be hearing from the Prosecutor's office.

**LET'S HELP EACH OTHER:** Those of you who are already on board with good attendance records – exert some peer pressure and extend a helping hand to those who are struggling with getting their students here on a regular basis and on time. We are a community, so let's work together.

But **please, do not send your students to school when they are sick.** Instead – keep them healthy and keep them in school!

**JC Lasmanis**

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### “SHINE YOUR SMILE DAY” IS COMING

We have invited Mobile Dentists/Smile Programs to our school on **Friday, August 22, 2008**, because good oral health is very important to our students' overall health, and good health is essential for excellence in learning!

Mobile Dentists' team will set up a mini-dental office in our clinic and provide *dental examinations, cleanings, fluoride treatments, sealants and check up x-rays*. Only students who have returned completed permission forms will be able to receive services from the Mobile Dentist.

Families interested in participating, must turn in a completed permission form even if you have previously submitted a permission & consent form, this information still applies. The form must be completed and return to your child's teacher by **no later than Wednesday, August 20, 2008**.

### SCHOOL HOURS



SENSE's school hours are from 8:20 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. **Drop-off times are from 8:00 – 8:20 a.m.** Any student **arriving after 8:20 a.m. is considered late** and **MUST be escorted inside by an adult**. Please do not send in your student after 8:20 alone.

### Donate T-Shirts for Art!

Welcome back to school! The Art department needs donated shirts for student smocks. If you have any old and clean t-shirts that you no longer need don't throw them away. Donate them to the art department. Bring as many as you have whenever you have them. Thank you!



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Meeting  
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