Dear Cowern Families,

We don’t have much snow compared to those who live in the northeastern part of our country, but we still have mighty cold temperatures. I’m not a meteorologist, but we’re most likely not out of the woods yet as far as snowfall goes. After all, we live in Minnesota. Unfortunately, this past week we have been inside for recess due the bitter cold temps. When the temperature falls below 0 degrees and/or the wind chill falls below -10, we stay inside for recess. We’re crossing our fingers that the temps will soon go back up so that the students can get outside and enjoy the outdoors. That being said, please make sure your child wears his/her winter coat including boots, hat, and gloves or mittens to school every day. We want all of our students to be prepared for the outdoors.

Last Friday we celebrated Valentine’s Day with our annual Sock Hop. All of our students knew the fancy, fun dance moves thanks to our phy. ed. teacher, Mrs. Snyder. Many hours of practice went into making sure that the Sock Hop was a success. We also had a lot parent volunteers helping out with the decorations, refreshments, and supervision. We are grateful for Mrs. Snyder and all of our parent volunteers for once again helping us rock-n-roll at the Sock Hop! Thank you also to those of you who donated liters of soda. We appreciate the support you give our school.

The excitement is building as we are looking forward to Seussical, the Musical performances starting next week. All of the students have been learning silly Seussical songs these past several weeks and are eager to share this fun musical with all of us. On Tuesday evening, February 24th, our Kindergarten & first grade classes will hold their performance at 6:00 p.m. Then on Thursday evening, February 26th, our 2nd & 3rd grade classes will have their performance at 6:00 p.m. (Our 4th & 5th graders will be performing on March 12th.) We hope to see you next week! In the meantime, bundle up and stay warm!

Warm regards,
Sonya Czerepak

Future events can be found on the Cowern website listed below:
http://www.isd622.org/cowern

Contact Information
Adventure Connection
651-748-6898
Attendance
651-748-6824
Office
651-748-6800
School Nurse
651-748-6815
Cub Club Winners
KG— Darian Sherow
KG— Connor Kramlinger
1st— Raheem Shabazz
1st— Allan Foster
2nd— James Wilkins
2nd— Zion Castillo
3rd— Amina Mohamed
3rd— Julian Bridges
4th— Mya Bain
4th— Dakota Leopard
5th— Tori Shegog
5th— Carter Hallmark
Cub Club will begin March 17th at 8:00am.

Choir
Choir will begin March 17th at 8:00am.
Teacher Appreciation Dinner
Thursday, March 5

Traditionally, on conference day, Cowern parents provide a lunch or dinner for our teaching staff. It is greatly appreciated by our busy staff! We know you all have busy schedules, and hope to save you time (and gas $) by offering you the opportunity to just send in a donation. No shopping, chopping, baking, or cooking—we’ll let someone else do the work! There’s no set amount—whatever works within your budget. Every little bit helps! Please send in your cash or check (payable to Cowern) donation in an envelope to Pam Simanski by Monday, March 2.

Book Fair

The Scholastic Book Fair is coming to Cowern March 4-6!!

Our new Book Fair theme for spring 2015 is Book Fair Under the Sea: Explore an Ocean of Books! This season’s Book Fair will be an exciting celebration full of fun activities and hundreds of books kids want to read.

Online Ordering

Online ordering is also available!! 🌐

Online ordering is available 24/7, March 2nd-20th. All orders will be sent directly to Cowern! Great for busy parents, or relatives that live out-of-town! To place an order, visit our book fair homepage at [http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/homepage/cowern](http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/homepage/cowern).

Volunteers

If you have some time to help us, complete the form below and indicate the time(s) that fit into your schedule or sign up on SignUp Genius at [http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c45acad2da0fc1-20152](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c45acad2da0fc1-20152).

Please sign up on SignUp Genius by February 26 or send the form back to Pam Simanski.

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Please contact Pam Simanski for more information
psimanski@isd622.org
PTG (Parent Teacher Group)

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**
- Burger King Eat Out Night 2/24
- Home Town Creamery 3/12
- Plaza Movie Night (6pm) 3/19
- Roller Skating Saints North (6-8pm) 3/26

For more information about upcoming events find us on Facebook at Cowern Elementary Parent Teacher Group

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**Eat Out Night**

This month’s Eat Out Night is going to be at the North St. Paul Burger King, February 24 from 5-8pm. 20% of sales on the meals listed below will come back to Cowern.

DONATIONS MADE ONLY ON THESE DESIGNATED MEALS:
- WHOPPER COMBO MEAL (with or without Cheese)
- 3 PC. OR 5 PC. CHICKEN STRIPS COMBO MEAL
- BIG KING COMBO MEAL
- TENDERCRISP CHICKEN COMBO MEAL
- TENDERGRILL CHICKEN COMBO MEAL
- 10 PC. CHICKEN NUGGETS COMBO MEAL
- ORIGINAL CHICKEN COMBO MEAL
- BIG FISH COMBO MEAL
- ALL KIDS MEALS
- ALL SALADS

(Excludes special offers or the use of coupons)

**Silent Auction**

Different ways you can help with the Silent Auction
*Mark off May 1 on your calendar to help work the auction/carnival night.
*Put a request on your Facebook update asking for donations.
*Come to a PTG meeting!
*Bring the attached letter with you when running errands to ask for donations.

*Make room in your budget to get ready to go wild at silent auction/carnival night!!

Here is a link to some of the items that have come in for the silent auction so far http://bit.ly/1zwdKAY. Use that to start shopping or maybe it will give you ideas of people you could ask for donations. Thank you in advance!

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**Thank You Rotary**

Last Friday, February 13th, third graders at Cowern received a free dictionary from the North St. Paul, Maplewood, Oakdale Rotary Club. Not only did our Cowern 3rd graders receive free dictionaries, but every 3rd grader throughout the entire school district received a free dictionary. Thank you, Rotary, for helping us to become better readers and writers!

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**Sock Hop/Dance for Heart**

Fun at the Sock Hop on Friday, Feb. 13th.

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**I ♥ to Read Month**

On Wed. Feb. 18, students were in a Reading Train in the hallway.
Concert Reminder

If your child is in K, 1st, 2nd or 3rd grade, he/she has an evening performance next week. Please arrive 15 minutes before the 6:00pm concert time. Meet in the gym. Students go to riser assigned spots.

**TUESDAY**-February 24th = K/1st Grade Students performance 6:00pm

**THURSDAY**-February 26th = 2nd/3rd Grade Students performance 6:00pm

What to Wear

Students are to wear the following:

- **Solid** colored shirts *(no writing or print decals)* short sleeved or long sleeved, NO TANK TOPS in any color – Brighter colors are best. But any color solid shirt will be fine. Cowern Spirit shirts with Cowern logo may also be worn.
- **Long pants** – jeans would be perfect (No sports or sweatpants. This is concert not a sports event.)
- **Shoes** – something you wear to school, comfy tennis shoes in any color will be great.

Fun Hair

Students may choose do the following with their hair, but do not have to. Do hair at home before concert. Parents/Guardians are responsible for purchasing the hair styling items if students are choosing to do their hair.

- Wear colorful headbands, pony tails or barrettes
- Use safe colored hair spray, slick back hair styles, Mohawks, spiky hair, braided hair
- Colored wigs or hair extensions
- Make sure hair is not too high. Hair could potentially block other students from being seen on stage. We want everyone to be seen.

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Meet the Superintendent Final Candidates

During the final round of interviews, residents of the North St. Paul-Maplewood-Oakdale School District are invited to meet the finalists during open meetings being held from 5:15 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 23, Tuesday, Feb. 24 and possibly Wednesday, Feb. 25 (the Feb. 25 date will depend on if three finalists are selected). The open meetings will be held in the Board Room at the District Education Center, 2520 East 12th Avenue, North St. Paul.

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Spotlight On . . . .

How long have you been a teacher? How long have you worked at Cowern?
I've been teaching for 4 years--all at Cowern! I love it here!

What is the best trip you have taken?
The best trip I've ever taken is to London with my two brothers. We watched a ton of soccer and took a tour of the Tower of London!

Where did you grow up?
I grew up in Cedar Rapids, Iowa (go Hawks!) but I was born in Oklahoma.

If you were a super-hero, what powers would you have?
My super power would be the power of flight. I could fly to see my family in Iowa whenever I wanted, my drive to work would be very short and I could get some beach time when I'm sick of the MN winters!

What is your favorite game or sport to watch and play?
I played soccer for 15 years, I don't play much anymore but I love to watch it on tv. I watched almost every game of the World Cup this past summer. Even though I don't play anymore I still like to be active--now I'm a big runner.