

Mark T. Skinner West School
Back to School Newsletter
Year 2011-2012



Tuesday, Sept. 6th

First day of school!
WELCOME BACK!

Early dropoff - 8:30 am

Classes start at 9:15 am

Pickup promptly at 3:00 pm



WELCOME TO THE 2011 - 2012 SCHOOL YEAR!

Aftercare Reminder

Skinner Park District
Pickup by 6:00 pm

Skinner S.T.A.R. Program

Pickup by 6:30 pm

Does your Superstar have
an accomplishment or
honorable mention you
would like to submit to
the newsletter?

Reply to this email or
email us at
skinnerwest@gmail.com

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ONGOING FUNDRAISERS
Are you supporting Skinner
through these NO additional cost
fundraisers?
SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL!

Box Tops/ Labels for Education
Collect everyday labels from
groceries to earn points and
funds for our school library

e-Scrip (Dominicks)

Dear Superstar Parents,

It is my pleasure to welcome all of our returning families and over 170 new families to the 2011-2012 school year at Skinner West! I hope you had a marvelous, relaxing and fun-filled time with your child over summer vacation. It's amazing how time flies when you are having fun! You must now shift your energy and focus on school routines, homework, extracurricular activities and balancing work responsibilities. We are here to help make this as smooth a transition as possible for you.

Our teachers and staff are ready for another productive, enriching and challenging year with our Superstars!

Here's a brief synopsis of what's new at Skinner this school year:

✍ Creation of a second neighborhood/magnet kindergarten class. We now have four total kindergarten classrooms - two Classical and two neighborhood /magnet.

✍ Algebra will be offered to our eighth graders as an official math course for high school credit.

✍ Our STAR Program (after school program sponsored by Skinner staff) has 138 participants. WOW! Thank you parents!

Designate your eScrip accounts to Skinner; Look out for special bonus days

Target

1% goes to Skinner on ALL purchases made with Target Card (additional 5% all purchases for you!)

Designate Skinner Classical as your school
www.target.com/tcoe



✍ We welcome our new teachers: **Jenna Fisher**, neighborhood/magnet kindergarten; **Stacey Ellis**, second grade neighborhood/magnet; **Chansorith Chau**, third grade; **Eicka Stevens**, eighth grade algebra. Filling in for maternity leaves for Amy Rauch in pre-school and Jennifer Christiansen, third grade are **Hyacinth Cabael**, preschool and **Kelsey Newell**, third grade. We also welcome **Steve Sanders** as our new classroom assistant for special education.

✍ We sadly say goodbye to our former computer lab teacher, **Tom Kim**. He has accepted a new career at Northwestern Mutual. We wish him much success in his new endeavors and appreciate the overall contributions that he made to the school during his two years at Skinner.

✍ **Pick-Up Procedures** - In the interest of safety and good relations with our neighborhood residents, we are reversing our pick-up procedures. **All pick-ups will now wait for their parents on the Adams St. side of the building instead of the Monroe Street side.** Parents are asked to please find a legal parking spot and walk to the building to pick up your child on the Adams St. side. More details will be available on our website.

✍ **Safety and Security** - After 9:20 a.m. anyone entering the building must be buzzed in and must sign in at the security desk for a visitor's pass. To reduce classroom interruptions, parents wanting to visit a classroom must have prior approval or an appointment with the teacher. Parents who wish to volunteer in the classrooms are welcomed and can make arrangements with the teacher so that security will be aware of your visit.

✍ **School Supplies** - If you ordered school supplies for your child via Forum/PTO, the supplies will be in your child's classroom on the first day. We thank all of you who participated in this new initiative.

✍ **Water** - We are encouraging parents to feel free to donate bottles of water to your child's classroom. September can still be a rather hot month and we want our Superstars to stay hydrated. Feel free to donate an ice chest to the class so that they water can stay cool and refreshing.

✍ **CPS Networks** - Our new Chief Executive Officer, Jean Claude Brizard, has reorganized our schools from Areas to Networks. Skinner West is now in the Fulton Network with Dr. Shonda Huery as our Chief of Instruction for the Fulton Network.

✍ **Our New Skinner West Website** is up and running. We do hope that you will visit our new website at SkinnerSuperstars.org on a regular basis to get detailed information

about what's happening at Skinner. Our E-newsletter will continue every Thursday as our communication tool to provide you weekly calendar and school updates.

We feel honored to have you as a part of our ever growing Skinner West family. We are looking forward to another great, exciting and successful school year with you and our Superstars! Again, welcome to the Skinner family!

Your principal,

Deborah M. Clark

Skinner Pickup and Dropoff Policy



In order to provide a safe environment for our children, please adhere to the Skinner pickup and dropoff policy:

- Parents must drop their children off on Monroe Street
- Children must be picked up on the Adams Street side
- Bus drop-offs are on Adams Street and bus pick-ups are on Monroe Street
- Students waiting to be picked up by a parent will be dismissed outside on the Adams Street side of the building supervised by Skinner staff until 3:20 p.m. After 3:20 p.m., late pick-ups will be brought inside the vestibule and parents will be charged a \$20.00 late fee. Parents MUST make arrangements to have their child picked up on time. We have three after school programs which parents should look into if they need after school care.

School Fees & Supplies



Please remember pay annual school fees to your teacher as soon as possible. With these funds, teachers are able to purchase the necessary instructional materials and supplies needed to provide a quality education for our children.

Click [HERE](#) for the list of school fees (and a school supply list).

Thank You!



MEAL REMINDERS

- Breakfast is FREE
- Lunch fees will remain at \$2.25 each day
- Milk purchases are \$0.40 each
- Please remember to make exact payments to the lunchroom manager or to your teacher in the supplied baggies/ forms. Daily, weekly or monthly payment are accepted.



Please visit our *new* school website at www.skinnerstars.org for the latest information on the school, teacher profiles, and school policies. Our school calendar of information is also constantly being updated.



EXTRA! EXTRA! Read All About Skinner!

Each Thursday, you should be receiving an email newsletter in your mailbox. Signups are available at the left side of the www.skinnerstars.org home page. Our goal is to provide important news and important reminders.

It's a must-read!

If you would like to learn more about the communications committee or volunteer, click [here](#)



Save your Box Tops and Labels for Education!!!

Last year Skinner West collected over \$1000 worth of Box Tops

- Look for Bonus Box Top and Labels for Education offers in grocery ads like Jewel and Dominick's.
- Check your receipts at the grocery store for Bonus Box Top and Labels for Education Coupons. Follow the instructions on the coupon if online redemption is available. If they need to be mailed in, save them and send them in to Ms. Ranftl in the Library on the first day of school.
- School Supplies have Box Tops and Labels for Education too! Avery, Boise, Hi-Liter, Marks-A-Lot, Zip-Loc, Kleenex, and Scott products have Box Tops! Bic products feature Labels for Education.
- Many snack foods, breakfast cereals, and other kid-friendly products offer double or triple Box Tops during back-to-school season- check the package!
- Keep collecting from the products you use regularly!

Thank you!!!

Visit our website at www.skinnerstars.org for more information about what's happening in school. All comments, suggestions or requests to submit information to this newsletter should be emailed to skinnerwest@gmail.com

*Deborah M. Clark
Principal*