

Ram Gazette

A publication of the Georgia O'Keeffe PTA

December 5, 2011

Ram Calendar

12/5-9 Winter Book Fair

12/6 PTA mtg. 8:10am @ PTA room

12/14 FOL mtg. 12:30pm @ library

12/19-30 No School for Winter Break

Drama Club Cancelled- There will be no drama club this Wednesday, December 7.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR in the LIBRARY

Our theme this year is Reading is out of This World!

December 5-9 Monday-Thursday: 8:00-2:45

Tuesday Evening: 5:30-7:30 (during the After School Program Showcase)

Friday: 8:00-12:45

For students, we're open during morning recess, lunch recess, and

AFTER SCHOOL. Parents are welcome anytime during the posted hours.

Your child will have the opportunity to make a wish list as they visit

with their classroom. Please place money in a zip lock, wallet, or

purse with child's name. Please talk with your child about how much

and what they are allowed to spend their money on.

We are offering gift wrap this year for \$0.25 (after school and Tuesday evening).

Teachers have "wish boxes". You can purchase a book from the box for classroom libraries. They make great holiday and appreciation gifts!

Fun trinkets also available at our GOK trinket table!

Thank you in advance for supporting the library. Remember your money is used to buy more books for the BEST children's library in New Mexico!

Attention all Library Patrons!

Library checkout will be canceled through the week of book fair. Books may be returned but not checked out. Thank you for your patience AND support of our book fair!

Don't forget the After School Club Showcase

Tuesday, December 6 during our evening book fair! The performance will be in the cafeteria at 6:00-7:00. Evening book fair hours on Tuesday are from 5:30-7:30. Come join us!!!!

Child ID Program

The Child ID Program will be at Georgia O'Keeffe, on Tuesday, Dec. 06 to PHOTOGRAPH, FINGERPRINT, WEIGH and MEASURE children. Participation in the program is at the individual parent's option. A fee will be charged; depending on the package chosen. The parents will be provided with a wallet size ID card (similar to a driver's license) with the information about their child, in addition, if a cell phone number and the carrier is one that is listed, a MMS of the card will be sent to the phone for the children participating. An application envelope with additional information about The Child ID Program will be sent home about one week before the program date. Children can enter to win a pizza party with the return of the Child ID envelope. Siblings are welcome.

APS Calendar Changing

After taking no action on two proposed calendars last week, APS board members sent the 2012-13 school calendar back to be reworked by an expanded committee made up of more parents and students as well as community representatives, principals, union representatives and administrators. Board members felt that the Aug. 13 start date proposed by the original calendar committee was too early. A second proposal submitted by the superintendent started a week later, on Aug. 20, but shortened winter break and cut fall break and Presidents Day.

Both proposed calendars included several four-day school weeks, which concerned some board members.

The board sent the calendar back to the committee and asked that more parents and students be involved in the process. The board also invited public input, asking that suggestions and concerns be emailed to boarded@aps.edu

The expanded committee will meet later this month with a goal of submitting a revised calendar to the board's policy committee in December.

The committee has to consider many issues when developing the school year calendar including required instructional time for students, union contracts, payroll requirements, federal holidays, testing dates, make-up days, community partnerships and tradition.

For example, the APS school year traditionally has ended before Memorial Day, though weather make-up days have been included after the late-May holiday. Including make-up days during the school year could result in more four-day school weeks.

Another tradition is a two-week winter break, though that would mean students wouldn't return to class until the second week of January in 2013.

The first day of school for the past few years has been in mid-August, though some board members expressed concerns that the early start date results in increased cooling costs and air conditioning problems for schools.

Another Spanish Class Added!

As per popular demand, an additional section of our After-School Spanish program is now open for enrollment! Doña María will continue to teach the Thursday class (2-3pm) but will now also offer the same class on Wednesdays 2:30-3:30 pm beginning in January. Email her directly at pocoloco@q.com for more info and registration form. Come join all the Spanish fun: Traditions from around the Spanish-speaking world! Cultural food sampling! Storytelling! Games! Dance! Música! Arte! Olé! For more info please visit www.pocolocospanish.com.

Cookie Dough Delivery!

The Otis Spunkmeyer cookie dough will be delivered this Wednesday, December 7. Order distribution will take place from 1:45-2:30pm on Wednesday in the GOK cafeteria. If you placed an Otis Spunkmeyer order, please come pick up your cookie dough. These items need to be kept frozen and we have nowhere to put it except YOUR freezer! If you cannot come, please coordinate with a friend to pick it up for you. Contact Tami at mtbaker@comcast.net with questions.

Cub Scouts

Enjoy discovering new experiences with your 1st - 5th grade boy. Join us for ice skating at Outpost Ice Arena at the north end of Tramway on Sunday, Dec. 11th from 1-3pm. All siblings welcome. <https://beascout.scouting.org>

For information contact Monica Camarillo at 856-5651 or mcserrana@yahoo.com

Submitting Gazette Articles

A quick reminder if you have something to submit for the Gazette, **Sunday night, 6:00 p.m. is the deadline.** If entry is not submitted by deadline it will be added the following week. Feel free to use this wonderful information resource to spread the word about upcoming events. Send articles to Jessica Pascua at ram.gazette@gmail.com.

Get all the school news you need right here in your Gazette!