

The Charger Club Newsletter

January 2010 Edition

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Making Learning Fun

"Since students have been going to the Charger Club, they have increased their level of comprehension and they're more actively engaged in the learning process."
Mr. Walton, 6th Grade Teacher, Prendergast School

The Charger Club, still in its infancy stages, is already proving to be a valuable program for students. This is evidenced by student reaction to projects they took part in recently. As part of a reading project, students at Prendergast were asked to select a Greek hero and describe how their characteristics affected their world. Through this task, students needed to organize their findings into a character profile about the Greek hero they chose to write about. In addition, students were also asked to present their findings to the class through a written skit which involved the other students.

"I thought this project was really awesome because it gave me more information on one of the topics that interests me. It was more fun creating the poster and presenting the skit to the class than doing the research."
Martin Mikos, Charger Club member

A math project also provided a challenge to the students. They were asked to estimate surface area using reference points found in the classroom. Students then found the actual areas of the surfaces in the room. Presentations to the class included a list of obstructions that were deducted from their measurements and why, a comparison between their estimated and their actual measurements.

"It was fun to measure the different objects in the room. I also thought it was very challenging, but that made it more exciting to complete the project."
Nicholas Krajewski, Charger Club member

Looking ahead, student projects will involve designing and building a birdhouse as well as designing a flag.



Student hard at work on measurement project.

The Importance of Regular Attendance

In order to continue to receive the grant money to pay for the Charger Club, our school district must maintain a strong attendance record for the 100 students enrolled in this after-school program. This free program operates five days a week, excluding early dismissal days and school vacation days, three hours a day, in partnership with the Boys & Girls Club.

We are working with school and program staff to contact students and/or parents of students who have missed more than 50% of the after school program days in November and December. Unfortunately, students who have continued absences in January may be withdrawn from the program. Please contact your child's after school teacher or Eileen Ehman, Project Director, at 203-736-5095 ext. 14, if you have questions or concerns.

We would like to work with our Charger Club families to provide a quality after school program that is safe and fun. Thank you to the parents who have kept open the lines of communication by sending in notes when their child could not remain after school due to a medical appointment, or calling/e-mailing us with questions or concerns.

Reminder: Charger Club will not be held Feb. 3, due to an early dismissal day for Teacher PD (Professional Development) and the Club will not be held Feb 12-19 due to Teacher PD and the February Recess. Charger Club will resume on Feb. 22.

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