



BULLDOG



BULLETIN



Board Meeting

The next Board Meeting takes place on Tuesday
November 14, 2017 at 6:30pm in our Board Room.

Culver School

10-30-17



"School Happenings"

Mrs. Peggie Maniscalco

Principal

Building Vocabulary

According to Cunningham & Stanovich, in a 1997 National Reading Panel a student's vocabulary knowledge is an important aspect of reading comprehension and reading is an important part of reading in school. We know too that vocabulary knowledge helps students connect new learning to previous learned information. For this reason I am sharing an article written by Shawn Greer to help parents bolster student vocabulary outside of school.

Eight Ways to Improve your Child's Vocabulary

The basis of a lifelong love and talent for learning may very well be a solid vocabulary. A strong vocabulary helps foster understanding, communication, and reading ability. That's why parents should do what they can to help kids learn new words.

It may seem like common sense, but simple activities that can help your children expand their vocabulary often get pushed aside in day to day life. Consider these oft-overlooked ways to [help your child develop an impressive vocabulary](#) for years to come. Like it or not, [you're their teacher for all aspects of life!](#)

Use Grown-Up Words in Normal Conversations

While you want your children to understand you, that doesn't mean you can't introduce "big" words into their vocabulary. Pepper your conversations with words your child probably won't understand, but ones you'd likely use in conversation with an adult. Be sure to encourage your children to ask for clarification when they don't understand something, and be prepared to pause and explain. By not dumbing-down the way you speak to your kids, they'll pick up new words as you use them.

Let Your Child Tell the Story

Perhaps you read nightly to your child or take turns doing so. Of course, this is an excellent way to expand reading and vocabulary skills. However, on occasion, feel free to put the book down and ask your child to create a story to tell you. You may want to provide the setting (a pirate ship, for example) and a problem the characters must face (stranded on a haunted island). Then, let your child take the reigns to wherever his or her imagination leads.

Be sure to ask rhetorical questions during the story in order to introduce new words and concepts. If your child says, "The island was really hot," you could ask, "Was it a tropical island?" Make a point to use new words in regular conversations thereafter. Forcing them to articulate their ideas will have them reaching for new words, and you can also help them along with suggestions.

Converse Regularly

In the same vein as having them tell stories, one way to improve your young child's vocabulary is by simply talking more. Start conversations frequently. For younger kids like toddlers and babies, you can just give them a play-by-play of your daily activities: "Now I'm putting the cookies in the oven," or, "I'm getting ready to go to work."

Mrs. Peggie Maniscalco

Principal

Kids constantly absorb everything they hear. The more they hear you speak, the more you can teach them. As kids get older, give them a chance to speak more and practice their burgeoning vocabulary on you.

Play Word Games

We all know about Scrabble, but there are a variety of other word games you can play with children. Several old-school favorites are Boggle, Hangman, and Apples to Apples. Further, seize on the value of your smartphone by downloading apps like [7 Little Words](#), [What's the Word](#), and [Word Stack](#). Apps like these can turn a few minutes waiting in line or riding in the car into an educational event. No doubt your kids are always trying to get ahold of your phone or tablet to play games, so these sorts of apps offer an opportunity to trick them into learning.

Label Household Items

Using post-it notes to label household items is a fantastic way to introduce young children to an array of words. This is great for youngsters who are still learning simple words. No matter what age they're at—even if they're not talking yet—children will learn to associate the written word with the item it's attached to. Review each item with your child; pronounce the word and ask them (if old enough) to do the same. Lamps, clocks, beds, and kitchen items such as salt and pepper shakers are all items you can label—though anything in your home that your child interacts with works.

Pay More Attention to Your Kids' Vocabulary

In short, you need to take a proactive role. If you want your children's language skills to improve, take their vocabulary questions seriously. When they express curiosity about a word, be sure to teach the correct definition and pronunciation. Do your best to simplify definitions, but provide copious detail and examples. If you're asked, "What does 'gigantic' mean?" say more than just "big." Also provide a comparison: An elephant is "big" when compared to a person, but "gigantic" when compared to an ant.

Correct Mistakes With Care

It's natural for children to mispronounce or misuse new words. However, it's essential not to reprimand when they make such mistakes. Rather, applaud your child's attempt, point out what they got right, and then review the proper way to use and or speak the word. The more fun and positive an experience, the more interested and able your children will be in expanding their vocabulary.

And Be Patient

You may need to repeat words and meanings multiple time before your child fully grasps the concept. This is completely normal. Further, if your neighbor's child has twice the vocabulary yours does, it's not worth stressing over. Remember, it's not a contest, and their vocabulary is no attestation to your value as a parent.

Children develop at their own pace. The most important thing is to honor and balance their needs so that earning doesn't become a struggle. While you want them to get ahead, you don't want them to develop negative associations or undue stress with trying to do so.

Ronald Marx, professor of educational psychology and dean of education at the University of Arizona, recently said, "Exposure to books, exposure to language, explanations for things, all give kids opportunities for language growth and success at reading." Take the time and energy needed to teach your kids - once you see their reading and writing skills improve, you'll be glad you did.

Shawn Greer writes about lifestyle topics including family and home, parenting, and money management.

Red Paws

Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports, or PBIS, is an approach that is used to teach and reinforce positive and appropriate behavior at school. Red paws are given to students who are exhibiting appropriate behaviors throughout the school. Once earned, the students in kindergarten through 5th grade then have the opportunity to turn the paws in for a weekly classroom drawing and choose a prize from the PAW House, whereas the students in the middle school save their paws until they can purchase a reward from the Middle School SWAP Shop. Parents, a good conversation starter might be to ask your children if they have earned any red paws.

Positive Office Referrals

Was your child in the office today? That could mean great things are happening! A new addition to PBIS this year is the Positive Office Referral. As appropriate, the teachers have been sharing Positive Office Referral certificates with students for going above and beyond in demonstrating the school-wide expectations: Be Respectful, Be Responsible and Be Safe. Teachers complete the Positive Office Referral and students are sent to the office to be recognized by administration and receive a purple paw, which is worth 20 red paws, for use in the PAW House drawing or the SWAP Shop! Finally, the students have their names announced for earning a Positive Office Referral over the loud speaker at the end of the day. We hope that the students are sharing these well earned certificates with you at home!

Orange Paws

During the month of October, the students worked to earn a reward for demonstrating respectful, responsible and safe hallway behaviors. Staff passed out orange paws to students throughout the school in an effort to reinforce appropriate behavior. Each week orange paws were collected in a bin and turned in. Drawings were held weekly and students as well as staff earned a mini-reward when their orange paw was pulled. The original goal was for the students to earn 1,000 paws... but the students far exceeded this goal!!! As a result, we had to increase our expectations and raise the bar! At this point, the students have earned more than 1,500 orange paws for their hallway behavior and were rewarded with music in the cafeteria today. Our new goal is to reach 2,000 orange paws by the end of the next week in order to earn the next reward (sorry, it's a surprise!). Keep up the good work!!!

Kathy Morrissey

School Nurse



Please remember as we approach cold weather months to dress your children warmly. This should include coat, hat, mittens/gloves and boots if the weather is wet.

As we approach the holiday season families may spend more time together than they might typically during the school year. This change in daily routine and holiday excitement might be overwhelming for families at times. Despite the busy and overwhelming nature of the holidays, the time that children and parents spend together cannot be undervalued. Both the quantity of time and quality of time that parents spend with their children are very important for their development and well-being.

According to information provided from the Child Development Institute, "Children from birth to adulthood need time and attention from their parents." The importance of this time has many benefits:

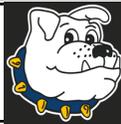
1. The child feels important and loved.
2. He or she has an opportunity to model parent's behavior.
3. The parent can observe and learn about the child's strengths and weaknesses in order to better guide them.
4. The child has a chance to voice their thoughts and feelings.
5. The parent and child develop a stronger bond.

(<http://childdevelopmentinfo.com/psychology/importance-of-family-time-on-kids-mental-health-and-adjustment-to-life/>)

Additionally, children who spend time together with their parents such as at family meals, are less likely to be overweight, less likely to eat unhealthy foods and more likely to eat healthy foods, and have fewer eating disorders. Children who have increased family time and family routines are less likely to have substance abuse problems, have less anxiety, have fewer behavior problems, and are less likely to demonstrate risky behaviors. (<http://www.webmd.com/a-to-z-guides/features/family-dinners-are-important>)

Quality family time can occur at many activities such as meal times, homework time, sports, hobbies, family outings and many more activities. What is most important is that full attention is given to the child/children and that the activity is a positive experience. Parental involvement and time spent with children are important factors to their growth and development. This investment of time is a necessary contribution to their development as well-adjusted and successful students.

DATES TO



REMEMBER

October 30, Monday
No School - Teacher Institute Day
Quarter 2 Begins

October 31 Tuesday
7:10-7:55am Intermediate Band/
Orchestra rehearsal
7:20-7:55am Culver Chorus
7:20-7:55am Culver Chorus
Wellness: All students will be provided a healthy snack of apple slices.

11:30 Early Release

November 1, Wednesday
Breaded Chicken Sandwich
7:00-7:50am 6th Grade girls' basketball practice
7:10-7:55am Concert Band/
Orchestra rehearsal
3:00-4:00pm CAIP
3:00-4:00pm Battle of the Books practice
3:00-4:00pm Art Club- Quarter 1
3:05-4:30pm 7th & 8th Grade girls' basketball practice

November 2, Thursday
Penne with choice of sauce
7:00-7:55am Chamber Orchestra Rehearsal
7:10am Beginning Orchestra
3:00-4:00pm CAIP
3:00-4:00pm Science Olympiad Meeting (B)
3:05-4:30pm 6th Grade girls' basketball practice at the NFC
4:15pm 7th Grade girls' basketball game vs East Prairie

November 3, Friday
Tony's Cheesy Garlic Flatbread
Report Cards
Spirit Day
7:00-7:50am 7th Grade girls' basketball practice
7:10-7:55am Concert Band/
Orchestra rehearsal
4:00pm 8th Grade girls' basketball game @ Golf



November 4, Saturday
9:00am-4:00pm IMEA Festival @ Wauconda High School

November 5, Sunday
2:00am Daylight Saving Time Ends - Turn clocks back 1 hour

November 6, Monday
Mini Pancakes
7:10-7:55am Intermediate Band/
Orchestra rehearsal
3:00-4:00pm Yearbook Meeting
3:00-4:00pm Science Olympiad Meeting (A)
3:05-4:30pm 6th Grade girls' basketball practice at the NFC
4:15pm 8th Grade girls' basketball game vs Fairview

November 7, Tuesday
Tyson Chicken Nuggets
Picture Re-take Day
7:00-7:50am 8th Grade girls' basketball practice
7:10-7:55am Intermediate Band/
Orchestra rehearsal
7:20-7:55am Culver Chorus
3:00-4:00pm CAIP
3:00-4:00pm Robotics Club
4:00pm 7th Grade girls' basketball game @ Fairview
5:00pm 6th Grade girls' basketball game @ Fairview

November 8, Wednesday
Galaxy Deep Dish Cheese Pizza
7:10-7:55am Concert Band/
Orchestra rehearsal
3:00-4:00pm CAIP
3:00-4:00pm Battle of the Books practice
3:00-4:00pm Art Club- Quarter 2
4:00pm 7th Grade girls' basketball game @ Park View
4:00pm 8th Grade girls' basketball game @ Lincoln
5:00pm 6th Grade girls' basketball game @ Park View
5:30pm Battle of the Books Meet vs Washington @ the NPL

November 9, Thursday
Macaroni & Cheese
7:00-7:55am Chamber Orchestra Rehearsal
3:00-4:00pm CAIP
3:00-4:00pm Science Olympiad Meeting (C)
3:05-4:30pm 6th Grade girls' basketball practice at the NFC
4:00pm 8th Grade girls' basketball game vs Golf

November 10, Friday
Wild Mikes Cheese Bites
Spirit Day
Birthday Book Club
7:00-7:50am 7th Grade girls' basketball practice
7:10-7:55am Concert Band/
Orchestra rehearsal
3:05-4:30pm 8th Grade girls' basketball practice



November 13, Monday
Tyson Popcorn Chicken
7:10-7:55am Intermediate Band/
Orchestra rehearsal
3:00-4:00pm 2nd/3rd Grade Extracurricular Activity- Fall Art Project
3:00-4:00pm Science Olympiad Meeting (A)
3:00-4:00pm Yearbook Meeting
3:05-4:30pm 6th Grade girls' basketball practice at the NFC
4:00pm 8th Grade girls' basketball game vs Parkview

Dates on next page



DATES TO



REMEMBER

November 14, Tuesday
Galaxy Deep Dish Cheese Pizza
7:10-7:55am Intermediate Band/Orchestra rehearsal
7:20-7:55am Culver Chorus
3:00-4:00pm CAIP
3:00-4:00pm FOR Club
3:00-4:00pm Robotics Club
3:00-4:00pm Student Council Meeting (Officers Only)
3:00-4:00pm 5th/6th Grade Extracurricular Activity– Fall Art Project
4:00pm 7th Grade girls' basketball game vs Lincoln
5:00pm 6th Grade girls' basketball game vs Lincoln
6:30pm Board of Education Meeting

November 15, Wednesday
Hot Dog on a Bun
7:00-7:50am 7th Grade girls' basketball practice
7:10-7:55am Concert Band/Orchestra rehearsal
3:00-4:00pm CAIP
3:00-4:00pm Battle of the Books practice
3:00-4:00pm Art Club– Quarter 2
3:05-4:30pm 6th & 8th Grade girls' basketball practice
6:20pm Battle of the Books Meet vs Nelson @ the NPL
7:00pm Intermediate Band/Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra & 2nd Grade Music Concert

November 16, Thursday
Asian Chicken
7:00-7:50am 8th Grade girls' basketball practice
7:00-7:55am Chamber Orchestra Rehearsal
3:00-4:00pm CAIP
3:00-4:00pm Science Olympiad Meeting (B)
3:05-4:30pm 6th & 7th Grade girls' basketball practice

November 17, Friday
Roast Turkey with Gravy
Spirit Day
7:00-7:50am 7th Grade girls' basketball practice
7:10-7:55am Concert Band/Orchestra rehearsal
4:00pm 8th Grade girls' basketball game @ Old Orchard
6:45pm PTA Movie Night

Happy Friday!



**Monday, 11-13-17 - 2nd/3rd Grade
& Tuesday, 11-14-17 - 4th/5th Grade**

**Extracurricular
Activity - Fall Art
Project**

To register for this activity, please go to the Culver website at www.niles71.org. Please click on the “Students” tab, then click on the “Extracurricular Activities” tab, then click on the “Monthly Activity Signup” tab and then complete the form. If you have any questions please contact Tony Palazzolo at 847-966-9280 x 1175 or at his email address tpalazzolo@niles71.org.



Niles Elementary School District No. 71

Dr. John Kosirog, Superintendent

Mrs. Peggie Maniscalco, Principal

Ms. Laura Guarraci, Director of Student Services

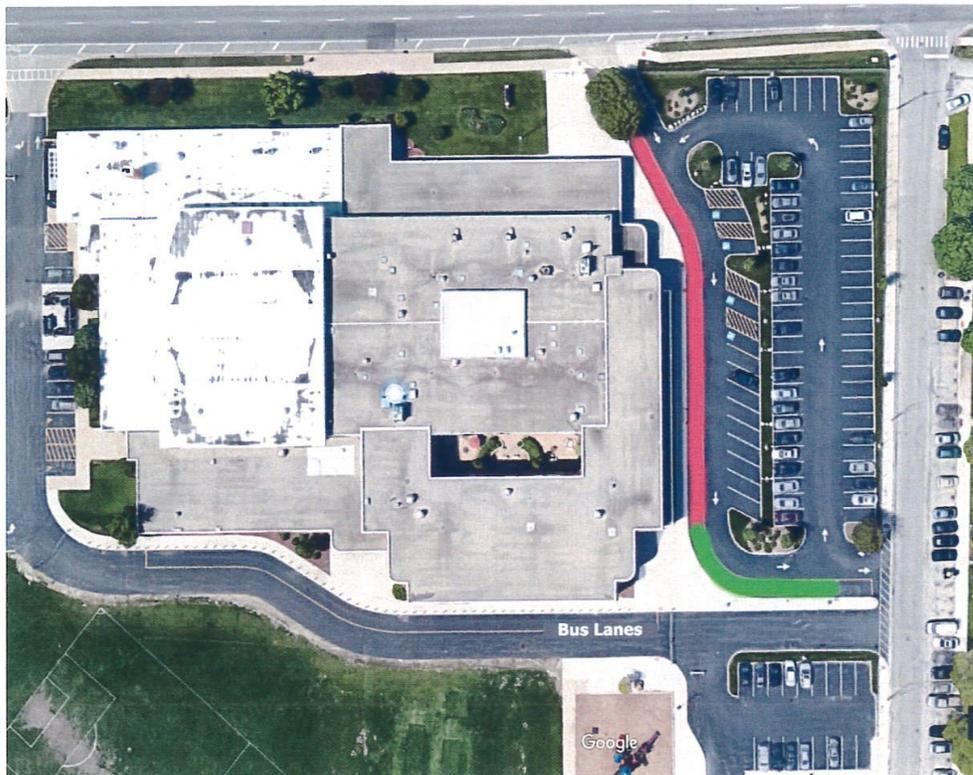
Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are really concerned about the safety of our students at both arrival and dismissal. As a result, we have instituted procedures to keep all students safe during this time. It is important that we adhere to the procedures outlined below:

- Pull forward in the green zone
- Do not drop off in the red zone next to the fence
- Unload on the passenger side
- Walk to your designated area
- If your child is not able to get in or out of the car by himself or herself, please park in the lot and walk to the designated lines

Please contact the office with any questions.

Thank you for working together to keep our community safe,
The Culver Staff





Niles School District 71

A Community of Excellence

The Niles 71 website now features a resources page! As we teach our children to ask for help when they need it, we also encourage families to ask for help when they need it. To support our mission of developing the whole child, Niles 71 is providing a list of resources for parents to access as needed. On this page we are highlighting community resources that may be useful to our families. Included in this list of resources are:

- Basic Needs
- Financial
- Mental health
- Language
- Health
- Multi-needs resources

If you have any questions about these resources or need additional resource information please contact: Kathy Morrissey, School Nurse, Linda Kraus, School Social Worker, or Liz Lawrence, School Psychologist.

These links are being provided as a convenience and for informational purposes only; they do not constitute an endorsement or an approval by Niles Elementary District 71.





Partnering with the PTA



Culver PTA Spirit Wear for sale

You can order these T-Shirts & Sweatshirts online.

Visit our website at www.niles71.org

Click on the Parents tab, then click on the PTA tab and click on Spirit Wear ordering

No fees for ordering online!!



Box Tops and Campbell Soup Labels



Every year PTA collects Box Tops and Campbell's Soup Labels. Last year we raised money for Culver School on those tiny icons on many of your favorite foods. At home, clip the Box Tops and Campbell's Soup Labels. Please send them to school with your child and we will take care of the rest. Did you know that Goldfish Crackers are part of the Campbell's Soup Label family? Next time before you put that package in the trash or recycling bin, check to see if it has a Box Top or Campbell Soup Label on it. Those points add up to FREE \$\$\$ for our school.

Culver School

No Parking

Please do not park in the Library Parking Spots in the West Lot. These reserved parking spots are paid for by the Library and should not be parked in. Thank you for being respectful and not parking in these spots.



After April 1, 2017 NO PARKING

6am - 5pm

Cars without Culver stickers will be ticketed or towed.

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The Culver Staff



The Culver Website Has a Bulletin



This month, the PBIS focus is on Hallway Behaviors. Students will demonstrate being responsible, respectful, and safe when in the hallways at school. Students will receive special orange PAWS when exhibiting these behaviors. When the school reaches a collective goal, there will be a special celebration. Please continue to encourage your students to be responsible, respectful, and safe while in the hallways and at school.

Flyers

Share Your Culver Pride! Take a picture of your child wearing Culver Spirit Wear in front of an interesting landmark or vacation destination. Pictures can be taken anywhere you go, from the Leaning Tower of Niles to the beaches of Hawaii. Be creative! Submit your photo to the PTA Mailbox in the Front Office or email it to culverschoolpta@gmail.com. We will post the photo on the new Culver Pride Around the World bulletin board in the gym hallway!

Niles Teen Center Fall Brochure & Calendar are posted on the Culver website with additional information regarding their programs.

***Reminder** – Please report student absences to the school nurse at 847-966-9280 ext. 5000.

Niles West High School - Helping Hands Community Resource Event is on Saturday, November 4, 2017 from 9:00am-1:00pm. This is a family friendly event. There will be free hot dogs, face painting and kids games. Please see the flyer on the Culver website for additional information about this event.

Niles West Jr. Wolves - 2017-2018 Youth Basketball Tryouts are on November 8th & 9th from 7:00-8:30pm at Niles West High School. Please see the flyer on the Culver website for additional information about this event.