Dear Families,

I think we are all ready for March and spring weather to arrive. It’s great to have the kids outside again after so many indoor recesses this winter.

The month of February brought with it our annual 4th & 5th Math Fest competition against east side Madison schools. Congratulations to the following Elvehjem participants: 4th grade — Mitch Silva, Simon Tritle, Nolan Hegge, Ciara Peterson and 5th grade — Gabe Dengler-JeanBlanc, Octavio Ugalde, Kristen Menge, Marlena Mraz.

As the month of March unfolds I will be receiving allocations from the district for the 2014-2015 school year. The Elvehjem staff and I will be working with these allocations to proceed with class configurations for our next school year. Please carefully read the policy I have enclosed that describes how class lists are worked on and accomplished at Elvehjem. Your input as parents is a very important part of the process. I will also be sending home the policy process in your child’s backpack the first week of March.

Respectfully,

Craig Campbell
Principal
PLEASE BE SURE YOUR CHILD HAS:
As the weather changes on a daily basis, please be sure that your child has a warm coat, snow pants, boots, hats and mittens or gloves. If your child has misplaced any of these items, be sure to check our lost and found in the hallway by the library!

COLD LUNCH FROM HOME
If you bring cold lunch from home and need to purchase a milk, the cost is 50 cents. Milk

EXCUSED ABSENCES
Please call 204-1406 (Safe Arrival line) to report an absence, not the main office. Please remember to provide a REASON for your child’s absence when you call the Safe Arrival line. If you know ahead of time that your child will be absent for a reason other than illness/appointment or if your child will be absent for multiple days (example—a preplanned vacation), please use the “Excused Absence Request” form so that the absences are excused. This form also assists teachers with planning make-up work. If there is an excess of absence/tardies, the child’s name will be referred to the Elvehjem social worker.

"Kid's Night at La Follette", Thursday, April 24th, 6:00-7:30. It is a family night open to all La Follette feeder schools.

MMSD Summer School Enrichment 2014
June 23—August 1, 2014
Course offerings include: art classes, book club, photography, science classes, Lego classes, math classes, cultural studies and more! Watch for registration information to arrive in the US mail the week of March 10th, 2014.

MAKE UP TIME FOR SNOW DAYS
The elementary schools will make up the three snow days by adding six minutes to each school day. Monday dismissal time is 1:51 p.m. and Tuesday–Friday dismissal time is 3:23 p.m. In addition, the last day of school, Thursday, June 12th will be a full day of school. 4K a.m. will add one additional session on June 12. 4K p.m. will add six minutes to the end of each school day. And their last day is June 11th.

Schools of Hope AmeriCorps Project’s Multicultural Dinner
When: Thursday, March 13th
Where: Schenk Elementary School
Price: $3.00 for children, $6.00 for adults, $12.00 for families

Please join us to enjoy delicious food from local restaurants, live entertainment and a silent auction. All proceeds from the event will go to the Schools of Hope Project, an initiative that matches volunteer literacy and math tutors with students in Madison, Middleton and Sun Prairie elementary schools. If you have any questions feel free to contact me, Heidi Kobor, at hkobor@schoolsofhope.org.
Jump Rope for Heart Results
Dear Parents, Staff and Students,
Thank you so much for making JRFH a huge success this year. We raised over $7000.00. This is the most money Elvehjem School has ever raised for the American Heart Association! What an incredibly generous community! Every student in the school participated in JRFH and everyone had a fruit treat after they jumped. Thank you for the donations of apples and oranges and to the parents who attended their child's event.

Our 4th and 5th graders jumped rope for 1 hour on Friday morning. This special event could not have been successful without the help of parent volunteers. I would like to thank, Carrie and Kaelan McDonald, Christie Zamber (Emily's mom), Ron Baxter (Ben's dad), Mary Ann Zantow (Abigail and Matthew's mom), Mrs. Tammy Grady, and some guest jumpers Mr. Dan Heineman, Mr. Jack Kroll and Mrs. Kristen Scherck.

Our top 5 fundraisers this year are: Brian Siegler $300 (McCormick), Rylee White $255 (Bouffiou), Ben Brattain $250 (Lunde), Caleb Good $225 (Rhode) and Kian Bernal $167 (Hernandez).

All thank you gifts will be delivered to Elvehjem sometime in early March. Thank you for your generosity and participation in JRFH.

Sincerely,
Julie A. Stein
Tammy Grady
PE Teachers

SPELLING BEE WINNERS
Congratulations to Marlena Mraz, winner; & Zachary Peetz, runner up, in our Elvehjem Elementary School Spelling Bee.

Congratulations are extended to all 4th and 5th graders who participated in the spelling bee and who displayed maturity and courage in their efforts!

NO DROP OFF ZONES—REMINDER
Please remember that there is no drop off or pick up for unauthorized persons in the staff parking lot or in front of the school building. The Madison Police Department will be out in the next few weeks observing drivers and potentially ticketing anyone dropping students off or picking students up in NO DROP OFF/PICK UP ZONES. Thank you.

LVM PTO CORNER
We would like to thank all the families and staff who participated in the FUN FAIR in February. We are happy to say that the raffle baskets were a success and we thank everyone who donated to these baskets.

We hope you will be excited to join us for our March Meltdown on Friday, March 14th from 5:30—8 pm. This fun family friendly evening will include a Chili Cook-off/dinner, Board Games and an all school Art Show. Mark your calendars!
PARENT REQUESTS FOR NEXT YEAR

It is once again time for us to begin thinking about the coming school year. For teachers this means planning for curriculum, programs, budget, materials, and of course, deciding on class placements.

Class placement decisions are among the most important decisions that we make each year. We want and need every child to experience success and joy in learning every year. We know how directly classroom composition, style and environment can affect each student’s success in learning. We also know how important the blend of students in a classroom is to all our students' learning. As you may well imagine, it is a great challenge to attend to the needs of each child as an INDIVIDUAL and to the needs of each classroom as a WHOLE. Please review the following information on the process for class placement.

Philosophy of Class Placement: We believe that all classes should be “balanced”. This means that each classroom should include both boys and girls from a variety of backgrounds, with a variety of ability levels, from a variety of geographic locations and with a variety of special needs and talents. We also believe that the primary focus of the class placement process should be on the child’s welfare. In order for this to occur, the adults who know the child best should have input into the class placement process. It is the responsibility of the principal to approve and finalize all pupil placements.

This philosophy continues to guide our class placement process. We work to create balanced classrooms that attend to the needs of each individual and the class as a whole.

If you feel it is important that you talk with someone about the class placement process, please call me or write a letter concerning the needs of your child. Letters should NOT be sent to the classroom teacher. As you write the letter, we ask that you NOT request or comment about a specific teacher. Requesting a specific teacher by name will not be considered in the selection process. This letter is due to Mr. Campbell by April 4th.

We place great value on the success and well-being of every one of our children. We will do our very best to ensure that best placement for the best possible year for each child and class in our school. The creation of balanced classrooms, which takes many factors into consideration, is by no means a scientific process. It is complex. It is difficult. Be assured that we will work to keep the best interests of each child in mind as we make classroom placement decisions.

Your support and understanding as we move through this process will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you.
Mr. Campbell, Principal
WILL YOU BE MOVING OUT OF THE ELVEHJEM SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AREA THIS SUMMER?

In order to plan more adequately for the fall 2014 program at School, it is necessary to determine the approximate enrollment in classes next school year.

If your child/ren will not return to Elvehjem School for the 2014-2015 school year, please fill out this form and return it to the office by March 28th.

List the name/s of any child not returning next school year.

CHILD’S NAME______________________________________ GRADE _____ ROOM ______

CHECK ONE:

_____ We plan to enroll in a parochial or private school this fall.  
Name of parochial school: ______________________________________________________

_____ We plan to move from Madison by September. We will be moving to:
City: _____________________________  State: _____________________________

_____ We are moving to another area within the Madison School District.
Name of new school: ______________________________________________________

_____ Other reason (please describe) __________________________________________

Parent/Guardian Signature ___________________________ Date ________________

\word\form\not returning