



The Little Flying Falcon

A Loving Elementary School Newsletter

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Lynn Vasquez, Principal

Loving Municipal Schools: Blazing the Trail to Excellence

Thank You Nelda Morris!

Loving Elementary School is fortunate to have a generous benefactor. Mrs. Morris donates money every year for our school's clothing bank, which is used to purchase coats, shoes and necessities for students in need. More recently, she donated a very large sum to be added to our "Pies for the Playground" funds. The Parent Council is now able to purchase a major piece of equipment for the playground. On January 20, LES presented Mrs. Morris with a clock and Falcons t-shirt as a token of appreciation.

Elf Impersonator

By: Gabriella Carrasco and Kevin-Jay Gut-Omen

The Christmas program went very well. All of the cast members were there except for two reindeers. Those parts were played by Mr. Walls, and it still turned out to be a good play. The audience really enjoyed seeing their kids in the play and listening to their kids sing. Good job to all of the kids who participated in this event. *(Mrs. Vasquez adds: Thank you to all the parents who came out on a cold night to support our music program. Mr. Walls and the students rocked!!)*

Recycling Ink Cartridges

By: Kevin Jay Gut-omen

Recycling is about reducing pollution. It saves energy too. Ink cartridges do not decompose until after 1,000 years. The empty ones can be remanufactured and reused like cans, papers, plastic bottles, cardboard, and ink cartridges. The cartridges can be dropped off in our front office. It's a free fundraiser for our school!

STUCO Valentine's Day Dance

Your are Invited to dance the night away!

When: Friday, February 10, 2012

Where: LES Gymnasium

Time: 6:00PM-10:00PM

Admission: 50 cents -at the door

Students in grades K-2 MUST be escorted by an adult.

- Free Drawings for Prizes
- Free Photo Booth
- Concessions (items will cost .25 -\$1.00)



Yes, Loving Elementary does collect Box Tops!

Atten: Head Room Parents!

**Valentine's Day Parties to be held
Tuesday, February 14th**

Parties can start setting up at 2:15PM.

Parents/Guardians must sign in at the front desk before entering the classroom. Please be advised of our district Nutrition/Wellness Plan. A list of appropriate foods can be found in back of the Parent/Student Handbook (Attachment A). Carbonated drinks, high fatty foods and foods with high sodium (salt) should be avoided.

Let us ensure our students have healthy hearts!





A Special Message from the Principal

Dear Parents:

Recently, the New Mexico Public Education Department (NMPED) has provided letter grades for schools across the state. Loving High School received a grade of B, the Middle School received a C and LES received a grade of "F." This grade does not reflect the current school year. Rather, the grade has been tabulated based on student performance data between the 2008-2009 school year through the 2010-2011 school year. I joined Loving Municipal Schools just prior to the start of this academic year. Putting into place a new school governance, or a building principal, is one of many state approved strategies for turning around a "low performing school."

The grade categories include: current standing in grade level performance in Math and Reading, individual student growth for the lower 25% of learners; individual student growth of the top 75% of learners; opportunity to learn (attendance); and parent and student involvement (not included in this grade).

Loving Elementary recognizes the struggles that students are facing academically. Teachers, administrators, and parent leaders are up to the challenge of working together as a highly effective team. The staff has developed a plan to improve performance and is confident that the plan will lead to successful results. The staff sees the progress that students have made and continue to make this year.

Loving Elementary has implemented the following in their restructuring plan in the 2011-12 school year:

- Interventions for students below proficiency in grade level areas in math and/or reading during school;
 - Targeted instruction to prepare students for improvement in the Standards Based Assessment (SBA);
 - Data analysis training;
 - A tightened daily schedule resulting in extra curricular activities being restructured and more efficient use of instructional time;
 - Reorganization of staffing;
 - New Principal Leadership;
 - Enhanced Professional Learning Communities which involve parents in the school leadership team;
- Implementation of targeted plans such as monitoring of school-wide staff attendance; specified professional development; and meaningful parent engagement opportunities.

We have much work to do in order to improve our school grade. The staff appreciates the support of our Parent Council and community members in attending our school functions, organizing our fundraisers, and being visible in our classrooms.

Here are some ways you, as parents/guardians, can help:

- Request homework.
- Read to your child 20-30 minutes every day.
- Attend Parent-Teacher Conferences and other school meetings.
- Keep in close communication with your child's teacher. Ask for their assistance.

Thank you,

Lynn Vasquez
LES Principal