

THE SIGSBEE SCOOP

November 16, 2011

Volume II, Issue 14

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CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS HELP US RAISE \$ FOR OUR FACILITIES

We need your help! December 3rd and 4th are busy days at our school with two events scheduled that will raise a significant amount of money to help with our aging facility.

On Saturday, December 3rd, the Southernmost Triathlon will take place on Boca Chica. **Sigsbee will earn \$1500 if we provide 15 volunteers to help man the route.** If you are able to devote time between 7AM and 12:00 noon on Saturday, please email Heather.Hazzard@keysschools.com. This is an easy way to acquire 5 volunteer hours while helping the school tremendously.

On Sunday, December 4th, the Sigsbee Charter PTO will sponsor it's annual Winter Festival from 1:00-4:00 PM. The committee has been working diligently to organize fun activities for students and families of all ages. There are bouncies, games, food, crafts, snacks, a Chili Cook-off, our phenomenal basket fundraiser, and music by our own Sigsbee students. **We NEED 50 volunteers to work from 12:30-4:30.** Please ask friends, family and co-workers to support our school. This is typically our largest fundraiser of the year! To volunteer, please contact Jessica Lariz at: Jessica_Lariz@doh.state.fl.us

WOW!

The grand total is in. Sigsbee families purchased \$7432.84 worth of books at last week's Book Fair. This means that approximately \$1750 in credit was raised for teachers' class libraries. Even more outstanding is that our students love to read! Thank you for supporting your children's interests and our school

Join us for our Sigsbee Charter School



When: December 4

Time: 1:00pm – 4:00pm

\$20.00 Entry Fee due by December 1st

PRIZES

*Please bring your Chili already cooked in a crock pot with a summary of ingredients used in the Chili. The school will be providing the tasting cups. WE HAVE LIMITED SPACE.



NAME: _____

PHONE(S): _____

EMAIL: _____

Make Checks Payable to: Sigsbee Charter School

All proceeds from the Sigsbee Winter Festival will be donated to the Facilities Fund which is used for renovations, upgrades and maintenance of our beloved, aged school.

CONGRATULATIONS SIGSBEE CHARTER

Awarded the
#1 YOUTH GROUP in the **VETERAN'S DAY PARADE**



THE CADENCE THAT LED TO VICTORY

Sigsbee Charter is the best,
The number one school in Key West.
Our parents serve, you know it's true.
We love them and they love you.
-written en-route by Heather Hazzard

SCHOOL CALENDAR:

Please remember that the Sigsbee Charter School Calendar differs from the rest of Monroe County. The calendar can be found on our homepage www.sigsbee.org

Please be sure to make plans for your children during our break November 21– November 28. MWR is open for eligible students.

Our December Break is also different from MCSD.



Coffee Clatch with the Principal Discipline with Dignity/ Respect and Responsibility

8:05 AM–9:00 AM

The topic for this month's Coffee Clatch was selected based on last month's parent survey. We will be discussing Sigsbee Charter's Code of Conduct, both from a research-based philosophical standpoint to a community building shared vision. Mrs. Jannes will describe our school's procedures and share ways that they can be reinforced with children at home so that they receive a consistent message. Examples will be given of how this code of behavior is applied to all stakeholders: students, parents, visitors and staff.

Bring your mug and your questions. Pre-school aged children are permitted as long as they do not disrupt the presentation.

A WEEK TO BE THANKFUL.....

Our Sigsbee Family is grateful for so many things. This week was just a model of all that is good at our school. In just five days, we:

- Welcomed JIATF volunteers who read to students during the Book Fair each day
- Thanked Coast Guard volunteers who helped us set up our new technology in classrooms
- Called on our community partners to help us construct our new outdoor learning space and others who mentored our students in reading and math.
- Watched our parent volunteers run a wonderful Movie Night, with dinner free of charge from their personal donations.
- Encouraged sixth grade students as they assembled Thanksgiving Meals for needy families, with items donated by all of our children.
- Commended students for writing holiday cards to active duty service members.
- Admired our teachers for dealing with stomach viruses, Book Fair madness, holiday excitement without sacrificing a week of learning gains.
- Listened to our dedicated Board Members balance all of our needs and wants without missing a beat
- Sold over \$7,000 worth of books to our eager readers

AND enjoyed one another's company. WHEW! It sounds like we are all ready for a break. **HAPPY THANKSGIVING!**

LUNCH MENU: Please remember lunch is \$3.00/student

MONDAY	No School: Professional Day
TUESDAY	2 Ham Sliders, Baby Carrots, Low fat Ranch
WEDNESDAY	WEDNESDAY, EARLY OUT: NO LUNCH
THURSDAY	Chicken Tenders, Caesar Salad
FRIDAY	Pizza and fresh fruit

CHARTER SCHOOLS IN THE LOCAL NEWS

In this week's Citizen, charter schools were being blamed for impending budget cuts in the School District. The claim was that the District did not expect enrollment in the charters to be as high as it is this year and that the District would not be "reimbursed" for the additional funding that will be allocated to the charters in the upcoming months.

There is a great deal of misinformation in these claims. Charter schools are funded by the state based on certified enrollment. The funding merely passes through the District. In July, each charter school sends its projected enrollment to Monroe County so that District administrators can adjust their enrollment projections accordingly. In October, the first official enrollment count is completed at each school, both traditional and charter, with attendance data sent to the state. The State then adjusts the funding based on that fixed enrollment.

Though Sigsbee's enrollment is much higher this year, our July projections were very close to the actual certified enrollment in October. We have been underfunded by nearly 100 students from this year but we planned accordingly knowing that our funding would be significantly short until the corrections were made. Luckily, our fiscally responsible Board of Directors, our phenomenal volunteer program, our conservative spending model and our two grants provided enough of a cushion for us to operate until the funding corrections occur.

However, the issue is not closed. It is important that we maintain our attendance throughout the year as enrollment counts are taken again in February and funding is adjusted accordingly. We've staffed our school for the number of students we currently have and don't want to face a shortfall if our attendance rates drop. We appreciate your efforts in keeping your children healthy and in regular attendance when school is in session and letting us know in advance if you are leaving the area.

To read the original Citizen article, go to: keysnews.com/node/35986