



# The Journey for Excellence Continues

## Edison Junior High School Newsletter



Volume 1, Issue 1

September, 2007

### Important Calendar Dates

#### Saturday, September 1

Baseball @ Shade Park vs Dunlap 10:00 (DH)

#### Monday, September 3

Labor Day—NO SCHOOL



#### Tuesday, September 4

Baseball @ Shade Park vs Canton 4:00 (DH)

#### Thursday, September 6

Baseball @ Shade Park vs Broadmoor 4:00 (DH)  
(8th Grade Parents honored)

#### Friday, September 7

Baseball @ Georgetowne 4:00

#### Monday, September 10

Baseball @ Shade Park vs Chillicothe 4:00  
Two-Week Grade Reports go home

#### Tuesday, September 11

Illinois Math & Science Academy Program—  
Parent Meeting 6:00

Baseball Regional's begin

#### Friday, September 14

Fund Raiser Kick Off Assembly

**SWIP Day— Early Dismissal 11:00**

#### Tuesday, September 18

Panthers Partner Night 6:30—7:30

#### Monday, September 24

Two-week Grade Reports go home  
School Board Meeting @ District Board Room 6:45

### Reporting Student Absences

When reporting student absences to the office, please call 477-4732 press 1 at the prompt and leave the following information on our answering machine.

- Student's name
- Student's homeroom teacher
- Reason for absence
- Name of person calling

*Please remember it is necessary to call the school in case of an absence. Each day your child is absent we need a telephone call.*

*We NEED to know your child is safe and with his or her parents. We also NEED to account for each child's absence. Please send a written note with your child when he/she returns from being absent from school. If the absence is more than three days a note from your Doctor is required.*

### Come visit our Website

Log onto:

<http://www.pekin.net/pekin108/edison/index.html>

for more information about what **Amazing** things are about to happen to our Edison Junior High School Website! Further information to follow....

### Congratulations to the 2007-2008 Baseball Team!



Jordan Miller	Jack Sperry	Nathan Taphorn	Matt Denning
Skyler Beasley	C.B. Reid	Matt Rosales	Dan McKenzie
Joey Conway	Kevin Haley	Jesse Stauffer	Taylor Fitzanko
Shawn Kautz	Kyle Rife	Cole Pyatt	
Ethan Bajic	Clint Pyatt		

## Welcome to the New E.J.H. Teachers

Edison would like to welcome the following new staff members and student teachers:

### ***NEW STAFF MEMBERS***

Ann Vehlow	Team 4 Language Arts and Social Studies
Joe Viola	Team 2 Social Studies
Janet Giugler	Art
Jill Pulfer	Attendance Clerk
Sheila Powell	Health Clerk
Nancy Milam	Special Education Liason
Bobby Innis	BD Personal Assistant

### ***Student Teachers/Interns***

Jared Bruening	Team 3 Social Studies with Rick Emerson
Kim Ehlinger	BD with Lisa Walenda

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## Financial Information

Dear Parents/Guardian:

Children need healthy meals to learn. Pekin Public School District #108 offers healthy breakfast and lunch meals every school day. The cost for meals is \$1.35 for breakfast and \$1.85 for lunch. Your children may qualify for free meals or for reduced-price meals. Reduced-price is \$0.30 for breakfast and \$0.40 for lunch. To apply for free or reduced-price meals, use the Free and Reduced-Price School Meals Application which is located in the school office. Your children may qualify for free or reduced-price meals if your household income falls within the limits on the following chart:



<i><b>Federal Income Chart</b></i>			
School Year 2007 - 2008			
Household size	Yearly	Monthly	Weekly
1	18,889	1,575	364
2	25,327	2,111	488
3	31,765	2,648	611
4	38,203	3,184	735
5	44,641	3,721	859
6	51,079	4,257	983
7	57,517	4,794	1,107
8	63,955	5,330	1,230
Each additional person:	+6,438	+537	+124

## *Pekin Junior High's Mission Statement*

*We will prepare students socially, emotionally, and academically to become independent learners and cooperative problem solvers.*

### **District 108 Junior High Belief Statements:**



- We believe every member of our community needs to contribute to the success of our school.
- We believe in educating children academically, socially and emotionally.
- We believe in developing citizenship in our students through service learning.
- We believe high expectations with recognition of successes lead to higher results.
- We believe all students will reach their full academic potential when provided the proper motivation, opportunity and method.
- We believe in a safe environment.
- We believe that a quality school fosters a sense of belonging.
- We believe effective communication is essential to the successful operation of our school.
- We believe reading, writing, arithmetic and respect are fundamental to a good education.
- We believe in recognizing and nurturing the undiscovered talents of our students.
- We believe in building and maintaining positive relationships among all members of the school community.

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### **Box Tops for Education**

Congratulations! It's time to be proud and celebrate our school's success! Our school has earned the recognition for outstanding accomplishment in the Box Top Rewards program. We would like to thank all students, parents, educators and community members who made this possible. You have all made a difference in our school and the education of each child.

### **The Race is On...**

#### **Box Tops for Education**

**Now is the time to begin collecting box tops. With everyone's help, we can**

### **Earn Cash for Our School with Box Tops for Educations!**

It is truly easy! All we need is help from each family! Make a difference each time you go to the grocery store by purchasing your favorite General Mills brands. Clip and earn in three easy steps...

**1. Clip Box Tops**

Clip Box Tops from hundreds of your favorite General Mills products found throughout your local grocery store.

**2. Send Box Tops to School**

Turn in your Box Tops to the office. They have volunteered to collect and count our Box Tops.

**3. Our School Earns Cash**

Twice a year, General Mills will send our school a check worth 10 cents for each Box Top redeemed.

**Make a difference for Our School every time you buy groceries by looking for Box Tops on hundreds of your favorite General Mills products such as:**

Pillsbury

Fruit Roll-Ups Green Giant

Totino's

Betty Crocker Cheerios

Hamburger Helper

Pop-Secret



Box Tops Collected to date: 395

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**Save those box tops!**

## **Edison's Strategies are:**

### **Strategy #1: Improving quality academic programs**

- By 2010, 90% of students at Edison Junior High will meet or exceed NCLB/state criteria on the Science Illinois State Achievement Test (ISAT).
- By 2010, 90% of students at Edison Junior High will meet or exceed NCLB/state criteria on the Reading Illinois State Achievement Test (ISAT).
- By 2010, 90% of students at Edison Junior High will meet or exceed NCLB/state criteria on the Math Illinois State Achievement Test (ISAT).

By 2010, Edison Junior High will have full time literacy leader.

### **Strategy #2: Developing quality emotional and social programs**

- By 2010, Edison Junior High will have a full time school counselor.

By 2010, Edison Junior High will re-examine the master schedule to try to increase their exploratory opportunities.

### **Strategy #3: Improving staff collaboration**

By 2010, Edison Junior High will improve staff collaboration through professional development and celebration of successes

### **Strategy #4: Improving internal and external communication**

- By 2010, we will improve the communication with the intermediate schools.
- By 2010, we will improve communication among all teams.
- By 2010, we will improve parent and student involvement.

By 2010, we will improve the communication with the high school.

### **Strategy #5: Improving the educational facility and environment**

- By 2010, Edison Junior High will have air conditioning install in the building.
- By 2010, Edison Junior High will have updated technology in the whole building.
- By 2010, Edison Junior High will create a Science Lab(s)
- By 2010, Edison Junior High will improve and maintain the physical appearance of the building.
- By 2010, Edison Junior High will update furniture throughout Edison.

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## **Edison and ISAT**

We are excited to announce our 2007 ISAT results!

Percent of Students Meeting and/or Exceeding the

Subject Area Tested	The State of Illinois	District 108	Edison Junior High
Science	N/A	%	81.0%
Math	N/A	%	79.7%
Reading	N/A	%	77.8%

## Panther Partners Parents Club

We want to invite you to be part of the new parents group at Edison called Panther Partners. The idea behind Panther Partners is to provide parents a greater opportunity to influence the success of the students of Edison. You can help the kids of Edison by giving of your time, your talents, or monetarily. We will also be forming parent committees for a variety of issues related to student success. For more information contact Yvonne Thompson at 477-4732 or e-mail [yvonne.thompson@pekin.net](mailto:yvonne.thompson@pekin.net)

## September Panther Partners Night

Have you ever had an argument with your teenager? Do you ever wonder why in the world your teenager does some of the things that they do? Would you like to learn more strategies for changing some of the behaviors that your teenager is exhibiting? Do you want to set your child up for success in school and for the future? If you answered yes to any of these questions then the first Panther Partners night is for you!

The meeting is scheduled for September 18 at 6:30 PM. Special guest Michelle Carmichael will be discussing issues and answering questions concerning social emotional learning, bullying and the R.O.C.K.S. code at the meeting.

It is not necessary to make a donation to participate in this event.

Please call Edison (477-4732) or e-mail [yvonne.thompson@pekin.net](mailto:yvonne.thompson@pekin.net) to reserve your spot at this valuable event.



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## The School Bus and Us

Most of our students ride the bus to and from school. It is our first priority to maintain a safe environment on the buses for all students. We have met with all of the bus drivers before school started to discuss the expectations for our students. Each bus has been provided with a list of rules to post that all students are expected to abide by while on the bus. In addition, we have discussed the process for withdrawing a student's privilege for riding the bus. It is important that parents work with us for the best interest and safety of all students.

### *Remember - riding the bus is a privilege.*

Please take a moment and go over the bus rules with your child.

Use Respect at all times on the bus and at the bus stop.

Follow the directions of the driver.

Sit in your seat properly. (example: No standing, or kneeling in the seat)

Talk without shouting and be silent at railroad crossings.

No eating food or drinks, shoving, fighting, or throwing anything on the bus or at the bus stop.

*As a general rule, any type of behavior that is not appropriate at school is not appropriate while riding the bus.*



### Bus Disciplinary Referral...

Before any written notice, the bus driver should make a direct contact with the student and/or parent about any concerns.

If a problem does occur, the appropriate disciplinary steps will be taken to correct the problem.

The severity of the disciplinary action taken will be influenced by the level of unsafe behavior, what previous actions were taken, parental support, and the bus driver's attempt to correct the problem.

***Riding a District #108 bus is a privilege and this privilege may be revoked for one or more days depending on the severity and frequency of a problem.***

## Parent's Corner

### *Two Week Progress Reports*

*This year your child will be given a progress report from all classes every other week. A schedule of dates that the reports will be sent home can be found in the Student/Parent handbook. Please take the time to go over the progress reports with your child. If you have any questions please contact your child's homeroom teacher.*

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### Communication between School and Home

Any time you have a questions or concern, please feel free to contact your child's homeroom teacher, team members or the office. We are willing to help in any way to ensure your child has a successful year.

You may contact the school by:



Phone: 477-4732

Note within your child's assignment notebook

Email: remember to use the first name.last name (all lower case) then @pekin.net

EX: [leonard.ealey@pekin.net](mailto:leonard.ealey@pekin.net) to contact Mr. Ealey, School Principal

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### Get your child off to a good start this school year:

- **Get your children to school!** The relationship between attendance and school success is immense. In fact data shows that all retained students in the past 3 years have had an absence rate of 20% or more.
- **Get to know your child's teacher.** As a parent, you know your child best. Share what you know with the teacher. You don't have to wait until parent conferences.
- **Talk with your child's teacher about problems,** too. What goes on at home affects how a child does in school. Separation, family illness, a new baby, or even a move can all affect a child's school work. You don't have to tell the teacher all your personal business, but make sure your child's teacher knows important facts.
- **Make sure your child gets enough sleep.** Tired children can't do their best work. So set a bedtime—and stick to it.
- **Learn what is expected of your child.** Will there be homework? How much?
- **Limit TV.** Studies show that the kids who do best in school watch the least television. Read a book or magazine. Take a walk. Visit the library, or try playing a game.
- **Offer to help.** Parent involvement can make it possible for a teacher to add many "extras" to the curriculum.
- **Take school seriously.** Review homework every day. Ask questions about what went on in school—and listen to the answers. When your children see that you think school is important, they'll soon think so, too.
- **Keep track of your child's progress.** Post schoolwork on the refrigerator. Keep a chart of how your child helps around the house. Talk about your child's good soccer game at the dinner table or riding in the car.
- **Teach your child to set goals.** Start small—learning the capitals of five states, reading for 15 minutes, tying a shoe.
- **Praise children when they do well. Correct them when they don't.**

**Reward your child with your time instead of just money.**

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### Enriching your child's learning

This year we are starting a new enrichment class schedule designed to help all students achieve high standards. Your child's teachers will meet every ten school days to evaluate each student's achievement. Students who are in need of extra help in a particular area will be placed into a 45 minute enrichment class dedicated to improving their understanding and ability. Students who are not in need of extra help will be in a 45 minute class that is designed to enrich their learning opportunities. The end result will be all students learning and growing as much as possible during their time at Edison.

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The R.O.C.K.S. program is designed to help teach students to be socially successful both in and out of school. R.O.C.K.S. is also designed to reduce behavior problems by teaching students what is expected in all settings. We will begin this year by teaching the students the R.O.C.K.S. code and what it means in all areas of Edison Junior High. Look for updates and information about R.O.C.K.S. in upcoming editions of the newsletter.

<b>R</b>	RE-SPEC T	Treat others the way you would like to be treated.
	RE-SPO NSI BILE	Be accountable for work, actions and words.
	REA DY	Be prepared for all situations with the proper materials and attitude.
<b>O</b>	ON TIM E	Be where you're supposed to be when you're supposed to be there.
<b>C</b>	CO-OPER ATION AND COL-LABO RATI ON	Work positively with others so everyone benefits.
<b>K</b>	KEEP ING FO-CUS ED	Stay on task until the task is completed.
<b>S</b>	SAF ETY	Choose actions that do not harm or endanger yourself or others.

Please take a few minutes to discuss the R.O.C.K.S. code with your child and begin applying it at home!

	RE-SPEC T	Treat others the way you would like to be treated.

Principal, Mr. Ealey  
 Vice Principal, Mr. Heisel  
 Secretary, Mrs. Curry  
 Clerk, Mrs. Pulfer



Pekin Public Schools District 108  
 Edison Junior High School  
 501 Washington Street  
 Pekin, Illinois 61554

**Congratulations to the 2007-2008 Girls Basketball Teams!**



<b>Girls Basketball - 7</b>	<b>Girls Basketball - 8</b>
Maddie Barnard	Micheala Quilty
Kristen Julien	Kelsi Rogers
Bethany Beal	Katie Cleaver
Alyssa Cleaver	Maddie Cordts
Kayla Jakob	Maddi Carr
Hayley Milburn	Taylor Williams
Brittany Sherwood	Stefanie Schrieber
Alysa Carle	Taylor Lamberson
Miranda Hobbs	Sarah Bates
Jessica Ford	Nola Weatherhead
Emily Bozarth	Amanda Fowler
Ravyn DeWitt	Holly Conner

