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# The Findley Focus

Findley Elementary School's Monthly Newsletter

November, 2011

Volume 1, Issue 3

Quote of the month: *Gratitude is the best attitude.* –Anonymous

Mark your calendars...

Thursday, November 3rd: PTO Meeting, 6-7pm in the library

Friday, November 11th: Picture Make-up Day

Thursday, November 17th: Flu Shot Clinic, 3:30-5:30 Family Game Night, 5:00-7:00 PM

November 23, 24, 25: NO SCHOOL



## A + Attendance

Findley is continuing to place attendance as a priority for all students. Thank you to all of the parents who are making sure their child is at school every day and stays until the very end of the day. Every minute a child is pulled out early equals loss of valuable instructional time.



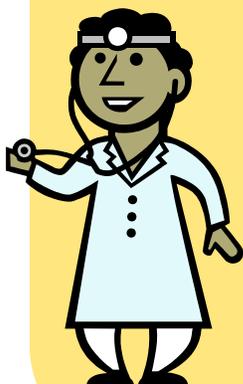
All students who have 100% attendance from the beginning of the school year until the end of October will be receiving a Findley A+ Attendance t-shirt. We are excited to hand out 106 of these shirts. 171 students have 100% attendance for the month of October. These students will get an award and a Fazoli's gift certificate. Congratulations to all of our A+ attendance students! We will plan on handing out another set of t-shirts for students who have 100% attendance for all of November and December.

### Family Game Night and Flu Clinic at Findley

This year we are combining two great events for our Findley families into one, easy-to-attend evening.

On **November 17th from 3:30 to 5:30** we will hold

a flu shot clinic. Bring your family and friends and do your part to keep everyone safe and healthy this season. Then, on the same evening from **5:00 to 7:00**, stay for **Family Game Night!** We will have Apples to Apples and Bananagrams to play. Your family will get to take home the game they play that night! We hope to see all of you and your families there!



Thanks to all of the families who attended conferences! 82% of Findley families attended and acted as active participants in their child's education.

Thank you!

### The Newest Face in the Findley Halls:

#### Mr. Rick Miller



Mr. Miller is the new Dean of Students here at Findley. He hit the ground running on his very first day here, October 17th. The *Findley Focus* asked Mr. Miller a few questions

so that we could get to know him better...

**What is the best part of your job?** *The best part of my job is to be able to interact with the entire school community: students, staff members, and parents. I especially like seeing and greeting students as they arrive at Findley each morning. Their smiling faces brighten my day.* **What are you grateful for during this season of thankfulness?**

*I am thankful for being able to work in such a great school with people who truly care about students and want them to focus on learning during the entire school day. I am also thankful for my family and friends, all of whom mean a great deal to me. I wouldn't be where I am without them.*

Make sure to say hello to Mr. Miller next time you pass him in the hallway!



Fourth-graders Devonna Singleton and Veronika Jones practice fluency while reading with Luz Fernandez, a student from the Head Start Program (above)

## Conversation Corner

In this part of our newsletter, you'll find some questions and conversation starters for families to use when talking to their children about what is happening at school. This month, ask your student about the data displayed outside every classroom.

**Kindergarten:** Kindergarten kids are working on identifying all upper and lower case letters. You can see those displayed in the hallway as their coconuts climb up the Chicka Chicka Boom Boom trees.

**First Grade:** Our First grade Data on Display shows our "fish swimming towards success" on their reading levels. All first graders should be reading a Level J by the end of the year. We currently have 47% on grade level or above at this time with everyone working hard to achieve this goal. Keep reading at home!!

**Second Grade:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade has displayed a football field to display their pre-test reading data. 2<sup>nd</sup> grade had 13 students on green, which means they were proficient and the smart goal is to have at least 28 students on green. Students are preparing for their first reading post-test in November.

**Art:** Students have been working on line, pattern, and shape. Outside the art room, we've displayed the improvements made in the understanding of these very important art elements.

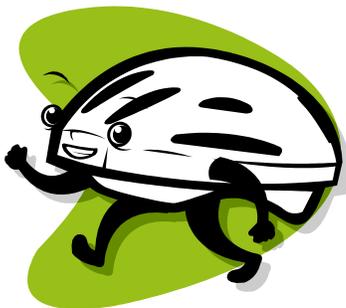
**Music:** Those colorful notes outside the music room show our improvement as we have learned the lyrics to the Star Spangled Banner. Knowing our national anthem is an important part of being an informed citizen and musician.



**Fall weather is changing fast! Be sure your students is bundled up for chilly recess days. Encourage your child to wear their warmest clothes when the temps dip!**

## Praise for PTO!

Findley students raised over \$3,000.00 towards the PTO budget for next year in our fall fundraiser. We appreciate every child who sold something – every purchase helps our school! Findley also has completed the "All Heads Covered" grant through Blank Children's Hospital where students receive education on bicycle safety and receive a free bike helmet personally sized to their head. This program was partially funded by our Findley PTO.



## We are a PBIS school!

Positive Behavior  
Intervention and Supports

**RESPECT Self**

**RESPECT Others**

**RESPECT Property**

**RESPECT Learning**

## Ten Tips for a Healthier School Year

- 1. Get your child immunized.**
  - 2. Take your child for periodic health examinations.** Check with Nurse Cynthia to find out how to access medical services.
  - 3. Get childhood healthcare coverage.** Programs such as HAWK-I can meet the needs for your child. Let Nurse Cynthia know if you need more information about getting coverage.
  - 4. Make sure your child gets enough sleep!** Elementary students need 9-11 hours of sleep every night to be alert and learning at school!
  - 5. Eat healthy foods and stay physically active.** Studies have shown that children who eat breakfast do well in school. Make sure children are getting fruits, vegetables, proteins and whole grains to maintain a healthy weight. Go outside, take a walk, play in the leaves, just get active!
  - 6. Maintain a personal space.** Some health issues, like head lice, are caused by close contact with person who is infected. Do not share combs or hats.
  - 7. Avoid spreading germs and exposure to germs.** Teach your children to wash their hands thoroughly, cover their nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing, and to keep their hands away from their eyes, nose, and mouth.
  - 8. Talk to your child about how they feel.** Our bodies *and* our minds need to stay healthy in order to do well in school. Talk to your child about how they are feeling, let them share their feelings, worries, and concerns.
  - 9. Wash your hands...AGAIN!** Washing your hands with warm soapy water for at least 20 seconds kills most of the germs that can make a person sick. Wash your hands before and after eating, after using the bathroom, after coughing or sneezing, and after playing outdoors or with family pets.
  - 10. Stay home if you are sick.** Not only will you feel better, but this will keep others from getting sick too. Remember, the guidelines for not sending your child to school include: running a fever, episodes of vomiting or diarrhea, rash. When reporting your child's absence, please report their symptoms to the nurse so that illnesses can be monitored and stopped from spreading.
- Thank you for all that you do to keep our Findley Family healthy!**

Nurse Cynthia