

Hand's Heartnotes-----May 21, 2009

“Every father should remember that one day his son will follow his example instead of his advice”

*******Pre-K “Moving On To Kindergarten” Ceremony, Tuesday, May 26th-EA White--9:40am, Dexter--1:30pm, All parents invited—bring cameras! Yes, school is still “officially” in session on Wednesday!**

*******Well parents—this is your last Hand's Heartnotes!! Woohoo!! I guess through all of my notes you have been able to tell I'm into words of wisdom, quotes etc hoping that somehow the words would enhance my life. So it would not be right if I didn't offer my last little “been there done that” advice for you!**

******The children have 2 months off this summer. They have come so far this year in their skills. If they go 2 months without review on everything they have learned such as letter, number recognition, name writing, book reading etc, they will have to catch back up in August. I suggest “playing school” for a few minutes every day. Go online, Walmart, K-Mart, or wherever in the book section and find a KDG (or 1st gr according to your child's ability) activity book. There are many appropriate skills covered in these books. Make weekly trips to the library and if your child has mastered letter and sound recognition check out 1st grade reader books and encourage sight word learning and sounding out words. On road trips or even trips in town take books, crayons etc., practice shape recognition on signs (yes, include hexagon, pentagon, octagon, and trapezoid in your findings!) counting to 20 and up, counting by 2's, 5's, 10's, sight words on signs, etc. etc.! At the store talk about money—what things cost, coins needed to buy your purchase, tax etc. (continue to discuss value of coins)**

******Don't let up in all that you do for your children in their education. Your child has been a successful Pre-K student because of having interested, involved, consistent, loving parents as you are. Believe it or not you haven't “won the battle” after elementary school! You need to stay as involved in middle and high school. As a board member and former PTA President at Northside High we had a slogan, “Now More Than Ever” because most teens DO need your advice, concern, etc. more than ever!**

I want to end with the lyrics in a song that Carson sings. When you are feeling the stress of hectic crazy days think of this!

You're Gonna Miss This

Trace Adkins

**You're gonna miss this
You're gonna want this back
You're gonna wish these days hadn't gone by so fast
These are some good times
So take a good look around
You may not know it now
But you're gonna miss this**

Trust me—you'll blink your eyes and your child will be in college!

Well folks—it's been my pleasure teaching your child and getting to know your family. I can say from my heart that everyone of you has gained my highest respect—thank you for all that you have done for me this year—your inspiration, kind words, help, gifts etc.—but most importantly thank-you for serving our country as a family!

My best to all of you. Have a wonderful, safe, and Blessed summer,

Marie Hand
