

Director's Corner

June 2018

Dear Fraser Families,

Summer is here!

I want to remind you of some of our warm weather policies.

- Fraser will apply sunscreen to your child approximately 30 minutes before outside time. If you arrive while your child's class is outside, you may want to apply sunscreen before leaving home so it will be effective. We re-apply sunscreen before afternoon outside time. If you would like to bring specific sunscreen for your child, please label it with his/her first and last name.
- We will apply insect repellent but this must be furnished from home. Again, please label with your child's first and last name. If it is an aerosol or other spray, we will apply it to your child outside.
- When the outside air temperature or heat index is between 85° and 100° F, we limit outdoors time to 20 minutes maximum. We stay in if the temperature is above 100°. We also supply water outside for children to drink.
- Many classrooms will begin having sprinkler days in the summer. We hold these on the west side of the school beyond the court yards. If your child will participate, please bring a swim suit and towel. You may also want to bring water shoes so your child does not step on anything that may hurt them. If your child does not want to participate, we also have water tables and other activities for your child to do. Please bring extra clothes for

your child to change into in case your child gets wet.

- We also watch for the air quality. If the air quality is between 100 and 150, we will limit our outdoor activities to 20 minutes maximum. If the air quality is above 150, we will stay inside.

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding our policies and procedures.

I hope that you all received my separate letter outlining upcoming construction plans in the Fraser School building. As noted, I will provide more specific updates as the construction progresses. At this time, we are waiting for city building permits before we begin work.

Thanks for sharing your children with us,

Deedee Stevens-Neal
612-798-8319
Deedee.Stevens-Neal@fraser.org

We do the best we can with what we know,
And when we know better,
We do better.

Maya Angelou

Inside This Edition

Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation grant...	2
Edina Rotary Foundation grant.....	2
Drowning Prevention.....	3-4
Schedules.....	4

Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation Grant

We received some exciting news! Fraser School has been awarded a multi-year grant from the Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation totaling more than \$140,000. The grant is a three-year initiative, aiming to enhance our curriculum and environments, to offer limited financial assistance during family crisis situations, and to provide more extensive teacher training.

The first year will include the purchase of new Creative Curriculum for Infants, Toddlers and Twos and Creative Curriculum for Preschool curriculum sets. At this time, the classrooms have outdated curriculum books. As research, especially brain research, continues to evolve, it is vital that our teachers learn the latest best practices in the field so that we can use best practices in our own teaching.

The other expenditures during the first year will focus on teacher education. We will invite experts on curriculum and assessments to train our own teachers plus we would purchase new technology for those trainers to use when presenting. We would update the teacher's resource library, both online and published materials.

The grant will help offset our current expenses for Family Fun Nights, as well as, provide money to enhance our events. For example, we could provide musical entertainment and/or food.

Finally, the grant will provide a fund that we can use when families have a crisis situation and are struggling to keep up with costs. A short application process would help us track the money.

During the second year, we would focus on training the preschool and prekindergarten how to use the STEM approach (Science, Technology,

Engineering, and Math). Again, we would have external experts provide workshops, as well as, providing resources for the teacher library. This would also include purchasing additional materials and equipment to enhance a STEM environment.

The toddler and infant teachers would be trained in the Educaring Approach. This approach was popularized by Dr. Magda Gerber and is based on respectful caregiving.

The third year, the teacher training would have an emphasis on language and literacy enrichment in our classrooms.

Thanks to our Fraser Development Division for their hard work in obtaining this grant for Fraser School!

Edina Rotary Foundation Grant

In addition, the Edina Rotary Foundation grant informed us that they will give us \$2,000 to purchase a set of pipe drums to continue to build our music and movement area on the playground. Last year, they gave us money to purchase the metallophone which is currently housed in the gym area.

During the construction of the playground, the gazebo had been designated to house a music and movement area; however, we did not have enough money left to purchase any instruments. We are slowly building that area of the playground. Edina Rotary Foundation has been very generous to Fraser School, first supplying grant support to help us build the playground, and now continuing to help us enhance the playground.

Thanks to Edina Rotary Foundation for their continued support of our school!

Drowning Prevention: Information for Parents

(Reprinted from healthychildren.org, the website of the American Academy of Pediatrics)

Drowning is a leading cause of death among children, including infants and toddlers.

Most infant drownings occur in bathtubs and buckets. Toddlers between one and four years most commonly drown in [swimming pools](#). However, many children in this age group drown in ponds, rivers, and lakes. Children older than five years old are most likely to drown in rivers and lakes, but this varies from one area of the country to another. It is important to know that children can drown in even one inch of water.

Drowning refers to death that occurs in this way. When a child is rescued before death, the episode is called a nonfatal drowning.

What You Should Do in a Drowning Emergency:

- Get your child out of the water immediately, then check to see if she is breathing on her own. If she is not, begin [CPR](#) immediately.
- If someone else is present, send him or her to call for emergency medical help, but don't spend precious moments looking for someone, and don't waste time trying to drain water from your child's lungs.
- Concentrate instead on giving her rescue breathing and CPR until she is breathing on her own. Vomiting of swallowed water is very likely during CPR.
- Only when the child's breathing has resumed should you stop and seek emergency help. Call [911](#). Once the paramedics arrive, they will administer oxygen and continue CPR if necessary.

Medical Exam Needed for Any Child Close to Drowning

Any child who has come close to drowning should be given a complete medical examination, even if she seems all right. If she stopped breathing, inhaled water, or lost consciousness, she should remain under medical observation for at least twenty-four hours to be sure there is no damage to her respiratory or nervous system.

Child Recovery from a Nonfatal Drowning

A child's recovery from a nonfatal drowning depends on how long she was deprived of oxygen. If she was underwater only briefly, she is likely to recover completely. Longer periods without oxygen can cause damage to the lungs, heart, or brain. A child who doesn't respond quickly to CPR may have more serious problems, but it's important to keep trying, because sustained CPR has revived children who have appeared lifeless or who have been immersed in very cold water for lengthy periods.

Drowning Prevention: Know the Warning Signs

These signs may signal that a child or adult is in danger of drowning:

- Head low in the water, mouth at water level
- Head tilted back with mouth open
- Eyes glassy and empty, unable to focus
- Eyes closed
- Hair over forehead or eyes
- Not using legs — vertical
- Hyperventilating or gasping
- Trying to swim in a particular direction but not making headway
- Trying to roll over on the back
- Appear to be climbing an invisible ladder

For newborn infants and children through four years of age, parents and caregivers should never—even for a moment—leave children alone or in the care of another child, while in or near bathtubs, pools, spas, or wading pools, or near irrigation ditches or other open bodies of water. With children of this age, practice "touch supervision"; that means that a supervising adult should be within an arm's length of the child with full attention focused on the child at all times when she is in or near water. The supervising adult should not be engaged in distracting activities, such as talking on a telephone, socializing, or tending to household chores.

Home Swimming Pool Safety

Home swimming pools should be surrounded by a fence that prevents a child from getting to the pool from the house. There is no substitute for at least a four-foot-high, non-climbable, four-sided fence with a self-closing, self-latching gate. Parents, caregivers, and pool owners should learn CPR and keep a telephone and equipment approved by the US Coast Guard (life preservers, life jackets, shepherd's crook) at poolside.

Swimming Safety for Children with Special Needs

Toddlers, youngsters with an intellectual disability, and children with [seizure](#) disorders are particularly vulnerable to drowning, but all youngsters are in danger if unsupervised in or near water. Even a child who knows how to swim may drown a few feet from safety. Remember, children should be supervised at all times. [Swimming lessons](#) should not be considered as a way to "drown-proof" your child.

Upcoming events

- > **No School**
July 4, 2018
Independence Day
- > **No School**
August 30-31, 2018
Staff Development
- > **No School**
September 3, 2018
Labor Day
- > **No School**
October 19, 2018
Parent/Teacher Conferences
- > **No School**
November 22-23
Thanksgiving Break
- > **No School**
December 24-25
Winter Break

