



Host an Amity Intern



August 2010

12 Interns /

2 Homes still needed

June 9, 2010

Contents and Attachments:

Reminders and Announcements, Letter from the Director, Picnic Reminder, Board Meeting Summary, Letters from Teachers, Calendar June

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**Elternbrief deadline for articles and announcements is
Monday morning 9 AM.**

**You are invited to the TCGIS End-of-Year Picnic
Friday, June 11 at Newell Park
Please see attached reminder for details!**

- **Wanted: Cooler for Picnic**
If you have a large cooler that you are able to lend to TCGIS for the time of the picnic, please call the school office at 651-492-7106. Thank you!
- **25 library books still checked out to TCGIS students!**
All TCGIS Library materials are due back now. We encourage everyone to take a quick look at home for library books and to return them right away. The returned books can be put on the return cart outside the Library door or returned to the classroom teacher. Overdue notices will be sent out next week and items not accounted for by June 24th will be billed for replacement.
- **Cardboard Boxes needed**
The school is collecting cardboard boxes to be used in packing up and moving school supplies. Please bring in boxes if you have some available on Thursday and Friday. They can be left at the front desk and will be collected in the conference room.

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!!!

June 9th, 2009

Dear Families,

Looking back It is hard to believe that summer is here. It's always a useful exercise to look back on the year and take note of where we've come from. Twin Cities German Immersion School adds 40 students a year and it's sometimes hard to keep up with how those additional students each year change our identity and push us to mature as an institution. Sometimes there are growing pains attached. In just 7 short years we have grown from a good idea into a school prepared to serve approximately 240 students in grades K-6 next year.

Looking ahead Plans are in place for next year and there are many new initiatives that we as a staff are excited about. All of our new positions are hired and teachers have time to do planning together over the summer. Many of our highly qualified teachers are returning. TCGIS will celebrate stability in a whole new way. We will be introducing a block schedule to make transitions and planning. We're making plans for lunch and recess coverage that will incorporate our Responsive Classroom programming into these important transition times of the day. We'll be introducing Spanish in the middle school. New Amity interns have been hired. I am excited about having assembled a great staff. We're in a great place to dream new dreams.

THANK YOU! I have continued to be honored by the privilege of serving in this wonderful community. I have been amazed by the level of support I and the school have received from this committed body of parents. Together we can make amazing things happen.

See you soon! The office staff and I will be hard at work over the summer to get many systems in place for a smooth start to next year. Have an excellent summer and we'll look forward to welcoming kids back on August 30th. You'll get information closer to the time about specific plans.

Annika Fjelstad
Director
Twin Cities German Immersion School

TCGIS End-of-Year Picnic REMINDER

Friday, June 11th – 11 am to 2 pm – Newell Park



Schedule - Overview

AM Kindergarteners must be picked up by 10:45 am if you do not wish for him/her to join the picnic. All Kindergarten students will walk to the park together with staff and volunteers promptly at 11am and are supervised during the picnic.

11:00 AM	Students and their classes walk to the park
11:30 AM	Picnic & Games
1:00 PM	Clean-up
1:30 PM	Walk back to school
2:00 PM	Pick-up (Early Release) from TCGIS

All students (except Kindergarteners) must be picked up at the school.

Potluck

Please remember to bring the following dishes to share:

- **1st Grade: Fruit or Vegetables (with dip)**
- **2nd Grade: Salad**
- **3rd Grade: Dessert**
- **4th and 5th: Appetizer**

Please bring your own serving spoons and have the food pre-cut. For the children's safety the school will not providing knives. We suggest that you label your containers with your name and remember to take home left-overs. Anything left at the park will be disposed of.

Beverages

Bring your own beverage or you can purchase fruit smoothies for \$2 while supplies last.

Grilling

Hot Dogs will be served only to people who turned in an order form as well as to students and staff. We have bought a limited number based on our student/staff size and the number of pre-ordered hot dogs to minimize the amount of wasted food.

Weather

The picnic will take place rain or shine. Please make sure to bring rain gear and to have your child be dressed appropriately. We have rented the shelter area and the main building/pavilion at the park. In the event of severe weather, such as heavy downpours or thunderstorms we will meet in the school's cafeteria at 11:30am. Avalon Students will not be present, as their last day of school is Thursday, June 10th.

Board Meeting Summary: May 25th, 2010

Strategic Planning

May 15 GACC/TCGIS/GAI event

The Board was updated on the event “Education in a Global Economy: the Importance of the German-American Partnership” that was held on Saturday May 15th. All three sponsoring organizations felt the event was successful and would like to repeat something similar next year. Both the portion of the event held at the school and the portion at the GAI were well attended and well received.

Hiring Update

The Board approved three new hires. The Board approved the hiring of Mandi Rosenthal at 1 FTE as a Physical Education teacher for the 2011 school year, Laura Mueller at 6 hours per week as a Spanish teacher for the 2011 school year, and Linda Michel as the Site Administrative Manager.

Election update

It was announced that Lisa Friedman, Eric Hauth-Schmid, and Anita Ratwick were elected to the TCGIS Board. Voter participation was high and the new way of voting seemed to be appreciated by the community.

Appointments to fill vacancies on Board

It was announced that two current board members, Holly Wiste and Debra Haessly, are stepping down and May 25th was their last meeting. Ms. Wiste has two years left on her term and Ms. Haessly has one year left. According to the bylaws, the Governance Committee is responsible for recommending possible appointees for vacancies to the Board. Renee Moelders is being recommended to fill the two year term. Ms. Moelders has been serving on the Finance Committee and has volunteered to take over the responsibilities of Treasurer. Ms. Moelders and Ms. Haessly have been working together to ensure a smooth transition. Mr. Juergen Konczak is being recommended to fill the one year vacancy. Mr. Konczak has been serving on the Board for the last three years, has also served as chair of the Grants and External Relations Committee, and is currently overseeing relations with the German government and its Office for Overseas Schools. The Board will vote on the recommended appointees at their next meeting.

Academic Oversight

Middle School Curriculum Review

The Board was presented with a draft of the middle school curriculum for the 2010-2011 school year. The Board discussed several aspects of the curriculum but felt that the topic required more time and background information and so proposed to discuss the topic in depth at the June board meeting.

Assessment Committee

The assessment committee provided the Board an update on their work. They have examined all current assessments being used in the school and will be making recommendations on which should be continued and which should be eliminated. They are also researching, and will be making recommendations on, alternative assessments. The assessment methods are being evaluated on several factors including how well they fit with the TCGIS learning goals and curriculum, ease and cost of administration, and whether they are mandatory.

Financial Oversight

The Board approved the contract for accounting services with BKDA, a new accounting services provider for the school, for the 2011 fiscal year. The Board also approved adding short-term disability insurance to the benefits provided to employees.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Kimberly Kompel, the Parent Liaison for the Board at kimberlykompel@gmail.com or 651-414-0304.

Dear TCGIS families and staff,

Thank you SO MUCH for your support and caring through my cancer illness. I am thrilled to report that the treatment I received as part of a Mayo Clinic study has totally eradicated the invasive cancer cells – 100% success!

I won't know for sure until my next appointment at the end of this month, but the doctors are hinting that I may not even need to undergo the radiation therapy that was considered standard procedure. I am now recuperating from surgery & slowly but surely trying to resume normal activities.

I hope to be able to attend the end-of-the-year picnic, so may see many of you there. Thanks again for your prayers and healing thoughts. Tia and I will miss you all, but will try to keep in touch, over the summer and beyond.

Marcy / Frau Zachmeier 😊



Dear Parents,

I want to use today's Elternbrief to say thank you for giving me the chance to come to TCGIS. Thank you.

In addition, I want to apologize for times I could have communicated better with you and for any misunderstandings I have caused. I am sorry.

It was a pleasure having your children in PE and I am thankful for the experience I had.

I wish TCGIS and all of you individually all the best for the future.

Thanks,

Christina Wunsch

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
	<p>No School - Memorial Day</p> <p>3:45pm - Staff Meeting</p>		<p>3rd Grade Field Trip - Gibbs</p> <p>2:30pm - Early Release</p> <p>6:30pm - Facilities Committee</p>	<p>4th & 5th Grade Field Trip to</p>		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	<p>3:45pm - Staff Meeting</p> <p>6:30pm - PTO meeting</p>	<p>6:30pm - Finance Committee</p>	<p>2:30pm - Early Release</p>	<p>6:30pm - Facilities Committee</p>	<p>Last day of school - End-of-</p>	<p>GAI Deutsche Tage @ GAI, 301</p>
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
<p>GAI Deutsche Tage @ GAI, 301</p>		<p>6:30pm - Board meeting @</p>		<p>6pm - Board Governance</p>		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	1	2	3