

# THE DRAGON'S FLAME

THE PTA NEWSLETTER FOR  
Dillard Drive Middle School

5200 Dillard Dr., Raleigh, NC 27606

<http://dillarddrivems.wcpss.net/>

MAIN: 233-4228 FAX: 854-1615

ATTENDANCE: 854-1600 GUIDANCE 233-4229

FEBRUARY 2009



## FEBRUARY IS: LOVE YOUR TEACHER ~ LOVE YOUR SCHOOL MONTH

Do you love your child's teachers? Do you love all the things your kids are learning this year? Show the teachers your appreciation by sending in supplies during the School Supplies Drive! Students are encouraged to bring supplies to their homeroom teacher from February 2nd - 13th. Collection bins marked 6th, 7th and 8th grade will be set out each Friday during morning and afternoon carpool hours so supplies can be conveniently dropped off. If you are dropping off, please label with your child's homeroom teacher.

Please join us and support your child's teachers by participating in the School Supplies Drive. Teachers have suggested the supplies listed in the below columns.

In addition to the Supplies Drive, students will be asked to answer "What I love about Dillard Drive . . ." Their answers will be written on a slip of paper and collected in a "Love Dillard" jar. Comments will be used throughout the remainder of the year in various communication venues to share with the teachers, administration, other students and parents reminding everyone of the many things that make DDMS an amazing school!

6 <sup>TH</sup> GRADE	7 <sup>TH</sup> GRADE	8 <sup>TH</sup> GRADE
Mechanical Pencils	Mechanical Pencils	Tissues: large, soft boxes and minis
Gel Pens	Gel Pens	Baby Wipes
Stickers	Stickers	#2 Pencils
Tissues	Tissues	Notebook Paper
Lysol Wipes	Lysol Wipes	Binders/ Dividers
Candy	Candy	Paper Towels
Target Gift Card	Target Gift Card	Hand Sanitizer
Office Supply Gift Card	Office Supply Gift Card	Duracell AAA Batteries For Calculators (multiples of 4)
Pencils	<b>ORDER YOUR YEARBOOK TODAY!</b> Go to <a href="http://www.smart-pay.com">www.smart-pay.com</a> or call 1-800-853-1337. Smart Pay accepts all major debit/credit cards.	Blue Bottle Dry Erase Cleaner
Colored paper		Small Ziplock Bags
Poster Board		Clear Ammonia
3 prong folders w/pockets		Black Dry Erase Markers
2" & 3" Binders		Fine-point Permanent Black Sharpies
Hand Sanitizer		Electric Pencil Sharpener
		Colored Paper—Green and Yellow

## FUTURE CITY TEAM WINS AWARD

The Dillard Drive Middle School Future City team received the \$250 "Best Use of Energy" award at the regional Future City competition held at NC State University, Saturday, January 10th, 2009. Their city, Pier Itaquí, a super skyscraper, located on the northeast coast of Brazil, utilized tidal turbines, wind turbines and an Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion (OTEC) plant for power.

Fourteen middle school teams went head to head, competing for the top prize, a trip to the national competition and a cash prize of \$1,000. Dillard Drive Middle has won the top prize in regional competition twice before, and although the team didn't take home the top award this year, they were right in the thick of the competition. Considering that they were all 7th graders, and one of the youngest teams there, they performed quite admirably. With a year under their belts, they should be one of the strongest teams in the field next year.

The team is coached by Dr. Jim Brooks, AG Resource Specialist. The presentation team included Fred Albano, Alexandra Hewson and Eduardo Talavera. Other team members who helped build the model city and complete the Sim City component were Zach Steckmann, Alan Madelena, DeQuan Stevens, Robert Hewson, Luis Rios, and Riley Mahn. Charley Townsend, former DDMS student, helped out tremendously as a student mentor.



**STAY UP-TO-DATE  
ON EVENTS AT  
SCHOOL  
BY  
SUBSCRIBING  
TO THE DILLARD  
E-GROUP**

send an email to this address:

[DillardInfo-subscribe@yahoo.com](mailto:DillardInfo-subscribe@yahoo.com)

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HAPPY  
VALENTINE'S  
DAY!



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## DDMS PRESENTS: Annie

DDMS is proud to announce the production of our first musical, *Annie*. This popular musical is about a fiery young orphan girl who must live in a miserable orphanage run by the tyrannical Miss Hannigan. Her seemingly hopeless situation changes dramatically when she is selected to spend a short time at the residence of the wealthy munitions industrialist, Oliver Warbucks. Quickly, she charms the hearts of the household staff and even the seemingly cold-hearted Warbucks cannot help but learn to love this wonderful girl. Performances will be held at the DDMS auditorium on May 7th and 8th at 6:30 p.m. Matinees are also tentatively scheduled for an in school audience.

The production will be directed by Toni Ahrens, with Carolyn Colquitt as vocal director and Palma Rajki Stuemple as Pit Director. Additionally, Paul Architetto will serve as tech director, Ann Foster will help with sets, and several other DDMS staff members and community members will play their part in bringing this musical to the stage.

Auditions will be open to all DDMS students and will be held on February 16th (6th grade) and 17th (7th and 8th grade) from 3:30-6:00, with activity bus riders being released at 5:00. Students will not be allowed to audition without a signed permission form. Call backs will be held on February 18th from 3:30-5:30 for only select students who will be informed that morning. Students must attend auditions, and if selected, call backs. Though this is a musical and singers are strongly encouraged to audition, there are some non-singing roles available.

We will also be showing the movie *Annie* in the auditorium after school on February 3rd and 4th for students interested in learning more about the show and the auditions. If you have questions, please email director Toni Ahrens at [tahrens@wcpss.net](mailto:tahrens@wcpss.net).

## CALENDAR

### JANUARY

31 CLUB Lacrosse Clinic & Parent Info Meeting, 12pm

### FEBRUARY

02 Basketball @ Martin, 3:45pm, \$4

3-5 Spiritwear for sale before school

05 Basketball v. N. Garner, 3:45pm, \$4 HOME

09 Basketball @ Carnage, 3:45pm, \$4

10 Winter Sports Pictures

10 Girls' Track Interest Meeting, 3:30 Rm 606

10 and 17 Rising 6th Grade Information and Tours,  
4-4:30pm **space limited to 10**  
**Call to reserve: 233.4228**

10 Family Math Night, 6pm

11 Honor Roll Recognition

11 Pep Rally w/ Step Team performance, 2pm

11 Basketball v. Carroll, 3:45pm, \$4 HOME

12 EARLY RELEASE, 12:30pm

16 SCHOOL TODAY-MAKE UP SNOW DAY

20 School Dance

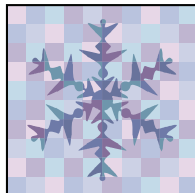
23-24, 27 Boys' Track Tryouts

23-25 Softball Tryouts

25 Interim Reports

25-27 Girls' Track Tryouts

26 Engineers' Day



## DDMS SPORTS UPDATE

### JV DRAGON CLUB BASEBALL:

Are you interested? Looking for 1 or 2 more players!!! **LAST CHANCE!!!!** Contact Joe Gizzi: [jagizzi@us.ibm.com](mailto:jagizzi@us.ibm.com) or 454-7980.

### CLUB ROLLER HOCKEY:

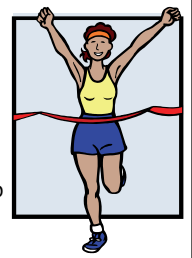
Visit [www.csh.us](http://www.csh.us) to view important information and changes in the league for this season, and to utilize our online registration and payment system. All registrations must be received no later than the registration deadline: Sunday, February 8th, 2009 at 5pm. All registrants will be contacted by e-mail with additional information regarding practices or tryouts as necessary and as the information becomes available. Six graders are also eligible to try out for Roller Hockey as it is a Club Sport at Dillard.

### SOFTBALL TRYOUTS:

Tryouts will begin, for 7th and 8th grade girls, Monday February 23rd after school. Meet in the gym!! Sixth graders interested in being a manager should look for a separate sign-up sheet near the girls' locker room. The sign-up sheets will be by the girls' locker room and you must sign up to try out. You must have a sports physical for this year signed by a doctor to tryout and proof of insurance. You also must have a parent consent form signed to tryout and you can get both of these forms in the front office, from Coach Jones, or from Coach Dilts. You must be academically eligible to tryout. If you have any questions about grades stop by office 300. You need to bring sneakers, cleats, and your own equipment if you have it. If you don't have a glove we will have a few extras to lend.

### TRACK TEAM TRYOUTS:

**GIRLS:** There will be an interest meeting Tuesday, February 10th, 3:30 pm in Ms. Reno's room 606. Tryouts are February 25-27. **BOYS:** Pick up the information packet from the Student Services Office by February 13th. Tryouts are February 23, 24 and 27. Please note: any student trying out for a spring sports team must have a physical exam that is current within the past year. Go to the DDMS website to print one out: [www.dillardrivemwcpss.net/](http://www.dillardrivemwcpss.net/).



### DILLARD DRAGONS CLUB LACROSSE:

**BOYS:** The Dillard Dragons Boys' registration is still ongoing and there will be a skills clinic, meet the coach, and parents' information session with the team manager Scott Clark on January 31st at noon on the Dillard football field, weather permitting. Running the clinic will be Jon Lantzy, former Asst. Head Coach of Duke and Ryan Cumming, former All American lacrosse player from Syracuse. Also attending is the new Head Coach who is a player on the NCSU Lacrosse team and Brian Yerger, Head Coach of the Athens Lacrosse team. Registrations will be taken then as well. The team will start practices on Sunday February 15th. Practices will be M, W and F thereafter. More information will be given out on the 31st. **GIRLS:** The Fusion lacrosse league who helps administer the boys' club team has offered to field a girls lacrosse team and provide a coach. If Dillard has 16 girls who are interested they will have a specific Dillard Dragons team. If there are less than 16 they will place them all on the same team with some other girls from the Raleigh Rage program in Raleigh. The program will be run at the Cary Elementary fields, if we get 16 girls. To register go to [www.fusionlacrosse.com](http://www.fusionlacrosse.com) and then click on the Online Registration link on the left side. Please be sure to list Dillard as the school you attend. We have had a lot of requests over the past 2 years for a girls' team so here is your chance to get it going! Girls lacrosse has been exploding in the area and Athens Drive has a program that has had several girls get scholarships over the past few years.

## JOIN US FOR THE THIRD ANNUAL FAMILY MATH NIGHT

On Tuesday February 10th come out to enjoy a night filled with intriguing and innovative math activities. For the third year, Dillard Drive Middle School and the RAMP-UP Program proudly present **Family Math Night**. Students, parents, siblings, and other relatives are invited to attend a fun-filled evening of mathematical exploration. Spend an evening working with your child on easy-to-do-at-home math activities that will reinforce their math skills. The games and activities are designed for all middle school grade levels and demonstrate the real world applications of mathematics. Family Math Night runs from 6:00-8:00pm and will be held in the cafeteria.