



## Uxbridge Extended Day

Uxbridge Public Schools

Kindergarten Kid's Club, Taft Kid's Club and Whitin EXTRA

PO Box 307

North Uxbridge, MA 01538

Thursday, January 29, 2009  
508 278-8653

### LEADERSHIP/CULTURE:

Kudos to the childcare staff, who worked during school vacation week, for their willingness to take on additional responsibilities. Although there were no custodians working, the floors got cleaned, the trash got out and everyone was willing to lend a hand. (We also thank the custodians who gave us good instructions and access to their supplies). It was a highly successful week.

### CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION, ASSESMENT

Clubs and activities are running well. Winter weather brings new outdoor activities such as sledding and snow building, but it also means we are sometimes forced to spend more time indoors. The extended day staff is very creative in keeping our children moving and active while indoors. Most popular is the jump rope marathon. Puzzles are another popular winter activity. Homework remains one of our major components and staff is working together with classroom teachers to make sure students are receiving the best possible assistance and encouragement. Once again the children had their annual "New Years Party" and many insightful resolutions and plans for the New Year were noted. Our pre-school/Kindergarten group is busy learning about and working with dinosaurs. Our middle school group is back to sewing knitting and they are hoping to start on a community project as soon as the weather is less restrictive.

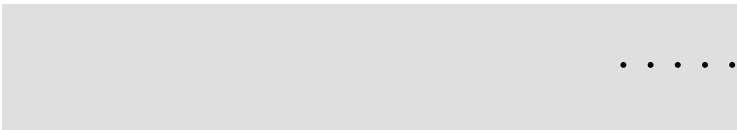
### BUDGET

We have had a tremendous amount of contract changes. Many of our families are having their work hours reduced or they have lost their jobs. We have lost a number of long time families to the economy and we suspect more are to come. A few families have increased care and we have a few new enrollments, but the enrollment is still below what it was in September. We are busily making adjustments in the budget to accommodate for that loss. We have decreased some staff hours and not replaced someone out on leave. This leaves a thin staff, but, hopefully a balanced budget. January tuition is almost all in Thus far; the tuition collected this fiscal year is \$ 258,882.49 (as of 1/29). Our expenditures continue to be very conservative. Our insurance and unemployment fees have gone up again. So we are treading carefully. We will continue to update the school committee on our progress. Mrs. Baldanza will meet with Mr. Sawyer on a regular basis to review accounts.

### TECHNOLOGY

Both Taft and Whitin students have adequate access to computers. There is a spirit of cooperation with the schools in regard to computer use and all issues are always addressed promptly by all sides.

Child care staff always works during the technology staff development day because it always falls so soon after the winter holidays. However, the childcare staff has



expressed a desire to get some technology training in areas such as Excel and PowerPoint. We are working on getting this accomplished.

#### FACILITIES/MAINTENANCE

Our major concern is the temperature at Taft School in the cafeteria and the child care office. This issue has been addressed by the facilities department, but the building itself and the peculiar path of the heating system makes most of their efforts barely effective. I appreciate the time and effort that Mr. Legendre has put in trying to alleviate this problem, but through no fault of his own, there remain deficiencies.

#### GENERAL OPERATIONS/SAFETY

There has been a lot of snow this month, but I am happy to report that the walks have been kept relatively safe and there has been an obvious effort to keep salt and sand available in all the more treacherous areas.

#### OTHER

Our child care families were especially generous this year during the holiday season. The child care received new games, puzzles, books, supplies and equipment for use in the child care program. We are, once again, indebted to our parents for their loyalty and generosity. We would not be able to offer such high quality activities without their support.

Respectfully submitted by A. Baldanza