Thank you!
Thank you to the many families who contributed to the Giving Tree before the winter break. All the gifts went to families of Groveland students. Many students and their families benefited from your generosity!

PTO – January 16 - Parent/Caregiver Education Night
Join us on Thursday, January 16, at 6:00 p.m. for a special PTO Event - Parent/Caregiver Education Night in the library. Childcare for school age children is provided in the cafeteria. Transportation can be provided by calling the main office 651-293-8760 by 10AM on the morning of January 16.

This special PTO event is open ANY caregivers of elementary-aged students. Feel free to invite friends or neighbors. We hope you can join us for this free, informational event!

Presenter: Lora Matz, MS, LICSW
“Building and Sustaining Resilience in the Face of Stress in Childhood and Adolescence Years”

This workshop will focus on presenting an overview of some of the new neuroscience research as it relates to the mind-body connections. Participants will learn and experience some practical experiences of mind-body techniques that have been proven to help both children and adolescents to better cope with, and gain skills of resilience, self-regulation and self-awareness.

Presenter Lora Matz is a psychotherapist, educator and highly sought-after speaker. She is uniquely qualified with advanced training in health coaching, mindfulness, mind/body medicine and holistic health care as well as spiritual psychology. Lora integrates her nearly forty years of experience as a psychotherapist with children and families, and as an educator and leader in the field of Integrated Medicine, into her current position of Clinical Education Specialist for PrairieCare.
Fifth Grade Transition to Middle School
At this time of the year, families will begin to look for middle schools for their fifth graders. Student in fifth grade at Groveland Park will automatically have a home school of either Highland Middle School or Ramsey Middle School depending on where they live. Students may also apply for other Saint Paul Public Schools. Middle schools are offering open houses and shadowing experiences. Below is information about opportunities to visit Ramsey Middle School.

4th/5th Grade Families Looking at Middle School Options:
Visit Ramsey Middle School! Here are some opportunities for you and your student to learn more about Ramsey IBMYP - International Baccalaureate (IB) Middle Years Programme (MYP):

Ramsey Open House/Showcase - Thursday, January 23, 2020 - 5:30-7:00 p.m.
Ramsey PTO Meeting - MYP Focus - Thursday, January 30, 2020 - 6-7:40 p.m. in the Ramsey Middle School Library
Building tours at Ramsey are on Tuesday mornings, 9:30 -10:30 (Nov. - April).
Shadowing Opportunities are Tuesdays/Thursday mornings 8:30-10:30 (Jan. - April). Families can sign up on the Ramsey Website - ramsey.spps.org>>Families>>Tours and Shadowing

Prospective Family Open House/Science and Math Night – January 23
It’s already time to look ahead to the 2020-21 school year! Let families you know who have children who will be 4 or 5 by September 1, 2020, that we are looking forward to having them at Groveland next year in our PreK or kindergarten. Our Open House will showcase the school while Science and Math Night is sure to provide a fun and educational night for new and “old” students and families. Join us on Thursday, January 23, from 6:00-7:30 p.m. for new adventures during our “Science and Math Night.”

School Choice Fair – New Location – January 25
The Union Depot is the new location for the Saint Paul Public Schools’ School Choice Fair on Saturday, January 25, from 9:30-2:00 p.m. Groveland fifth grade students may visit all of the middle schools at the School Choice Fair. Groveland fifth graders are automatically assigned a “home school” but the fair will provide information on all schools. Having all the schools and their representatives in one (warm!) place in January will make the middle school choices easier to find out about.

Sign-out Procedure for Students Leaving During the School Day
If a student needs to leave during the school day the following procedure is in place:

1. The adult picking the student up needs to sign the student out through the office.
2. The adult must be listed on the student’s emergency form (iUpdate) in order to take a student out of the building. (If the adult is someone other than the parent, the parent needs to let the school know prior to the student being released.)
3. A driver’s license/state issued photo ID must be shown to identify the adult.
School Continuous Improvement Plan and Minnesota Report Card (MDE)
Each school has an individualized School Continuous Improvement Plan (SCIP) which is updated each year. The SCIP is the basic strategic instructional plan for the school. The link will take you to the Family Friendly version on Groveland’s website as well as the entire SCIP for Groveland on the SPPS website. Family Friendly SCIP [https://www.spps.org/Page/32874](https://www.spps.org/Page/32874).

Another place to find information on Groveland Park’s academic progress and demographics is the Minnesota Department of Education website. For information specific to Groveland go to [https://rc.education.mn.gov/#mySchool/orgId--10625476000__p--3](https://rc.education.mn.gov/#mySchool/orgId--10625476000__p--3).

Guide to Questions on Bus Transportation
Get the app My SPPS Bus to check on your student’s daily bus status. [Antoinette.lavalla@spps.org](mailto:Antoinette.lavalla@spps.org) for questions on routes, bus stops or changes. [Gilbert.Hale@spps.org](mailto:Gilbert.Hale@spps.org) or [Rebecca.pedersen@spps.org](mailto:Rebecca.pedersen@spps.org) for bus safety or behavioral concerns. Call the main office at 651-293-8760. For after-hours emergency transportation questions call – Transportation at 651-696-9600.

Panda Paws
The Panda Paws is our school newsletter which comes out bi-weekly to your email. Classroom news will be sent home by the classroom teacher. The schedule for the next Panda Paws is at the bottom of this newsletter.

Groveland Calendar
(Class specific field trips are in class newsletters sent out by the classroom teacher.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 16</td>
<td>6:00-7:30 – PTO – Library; Childcare – Cafeteria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 20</td>
<td>No School; Martin Luther King, Jr. Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 23</td>
<td>Prospective Family Open House and Science/Math Night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 24</td>
<td>No School; Professional Development Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 25</td>
<td>9:30-2:00 School Choice Fair PreK-12 at Union Depot in St. Paul</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 10</td>
<td>9:30-4:00 NAAPID-National African American Parent Involvement Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 10</td>
<td>6:00-7:30 PTO – Library; Childcare in Cafeteria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 11</td>
<td>3:30-5:00 Title I Family Math Event</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 17</td>
<td>No School – Presidents’ Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 18-28</td>
<td>APEX Fun Run/Run is on Feb. 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 6</td>
<td>No School – Report Card/Conference Preparation Day for Staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 17 and 19</td>
<td>4:30-8:00 Parent Teacher Conferences PreK-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 19</td>
<td>PreK only does not have school due to conferences for PreK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 20</td>
<td>No School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 23</td>
<td>8:30-1:30- Parent Teacher Conferences PreK-5; No School PreK-5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar. 30-Apr. 3</td>
<td>6:00-7:30 PTO – Library; Childcare – Cafeteria</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr. 10</td>
<td>No School – Professional Development Day for Staff</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr. 16</td>
<td>6:00-7:30 PTO – Library; Childcare – Cafeteria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr. 30</td>
<td>3:00-4:00 Annual Title I Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 7</td>
<td>6:00-7:30 – PreK/Kindergarten Orientation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 15</td>
<td>5:30-8:30 Groveland Carnival “Pandamonium”</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 18</td>
<td>6:00-7:30 PTO – Library; Childcare- Cafeteria</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 25</td>
<td>No School – Memorial Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 4</td>
<td>6:00-7:30 Groveland Family Picnic – Groveland</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 5</td>
<td>9:45-3:45 Fun &amp; Fitness Day (Rain day is June 8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 9</td>
<td>Last Day of School 2019-20 for students</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Panda Paws – Groveland's Newsletter
Panda Paws will be sent out to families two times a month via email (or hard copy if requested). Articles are due Mon. Jan. 13. The next Panda Paws will be out on Fri., Jan. 17. Send articles to Rebecca.pedersen@spps.org

Saint Paul Public Schools
2019 Board of Education
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Steve Marchese, Vice Chair
Marny Xiong, Treasurer
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Dr. Joe Gothard
Assistant Superintendent
Andrew Collins
Principal
Becky Pedersen

PTO News is generated by the PTO and is included below:
Connect - Contribute – Advocate

Boxtops for Education
There are exciting changes with Box Tops for Education! Stop clipping and save time while still earning money for Groveland with the Box Tops for Education App.

1) Download the Box Tops for Education mobile app
2) Choose your school (Groveland Park Elementary)
3) Scan your grocery receipts (from inside the app) within 14 days of purchase
4) The app will find the Box Tops products on the receipt, and send the earnings directly to Groveland! It's as simple as that.

If you have any unexpired Box Tops that you have already clipped, don't throw them away! You can bring them to the school office before February and they will still get submitted.

Classroom Villages
Interested in helping plan fun community building events at Groveland? Want to support your student's teacher? Consider being a Classroom Villages coordinator! Use this form to get more information!

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1o8O4BL4TlmyWIENDA8_IIVyQwFDBn8b1n8ikQ_wt-pk/edit

Support Groveland as you shop!
Did you know Groveland is on Amazon Smile? Just click https://groveland.me/amazon and select “Friends of Groveland PTO” to have a portion of your purchase go to our school!

Groveland Gear is an awesome gift idea. The Groveland Gear online store has been refreshed with a whole batch of new products this year, like winter hats, trucker hats, aprons, and mugs along with all the classic t-shirts and sweatshirts. The best part is you can now place your order and have it all delivered right to your front door. Visit the store today: www.grovelandgear.com

PTO Directory
Did you know that you might be missing out on news and events for Groveland families? Even if you are receiving the Panda Paws newsletter, make sure you’ve signed up for the Family Directory to know everything else that’s happening in our school community. Just send your name, email address, and your child’s name and classroom teacher to groveland.pto.vicepres@gmail.com to be included.

2019-20 – PTO Executive Committee
Karl Talcott, President groveland.pto.pres@gmail.com
Heather Allison, Vice President groveland.pto.vicepres@gmail.com
Talia Sheldon-Desjardins & Doug Czaplicki, Treasurers groveland.pto.treasurer@gmail.com
Charlotte Hanley-Jacobson, and Jen Schlueter, Fundraising Chairs groveland.pto.fundraising@gmail.com

Connect with Groveland PTO!
Sign up for the Groveland Family Directory www.groveland.me
Instagram @GrovelandPark
Facebook https://www.facebook.com/GrovelandParkPTO/
Buy cool Groveland Gear anytime www.grovelandgear.com