Campaign for Kindness
A “Be the ‘I’ in Kind” campaign is taking place at Groveland! Students will be photographed on a Kindness banner and will be the ‘I’ in Kind on a large banner in the main school hall. We have many spirit days coming up to carry the theme:

February 7 – “Sports Team Day” - Wear your favorite sports team attire
February 14 – “Dream of Kindness” – Students dress in their pajamas
February 21 – “Powered by Kindness” – Superhero Day
February 28 – “We’re All Tied Together” – Tie and silly sock day. A sock drive will be held the week of February 24-28 with the socks being given to a local charity.

Also, in February, door decorating will take place in grades PreK-2 while other grade levels will be making posters with kindness quotes. Students will be making Valentines for area long-term health care facilities. Other spirit days will take place in the spring.

Bus Lane on St. Clair
Please do not drop off students in the bus area in front of the school on St. Clair. Buses need the entire area to pull in. District contracted vans are also transporting students and need the space.

Students can be dropped off and picked up on Sargent in back of the school. An adult and patrols are there from 9:10-9:20 and 4:00-4:10.

First Carnival Committee Meeting of the Year – February 5
It’s time to start planning for the Groveland Carnival, “Pandamonium.” The Carnival Committee will meet on Wednesday, February 5, from 6:30-7:30 in the school library. The Carnival is sponsored by the PTO. “Pandamonium” will take place on May 15 at Groveland.
Please email either Kerry Furtney (kjfurtney@gmail.com) or Lisa Sheehan (lisascherer@hotmail.com) for more information on the planning meetings or the Carnival.

**National African American Parent Involvement Day – February 10**
All families are invited to attend National African American Parent involvement Day on Monday, February 10. This annual day of inviting parents to join their students at school has become a popular day for students and their parents. An assembly is planned for 2:30 in the gym with the Duniya Drum and Dance, West African Rhythm and Dance group performing.

A schedule of the day is attached. Please join us!

**PTO Meeting – February 10**
Groveland’s PTO will meet on Monday, February 10, in the library from 6:00-7:30 p.m. Childcare for school age children is available in the cafeteria. If you need transportation, call the office at 651-293-8760 by 10:00 a.m. on Monday, February 10.

**“Math Make It and Take It” - Gr. 2-4 - February 11**
Come join your child (children) at school on February 11, 2020 at 3:30 P.M. for a special event where you together can make math games and take them home. This event is planned by Title I and is open to any parents and their student(s) in grades 2,3 or 4.

Who: The targeted level of games is for grades 2-4.
Where: Groveland Elementary School, Room 3113
Why: Gain materials to practice math at home in a fun way
When: From 3:30-5:00 P.M., Tuesday, February 11.
How: Arrive at 3:20 P.M. Sign in at the office. Pick up your child or children from their class, come to room 3113, and get started. Leave with a bag full of math tricks.
Please RSVP to Ms. Fox at regan.fox@spps.org if you need transportation for this event.

**APEX Returns – February 18-28**
The APEX Fundraiser will begin on February 18 and go through February 28, the day of the fun run. A Kick-Off Pep Rally will be held in the gym at 2:30 on Tuesday, February 18. Parents are welcome to attend. The APEX Fundraiser has been a learning event for students with APEX representatives going into each classroom each day to teach values and leadership skills to students. Each student will receive a t-shirt on February 28 to participate in the Fun Run.

Students run during their specialist time and parents are welcome to come and cheer them on! Students do not need to participate in the fundraising to run in the Fun Run.

**APEX Fun Run Schedule for Friday, February 28 - Gym**
9:35 - 9:50  Morning Pre-K
9:55 - 10:40 Grade 5
10:45 -11:30 Grade 4
11:35 -12:20 Grade 3
12:25 - 1:10 Kindergarten
1:55 - 2:10 Afternoon Pre-K
2:15 - 3:00 Grade 1 or 2 (Schaefer, Anderson, Murphy)
3:05 - 3:50 Grade 1/2 and 2/3 (van Natta, Hyatt, Hanson)
SPCO at Ted Mann Concert Hall – February 20
All students in grades 1-5 will go to the Ted Mann Concert Hall on Thursday, February 20. Students look forward to this concert, especially geared to elementary students, each year.

School Choice Workshops
The Student Placement Center will be hosting School Choice Workshops at our office - 2102 University Ave W. to provide application assistance, answer questions and provide access to on-line self-service stations. Each session will include a short school choice workshop to explain more thoroughly the SPPS enrollment process.
Thursday, February 6 – 4:30-6:00pm**
Thursday, February 13 – 4:30-6:00pm**
Saturday, February 22 – 9:30am-12:00pm*
Thursday, February 27 – 4:30-6:00pm**

**Presentations at 5pm
*Presentations at 10a.m. and 11a.m.

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):

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

Groveland 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
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

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 for questions on routes, bus stops or changes. Gilbert.Hale@spps.org or 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.)

Feb. 10 9:30-4:00 NAAPID-National African American Parent Involvement Day
Feb. 10 6:00-7:30 PTO – Library; Childcare in Cafeteria
Feb. 11 3:30-5:00 Title I Family Math Event Gr. 2-4 – Open to all families
Feb. 17 No School – Presidents’ Day
Feb. 18-28 APEX Fun Run/Run is on Feb. 28
Feb. 18 Kick Off APEX Pep Rally – Gym at 2:30 p.m.
Feb. 20 SPCO Concert at Ted Mann Concert Hall.
Mar. 6 No School – Report Card/Conference Preparation Day for Staff
Mar. 17 and 19 4:30-8:00 Parent Teacher Conferences PreK-5
Mar. 19 PreK only does not have school due to conferences for PreK
Mar. 20 No School
Mar. 20 8:30-1:30- Parent Teacher Conferences PreK-5; No School PreK-5
Mar. 23 6:00-7:30 PTO – Library; Childcare – Cafeteria
Mar. 30-Apr. 3 No School Spring Break
Apr. 10 No School – Professional Development Day for Staff
Apr. 16 6:00-7:30 PTO – Library; Childcare – Cafeteria
Apr. 30 3:00-4:00 Annual Title I Meeting
May 7 6:00-7:30 – PreK/Kindergarten Orientation
May 15 5:30-8:30 Groveland Carnival “Pandamonium”
May 18 6:00-7:30 PTO – Library; Childcare- Cafeteria
May 25 No School – Memorial Day
June 4 6:00-7:30 Groveland Family Picnic – Groveland
June 5 9:45-3:45 Fun & Fitness Day (Rain day is June 8)
June 9 Last Day of School 2019-20 for students

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. Feb. 10. The next Panda Paws will be out on Fri., Feb. 14. Send articles to Rebecca.pedersen@spps.org
PTO News is generated by the PTO and is included below:

Connect - Contribute – Advocate

First Carnival Committee Meeting of the Year – February 5
The Groveland Carnival, “Pandamonium,” will be held on May 15 and it’s time to get planning. The Carnival Committee will meet on Wednesday, February 5 from 6:30-7:30 in the school library.

“Pandamonium” is one of highlights of the school year and the planning committee is a really fun way to get involved at the school! If you cannot make this meeting, but are interested in helping out in the future, please email either Kerry Furtney (kjfurtney@gmail.com) or Lisa Sheehan (lisascherer@hotmail.com) and we'll keep you in the loop. We hope to see you there!

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/108O4BL4TlmyWlENDA8_lIvyQwFDBn8b1n8ikQ_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