



186<sup>th</sup> Street Elementary School

# *A Hoot of News*

## *January 2012*



***Owl Pride: "On the Hunt for Wisdom through Education"***

***Marcia Sidney-Reed, Principal ❖ Traci Kanemitsu, Assistant Principal, EIS***

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year and welcome back to the second half of the 2011-2012 school year. We hope your winter vacation time was a special period filled with magical moments of quality time with family and friends. We are excited about the upcoming months of new learning, new determination, and continued success. We are confident that we have all of the right ingredients to improve our students' achievement. With a continuous focus on doing what is best for children, and the home, school, and community working together as a team, we will get to the mountaintop of academic success.

As we move into this new year, it is a good time to reflect upon our goals, our vision, and our mission for all of our students. We reaffirm to you that we believe in the equal worth and dignity of all students and we are committed to educating all of our students to their maximum potential. Our staff will continue to work with an attitude of success to foster critical thinking and life-long learners. Parents, we ask that you continue to support us in our efforts to improve our students' achievement by:

- Having a heart to heart talk with your child about being a good citizen everyday;
- Upholding high standards of discipline and expectations at home and at school;
- Providing a quiet place for your child to study;
- Encouraging your child to complete his/her homework;
- Making sure your child arrives to school on time every day ready to learn;
- Promoting pleasure reading time each evening for twenty minutes; and
- Keeping in contact with your child's teacher, as well as attending all school activities.

Attendance is directly related to student achievement and we are striving to improve in all aspects of our educational journey. Right before winter vacation, we discovered that we have lost 1,486 days in school attendance for a total loss of \$46,556 dollars in average daily attendance. We are asking all parents to help improve the attendance records for all of our students. Please work relentlessly to get your children to school everyday, on time and ready to learn. Wise Owls thrive with less than five absences!

Let's continue to work together to make a difference in the lives of our children by keeping our expectations high, holding each other accountable, and providing a safe and nurturing learning environment at home and at school. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me or your classroom teacher at (310) 324-1153. Here's to a happy hootin' new year filled with health and prosperity. Hoot! Hoot! Hooray!

Sincerely,  
Marcia Sidney-Reed  
Principal



P.S. Please support our academic plays for the remainder of the school year:

1. Encourage your wise owl to speak in complete sentences
2. Help your wise owl read 15 to 20 minutes every night
3. Remind your wise owl to be respectful at all times.