



THE PAW PRINT

Dear Parents, Students, and Community Members,

Happy New Year and welcome back for second semester. We are already in full swing. The next few months will be very busy for us. We have begun the registration process for the 2009-2010 school year. The seventh and eighth graders received their materials the week of January 6-9. Your students should have brought a packet home for you to review with them. We are out at the elementary schools the week of January 12-16 handing out materials to the fifth and sixth graders. The ninth graders are receiving their materials this week as well.

Open Houses are coming up for parents to receive information about next year's plans. This is your opportunity to ask curriculum questions, find out about all the electives, and gather information about extra-curricular activities. January 20 is Open House for the high school. January 21 is Open House for next year's sixth and seventh graders and finally January 22 is Open House for next year's eighth graders. They all begin at 6pm. We will start in the gym for a general meeting where I can give an overview of next year's plans. I will share with you our vision for the future. You will then progress out to the pods to visit with the teachers in the curriculum areas to ask any questions that you may have. This is your opportunity before signing your student up for their next year's classes to learn all you can about Combs. Please come and don't go away with question marks.

Spring sports are in full swing and the students seem settled in for a great semester. We are preparing for Galileo testing next week. It is time we took a look at how we are doing. This is our brief peek before AIMS, which will be here before we know it.

We are continuing to try and improve communication between school and home. If you are not currently on our email list please join us. I send out weekly emails with updates about what's happening at JO Combs. You can email us your address and we will be glad to add you to our list.

As usual my door is always open and your student's education is my single most important goal.

Best Regards,

Brenda Mayberry
Principal

J.O. Combs Unified
School District

January 2009

Volume 5, Issue 6

Coming up....

January

19 MLK Day

NO SCHOOL

20 100th Day of school

February

6 Progress Reports

16 Presidents' Day

NO SCHOOL

March

11 End of Quarter 3

16-20 SPRING BREAK

23 Professional Day

NO SCHOOL

25 Report Cards

26-27 Conferences

EARLY RELEASE

30-4/17 AIMS Window

April

10 Spring Holiday

NO SCHOOL

FYI...J. O. Combs School
District has a \$35 fee for
all returned checks!

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION!!!

Our school collects Box Tops for Education (the little pink tickets that can be found on brands such as Ziploc, Betty Crocker, General Mills, Yoplait, Pillsbury, & Old El Paso) to redeem for cash to be used for supplies, materials, and equipment. Please cut or tear out your box tops and send them to Mrs. Romero with your student. Thanks for supporting CMS!

We also recycle

ink cartridges and cell phones!



The counseling department has a new Career and Counseling Center. We are asking for donations to help us furnish it. We need a 6x8 area rug, large coffee and end tables, table and floor lamps, comfy chairs, bean bags and large cushions. If you have any items that you wish to donate to the Career center please call Susan Chamberlain at 480-882-3511. Thank you!



R & R Pizza Supports our Schools!

Bring an R & R flyer in on any Tuesday and purchase an extra large pizza for only \$12.00 (regular price \$16.49). R & R will donate \$4 from each sale to our schools! Make sure to drop by! You can get a discounted dinner and support your school!



JAMBA JUICE IS COMING!

NJHS will be selling Jamba Juice during lunch on alternating Wednesdays! For just \$2, you will get 8 oz. of delicious, nutritious fruit smoothies!

All proceeds will go to NJHS.

Next Date: January 28th!

CRITICS WANTED!

Have you read a good book lately? Want to share your opinion about it? See Mrs. Romero in the library for your Book Review form. Every person who completes the form will be entered into a drawing for a free book!



If you have a change in employment status, especially if there is a loss of a job, please request an application to see if you qualify to receive free or reduced pricing on school meals.

For requests or questions call J.O. Combs Food Service Department at 480-987-5312.

In addition to collecting **Box Tops** for Education, we are expanding our collections to **Campbell's Soup** labels, **Tyson's Project A+** labels, and **Fast Classics Home Team Rewards**. Please take a minute to look at your grocery packaging before throwing it away. If it has a label on it that may benefit our school, please send it in! We will also be recycling paper goods and ink cartridges. It's not just good for our school—it's good for our planet!

Thank you!



Creative Mind Studios, the middle school literary magazine, is looking for submissions of prose, poetry, art, and photography to be put in the second edition of the literary magazine. Please bring all submissions to Mr. Laliberte' in room 324. We look forward to seeing the wonderful work this student body is capable of producing.



Which Open House do we go to?

January 20—Combs High School

January 21—next year's 6th and 7th graders

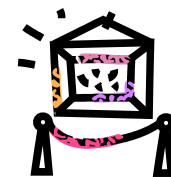
January 22—next year's 8th graders

Bring questions! See you there!



We are in need of ANY pictures from the Lip Sync Contest! Please e-mail those to:
kromero@jocombs.k12.az.us -OR- cbrown@jocombs.k12.az.us

Thanks!



VIEW THE ONLINE STUDENT ART GALLERY AT:

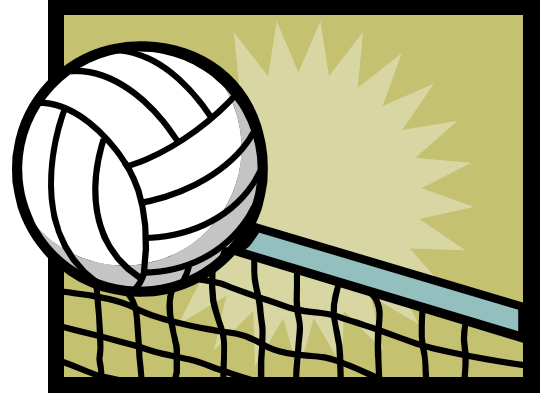
<http://www.artsonia.com/museum/gallery.asp?exhibit=137870&index=0>

Congratulations to our 2009 Girls' Volleyball Team!

The volleyball coaches want to thank every girl that came to try out for a spot on our team. The tryouts lasted three days and you all made our decisions very difficult. Thank you for showing all of your efforts as we look forward to our 2009 season! The following is a list of the seventh and eighth grade teams:

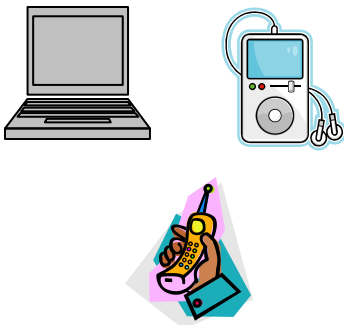
Brianna Stewart
Kenia Velasu
Khayla Munir
Angelica Whinnery
Valili Finai
McKayla Highstreet
Kayla Burley
Alyssa Brewer
Regina Garcia
Ashley Springfield
Megan Millett
Victoria Coppola

Violet Koster
Kayla Hodge
Kinsey O'Dell
Christina Bustamonte
Natalie Tiscareno
Marly Johnson
Kylie Shull



Do you have old cell phones, iPods, or laptop computers collecting dust at your house or office? Don't just throw them in the trash. If not disposed of properly, the chemicals in a *single* cell phone could pollute 158,200 gallons of water! These old electronics are being collected as a fundraiser for Combs Middle/High School. Not only will you be supporting your school (we get money for each device donated), but you are helping the environment at the same time! Please bring all donations to Room 318!

Thank you for your support!



IF YOU HAVE PICTURES OF ANY MIDDLE SCHOOL OR HIGH SCHOOL EVENT THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE IN THE YEARBOOKS, PLEASE E-MAIL THEM TO [KROMERO@JOCOMBS.K12.AZ.US](mailto:kromero@jocombs.k12.az.us). THANK YOU!

PINS/PALS

Combs/Gantzel Campus

Room 309

37327 N. Gantzel Road

Queen Creek, AZ 85240

The Corner of Combs & Gantzel

Parent Training
Session

From: 6:30 to 8:30 PM

PARENT TRAINING SESSIONS

- **Participation in the Special Education Process (Session 1)**

February 9th

This PowerPoint Training presents information on how children with disabilities and their parents are guaranteed certain educational rights, known as procedural safeguards, from birth through 21 years of age. This training will help parents make informed decisions for their child.

- **Participation in the Individualized Education Program (IEP) Process (Session 2)**

February 23rd

This PowerPoint Training provides an overview of the purpose of an IEP, who should be a member of the IEP team and attend the meetings; how to prepare for and participate in the IEP process; what to do when you disagree with the proposed program for the student; and how to track progress in the child's program.

- **Parents as Advocates (Session 3)**

March 9th

This PowerPoint training includes information on effective communication, what to do when you disagree with the proposed program and following the chain of command. The training focuses on why it is important to learn appropriate advocacy skills and how parents teach their children to advocate for

To Register to Attend

Classes Contact:

Rhonda Martin

480-987-5321

Or

Rmartin@jocombs.k12.az.us

CHILDCARE

TO BE

PROVIDED