

Hartford News

A Newsletter of the Hartford University School for Urban Explorations
2227 E. Hartford Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53211
(414) 906-4700

Honor Roll Students

The Hartford Middle School has announced the students who made the Honor Roll during the first semester. The Honor Roll recognizes those students with a grade point average (GPA) above 2.90. Congratulations!!

	Platinum (4.00)	
Sierra Boyce	Thomas Horgan	Clare Loughran
Benjamin Mondry	Lorenzo Ramirez	Hannah Smith
	Gold (3.50-3.99)	
Lillian Solheim	Kenza El Abdallaoui	Oscar Sprangers
Sierra Randall	Daniel Tesfaye	Kayla Triplet
Jaelyn Dailey	Albair McMurray	Lucy Yang
James Kevlin	Jaques Thompson	Julian Mackey
Nicholas D'Amato	Marqueesha Peace	Javion Mosley
Aneiya Thompson		
	Silver (3.00-3.49)	
Brittani Cook	Jennifer Jackson	Jalisa Rodgers
Tasneem Badani	Jamarcus Dills	Tyler Reed
Shengyin Vang	Scott Stephanie	Anika Anderson
Lia Hutchins	Josephine Hildebrandt	Bryon Cobb
Jeshon Alexander	Shangmeng Vang	Kayla Logan
Marquelle Boone	Lcreasei Tate-Hess	Gianna Ricks
Mia Morgan	Mohammad Hayder	Teyah Thompson
Roderick Rush, Jr.	Maurion Sherrod	Brian Xiong
Natalie Wright	Brittnie McDaniel	Sedgwick Martin
Anaya Brooks		
	Bronze (2.90-2.99)	
Donald McGraw III	Zane McShahrin	Zhane Brown
Jaheed Hayder		

February 2010

Calendar

2/25	Family Heritage Night 6:00-8:00 pm
3/4	Governance Council Meeting 4:30-6:00 pm
3/4	PSO Meeting 6:00-7:30 pm
3/9	Parent-Teacher Conferences
3/10	
3/12	No School
3/15	No School
3/31	Science and Technology Night 6:30 to 8:00 pm
4/1	Last Day of School
4/2 - 4/9	Spring Break No School
4/12	Back to School
4/15	Governance Council Meeting 4:30-6:00 pm
4/15	PSO Meeting 6:00-7:30 pm

Family Heritage Night

Feb. 25th, 6:00 to 8:00 pm

Make plans now to attend Hartford Family Heritage Night on February 25th. Dinner will be served in the cafeteria beginning at 6:00. A main dish will be provided, but families are asked to bring a dish to pass. Come share your favorite salad, side dish, or dessert with the Hartford community. After dinner, there will be performances in the auditorium by Hartford students beginning at 7:00 pm. The Hartford Band will perform, along with students from grades 1 through 5. The 7th grade Drumming Circle will also make a featured appearance. You won't want to miss it!



Black College Bowl II

Five Hartford 8th graders are currently studying for the Black Knowledge Bowl II (BKB2). Sponsored by the Social Development Commission (SDC), BKB2 is an intellectual challenge that provides teams of students an opportunity to grow academically, learn about African-American history, and bring about positive change in the community. BKB2 will be held at the Milwaukee Public Museum on Friday, February 26th. Last year, there were teams from 12 schools, and organizers hope it grows this year. Watch next month's newsletter to find out how the Hartford team performs.

Six Flags Reading Club

Hartford is participating in Six Flags' Read to Succeed Reading Club. The Club encourages kids in grades K through 6 to read for fun. Every student who participates will receive a free ticket to Six Flags upon the completion of 6 hours of recreational reading before the end of February. Children in classrooms that are participating will receive a reading log to bring home. The child then logs 360 minutes (6 hours) of recreational reading — books, magazines, newspapers, or comic books. An adult initials the log to verify that the child met the requirement for 6 hours of reading. Though reading for homework does not count, other types of reading can add to the total whether the child reads alone or with an adult. Because late entries will not be eligible for a Six Flags' ticket, be sure to submit the completed form by the deadline date on the form. The Reading Club coordinator for Hartford is Ms. Lathrop, so any questions may be directed to her.

Articles for this newsletter may be submitted by any Hartford student, parent, or staff member. The deadline for the next newsletter is March 11th. Are there events or community activities that you would like to hear more about or share with others? Leave your articles for submission in the PSO mailbox in the office. Please write "Newsletter" on your submission so that it is routed properly. You may also e-mail submissions to danburz@att.net. Call Dan Burzynski at 263-0685 with any questions about submissions or the newsletter.

Basketball Skills Challenge

The Recreation Division of MPS is participating in the National Skills Program, which gives boys and girls ages 9-14 the chance to demonstrate their shooting, dribbling, and passing skills on the basketball court. Boys and girls compete separately in their respective age groups — 9/10, 11/12, and 13/14, with local winners having the opportunity to advance to Regional and National competitions. Ages are determined as of May 14, 2010.

At the end of the month, there will be two competitions—participants can choose to compete in either (but not both):

Thurs. Feb 25th	Sat. Feb. 27th
Brinton Community Center	North Division
2555 S. Bay St.	1011 W. Center St.
6:00 pm	Noon

The event is free. For more information, call 475-8942.

Hartford's New Website!

Want to share this newsletter with your friends and family?? Anyone can read it online at the school website. Visit the school's site at <http://HartfordUniversitySchool.weebly.com>. At the Hartford PSO page, there are links to all of the newsletters from this school year. You can also see some great pictures on the site, get forms you may need, and find out more about the school. You can also see a list of dates, so that you are sure not to miss any upcoming events. You can also leave a question or comment. If you have any questions or contributions regarding the website, contact Ms. Lane. Her e-mail address can be found at the site, along with the e-mail addresses of other Hartford teachers and staff.

Tell everyone you know, friends and family, to visit HartfordUniversitySchool.weebly.com!!

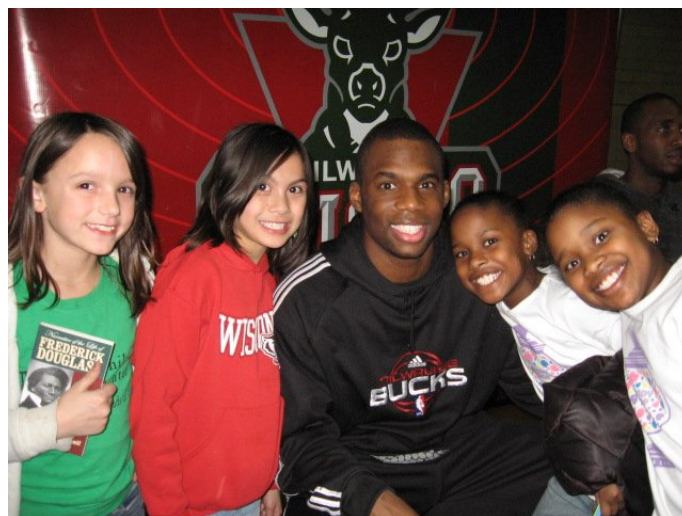
UWM's College for Kids

UWM has released the schedule for the 30th year of College for Kids, an opportunity for motivated and interested children to pursue academic enrichment in the summertime. Kids entering grades K5 to 8th grade can explore art, computers, languages, culture, music, science, and social sciences at UWM's campus (familiar to most Hartford students). Grade-appropriate sessions are two hours a day for 1 or 2 weeks. Students may attend a single session, or may combine sessions for a full day. Sessions cost \$89 to \$149, depending on subject and materials. The prices have not gone up since last year! Before and After Care is an additional fee. Scholarships are available for students who are eligible for free or reduced lunch. For more information or to receive a brochure, call 227-3360 or visit www.sce-kids.uwm.edu.

New this year, College for Kids is offering Family University. Family U. is a two-day camp for families to grow together. Kids attend classes over the course of two days, August 9th and 10th, with parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles, or adult siblings. As long as there is at least one adult per two children, any combination will work! Each day features an educational topic for the family to explore together: chemistry, dance, genealogy, theatre, science, astronomy, architecture, engineering, and more. If you choose, you can even stay in the dorms together. The cost is \$185 for two people, with additional adults for \$125 and additional children for \$85.

Snuggle Up and Read

For the second year in a row, Hartford University School's Author's Night was entitled "Snuggle Up and Read" and featured special guests from the Milwaukee Bucks. Besides Bango, Hartford got a visit from Luc Richard Mbah a Moute (a 2nd year player from UCLA, in a return appearance to Hartford) and Jodie Meeks (a rookie from Kentucky). With the support of the Milwaukee Bucks, the help of Sam's Hope Literacy Foundation, the leadership of Kirsten Lathrop, and the hard work of many volunteers, everyone had fun.



Natalie, Bella, Braelynn, and Brianna meet Jodie Meeks



Sierra & Celia show off the autographed hats they won

There was also an appearance from Hartford's drummers in the gym and some poetry recitations from middle school students in the auditorium. Thanks to Ms. Lathrop, Ms. Poytinger, Mr. Dunning, Ms. Oulahan, Dr. Ellwood, Ms. Smith, and everyone else who volunteered to help support the event. It was great!!

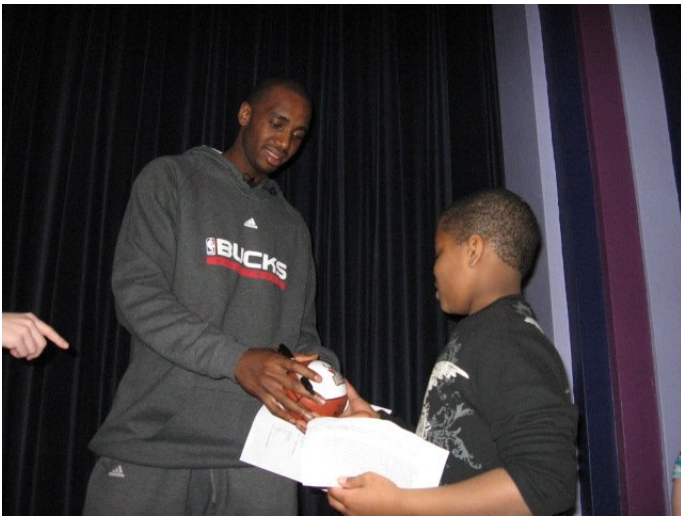
While Luc Mbah a Moute led the older students in a Literacy Challenge in the auditorium, Jodie Meeks read to the younger students around his feet in the gym. John Steinmiller (VP of Business Operations for the Bucks) also came and encouraged the kids to read. Thank you to the Milwaukee Bucks, Luc and Jodie, and Sam's Hope Literacy Foundation.



Hartford students battling Bango in the trivia quiz



Jodie Meeks and John Steinmiller enjoy answering questions (mostly about toys) from Hartford's youngest students



Luc Richard Mbah a Moute signs a ball for a Hartford student



Hartford 3rd graders enjoy the free books they received

Want to share these photos with your friends? You can enjoy all of the pictures on these 2 pages at the Hartford website. Link to this newsletter on the PSO page, and your friends and family can view these pictures. Visit the website at HartfordUniversitySchool.weebly.com!! Do you have pictures you would like to share? E-mail them to Ms. Lane for inclusion on the website or to danburz@att.net for inclusion in the next newsletter. You can also drop off print pictures at the office.



Hartford students, eager to answer Luc's questions

Biennial Music Festival

The 43rd MPS Biennial Music Festival is tentatively scheduled for May 5th and 6th at the U.S. Cellular Arena. Begun in 1924, the festival showcases the musical talent from throughout MPS. Some Hartford students will once again participate in the elementary band and choir. Students who will participate in the festival will soon receive information about their role. Instrumental students will begin Saturday practices in February, while the grades that will join the district choir will soon begin learning the songs that they will perform. More information will be sent home soon.

Bay View Baseball

The Bay View Area Redcats have begun to form teams for their Youth Baseball Leagues. Baseball teams are co-ed. The leagues are set up according to age: there are teams for kids from 5-6 years old (coach pitch), 7-8, 9-11, and 12-14 (ages as of 6/1/10). New this year, there will be a league for girls' fast pitch softball for 8-11 year old and 12-15 year old girls (ages as of 8/31/10). Sign up before March 1st — practices start in March. The cost is \$75, with an expectation to sell at least 30 Mr. Z's items. For more information, call 482-7264 or go to www.bvaredcats.org.

Family Concert May 20th

The ACE program (Arts in Community Education) continues to bring musicians and performance artists to Hartford in order to expose our kids to a variety of music. ACE teaches our kids about music, rhythm, dance, and art. Family concerts provide an opportunity to involve the whole family in the ACE performances. Mark your calendar now for May 20th. At 6:00 that night, the Milwaukee Brass Quintet will come to Hartford for a concert. ACE concerts are always enjoyable and educational. You won't want to miss this one!! For more information about the musicians, go to www.milwaukeebrass.com.

Kemps' Milk Caps

Thanks for helping collect Kemps' milk caps! After collecting the caps for the Nickels for Schools program, Hartford was able to receive a check for \$70 after sending in 1400 milk caps. That is a lot of nickels! This money will help support family nights and other PSO activities. Please continue to send your Kemps' milk caps to school with your child.

Improving Reading Skills!!

Hartford is always testing kids' skills, monitoring progress. There were recently tests done to monitor students' reading skills, and the results were amazing. The improvements shown over the course of the year show that Hartford's literacy and reading approach are working.

There are some students who deserve special recognition. The students listed below made over one year's progress in reading in just the first semester! Some went from being below grade level to being above grade level in just one semester, while many who were already at or above grade level are now testing even further above the standards.

Taylor Roberson
Addison Griffin
Marissa Morgan
Liban Ali
Zariah Washington
Jonna Loreau
Kierain Kevlin
T.J. Shumpert
Ben Lichtenstein
Conner Gavin
Dwayne Sampson
Victoria Gant
Jocelyn Gibson
Sharissa Johnson
Tania Simpson

Kaye Clark
Camryn Love
Natalie Redding
Noah King
Melisenda Dixon
Maura Horgan
Joseph Robinson
Kylan Scruggs
London Goodman
Tydijha Brownlee
Markiel Robb
Isaiah Curry
Jamarea Gillie
Sydni Jones
Mia Sims

Congratulations for showing such amazing progress in the first semester! Expect your teachers to continue to challenge you and push for excellence and progress in reading.

Be sure to review your child's report card to see how your child's reading skills measure up. The reading level (except for the youngest grades) is shown with the grade and semester (1st or 2nd). For example, a 3.2 reading level is the 2nd semester of third grade, and a 5.1 level is the 1st semester of fifth grade. If you have any questions about your child's reading level or literacy program, please contact his or her teacher.

Hartford's Budget Decisions for 2010-11

With the rising costs of benefits in the district, Hartford had some difficult decisions to make regarding next year's budget. The administration, staff, parents, and Governance Council at Hartford have once again proven that they are creative and wise people who can maintain a high quality of education, even in the midst of a shrinking budget. Facing the reality of nearly \$500,000 of budget cuts, everyone knew that sacrifices would be made, but a high-quality urban education at Hartford University School was not to be given up. The Governance Council was committed to retain a full-time art and music program at Hartford; if anything, there will be more of the arts next year. However, there will be some changes, subject to the ever-changing state, city, and district budgets:

- The Guidance position (currently held by Ms. Kush) will be reduced to 3 days a week. The Governance Committee indicated that restoring some time to this position would be a priority if some additional money would become available.
- The Bookkeeper position (currently held by Ms. Tassara) will be reduced to half-time.
- Three of the ten paraprofessional staff positions will be lost.
- The Physical Education position (currently held by Mr. Wamser) will be reduced to one day a week. Mr. Wamser will be retiring after this year. Because state law requires middle school students to receive physical education from a certified P.E. teacher, a P.E. teacher will come one day a week for middle school students. Elementary physical education will be conducted by classroom teachers. However, Hartford has creatively decided to use this opportunity to bring regular movement and dance instruction (from ballet to hip hop to yoga) to engage primary grade students in physical activity.
- The Reading Resource Teacher position (currently held by Ms. Oulahan) will be eliminated.
- The Split Classroom position (currently held by Ms. Hurst) will be eliminated. One of the reasons that Hartford has had to make some cuts is because Hartford was budgeted 14 less students by MPS, effectively eliminating this classroom. That decision is currently being challenged by the Hartford administration, and there is some hope that the position may be restored.

Many parents have asked what they can do to help. There are some small things you can do to help address the changes:

- Make sure your children are ready for school. Everyone's instruction time can be maximized by having all kids who attend school every day, on time, with their homework done and ready to hand in.
- Please respond quickly and completely to all requests from school. Teachers who spend a lot of time making additional requests for permission slips, homework, or information from parents have less time for instruction.
- Consider becoming a coach of one of Hartford's teams. With Mr. Wamser retiring, many of those teams will not exist if a parent does not step forward to coach. You don't need to be the most talented athlete to give kids their earliest instruction in a sport.
- Spend time reading with your kids. Losing the Reading Resource position may mean less reading support at Hartford, but parents can help make up for that by reading with their kids, taking them to the library, and instilling a love of reading.

PSO Activities

The Hartford PSO currently has \$7,290.64 in its bank account. The PSO has recently used the money raised from the Mr. Z's pizza sale to pay for shirts for the Lego Robotics Team (\$53), registration and awards for the Spelling Bee (\$141), basketball team shirts (\$395), and the registration and materials for the Black Knowledge Bowl (\$85). The PSO also voted to pay for more Hartford Hurrahs and for food for Family Heritage Night at the end of the month. You can help decide how our money is being spent to support Hartford by attending PSO meetings. The dates and times for meetings appear on the front page of the newsletters. We hope to see you on March 4!

Spring Break Plans

Looking for something to do with the kids during the week of Spring Break (April 5-9)?

Skating Camp for Kids is a fun way for new and experienced ice skaters ages 6 to 12 to spend some time on the ice at the Petit Center (500 S. 84th St.). Children can attend 1/2 day from 9-12 (\$90) or full day camp from 9 to 4 (\$165). Kids will practice the basics of skating and learn about ice sports. There will also be plenty of time off the ice to learn about our Olympic heritage with games and crafts. Call the Petit Center at 266-0100 or visit www.thepetit.com for more information.

Danceworks (1661 N. Water St.) offers a Creative Arts workshop from 9:00 to 4:00 during this Spring Break. Danceworks staff will guide students ages 5 to 11 in music, creative writing, drama, and dance. The camp ends with a final production on Friday afternoon to share what was learned. The camp costs \$220 and Before and After Care are available for an additional fee. For more information, call 277-8480 or go to www.danceworksme.org.

Science Night

March 31st

Mark your calendar for Science and Technology Night on March 31st. In an exciting addition to the annual Science Fair, employees from G.E. have adopted Hartford and will volunteer to help make the Science Fair better and more exciting than ever. They are already working with students who are participating in Project Lead the Way. Watch for more information about the Science Fair in the next newsletter.

Thanks to everyone who donated to Hartford's drive to support the relief efforts in Haiti. With your support, we were able to raise almost \$550 and collect lots of needed items. Your generosity is appreciated. Thanks to everyone who donated and those who helped organize the efforts.

Girl Scout Cookies

Congratulations to Hartford's Girl Scout troops on their successful cookie sale. In their first year of existence, the 3rd grade girl scouts sold nearly 2,000 boxes of cookies and raised over \$1,000 for their troop! The 5th grade troop also sold lots of cookies and raised money for their upcoming camping trip and other activities.

If you forgot to buy your Thin Mints, Caramel Delights, and other tasty Girl Scout cookies, Hartford's 5th grade girl scouts will be selling cookies at the East Point Pick N' Save (605 E. Lyon Street) on Sunday, March 28th from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Stop by and get your cookies!!

Discovery World Camps

Discovery World offers week-long summer camps from June 21st through August 27th. Programs are split up by age groups — ages 7-8, 9-10, 11-12, and 13-14. Discovery World camps are oriented around themes related to technology, engineering, science, nature, communication, arts, and innovation. Study marine biology, chemistry, astronaut training, botany, animal habitats, fossils, robots, or the science of sailing (to name a few options). The cost for the camps is \$300 per week (\$275 for Discovery World members). Regular camp hours are 9:30 to 4:30, though before and after-care is available for an additional fee. Discovery World is located on Milwaukee's lakefront at 500 North Harbor Drive. For more information, call 765-9966 or visit their website at www.discoveryworld.org.

Not sure what to do this summer? The MetroParent Camp and Education Fair is coming to Divine Savior Holy Angels School (4257 N. 100th St.) on Saturday, February 27th from 10 to 3. It is a great chance to find out about summer activities.

Hartford Goodbye

Ms. Ciezki, the middle school Social Studies teacher and 6th grade homeroom teacher for Room 5 has left Hartford to become a mentor for other teachers. We wish her well in her new position. She will be missed!

Spelling Bee Update

Congratulations to Hartford's spellers! After their success at Hartford's Spelling Bee in December, Curtis Cook (7th grade), Oscar Sprangers (6th grade), and Katie Jackson (5th grade) recently represented Hartford at the Regional Bee. There were 33 students representing 7 districts in southeastern Wisconsin, but Hartford was the only MPS school represented. Curtis, Oscar, and Katie not only represented Hartford well, but also reflected well on MPS. The Regional Bee went for 10 rounds, with the winning word being *proximity*. Curtis made it through 2 rounds, Oscar made it through 3 rounds, and Katie made it all the way through 6 rounds before missing a word. Congratulations for all your hard work! The entire school community can be proud of their accomplishments. Thanks, too, to Maria Dixon for her work to promote the spelling bee at Hartford. She is already getting ready for next year!

Urban Ecology Center Camps

The Urban Ecology Center (UEC) in Riverside Park and Washington Park is already planning summer camps. Campers of all ages will enjoy a variety of outdoor games, nature exploration, hiking, canoeing, fishing, swimming, and songs. Older campers will also get to kayak, bike, and go on an overnight camping trip. Sessions run throughout the summer for a variety of age groups. Costs vary from \$135/week for some half-day camps to \$230 for some full day camps. All camps cost less for UEC members. Scholarships are available for students who are eligible for reduced lunch at school, and preference is given to students who attend partner schools like Hartford. As part of Hartford's partnership with the UEC, all Hartford students have visited their Riverside Park site and are familiar with the great learning opportunities that exist there. Information is available on the UEC website (www.UrbanEcologyCenter.org) or by calling 964-8505.

Hartford University School Coffee Fundraiser

Hartford's Coffee Sale was designed to insure that Hartford students continue to have the opportunity to learn at the Urban Ecology Center. The PSO is committed to raise the money necessary to pay for the students' visits to the UEC. Under the leadership of Paula Storniolo, a Hartford parent, we are selling Stone Creek coffee to support the students' field trips to the UEC. Remember, all of the money raised goes directly to support the trips to the Urban Ecology Center. The cost of all coffees is \$12.00 per bag.

Types of Coffee

Cream City Blend (Regular and Decaf)

A blend of highest-quality Guatemalan, an extremely smooth and chocolaty Ethiopian Harrar, and our French Roast — rich, full, & mellow.

Organic Fair Trade Blend

Organically grown Sumatran coffee—a smooth well-balanced cup of coffee with a bright, fruity finish. It is Certified Fair Trade.

French Roast

Our French Roast is a rich, dark cup of coffee with a noticeable undercurrent of bittersweet cocoa and a surprisingly smooth, satiny finish.

Hazelnut

This smooth, well-balanced coffee has the perfect touch of hazelnuts - rich taste and aroma of hazelnuts fresh from the shell.

Return Order forms and payment to: School Office, Attn: Paula Storniolo

All forms must be returned with payment!!

Cost Per 1 lb:	\$12.00		\$12.00		\$12.00		\$12.00		\$12.00		
Blend:	Cream City Blend		Decaf Cream City Blend		French Roast		Organic Fair Trade Blend		Hazelnut		Amount Due
1 lb Bag:	Beans	Ground	Beans	Ground	Beans	Ground	Beans	Ground	Beans	Ground	
<i>Example:</i>	1	1					1			1	\$48.00
<i>Order Here</i>											

Student Name: _____ Room # _____ Grade: _____

Check box for delivery: deliver to student pick up from school - provide phone # _____

Orders will be filled within 2 weeks of receipt