



DOWNTOWN ACADEMY
CHARTER MIDDLE SCHOOL
OF
TECHNOLOGY AND ARTS
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Proud to be 2007 National Charter School of the Year!

March 24, 2008

Dear Parents, Guardians, Students, Members of the DATA Board, Teachers, and Staff:

Greetings from the Downtown Academy of Technology and Arts; we hope you and yours are all happy and well.

There will be no school on Friday, this week. March 28, 2008 is a teacher in service day and students do not attend school. **This Thursday, students are dismissed at 1 P.M.**

This week is spirit week for the students of the Downtown Academy of Technology and Arts. There are several themed days and **the students may come to school out of uniform free of charge; only if students are dressed for the theme of the day.** The daily themes are as follows:

Monday- Culture Day (Celebrating diversity) show off where your family is from or embrace the U.S.A. wear the colors of some other country or red, white and blue to honor your American spirit.

Tuesday- Wacky Tacky Day (have a little fun with clothing and colors that do not match)

Wednesday- Jersey Day (honor your favorite sports team by wearing a shirt or jersey to school)

Thursday- Twin Day (students can plan to dress like each other) **dismissal at 1 P.M.**

All Broward County Schools dress code policies will be enforced and no open toed or backless shoes.

Next week, there is no school for the students. I hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable Spring Break. Students are expected to return to school on Monday April 7, 2008.

Gold Coast Roller Rink Skate Party (2604 South Federal Highway, 33316) will be taking place **Thursday, from 3P.M. to 6 P.M.** Please plan to have students leave the roller rink promptly at 6P.M. **Admission will be \$8 and an additional \$1 if renting skates.** All friends and family members are welcome to attend. Please come out and enjoy a family friendly afternoon. The number to Gold Coast is 954-523-6783, if you need directions.

The school will be having a book fair this week. **Students will be able to make purchases between the hours of 7:30 and 7:55 in the morning and again in the afternoon between 3 and 3:45. On Wednesday March 26th, the afternoon hours will be extended to 6 P.M. We will be having an Open House for perspective students.** Please inform others and invite them into our wonderful school.

The **Executive Board** for the Downtown Academy of Technology and Arts will be having its **next meeting on Wednesday March 26, 2008.** The board meetings are always open to the public and parents are always welcome. Please consider attending and possibly offer your input as we continue to make this a great school.

Attached you will find a wish list. The students are constructing a butterfly garden for the Earth Day events that we have planned with the Museum of Discovery and Science. Please consider donating any of these items and/or your time to this worthy project.

Thank you for your continued assistance, input, and support.

David Jett, Principal

Butterfly Garden Wish List (In order of importance)

1) **BUILDING MATERIALS**

Treated Outdoor Lumber to construct raised beds of 10 ft x 10 ft x 1.5 ft Dimensions

- a) We need approximately 8 posts which will stand ~3 - 5 ft Tall and be attached to the raised beds.
- b) Ply wood cut to the above dimensions of 10ft long, 18" high, thickness should be around 1/2" and treated for outdoor use.
- c) 2 x 4's to frame in the plywood and give support to the structure
- d) Nails and Hammers

2) **PLANTING MATERIALS**

- a) Ecosoil (Compacted Peat Moss) bags covering 3.8 cubic feet approximately 10 bags
- b) Water-hose and nozzle
- c) Plants needed:
 - 1-2 Wild Lime Trees (*Zanthoxylum fagara*)
 - 3-4 Butterfly Weeds (*Asclepias tuberosa*)
 - 2-3 Passionflower (*Passiflora suberosa*)
 - 4-5 Parsley Plants
 - 3-4 Wild Lantana (*Lantana involucrata*)
 - 1-2 Firebush (*Hamelia patens*)
- d) Pond Liner (small and shallow) with broad, flat stones