



◆NEWS RELEASE◆

A TEACHABLE MOMENT “LIVE” FROM SPACE: GARFIELD ELEMENTARY STUDENTS TO TALK TO ASTRONAUTS

Boise , ID -- 09/21/09 -- Math and science will come alive on Thursday, September 24, 2009 when students from Boise School District’s Garfield Elementary School will take to the airwaves at exactly 2:34 p.m. Mountain Standard Time to speak to astronauts onboard the International Space Station.

Students representing all grade levels at Garfield will have an opportunity to speak directly to the astronauts as the space station orbits above Earth and passes directly over Idaho at the specified time. The students will participate in a conference call that will allow them to ask a series of questions related to the astronaut’s mission and students’ growing interest in math and science.

The conference call will serve as the culminating activity for students as they have been learning about the importance of math and science in expanding knowledge and horizons. “This once-in-a-lifetime event has captured the attention, imagination, and passion of our Garfield students,” said Garfield Elementary Principal **Greg Oram**. “I cannot begin to tell you how excited our students are to be able to speak directly to these astronauts and to develop a better understanding of what it must be like to serve on the International Space Station and the role math and science play in their daily lives up in space.”

The conference call will last for approximately 9 minutes and 30 seconds. During that time, a total of 16 Garfield students will pose the following questions to the astronauts:

Students First Names & Questions:

1. Joab: How are you able to walk on the outside of the space station and not fall off when it is travelling over 17,000 miles per hour?

2. Aylin: Do you ever get lonely on the space station?
3. Devon: Do you throw your waste outside?
4. Jarvis: How long do you stay on the space station?
5. Kenna: Can you see any manmade objects from the space station?
6. Emily: How do you take a shower, brush your teeth and sleep without gravity?
7. Lourdes: How do you handle someone getting upset or homesick?
8. Maxamus: Are there any other life forms in space?
9. Joab: How long did it take to build the space station?
10. Aylin: Is it hard to eat and sleep on the space station?
11. Devon: If you stay in space too long will your bones have holes in them?
12. Jarvis: Do you play games on the space station?
13. Kenna: How do you feel when you return to Earth after living in weightlessness?
14. Emily: Does water boil faster in space than it does on Earth?
15. Lourdes: Has anyone been hurt on the space station?
16. Maxamus: Does the building of the space station mean that people will live in space permanently?

The students will assemble 45 minutes prior to the start of the 2:34 p.m. conference window.

Note: News media interested in covering this historic event are asked to arrive at Garfield Elementary School, 1914 S. Broadway Avenue, Boise, at 1:45 p.m. to allow for plenty of time to set-up for coverage of the event.

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