

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are delighted to share with you that our students will participate in a Pennies for Peace campaign from November 2-24. Pennies for Peace is a service-learning program designed to broaden our students' cultural horizons while teaching them about their capacities as philanthropists - one penny at a time.



Pennies for Peace is a program of Central Asia Institute (CAI), founded by Greg Mortenson - author of the #1 New York Times best seller, *Three Cups of Tea*. CAI is a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that promotes and provides community-based education and literacy programs, especially for girls, in remote mountain regions of Central Asia. Founded in 1996, CAI has built, to date, nearly 100 schools in Afghanistan and Pakistan, which serve more than 28,000 students - over 14,000 of whom are girls.

How can a penny bring peace? It doesn't buy much in our community. However, in the villages of Pakistan and Afghanistan, a penny can buy a pencil, start an education, and transform a life. In a region where terrorist organizations recruit uneducated, illiterate children, that pencil can empower a child to read, write, and learn. The Pennies for Peace program goal is to encourage our students, who are ultimately our future leaders, to learn the value of philanthropy by collecting pennies for global peace.

Our students will join tens of thousands of students around the world who are participating in the Pennies for Peace program and who are working together to become members of a global family dedicated to peace.

If you have any questions about our Pennies for Peace campaign, please feel free to contact Mrs. Ertel or Mrs. Zimmerman at 464-3165. Our students are eagerly looking forward to this new adventure!



Sincerely,

Mrs. Ertel & Mrs. Zimmerman



A penny in the United States has little worth, but in Pakistan and Afghanistan a penny buys a pencil and opens the door to literacy:

- 1 penny = one pencil**
- 2 pennies = one eraser**
- 15 pennies = one notebook**
- \$2 or \$3 = one teacher's salary for one day**
- \$20 = one student's school supplies for one year**
- \$600 = one teacher's annual salary**
- \$5,000 = support for existing school for one year**
- \$50,000 = one school building and support for up to five years**

(Source: Central Asia Institute)

