



March 2010 Newsletter

PTO MYTHBUSTERS

Upcoming events:

- * 03.26 ~ Popcorn Sale~1st gr
- * 04.02 ~ Half Day
- * 04.05-09 ~ Spring Break
- * 04.13 ~ PTO Mtg. 7 p.m.

Popcorn Sale

The 1st grade is sponsoring the popcorn sale this month! Proceeds from these sales go directly to the sponsoring grades account to pay for supplies and other items!



Internet Safety Night is coming! Win a free educational computer game for your child! Attend the upcoming Internet Safety Night for a free chance to win. Watch for a flier with details or keep an eye on our website at www.rossparkpto.org.

Ice cream social & book bingo! We're planning an ice cream social this spring with a new twist: Book Bingo! Each gently used book or board game you bring gets you one bingo card, and each winner gets to choose a book or game from the ones other people brought in. The date's not set yet, so watch for details!

Myth: The PTO is just for stay-at-home moms.

FACT: The PTO is for everyone! Our volunteers are mothers, fathers and those who fill those roles. We have a wide range of volunteers who: stay-at-home; work part-time to full-time; have little ones at home, preschoolers, high schoolers and/or college students; are continuing their own education; and more.

Myth: The PTO has all the help they need.

FACT: The PTO welcomes everyone and continues to need volunteers for various events, fundraisers, and committees year-round. We need you!

Myth: Volunteering for the PTO takes too much time.

FACT: Only YOU can decide how much time you can give. Even if you can help at just one event or handle one task per year, it would be greatly appreciated.

Myth: PTO volunteers need to be at the school during the day.

FACT: Much of the PTO work can be done from home on your own schedule, or at events at night or weekends. Yes, there is volunteering during the school day if you are able to do so. But no one does it all, so choose what works best for you.

Myth: The PTO has the same volunteers year after year and everyone knows each other.

FACT: While we are fortunate to have dedicated volunteers who return, we also welcome new ones every year. We do strike up friendships and enjoy getting to know one another. This year, we already have several new Committee Chairs and volunteers, and we have not all met each other yet. Our volunteers include parts of children from all grade levels, so it's a great chance to get to know parents from other grades you may not have met otherwise.

Myth: The PTO is all set with their activities and events for the year.

FACT: Each year, the PTO brings back favorites and tries new activities, fundraisers and events. Those new ideas come from volunteers. For example, a volunteer thought it would be great to have a school store and made it happen this year. While we try to plan ahead, **it's only the beginning** of the school year and there's still plenty of time to do even more for the students and school this year. **And we want you to be a part of it all!**

You can order Ross Park Apparel at: www.cafepress.com/rossparkpto

Visit us at: www.rossparkpto.org

Meet our Teachers

Name: Christina Morse

Grade: 2nd

Family: I am married to my husband of 7 1/2 years, Doug. I have twin Daughters, Carly and Cara, who are 3 years old, and baby on the way.

Teaching experience: This is my 3rd year teaching at Ross Park. I started off teaching 5th grade for one year, and this is my 2nd year teaching 2nd grade.

Hobbies/Spare Time activities: I really enjoy spending time with my family, playing volleyball, and camping. I also love to read and scrapbook.

Favorite Food: My favorite food is Chinese. I especially like General Tso's Chicken, vegetable lo mein, egg rolls and crab meat ragoon.

Favorite thing about Ross Park: The students, families, and staff at Ross Park are amazing! Having worked in 5th and 2nd grade, I have been able to work with many of the staff that we have in this building. In my experience, the staff truly cares about each other and are willing to give their time and expertise to help others out



PTO Bylaw Changes

PTO members at the April meeting will discuss and vote on an overhaul of the PTO's bylaws.

The proposed revisions include preparing and approving a budget for the following school year by May, expanding the Executive Board to include two classroom liaisons if they're elected, revising the duties of the officers, and eliminating absentee voting.

The revisions also would allow the president, instead of the membership, to fill vacancies on the Board; allow the Board to take votes by e-mail between meetings; strengthen the Board's power to remove an officer for failure to perform his or duties and allow the membership to seek removal of an officer; remove the requirement for an expensive annual outside review of finances in favor of keeping a year's worth of statements available for review; and make it easier for members to call a special meeting.

Even the official name and the purposes of the PTO are revised in this nearly complete rewriting of the bylaws.

The proposed new bylaws are available on the PTO's Web site at www.rossparkpto.org/docs. Printed copies are available on the counter in the school office. Time will be allotted at the April meeting to discuss any questions or concerns before voting on the changes; if you have questions but cannot attend the meeting, please contact Stan Miller at 780-9219 or vp@rossparkpto.org. The meeting is April 13 from 7-8 p.m. in the school library.

Box Top Snowball Fight Results

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Box Top Snowball Fight in February. The response was AMAZING and the school collected 5,744 Box Tops...which will add up to a check for around \$575!!!! All the classrooms rallied at the end. The following is a break down of classroom collections:

Dreese = 103	Lane = 204
Bronsema (AM/PM) = 371	Eigenauer = 204
Eckerman (AM/PM) = 341	Overway = 49
Hellmann = 585	Young = 145
Leenhouts = 341	Belanger = 272
Dolphin = 473	Sylvester = 355
Chasco = 393	Warren = 56
Susterich = 178	Jensen = 741
Morse = 756	
McMahon = 177	

Congratulations to Mrs. Morse's class who won by just 15 Box Tops!!!! Thank you again to all who participated...the Box Tops have been sent and hopefully the school will get a check before the end of the year to be distributed evenly to all the teachers. Please continue to save and send in Box Tops!

