



Husky Herald

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January 2012

Happy New Year!

It was nice to walk around the building this week and again enjoy the sounds of the students walking through the halls and the teachers engaging those students in the classrooms. It was nice to talk with other parents to hear the stories about the great times they had with their families over the winter break. It was even nice to again get into our "routines" to make sure our children are ready for another challenging day at school. Life is good.

I am looking forward to 2012 and I know that the Husky community is up to the challenges that await them. Remember the Blue Envelope Campaign is ongoing, so if you have not made your much needed donation (blue envelope not required), please do so soon. Do not forget we still need your help as a volunteer. Whether it is in the classroom, the office or on a committee . . . THE HUSKIES NEED YOU! We are still in search of a chairperson(s) to oversee the popular Spring Fair. If we do not have someone to chair this event, we will have to consider cancelling the Spring Fair for this year. This community has always exceeded expectations when it comes to supporting their children, and I know you will again rise to the occasion.

Keep your eyes open for email updates and backpack flyers about upcoming events and activities the PTA is offering this winter and spring.

- Joe Haren, PTA President

Things to Remember:

- Turn in your blue envelope donation
- Bring in your Box Tops, Campbell Soup labels, and used ink cartridges to help raise easy money for our school
- Spirit Nights are 1/11, McDonald's & 1/24, Domino's. Clip and save the Domino's form in the back!
- Sign up to volunteer for Spring Fair, Variety Show, Bulletin Board Coordinator and more...

PTA Officers 2011-2012

Joe Haren, President: Clearspring.PTA@gmail.com

Tracey Benden, Vice President Membership: tabenden@msn.com

Heather Garrett, Vice President Fundraising: garrehe@gmail.com

Karen Shimp, Treasurer: shimpy4@verizon.net

Tiffany Broadus, Corresponding Secretary: tnm@hotmail.com

Nancye Shipe, Recording Secretary: nas114@verizon.net

Upcoming PTA Meetings

Held in the Husky Den/Media Center at 7 pm, 1st Tuesday of the month. Babysitting services are available.

February 7

March 6

April 3

May 1

June 5

PTA Sponsored Events

Science Fair

Ever wonder if a plant would grow better if you gave it Coke or orange juice instead of water? Want to figure out which brand of popcorn leaves the least unpopped kernels and try to determine why? Thinking about how batteries or magnets or electricity works? If you are curious about these or similar questions, you will definitely want to participate in the 2012 Clearspring Science Fair! Registration forms for this year's Science Fair went home with students this week. They are due **January 18th**. If your registration form has been misplaced, another one can be printed out from a link on the Clearspring website at <http://montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/clearspringes/>.

Parents: If your son/daughter is interested in participating in the Science Fair, please review the Participation Packet, which is also available on the Clearspring website. This packet provides a wealth of information and tips regarding the Science Fair, including a description of the types of projects that students may complete, an overview of the scientific method, and the criteria for judging.

Once again this year, students will be awarded ribbons based on their level of satisfying the science fair objectives. All students have the opportunity to be awarded a blue ribbon. One "Best of Show" ribbon will be given to a project in grades K-2, and another "Best of Show" ribbon will be awarded to one project in grades 3-5.

Questions can be directed to the Science Fair Coordinators (Kay Mangan, Mike Mangan, and Karen Mitch) at ces_sciencefair-owner@yahoo.com.

Foreign Language Winter Session- Registration has been extended!

Foreign Language registration for the winter beginner sessions of Spanish, Chinese and French have been extended until **January 12, 2012**. Please log on to www.fles.org or download and fill out one of the registration forms from the Clearspring website and return it to your child's teacher along with payment. Beginner language classes are a great way for your child to experience a different language in a small group environment. Hurry and sign up today while space is still available! Please email nas114@verizon.net with any questions.

2012 Variety Show

It will be here before you know it! So get your acts together now and be on the look out for the tryout dates!

Box Tops 4 Education + Campbell Soup Can Labels + Used Ink Cartridges = \$ for Clearspring!

Did you know that we continue to collect Box Tops and Campbell Soup can labels and used ink cartridges all through the year? These are easy ways for us to make money for our school. Just clip, save, and bring in these items anytime of the year!

It's simple and it's easy money for our school!

Wednesdays are Spirit Nights at CES!

Sometime it's just too cold to cook! So why not stop by the McDonald's in Damascus on **Wednesday, January 11** between 5 -8 pm and 15% of all sales will go to the CES PTA!

Then order from Domino's Pizza in Damascus on **Wednesday, January 25th**, mention Clearspring, hand in your classroom slip, and 15% of sales will go our school! Plus the classroom that orders the most pizzas on Domino's Spirit Night, wins a pizza party for their class! Domino's order form and coupon is in the back of this newsletter!

Easy dinner, easy money!

Thanks for your support!

PTA Fundraisers *The CES Blue Envelope Campaign is Underway!*

We are on our way to reaching our goal but still need your help by making a blue envelope donation!

OUR GOAL THIS MONTH: TO COLLECT 10 MORE DONATIONS!

Thank you to those who have already sent their donations in. If you haven't done so yet, do not worry, remember this is an ongoing campaign and we are still collecting blue envelope donations.

In this age of rapidly changing technology, it is tough for schools to keep up. That's why the CES PTA wants to help our school by raising money to provide smart boards (interactive white boards) at every grade level, and eventually one in every classroom.

With a price tag of around \$6,000 each, we will be looking at all opportunities to raise the funds, including alternative sources such as grants and corporate sponsorships.

In addition to raising funds for technology, we must also raise monies for our ambitious operating budget. Here's how the Blue Envelope Campaign works:

Any amount, anytime. You decide how much and when you want to donate. This is an on-going campaign throughout the school year, so no pressure or deadlines to make your donation.

Anyone can donate. Ask grandparents, aunts, and uncles if they would like to contribute to enhancing your child's educational experience too!

Check your company for match programs. Many corporations will match employee donations. Check with your company HR department to find out about possible company match programs.

It's a tax write-off! All donations are tax deductible! Please consult with your tax advisor.

Make checks payable to **CES PTA** and send to school in the envelope provided.

So please consider making a donation of any amount you feel comfortable and remember to check your company's policies on corporate donation matching. It could just be the difference in your child's educational experience!

Inside the numbers:

- 100% profit for CES
- With a minimum donation of \$25 per child, CES would get \$15,725! (629 students X \$25)
- Potential to double the amount of money raised compared to traditional fundraisers

Watch our profits grow from the Blue Envelope Campaign and our other fundraisers!



Volunteer Opportunities

Variety Show

Talent of all varieties is needed to help get this show on the road. Stage managers, lighting, sound, videographer; if you have the expertise or are interested in helping out, please contact Tiffany at tnm@hotmail.com.

Spring Fair

Another great event we always look forward to but is in danger of not happening this year if we do not get someone to volunteer to be the Chair Coordinator. This exciting event takes lots of planning and organizing to make it happen. If you would like to get involved, please consider chairing the Spring Fair! For more information, please contact clearspring.pta@gmail.com.

Damascus Cluster Study Circle

We are looking for a representative from Clearspring to join the Damascus Cluster Study Circle. This study circle is sponsored by the NAACP and will have six meetings on Thursday nights from 6:30-8:30 at Baker Middle School. The first meetings begin on Jan 19th. If interested, please contact, Joe Haren at clearspring.pta@gmail.com.

Upcoming Dates

January

- 11 - Spirit Night, Damascus McDonald's, 5-8 pm
- 16 - No School, MLK Day
- 23 - No School, Professional Day for teachers
- 24 - Parents Academy: Curriculum 2.0
at Clearspring Elementary School, 7-8:30 pm
- 25 - Spirit Night, Damascus Domino's Pizza
- 30 - Parents of 5th Graders attending Baker:
Articulation Meeting at Baker Middle School,
7 pm

Bulletin Board Coordinator

Looking for a volunteer to update the PTA calendar events bulletin board. This job is done on a weekly basis and takes only about 20-30 minutes to complete. Anyone interested contact Joe Haren for more details.

Join the PTA

It's not too late to join the PTA. The 2011-2012 School Directories are printed and they look great! We have a few left over, so if you join the PTA today for just \$20 per family/\$10 for a single membership, you will receive your own copy, plus important and informative PTA ListServ messages.

Download the membership form today at:
montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/clearsprings/parents/ and send your form and money in to Clearspring PTA!

Clip & Save Order Form for Spirit Night at Domino's 1/28/12



Order Tonight

TO SUPPORT CLEARSPRING
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PTA!

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS...

- On the date listed below, 15% of your total order price will be donated back to your child's PTA by Domino's Pizza.
- Just fill out and give the form below to your Domino's Pizza representative on delivery or at pickup, and we'll take care of it from there!

As an added Bonus for your Child:

- The class with the greatest participation at the end of the month will receive a pizza party!

CALL US NOW! Damascus 301-253-8880

✂ ✂ ✂ Please Cut Here & Give to your Domino's Pizza representative upon Delivery or Pickup!

Domino's Pizza Purchase Form

School / Organization: **Clearspring Elementary School**

Date: **Wednesday, January 25, 2012**

Teacher / Class: _____

Your Name: _____

Phone #: _____ Total Order Amount: \$ _____

Doubles Deal
2 Large 2 Topping Pizzas &
1 Order of Cinn Stix
\$26.99

Family Meal Deal
2 Medium 2 Topping Pizzas &
One order of Lava Cakes
\$17.99

Pizza & Chicken
Large 4-Topping Pizza
& 8 Pc Order of Chicken
\$15.99



If you have news to share with the Clearspring community, please contact the Husky Herald Editor: Heather Garrett, garrehe@gmail.com

To be published in the next HH newsletter, please submit articles/information no later than the third Friday of the month.

Deadline for news items for the February issue is January 20, 2012.

Clearspring Elementary
9930 Moyer Road
Damascus, MD 20872
Ph: 301-253-7004

Principal - Holly Steel