



Husky Herald

Volume: 4

Issue: 1

September 2011

Don't forget to join us for Back to School Nights: Sept. 14th Gr 1-3 and Sept. 15th Gr 4-5

Welcome Back

Hello Clearspring Parents,

My name is Joe Haren and I am the President of the Clearspring PTA. On behalf of the PTA, I would like to welcome back you for what hopes to be another exciting school year.

As many are aware, the PTA offers many enrichment programs designed to provide your sons and daughters with opportunities to explore and develop their interests. The PTA also offers social programs which allow students and parents/guardians to interact together in a fun and relaxing environment. Lastly, PTA supports the building staff, who are the bedrock of our student's success, with financial resources and parent volunteers. We are fortunate to have a building staff that is invested in this community and share the same goal . . . for our children to be successful.

Looking ahead at this school year, our goal is to continue our current programming, while at the same time, introduce new ideas and programs to further enrich the members of the Husky Community. One area that we are going to be focusing on this year is technology. The goal is the place a Promethean Board (interactive white board) at every grade level, with a plan to eventually place one in every classroom. With a price tag of around \$6,000 each, we will be looking at all avenues to raise the funds, including alternative sources such as grants and corporate sponsorship. If you have a talent for writing grants or know of possible donors, your assistance would be appreciated. Besides raising funds for technology, we must also raise monies for our ambitious operating budget. Over next month the PTA will

be introducing our fund raising strategy and events. We know that the members of the Husky Community have been very supportive in the past and we hope that your generosity will continue in the future.

I am looking forward to working with you as your PTA President, and I know that we are going to have a GREAT year.

- Joe Haren, PTA President

We have a new fall art fundraiser

Art to Remember packages went home this week. The artwork is to be completed at home on your own time or you can have your child do it after school from 3-5pm on Friday September 16th.

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

Meet the PTA during Back to School Nights

Join us September 14th & 15th for Back to School Nights. Members of the board will be available to meet and greet you.

September 14: Grades 1-3

September 15: Grades 4-5

Plan for School Year with PTA Sponsored Extra Curriculum Activities



Chess Club

The Chess Club is now accepting registrations for the fall, winter and spring sessions. The fall session will start September 15th and meet Thursday afternoons at Clearspring. All students K-5 are welcome no matter what the skill level!

Download registration form from the CES/PTA website or contact Cora Rosenhaft at crosenhaft@gmail.com.

FLES Program

The Foreign Language in Elementary Schools (FLES) is a unique language learning program available to children grades K through 5. The classes are total immersion and introduce children to speaking, reading and writing the language through singing, reading and entertainment. FLES teachers are fluent in the language and native to the culture. We are excited to offer Spanish, French and Chinese classes this year. New this year; beginner classes will be offered in two 12 weeks sessions, with the fall session beginning early October and the winter session beginning January 2012.

Spanish classes are offered weekday mornings before school and French and Chinese are being offered after school. Costs for intro (20 weeks) and intermediate classes (24 weeks) are \$260.00 and beginner classes (12 weeks) are \$130.00. Classes will start in October. Registration forms have been sent home or can be downloaded from the CES/PTA website. Please contact, Nancye Shipe at nas114@verizon.net for more information.

Group Piano Lessons

We have a wonderful afterschool group piano program at Clearspring Elementary School. Children in 2nd grade and up are eligible to take group piano lessons. They are held once per week throughout the school year and classes are grouped based on experience and ability. The classes usually range from 3 to 8 students per group and lessons last up to an hour. The group method has been taught in Montgomery County for over 40 years, and all teachers are certified. During the lesson, the children take turns at the piano while classmates play keyboards. Note reading, theory, ear training, harmony and sight-reading are included in the lessons.

For information, please contact Allison Greer, Clearspring Group Piano PTA Chairperson at 301-253-5853 or carlallisongreer@verizon.net.

Drama Kids

It's time to get DRAMATIC! We are pleased to once again offer all the high-action fun of the Drama Club on Friday afternoons from 3:15-4:15 p.m! Whether your child has acted before or not, they will love the chance to spread their imaginations as they read classic tales from around the world, get inspired to build their own story, then bring it all to life. We will have a club for grades K-2, and a club that builds to a performance on the last day for grades 3-5. The clubs will run 10 weeks, from the end of September until winter break, for only \$16/week. If your child would otherwise go to Ms. Jo during that time, you may be able to offset part of the club cost by reducing your fee to Ms Jo – talk to her for details. The PTA also has a limited amount of financial assistance for interested families who cannot otherwise participate – call for information. Any questions? Contact Karen Shimp at 301-933-2223 / shimpy4@verizon.net. Checks won't be deposited until the club starts, so don't wait – turn in your registration TODAY!

Safeway Gives "10% Back to Schools"

It's that time of year again! Safeway's program that benefits Clearspring Elementary directly!!! 10% Back to Schools Program started on August 10 and runs through September 13. So here's how you can help:

1. Look for the school Bus Tags on participating items (they are bright yellow with a school bus on them)
2. Use your club card to buy those items (stock up on things you need!!! Buy extras!)
3. Make sure your club card is linked to Clearspring. You can go to www.backtoschools.escrip.com or simply clip the bottom of your receipt with your redemption code on it and turn it into the main office at school addressed to Lindsay Haley/PTA.



PTA Budget Approved!

The 2011-2012 PTA Budget was approved at the general PTA meeting on Tuesday, September 7th. Please review as we have changed the line item structure.

CES 2011-2012 PTA Budget			
Description	Budget	Sample breakdown	
INCOME			
Bingo	300.00		
Book Fair	2,000.00		
Box Tops	1,000.00		
Blue Envelope Donation Drive	14,375.00		
Misc Fundraisers (Casino Night, etc)	2,500.00		
Market Day groceries	1,000.00		
Spirit Nights	1,000.00		
PTA Membership/Student Directory	3,000.00		
Sally Foster/Market Day	0.00		
Spring Fair	3,000.00		
Art	1,200.00		
Store Rebates (Safeway, Giant, Target)	2,000.00		
Yearbook	200.00		
TOTAL INCOME	\$31,575.00		
EXPENSES			
Wish List (Fall '11 & EOY)	\$6,000.00		
Beautification and Building Maintenance	100.00		
Classroom Supplies	1,875.00		
Grade level supplies		400.00	*
Art Supplies		300.00	*
Guidance/Mentor		275.00	*
Music/Chorus		500.00	*
PE		400.00	*
Coffee House (5th Grade)	50.00		
Community Outreach/Inclusion	100.00		
NAACP-PC		100.00	*
Conferences-PTA	250.00		
Conferences-Staff	1,200.00		
DHS Prom	250.00		
Student Enrichment (In- and Out-of-School)	6,000.00		
Cult. Arts, Science Fair, etc.		3000.00	*
Extracur. Act. (Field Trips, KMO, etc.)		2,000.00	*
Extracur. Act. Scholarship		500.00	*
Visiting Author		0.00	*
Husky Dashers		500.00	*
In/Out	0.00		
Media Center & Media Tech Fund	4,000.00		
Movie Night	100.00		
Oper. Exp. (Insurance, Treas., Cor. Sec., etc.)	1,950.00		
Ins., Stamps, Env., Shipping etc.		600.00	*
Pink and Poster Paper		250.00	*
Xerox		1,100.00	*
Parent Appr. (Donuts w/ Dad, Muffins w/ Mom)	1,200.00		
Safety Patrols	900.00		
Memorial Scholarship	1,000.00		
Staff Allowance	4,000.00		
Staff Appreciation	1,250.00		
Variety Show	1,100.00		
Volunteer Appreciation	250.00		
TOTAL CURRENT YEAR EXPENSES	\$31,575.00		
CAPITAL INVESTMENT - LONG TERM			
Promethean Boards - Gr K and 1	\$7,000.00		
Promethean Boards - Gr 2 and 3	\$7,000.00		
Promethean Boards - Gr 4 and 5	\$7,000.00		
TOTAL PLANNED CAPITAL EXPENSES	\$21,000.00		

Don't Forget to Get Your Campsite "Fall, Under the Stars"

Clearspring Family Campout
Friday, September 23rd – 24th, 2011
Little Bennett Regional Park, E-Loop
Campsites (Off Rte. 355 in Clarksburg)

Join Clearspring friends and families as we spend a night out under the stars at Little Bennett Regional Park! Enjoy spending time outdoors with your friends and have an opportunity to make some new friends as we begin our school year! There will be a campfire, songs, s'mores, stories, skits and a night hike too; afterwards, plan on crawling into your tent or sleeping out under the stars,

CAMPSITE RESERVATIONS: To reserve a campsite, contact Lyn at Little Bennett Campground, (301) 972-9222 and reference confirmation #1194593.

COST: \$21.00 per night.

Spirit Nights are Back!

Stop by the McDonald's in Damascus on Wednesday, September 14th between 5 -8 pm and 15% of all sales will go to the CES PTA!

Easy dinner, easy money!
Thanks for your support!

2011-2012 Committee Chairs and Coordinators		
Art To Remember	Patricia Walker	pwalker@bechtel.com
Bingo Night	Candice Carlin	ccarlini@yahoo.com
Book Fair	Pat Murphy	patrickjm@verizon.net
Box Taps for Education	Anna Hunter	a_w_hunter@hotmail.com
Bus Driver Appreciation	Maggy Singer	mascam3@yahoo.com
Bylaw Review Board	Celeste Filoia	cbfiloia@gmail.com
	Arminda Frias	Afrias@geico.com
	Tina Rieger	tinarieger@verizon.net
Casino Night		
Chess Club	Cora Rosenhaft	crosenhaft@gmail.com
Clearspring Family Campout		
Coat Swap	Jennifer McDonald	jenbmcd@comcast.net
	Allison Greer	carlallisongreer@verizon.net
Cultural Arts	Stephanie Von Feck	vonfeck.stephanie@epa.gov
Directory	Tracey Benden	tabenden@msn.com
Donuts with Dad	Crystal Ewing	splingette@yahoo.com
Drama	Karen Shimp	shimpy4@verizon.net
e-Scrip Donations	Lindsay Haley	lindsay.haley@verizon.net
FLES	Nancye Shipe	nas114@verizon.net
Golf Tournament		
Grandparent's Day	Namita Chaudhary	namitachaudhary@yahoo.com
Group Piano	Allison Greer	carlallisongreer@comcast.net
Hands On Science	Darci Botti	dbotti@yahoo.com
Heritage Night		
Homeless Walk	Pat Murphy	patrickjm@verizon.net
Husky Dashers (MSA Club)	Melinda Schwartz-Oliver	melindaschwartz@verizon.net
ICB Coordinator	Dawn Haren	dawnharen@verizon.net
Kindergarten Round-Up	Dawn Lee	dlee1342@aol.com
Monthly Market Day	Tina Crooke	Tina_M_Crooke@mcpsmd.org
MCPTA Delegate		
Movie Night	Mark Amberg	Mark_Amberg@mcpsmd.org
Muffins with Mom	Denis Dunathan	ddunathan@hotmail.com
Newsletter	Heather Garrett	garrehe@gmail.com
Nominating Committee	Maggy Singer	mascam3@yahoo.com
Pennies for Patients	Margie Apgar	margieapgar@yahoo.com
Read-A-Thon	Jennifer McDonald	jenbmcd@comcast.net
Reflections Art Program		
Science Fair		
Senior Center	Ann Gray	anngray1@gmail.com
Snoop Shop	Kate Groves	kategroves@verizon.net
Special Needs	Arminda Frias	Afrias@geico.com
Spelling Bee (Scripps)		
Spirit Night	Heather Garrett	garrehe@gmail.com
Spirit Wear (Apparel Sales)	Diane Aubley	Daubley@aubley.com
Spring Fair (main)		
cake walk	Karen Mitch	mitch90@aol.com
inflatables		
teacher treasures		
silent auction		
food		
Staff Appreciation	Heather Cornwell	cornwellh@yahoo.com
Variety Show	Tiffany Broadus	tmm@hotmail.com
Volunteer Coordinator	Dawn Lee	dlee1342@aol.com
Website	Heather Garrett	garrehe@gmail.com
Yearbook		
Veteran's Day	Maggy Singer	mascam3@yahoo.com

Join the PTA Help us make this the best year yet for our children at Clearspring. Join the PTA for just \$20 per family/\$10 for a single membership and that includes the 2011-2012 School Directory 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!

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 October issue is September 16, 2011.

CES PTA Needs You!

Look over the Committee Chair positions to your left and see what might interest you. There are some chair positions still open for the 2011-2012 school year, plus each committee can also use more helpers. So see what fits your fancy and when you sign up to join the PTA make sure you fill in the volunteer section.

Volunteer Opportunities

Chorus

Mr. Amberg, our Music teacher, is looking for some volunteers to help out with our chorus rehearsals this fall/winter. He needs some volunteers to escort students to and from the cafeteria to rehearsal. He is also looking for a piano accompanist to help out during rehearsals and performances this fall/winter. Rehearsals are held Wednesday from 11:30am-1:30pm. If you can help in anyway, please contact Mr. Amberg at: Mark_Amberg@mcpsmd.org.

Reading Groups

Mrs. Cumberland is seeking a parent volunteer to assist with reading groups one morning each week. Interested parents must love books and kids. If you are interested, please contact her directly at Kathleen_C_Cumberland@mcpsmd.org.

Art to Remember

We need 5 or 6 volunteers after school on Friday, September 16 from 3-5 pm in the cafeteria for the *Art to Remember* fundraiser. We are offering students the opportunity to stay after school and create the pictures for the *Art to Remember* PTA fundraiser. Volunteers will help ensure that children complete their drawings in accordance with the art requirements. If you are available to help please contact at pwalker@bechtel.com.

Upcoming Dates

September

- 13 - Safeway escrip donations program ends
- 13- Spirit Night at Damascus McDonalds 5-8 pm
- 14 - Back to School Night, Grades 1-3
- 15 - Back to School Night, Grades 4-5
- 23 - School Family Campout "Fall Under the Stars"
- 28 - Early release day for K-12
- 29 - Rosh Hashanah; no school

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

Principal - Holly Steel