

RIDGEVIEW MIDDLE  
SCHOOL



16600 Raven Rock Drive  
Gaithersburg, MD 20878  
Phone: 301-840-4770

# The Key

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE RIDGEVIEW MIDDLE  
SCHOOL PARENT TEACHER STUDENT ASSOCIATION

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## From the Desk of the Principal, Dr. Levine

As I write this article we are nearing the end of the Maryland School Assessments (MSAs.) A few weeks prior to the tests our school had a series of preparatory "MSA Sprint" activities, culminating in a total school Pep Rally the Friday prior to testing. Students, teachers and staff all got into the act, with student emcees, the Step Team leading the cheers, and the teacher rock band the "Proficients" and the staff "Proficient Dancers" joining in the fun. So far we have had nearly perfect student attendance every day, and not one teacher has out the entire week. I applaud the students' and staff's unity of purpose, sense of responsibility, and the seriousness with which they've taken on the challenge of these assess-

ments. Well done!

Although the MSAs are major assessments for the students and the school other high stakes tests are also on the horizon. After spring break ESOL students will take the LAS LINKS test. In May all Algebra students will take the Algebra HSA, and all eighth graders will take the Science MSA. Semester exams follow in June. During this time our teachers are continue to plan and deliver rigorous instruction across the curricula and our students are working hard.

During these weeks we are actively working to shape the master schedule for next year. I am pleased to see that next year so many students continue to reach for rigorous, high level courses. Next year we continue to phase in the Middle School Reform rigorous curricula in grades 6

and 7 science and 7 and 8 social studies for all students. Students who would have been in GT level English in grades 7 and 8 will be in the Advanced English courses. In math more students than ever are enrolled in higher level courses, and we continue to move closer to the goal of successful completion of algebra for all students by the end of grade 8. Our focus on the 7 Keys to College Readiness is an ongoing goal across the school.

As always I thank all of the parents and families for our strong school/home partnership this year. We are very fortunate to have excellent teachers and staff, an extraordinarily supportive parent and family community, and terrific students.

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

School News & Upcoming Events 2

PTSA President & Committee News 3

Committee News, School News and Upcoming Events 4-5

Key Dates Calendar & PTSA Officers 6

# ENJOY SPRING BREAK

## Committee News, School News and Upcoming Events...

### JOIN THE QUINCE ORCHARD HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND

The Quince Orchard High School Marching Band would like to invite all current 8th graders (incoming freshmen) to consider joining the Band for the Fall 2010 season. Students currently in the 7th grade who also have an interest in joining should ask about special opportunities for middle school students.

Parents, one way to help ensure the success of your high school freshman is to encourage him or her to be an integral part of a supportive community. The Marching Band is an outstanding example of such a community.

Joining the Marching Band:

- \* introduces your child to students from all four classes from which great, life-long friendships develop;
- \* provides them with a strong, positive, academically solid peer group;

\* gives a community of caring and involved parents;

\* provides competition and performance opportunities;

\* develops leadership skills with involvement in the student leadership team;

\* requires no musical or marching experience, just a willingness to learn!

\* is fun! fun! fun!

The Marching Band really needs students for Color Guard, pit percussion, and drum line as well as all instrumental sections.

Come find out who we are and meet band members, parents, and staff. Please join us for dinner at Fuddruckers (in the Potomac Valley Shopping Center) on Tuesday, March 23rd from 5:00 - 9:00 pm. Be sure to men-

tion the Marching Band when you order, and don't forget to ask us for your free souvenir!

For information on joining the band, contact Mr. Phillip Proctor, Band Director, at 301-840-4591 or by email at [Phillip\\_Proctor@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Phillip_Proctor@mcpsmd.org). Parents, feel free to contact the Parent Committee Coordinator, Carol Burbage, at 301-869-8177 or [carol.burbage@montgomerycollege.edu](mailto:carol.burbage@montgomerycollege.edu) if you have questions or would like a parent perspective.



### Bobcat Wii and Board Game Bracket Challenge - April 9, 2010

Please Join us for the **Second Annual Bobcat Wii and Board Game Bracket Challenge** Sponsored by the Ridgeview Middle School Father's Group.

**Date & Time:**

Friday, April 9, 2010 - 6:00p - 9:30p

**Location:**

Ridgeview MS Cafeteria

We had a great time last year and hope you can join us to make this year's event even bigger and better!

Parents will square off against their kids in the following Wii video games: Baseball; Guitar Hero; Golf; and Bowling, and in the following board games: Chess, Checkers and Connect Four.

This is a great way for students (boys and girls) and their fathers, grandfathers, uncles and others to

have fun in a competitive, yet friendly environment. Moms, aunts and grandmothers are also welcome! Refreshments will be available. Hope to see you there!

Eric Minkoff

[eminkoff2002@yahoo.com](mailto:eminkoff2002@yahoo.com)

# Committee News, School News and Upcoming Events...

## From the PTSA President - Holly Parker

Although it feels like we just started the school year and were setting up for back to school night, it is already time to begin the planning process for next year.

I would like to ask each of you who will have a student at Ridgeview next year to consider being a part of the leadership at our school. For some people, that may include offering your name for an officer posi-

tion. For others, the service may be in the form of a PTSA committee chair. And for others, it may be committing to several volunteer hours on a particular project.

If you are interested in having your name considered by the nominating committee for an officer position this year, please contact one of the following people:

- Jane Webster #301-990-8868
- Susan Morrison #301-977-9230
- Faith Adler #301-258-8940

*It takes each of us to make a difference for all of us.*

*Jackie Mutcheson*

## GET DIRTY AND SSL HOURS AT THE SAME TIME

Spring is around the corner and RMS beautification committee is looking for volunteers or students who need SSL hours. No experience needed just willing to enjoy the out-

doors, help with planting, mulching, get dirty and enhance the appearance of you school. Please contact Kim Gleason at [igleason@msn.com](mailto:igleason@msn.com)




  
**ALL PARENT VOLUNTEERS  
ARE INVITED:**
  
**VOLUNTEER LUNCHEON**
  
**THURSDAY, MAY 13TH**
  
**11:00AM—1:00PM**

Committee News, School News and Upcoming Events...

## The Bobcat Players Present



**April 23rd: Opening Night 7:00 pm**

**April 24th: Matinee 1:30 pm**  
**“Meet the Characters Social”**

**April 24th: Finale 7:00 pm**

### ADMISSION

**\$5.00 Student \$7.00 Adult**

**\$25.00 Family Package**

**Family Package: Family of 5 or more im-  
mediate family members**

Committee News, School News and Upcoming Events...



## The SECRET PASSCODE RMS

Join us for Restaurant Night benefitting  
**Ridgeview Middle School**

Bring this flyer with you and tell the spunky cashier  
The SECRET PASSCODE RMS and 25%  
Of sales is given to RMS PTSA fund for student activities.

**California Tortilla Restaurant**  
Gaithersburg (Quince Orchard)  
12211 Darnestown Road  
Gaithersburg, MD 20878  
Phone: (301) 330-8214

Tuesday, March 23, 2010  
**Benefit Hours 5pm - 9pm**

Yee-Ha! California Tortilla was voted best vegetarian restaurant in Washingtonian Magazine's Best of Reader Poll. Ask about the vegetarian friendly options.

## Note these Key Dates



### SAVE THESE DATES

MSA Testing Dates  
 March 9<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup>  
 Make-up days March 22<sup>nd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>  
 Please do not plan to be out of town on these dates or plan any appointments where your child would need to miss school. It is very important that all students are in school on the testing dates.

March 27th through April 6th - Spring Break!

April 7th - Back to School

April 9th - Father's Group Wii and Game Night, 6-9:30, RMS Cafeteria

April 13th - PTSA Meeting, 7:00 PM in RMS Media Center

April 21st - NAACP Meeting, 7:00 PM

April 23rd and 24th - The Beauty and the Beast play at RMS

May 11th - PTSA Meeting, 7:00 PM in RMS Media Center

May 19th - NAACP Meeting, 7:00 PM

## PTSA Officers

### PRESIDENT

Holly Parker, 301/948-3170  
 cobbparker@aol.com

### FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

Elana Hoopes, 301/208-8143  
 elana.hoopes@eds.com

### SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

Donna Joe, 301/330-3588  
 djoe63@comcast.net

### SECRETARY

Lisa Torvik, 301/216-0232  
 torvikfam@verizon.net

### TREASURER

Dohi Shin, 301/216-9864  
 dohi.k.shin@baesystems.com

### MCCPTA REPRESENTATIVE

Nancy Ketterer, 301/977-6864

nlketterer@alum.vassar.edu

### QO CLUSTER REP

Tracy Husted, 301/977-7422  
 husteds@verizon.net

### GARDEINING

Kim Gleason

### BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

Kristin Paolini 301/977-1056  
 klpao@comcast.net

### BOOK FAIR

Chris Brott  
 Ronda Plante

### BUSINESS PROMOTIONS

Karen Chen  
 Linda Pett

### COMMUNICATIONS

Laura Mackail

### CULTURAL ARTS

Fran Finkelstein

### DESTINATION IMAGINATION

Kathie Rogers

### DIRECTORY

Susan Morrison

### FATHERS GROUP

Eric Minkoff

### FUNDRAISING

Diane Schmid

### GARDENING

Open

### GAZETTE

Jeanne Ellinport

### HISPANIC PARENTS LIAISON

Maria Laracuente

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Charise Geiling

### KEY EDITOR

Robyn Gault

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TMES - Randi Poli

JLES – Val Fuster

FRES – Tara Murayama

QOHS – Sue Wingate

### MATH OLYMPIAD

Ken Karapetyan

### MEMBERSHIP

Lisa Konecke

### MSA SNACKS

Suparna Shah

### NAACP REPRESENTATIVE

Miriam Mokuena

### PARLIMENTARIAN

Nancy Ketterer

### REFLECTIONS

Tara Murayama

### RESTAURANT NIGHTS

Wendy Shokrai

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 Barbara Textoris

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 Kerri Moyer

### STAFF LIAISON

Feri Jahanmir

### SCHOOL AWARDS

Jess Li

### SUNSHINE

Candace Neisen

### VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE – Jane Webster

7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE – Ann Marie Kase

8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE - Terri Cohen

### VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

### RMS

Elana Hoopes

### YAHOO GROUP

Laura Mackail

### YEARBOOK

Gayle Stabo

**Ridgeview Middle School PTSA  
16600 Raven Rock Drive  
Gaithersburg, Maryland 20878**