

RITCHIE PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PTA NEWSLETTER



NOVEMBER 6, 2009

- **International Night (11/17) and Skate Night (11/21)**
- **PTA News and Activities (pp. 1-2)**
- **More on the Math Curriculum (p. 2)**
- **Special thanks (p. 2)**

2009-2010 Ritchie Park

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PTA NEWS AND ACTIVITIES UPDATE

International Night—November 17th!
Don't forget to volunteer to bring a display, and to bring your family to participate. We need everyone to make it a success. Contact Cindy Grif-fiths if you have questions: cgrif-fiths@verizon.net.

Fundraising Drive Continues

The Back-to-School fundraising drive is continuing, and **Ritchie Park needs all the support you can provide.** Send your donation in an envelope marked "Fall Fundraiser" or mail it to the school. Donations are tax-deductible.

Skate Night — November 21st!

Don't forget to join the fun at the PTA

—sponsored Cabin John Skate Night, Saturday, November 21st from 6:30-8pm. The 5th grade will sell Potomac Pizza and drinks in advance of the event. Contact Paige Rothfeld with questions: paigerothfeld@ gmail.com.

Pizza Bingo Raffle Winners

Netbook Winner (Netbook generously donated by the Rockville Pike Best Buy):

Mia Triandiflou

Reserved Spot Winners

Alexander family—Nov/Dec

Katie Smith —Jan/Feb

Sosin family—Mar/April

Jennifer Young—May/June

Congratulations to all!

FALL-WINTER 2009-10 PTA SCHEDULE

November 17th	International Night
November 21st	Ice Skating @ Cabin John
Nov 30th - Dec 4th	Scholastic Book Fair
December 1st, 7:30pm	PTA Meeting / Mixer
December 3rd, 6:30-8:30pm	Storytelling Night
December 8th	Restaurant Night—California Tortilla
January 29th, 2010	Music and Dance Night
February 2nd, 2010	PTA Meeting
February 25th, 2010	Community Service Night

What has our PTA been up to lately?

The PTA supplied a \$250 incentive for Sally Foster sales—which will be used to purchase recess equipment for all students to use!

The Ritchie Park Listserv

Don't forget to sign up for the Ritchie Park PTA listserv today! **Simply send an email to: RPESPTA-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. Please include a simple message in your email (so that the listserv coordinator knows you're an RPES parent).** You will receive a response with directions for completing your subscription.

The Ritchie Park Elementary School PTA: Working together to make a difference

Visit our web site: <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/ritchieparkes/>

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PTA NEWS AND ACTIVITIES UPDATE, CONT'D

Q&A with Mrs. Coates!

On December 1st, the PTA will host a holiday meeting and Principal Chat/mixer. Mrs. Coates will join parents for an informal question/answer session to discuss the reading/language arts curriculum. Parents may submit questions in advance or ask them directly on December 1st. The holidays are a busy time, but don't let this valuable opportunity go to waste!

New NAACP Representative At RPES

Marquette Heaven, a new RPES parent (her daughter Marlee started Kindergarten this year) is now serving as the NAACP Parent Representative for Ritchie

Park. She's very excited about her role and is really looking forward to working closely with the PTA. One of her primary goals will be to try and encourage more involvement at Ritchie Park from its families of color. Interested parents can subscribe to the list serve at: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/RPES_Familiesofcolor or can contact Marquette at: 301-294-6540 or Marquette-Heaven@aol.com.

First Restaurant Night of the School Year

Please join us at California Tortilla in Cabin John Shopping Center on December 8th. Look for details on the special password that will yield RPES 25% of your bill.

INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT THE MATH CURRICULUM?

As many of you know, the PTA solicited comments recently from parents on the school's math curriculum; these comments were submitted to MCPS and are available via a link on the RPES website: <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/ritchieparkes/parents/>.

You may not know, however, that the MCPS K-12 Mathematics Joint Work Group was established to develop a comprehensive plan for strengthening the mathematics program in MCPS. The goal is to im-

prove the achievement of all students in mathematics systemwide. The work group is gathering input from staff, students, and parents; identifying issues and concerns; researching scientifically-based practices; benchmarking exemplary models; and analyzing data on the current state of mathematics in MCPS. For more information about the work group, check out the summaries of the Mathematics Joint Work Group meetings to date at:

<http://montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/math/workgroup/>

SPECIAL THANKS TO...

- **Reema Guegel and Jan Spencer**, for organizing Pizza Bingo, to **Laura Bach and Sharri Freedman** for 5th grade promotion sales, as well as the **teachers and Mrs. Coates** who called bingo numbers. **We couldn't have done it without you!**
- **Donna Lukish** for all her work managing and selling Spirit Gear (shirts, sweatshirts and magnets). They're all still available for purchase!
- **All of the families** that submitted comments about the MCPS math curriculum.
- The following individuals for their extra diligent work on Mrs. Dougherty's going-away party:
 - ♦ **Laurie Adcock**, who created the beautiful scrap book for Mrs. Dougherty.
 - ♦ **Sue Fontyn**, RPES Media Specialist and resident photographer, who took the class photos.
 - ♦ **Cat Goodyear and Erin Lobato**, who, with lots of help from students, created the beautiful banner and tissue flowers.
 - ♦ And last but not least, **Cindy McLoughlin** for all her work in coordinating the volunteers.