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## Rolling Terrace Elementary School

Dear Rolling Terrace Families,

I want to extend a big **“welcome back”** to all of our new and returning families from your Rolling Terrace PTA. It’s hard to believe an entire summer has breezed by! Hopefully you and your children are ready for the new 2009-2010 school year. Please know that your PTA, upheld by many wonderful parent volunteers, is working hard to help support growth, learning, and community building with many fun, educational, and innovative events, programs, and activities. I hope that you will join me, your new PTA President, in helping build and maintain our great Rolling Terrace community.

I hope to share with you some of my reasons for volunteering this year at Rolling Terrace to lead the PTA. I have four children ages 11, 10, 9, and 6. Three are here at Rolling Terrace and one just graduated onto middle school. To say the least, I have a lot invested here at RT! Long ago, as a new kindergarten parent, I remember feeling overwhelmed and frankly, too “green” to volunteer much beyond my child’s classroom. I didn’t know anyone and really didn’t know how to volunteer in a meaningful way. The next year however, with another child entering the school system, I grabbed another new parent, a neighborhood friend, and we decided to take on a vacant PTA committee.

That committee was staff appreciation, and what a ball we had! The staff’s appreciation for our efforts made volunteering so worthwhile. I really made the connection between parent participation and school environment. It’s absolutely essential and helps build the educational environment in which you child learns. Since those days I’ve served in many areas such as: PTA secretary, the International Festival, Career Day, student leadership and food and coat drives. Activities in these areas were only successful due to the participation of many parent volunteers. The other great thing I discovered about the PTA; you meet so many wonderful, giving parents, teachers, and school staff, all of whom give their time and efforts to make our school a truly special place for our children to be.

This year I hope to focus on organization, community building, equal access to PTA and RT programs for all children, and hopefully spread a feeling of volunteerism among our parents. I hope everyone has had a great summer. Along with many dedicated parents, I will be working hard to serve this community. - All the best: *Diana Combs, PTA President.*

*PTA is the Association of Parents & Teachers*