



Rolling Terrace News

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/rollinges>

Keeping Up with a Busy Spring at R.T.

Ready for some Flower Power?

From the PTA President

Dear RTES Friends and Families,

Spring is in the air and it is time to shake off your winter doldrums and get ready for some spring community building. Reconnect with the PTA in time for the International Festival, Spring Carnival, and Variety Show. It is never too late to get involved and we have all kinds of volunteer

opportunities to suit any schedule.

This is also a perfect time to start giving some thought to your plans for next year. We are forming a committee to nominate candidates for the PTA President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer for the 2008-09 school year. The charge of the nominating committee is to speak to diverse groups of parents and find potential new leaders for the PTA officer positions. We have wonderful leaders among us, now we just need to encourage them!

If you are interested in participating in the nominating committee please contact Diana Combs at diana-combs@earthlink.net or via phone at 301-972-3214. Elections are held in June, but it is never too early to start looking for our next PTA officers!

Everyone should have received a copy of the RTES Discipline Plan. The plans are available in both English and Spanish.

Please follow on p. 3

A publication of the Rolling Terrace PTA

April, 2008

April Events

17th Gardening Day
(3:05 - 4:30 pm)

17th - 18th Kindergarten Orientation
(9:00am- 3:00pm)

21st PTA Executive Board Meeting (7- 9:00 pm) *All are welcome!*

22nd Principal's Coffee (8:20 - 8:50 a.m.) Followed by "Rediscover RT "

25th Final Spanish Immersion Open House

From the Principal: R.T. Scores

Congratulations to the entire Rolling Terrace Elementary School Team!

Our school was identified as one of ten Title I schools in Montgomery County recognized for achievement on the Maryland School Assessment (MSA) by the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE). Our school was specifically recognized for improvements in subgroups scores from the 2006 MSA to the 2007 MSA. The school will receive a Maryland School Performance Recognition Grant totaling \$5,757.52.

I am very proud of the Rolling Terrace Elementary School team for our successes every day, but especially for the accomplishments on MSA that led us to receive this recognition!

-Jennifer Connors, Principal

May Events

2nd Family Fun Night
(7 - 8:30 p,)

6th PTA Meeting (7- 9:00 pm) *Please join us!*

12th - 16th Staff Appreciation Week

15th Evening of the Arts
(6:30 - 8:30 pm)

18th PTA Board Meeting
(7:00 - 9:00 pm)

21st International Festival

Maryland School Assessments in April

Salsa!

If your child is in third, fourth, or fifth grade, he or she has been taking the Maryland School Assessment (MSA).

This year in Montgomery County Public Schools, the MSA Testing Window is April 1 through April 11.

Additional information about the Maryland School Assessment can be found at <http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/MSDE/testing/msa/>.

Some Facts about MSA:

- The test meets the requirements of the federal No Child Left Behind Act.
- The test assesses the Maryland content standards in mathematics and reading.
- The test is administered annually to students in grades 3 through 8.
- MSA scores will show how well Maryland children have learned the reading and mathematics skills specified in the [Voluntary State Curriculum \(VSC\)](#). MSA scores will also show how children performed compared to other students across the nation.
- The test includes both multiple-choice and short-essay questions.

4th-Grade Latin Brings Cha-Cha-Ching!

We are happy to report that the Latin Dance fundraiser for the 4th grade was a wonderful success! Not only did we raise more than \$1000, but the food, music, dancing, and company were fantastic.

Thanks so much to those who worked in the planning and organizing group: Roberta Bregstone, Debra Brink, Diana Combs, Jackie Gutierrez, Lisa Hack, Steve Harvey, Vilna Bonilla-Kenny, Karen Konrad, Laura Kriv, Beth MacNairn, Menchu Martinez, Vanessa Martinez Penn, Jessica Moore, Alma Orellana, Karen Penn de Martinez, Christine Reesor, Altagracia Richardson, Heather Skilling, Amanda Wessel, and a very special thanks to Lois Wessel, whose efforts and enthusiasm were a major contributor to the success of this event!

Thanks to the teachers and staff members who joined us, some of whom also cooked and just about all of whom lit up the dance floor: Ms. Abushaikha, Ms. Richardson, Ms. Robles, Ms. Solomon, Mr. Speaker, Ms. Stanley, ... there may have been others we missed in the crowd! Special thanks also to Ms. Connors and Ms. Morrow, who supported us in the planning process and also in doing the cha-cha slide!

Local restaurants El Gavilán, El Sitio, and La Casita donated food – remember them next time you're planning dinner out. Trader Joe's donated the gift basket of goodies for the raffle – thanks so much to these generous businesses.

And a huge thank-you to our fantastic dj, Tico, who donated his time and the use of his professional equipment. He did such a terrific job with just the right mix of music throughout the evening! Those of you hoping to hire him for an upcoming can reach him at 240-888-9512.

And of course, thanks to all the wonderful members of our Rolling Terrace community who came, who COOKED, who bought tickets, who danced, who cleaned up, and who made this evening such a joy and a success! On behalf of the 4th graders and their families, thank you, thank you, THANK YOU!

[Karen Penn@starpower.net](mailto:KarenPenn@starpower.net)

Ice Cream Social Helps 5th Graders Stay Philly Bound

Thank you to all parents who participated on fifth grade ice cream fundraiser. With generous donations we made \$600 to go toward our Philadelphia field trip, which was fantastic!

Thank you for your support.

Fifth Grade Team!

From the PTA President, p. 1

Please make sure you have read the plan with your student and that you have returned the signature page to your child's teacher. In an upcoming PTA meeting we will be discussing the plan and giving the RTES community an opportunity to give their input for the 2008-09 plan, so stay tuned for a date soon. In the meantime, if you did not receive your copy of the discipline plan, please ask the Front Office for an additional copy.

On a final note, I want to extend my deepest thanks to the many parents, staff members, and community partners who make our school such a special place. Thank you for taking the time out of your busy schedule to share your talents, energy, and dedication with RTES. The PTA is here to support students, families, and staff. If you should have any suggestions, concerns, or questions please feel free to come to any of our meetings, call, or email us and we will do our best to serve you!

Saludos,

Nora Cartland, PTA President, 301-592-0341 home, rtpta_pres@yahoo.com

BOOK FAIR TALLY

Thanks to Leigh Sours and Heather Skilling and Donna Victoria and all the willing parents who volunteered. The book fair was a tremendous success, raising \$805 in surplus. Generous parents donated another \$686 to help fund the \$5 kid vouchers so every student could buy a book. Teachers got \$892 worth of new books as well, and we donated \$127 worth of books to the Media Center!

- Parry Wilson, PTA Treasurer

Study Circles For RT

The MoCo Public Schools Study Circle Program is coming to R.T. The objective of Study Circles is to build a unified group of diverse parents, teachers and staff members that understands the challenges and benefits of a diverse school. Trained facilitators help participants build relationships, develop a better understanding of each other and plan actions to help the school community move forward.

-Jennifer Connors

Jennifer.Connors@mcpsmd.org