



Dear Carderock Parents:

At last-- the final electronic backpack mail of the year!



I know that your plates are overflowing with year-end events, but I have a few final bits of housekeeping, and words of thanks.

First, we held our final PTA meeting of the year last week, and I was delighted to see so many parents in attendance. Mrs. MacLaughlin shared staffing news and plans for math instruction for next year, we had an opportunity to meet and to hear from incoming principal Rock Palmisano, and to say farewell to Mrs. MacLaughlin. Many thanks to Katie Coleman and Jenn Fechter for organizing the reception, and to other parents for bringing in treats. If you were not able to attend the meeting, the minutes are posted online, on the PTA website, at <http://www.csespta.org/minutes.html> .

Second, if you have assisted or chaired any PTA activities this year that required you to make a purchase for your event, please submit your receipts as soon as possible to Cyndi DeBisschop, PTA Treasurer. Our books close for the year on July 1, and we would love to have all reimbursements paid by then. You can download a form on the PTA website at <http://www.csespta.org/forms.html> .

Third, thanks to Lynn deBettencourt and other parent volunteers who spent recess scooping frozen ices for the kids at recess as a final reward for Mrs. MacLaughlin's bus behavior (Q, R, S) competition -- I am delighted to report that all buses qualified for the treat, thanks to excellent bus behavior this quarter!



Finally, I want to thank you all for the opportunity to serve as president this year -- it has been a pleasure to get to know so many families, and to work closely with Mrs. MacLaughlin and the school staff to support the school.

The PTA is truly a group effort -- most of the heavy lifting is done by the dozens of committee chairs, who handle everything from fund raising to events, school activities, and staff appreciation. None of the many events of this year, or the thousands of dollars spent to enrich our children's education would have been possible without their leadership and your support. Thank you all.

In addition to the wonderful committee chairs, I have had the honor of working with a terrific Board, comprised of a fabulous group of dynamic, engaged, and highly opinionated women. What a pleasure to have worked with this group! Many thanks to Maxine Schnitzer, Karen Hutchinson, Joni Lucas Shapiro, Cyndi DeBisschop, Lynn deBettencourt, Deb Lang, and Sheryl Golub who will be leaving the PTA Board after this year. They will truly be missed. I will continue as President next year, and am thrilled that Sharon Keegan, Jenn Fechter, Ana Sanchez, and Jennifer Gold will also remain on the Board, and will be joined by Kristin Russell, Rose Oppenheim, Renee Edson, Valerie Edelson Smith, Page Dekker, Sheila Hahn, and Wendy Kuhn. I could not ask for a better incoming Board.

Finally finally, I want to repeat what I said last Tuesday evening -- it has been a great pleasure to work with Mrs. MacLaughlin, who has always had an open door for me. She has been a consistent advocate for our children; worked hard to ensure a safe and secure school environment; maintained and even improved academic performance (a tall order in a blue ribbon school); made superb staffing hires; and worked tirelessly to support the design and planning for the new school and to ensure that the County did all that it could to make the transition to Radnor an easy one for our community. Many thanks for your years of dedicated service.

Enjoy the last few days of school, and have a wonderful summer!

Sara

For your convenience, all forms are also posted on the PTA website, at www.csespta.org

This week's Electronic Backpack Mail contains the following flyers and forms:

- * **Spiritwear - last call!**
- * **Giant Gift Cards**
- * **Special Needs Committee**
- * **Community Announcements**

Just a reminder -- if you have PTA related information that you would like to post in the weekly electronic backpack mail, please send it to Jody Aucamp, backpack email editor, at JodyAucamp@aol.com. If you have information of interest to the community (but not related to the school), please send it to Carderocket@yahoo.com. We will compile the notices and send them out weekly.



Don't miss out - get your **spiritwear** now!

Limited sizes still available. Car Magnets are a great way to show off your school pride while you travel over the summer.

Car Magnets -- \$5
Sweatshirts -- \$25
T-shirts -- \$15

Child's Name _____
Teacher/Grade _____

Sweatshirt Size Youth S, L, XL (circle)

Car Magnet Quantity _____

Tee Shirt: Size L Youth Ladies L

Items will be delivered by backpack mail.

**If you have any questions, please contact Sharon Keegan,
vkjee@aol.com.**



Giant Gift Card Program

One of the main fund raisers that Carderock Springs Elementary School relies on each year is the Giant Gift Card program. This fund raising effort exceeded its goal and raised \$6,600 this year, making it CSES' largest fundraiser. This money has been spent on programs to benefit our children, including cultural arts events, International Night, classroom materials, and fifth grade graduation activities. Without the help of the dedicated group of card deliverers, this goal could not have been met. Our thanks and appreciation go out to the amazing group of volunteers: Sara Bhatia, Melanie Caudron, Vidhya Dandi, Jennifer Gold, Sharon Keegan, Rose Oppenheim, Lauren Sachs, Trudy Shahabi, Valerie Smith, Stephanie Sola-Sole, and Roxanne Sweeney. Additional thanks to all the families that support this program by ordering cards.

Wishing you a wonderful summer.

Co-chairs Debbie Stone and Laura Friedman

Special Needs Post

The purpose of the posting is to let you know of a terrific website which introduces the groundbreaking concepts set forth in the book *The Explosive Child*, by Dr. Ross W. Green. The website, www.thinkkids.org, is in collaboration with Dr. Green's website www.explosivechild.com which also contains inspiring concepts about how to work with and parent the challenging child. Dr. Green's motto is "Children do well if they can." For questions, please contact chair, Margaret Leeson, mhleeson@yahoo.com.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

The GREAT ZUCCHINI is performing tomorrow (Thursday June 11) at 5:30 pm in a benefit performance for the family of Fred and Regina Holliday. As you may know, Fred Holliday is in a struggle for his life with Stage IV liver cancer. His wife, Regina, formerly the Art Lady at Child's Play on Connecticut Avenue is a wonderful and talented mother of two young boys. The concert takes place at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 4900 Connecticut Ave., NW. The cost is \$10 per person. ALL PROCEEDS will go to the Fred and Regina Holliday Fund which has been established at the church to support this family in need.

If you are not familiar with the GREAT ZUCCHINI, he is a terrifically funny comedian who performs in the area for children. In general, the humor is appealing to the age 4-10 set. I hope you are able to attend and enjoy.

One final note from Backpack Mail Committee: It has been a pleasure keeping you updated on all the CSES activities throughout the year. I wish you all a safe, fun, adventurous and relaxing summer. Jody Aucamp