

April 9, 2008

Carderocket



**Carderock Springs Elementary School
PTA Newsletter**

Inside This Issue:

- President's Letter – p. 1
- Committee News – p. 2-3
- Calendar – p. 3

Principal:
Susan MacLaughlin

PTA President:
Maxine Schnitzer

PTA Executive VP:
Kristy Keteltas

PTA VPs:
Sheryl Golub
Karen Hutchinson
Sharon Keegan

PTA Co-Secretaries
Jenn Fechter
Joni Lucas Shapiro

PTA Treasurer:
Lynn deBettencourt

MCCPTA Rep:
Sara Bhatia

Cluster Rep:
Deb Lang

Newsletter Editor:
Lynn Gertzog

PTA Website:
www.csespta.org

Letter from the PTA President

Dear Carderock Families:

Welcome back from Spring Break! I hope you all enjoyed the much needed time off. Our children came back to two weeks of Maryland State Assessments and will likely need another break once they are over! But the good news is that we are in the home stretch now. We have only two months left of the school year.

Last month was a busy month for the PTA! The **Variety Show** was a smash hit, thanks to the tireless efforts of **Karen Hutchinson, Lynda McIntyre and Nancy Holden**, who did a fabulous job of showcasing Carderock talent. It was truly wonderful to see and hear the musical and comedic artistry of our children.

We also were treated to a showcase of our children's artistic endeavors on paper, in clay and in the written word on **Arts and Literacy Night**. Arts and Literacy Chair, **Sara Bhatia**, together with all of the volunteers who helped out, did an outstanding job of displaying all the art work and writing pieces and coordinating with the staff members of the Reading and Writing Committee to bring this wonderful event together. We should all be so proud of our children who not only perform to the highest standards academically, but who are also so accomplished creatively! Bravo to the children!

I would like to thank all of the parents who responded to my request for input on the **Kindergarten Assessment Process**. I reviewed all of the responses and provided Ebony Langford, Director of Elementary School Instruction and Achievement, with a summary of the parent input and a recommendation. Based on input received from both parents and our Kindergarten Staff, we recommended that the first week of school for Kindergartners be half day. Parents would then bring their child in for a thirty minute meeting with their teacher in the afternoon for a one on one assessment. Although this approach may present some scheduling complications for the parents, we concluded that this process would be in the best interest of the children.

Our next big event is Spring Fling! I'm sure we are all looking forward to this spring time bash. Hopefully, it will stop raining by then! Our chair, **Margaret Powell**, is looking for volunteers to help out and our Room Parents are already beginning to organize parent volunteers from each grade level. Thank you Margaret and our Room Parents for all of your hard work in organizing this fun family night.

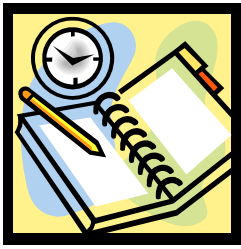
Finally, it is that time of year when we think about Committee Chairs for next year. Although many Chairs have decided to come back again, there are still a few vacancies. If any of you would like to take on a more active role in your PTA, please give me a call. PTA work is very rewarding and truly benefits the entire community. Get involved or stay involved!

- *Maxine C. Schnitzer*

Parent Volunteer Committee -

Theresa Goldsholle and Ana Sanchez

Thank you to all of you who have volunteered already this year! It's that time of the year again ... *time to update your Volunteer Sign-In Logs!*



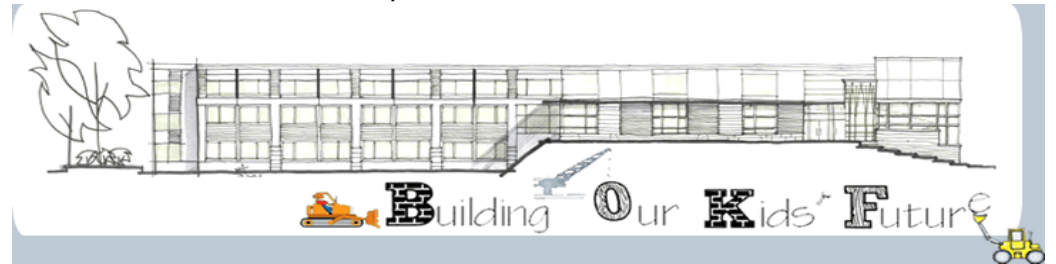
Log your volunteer hours!

Please remember to record the number of hours you have volunteered until March 31st. Please track all your volunteer hours ... whether you're working in the classroom or at school events, helping out behind the scenes in the copy room or media center, on field trips, or at home fulfilling PTA committee work. Every volunteer hour counts! You can note your hours in the volunteer logbook located in the PTA cubby adjacent to the school copy room or simply keep track at home and email awraye@msn.com.

If you haven't kept the exact track of hours, please estimate dates and times as best as you can. Your Volunteer Coordinators are in the process of compiling the information to fill out the MCPS report about our Volunteer Program and it is critical that we receive the complete information by **April 18th** to award Carderock the recognition it deserves! Thank you for your continued support of our school!

CSES Educational Foundation Auction -

Valerie Smith and Leanne Till, Auction Co-Chairs



Don't miss the 3rd annual fundraising auction for Carderock Springs Elementary School. All CSES families and their friends are invited and encouraged to attend. Invitations were mailed to each CSES family, but you can find the invitation and reply form on our website at www.csesef.org

What: Carderock Springs Elementary School Silent and Live Auction

Why: Last chance to raise money for our new school building before construction begins!!

Where: The BCC Rescue Squad, 5020 Battery Lane, Bethesda, MD 20814

When: Saturday, April 26, 2008, 6:30pm to 11:00pm

Details: Casual dress. Buffet Dinner. Cash bar. No credit cards accepted; please bring your checkbook!

Questions?: Email the Auction committee at vedelsonsmith@yahoo.com or leannetill@hotmail.com. You can check out some of the wonderful items for bid on our website: csesef.org Thank you for joining the Carderock Springs Elementary School community and supporting this important fundraiser. See you there!



What Will Happen To Our Habitat Garden In The Fall?

If you've been worried the fate of our wonderful Habitat Garden during renovations, rest easy. We are currently planning to move the plants over to the new wing of Pyle, let them grow there a bit, then return some of the plants when Carderock is finished - and add some new plants! The move will be a huge undertaking and we will need many volunteers from the Pyle and Carderock communities. Stay tuned and watch for announcements in the fall.



Earth Day Celebration
April 22

Earth Day at Carderock

For the 3rd year in a row, we will celebrate Earth Day at Carderock! On Tuesday the 22nd of April, students will once again make paper to learn how recycling happens and will learn about keeping our oceans clean.

Come and help out: Contact Alison Leopard at al_st@yahoo.com or 301-3656141

Box Tops -- Karen Hutchinson

Awesome job, Carderock students and parents! We had our best submission for Box Tops on record here at CSES. We will be receiving a check for \$154.50 this month as a result of many dedicated savers and snippers out there. That equates to 1,545 coupons! Jared Edson was the winner of the Box Tops contest for February, turning in 56 coupons. Thank you to everyone who participated in the program. Even if you turned in one coupon, it all adds up to free cash for our school to use any way we decide. Please continue to collect the coupons all summer long. Our next submission date will be in October 2008. Thank you for your support!



Giant/Safeway Bonus Bucks – Amy Kwak (Daneker)

As of mid-March, you have raised more than \$4,800.00 for Carderock Springs ES this school year just by shopping for groceries at Giant and Safeway and using your Bonus/Club Cards! Congratulations -- and keep shopping away!

Should you have any questions about this program, please e-mail me at amy.kwak@beconet.com. Thanks for your support!

2008 Calendar

April

- 17 Kindergarten Orientation/Parent Coffee
- 26 CSESEF Fundraising Auction

May

- 6 PTA Meeting – 7:30 p.m.
- 5-9 Staff Appreciation Week
- 16 Spring Fling
- 26 No School – Memorial Day
- 30 Rain Date Spring Fling

June

- 2 PTA Meeting 7:30 p.m.
- 11 5th Grade Promotion
- 12 Last Day of School - Early Release 12:30 p.m.