

February 2007

CARDEROCKET



Carderock Springs Elementary School
PTA Newsletter

www.CSESPTA.org

Inside this issue:

<i>President's Letter</i>	1
<i>Committee News</i>	2
<i>Winter Clothing Drive</i>	3
<i>No Parking!</i>	3
<i>Calendar & Monthly Events</i>	4

Principal
Susan D. Thompson

PTA President
Kristy Keteltas
kristy.keteltas@verizon.net

Newsletter Editor
Marlee Margulies
margulies@mindspring.com

Our Next PTA Meeting

Tuesday, March 6

Letter from the PTA President

Kristy Keteltas

Dear Carderock Families:

Things have been fairly quiet at the bus stops and on the bridge at school. Please know that some of the topics that have come up already this year are still under discussion with the principal and the PTA Executive Board. Ms. Thompson has addressed some security concerns at school, and is following up on county work orders to continue that pursuit. Please look at her Principal's Post for information on what is new at school. We have continued to discuss Carderock's high level of performance, the math placements, and the implications of those efforts on the school community. I think most of us are proud of the excellent education our children receive, and we want to send them to school prepared to learn. But most of us are also interested in balance, and the happiness of our children's daily lives. These conversations are happening at school all the time as we discuss how to strike that balance.

Volunteers are a large part of the equation in providing some of the fun in the school day. Recess volunteers are not PTA volunteers, but they certainly do a lot to keep our kids happy and safe. I know that the staff appreciate their support, and so do their fellow parents.

Readers and contributors to the *Carderock Chronicle* can be proud of what we produce at Carderock! What a terrific first issue we had of the *Chronicle*. Many thanks to **Noelle Lewis and Margaret Powell** for their work on publishing our excellent literary magazine. We look forward to the spring issue!

What could be more pure fun for the students than the **Front Hallway Bulletin Board**? Do you ever wonder who puts up those displays about enjoying the season or guessing the featured teacher? That would be **Trudy Shahabi and Karen Hutchinson!** Trudy has been doing this for a long time, and we appreciate it. Karen is giving her a break this year with her efforts, and we are glad to have the fun displays. Thanks to both of you.

Suzanne Dritshilo, who has done so much as a PTA volunteer, has been running our **web site** for the past few years. She created its current format, and did a wonderful job on it. Suzanne will turn over the web site as she turns her attention to her family- but we thank her for her dedication to the school, and her work on its behalf.

Marlee Margulies has agreed to take on the **web site**. She is also the tireless editor of this **newsletter**, and she has been a gracious and forgiving editor to committee chairs, reminding them of deadlines, and packaging all our announcements so attractively! Thanks to Marlee for all her efforts in Carderock communication.

Finally, how would we ever know what was going on without the **Carderocknet**? We had big shoes to fill when John Eckker left Carderock last spring. We have been very lucky that **Judy McGowan and Anita Kattapuram** have agreed to moderate the group this year. Judy releases your messages, and maintains the membership, and Anita catches all those Community Announcements and determines what goes in there. Both of these are big jobs, and we appreciate our moderators. We have really come to rely on this communication. Deb Lang and I are the Executive Board members with moderating privileges, so if you ever wonder where an email went, we can help you too- we are the back-ups! Many thanks to Judy and Anita for making that a rarity- they are always on top of the postings.

We look forward to the Room Parents' efforts in the classrooms on Valentine's Day. We parents are ready to support you with snacks, time and glue sticks- thank you for your planning!

We will not have a February PTA meeting since there is very little new material to discuss. Please plan to attend the March PTA meeting to hear from Ms. Thompson on a math update. Please do bring any matters of concern to my attention in the mean time.

Kristy Gertsen Keteltas

Sweet Rewards!

Baking up sweet treats for your Valentine? Don't forget to check the package for the Box Tops for Education coupon. The next deadline for coupon submission is February 28th, and it would be a sweet treat for our school to receive an even bigger check than the last one. Send the kids on a coupon hunt through the pantry, because **the student who submits the most coupons now through Friday, February 23rd will receive a special Valentine surprise!** Please label your bag of coupons with your child's name and place them in the collection jar in the front office. *We love* getting money for our school! Thank you for your support!

International Night

Bob Erdman & Ned Hodgman

Calling All Volunteers for International Night!

International Night is being held once again this year at CSES! Mark your calendars for April 12th from 6-8:30 PM for an exciting evening of food, music, and cultural entertainment! Ned and Bob are now beginning to coordinate volunteer and country/region booth participation, and we would appreciate hearing from anyone who is interested in taking part. Families who helped last year with the country booths and/or the International Cafe are most welcome to join in again this year. In addition, we need adult volunteers to help with the International Cafe, the international fashion show, art and decorations, the musical event to be held in the APR, and a host of other excellent opportunities. To volunteer for a specific activity, take part in running a country booth, or just to find out more, please please drop a note to Ned Hodgman or Bob Erdman at intlnite@verizon.net, or call Ned at (301) 326-7137 or Bob at (301) 560-4587. Let's get together and make this another great event for the CSES community! (Please note that we will be organizing our student volunteer activity at a later date, and right now we are interested in hearing from adult volunteers and participants.)

Variety Show

Nancy Holden, Karen Hutchinson & Lynda McIntyre

There's no business like show business!

It looks like we are going to have a wonderful show lined up for **Friday, March 2, 7pm, at Walt Whitman High School Auditorium!** We have had a great response from the students and are looking forward to an evening filled with song, dance, laughter and delight. As always, we could still use some parent volunteers for the dress rehearsals the evenings of February 26 & 28, and the night of the show as well. If you are interested in getting a glimpse of life behind the scenes, please call Karen Hutchinson at 301-365-8716.

Thank you, and hope to see everyone there!

Winter Clothing Drive a Success!

The Carderock Community Service Board in conjunction with the PTA would like to thank the Carderock community for the outstanding support in our recent Winter Clothing Drive, which was held through December. Thanks to all of the generous students, parents and faculty for the support and terrific donations which delivered to the National Center for Children and Families (NCCF). Our donations included new jackets, coats, mittens, gloves, hats and scarves and will be used by the young children who live at the NCCF in Bethesda, to keep them warm this season. Thanks again to everyone for their support!



Our next community service project will be held late February through early March and is called the Have a Heart! Pet Supplies Project. Donations will be collected for the Montgomery County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA). We will be collecting blankets, pillows, towels and animal supplies for the local pets in the area. The project will be worked closely with members of the SGA and older students from Pyle and Whitman.



No Parking!!

The PTA has made an unofficial no parking sign for the sidewalk extension on the north side of school. Officially, it is legal to park on sidewalks. In this case, when a car parks on the sidewalk leading to school, STUDENTS WHO WALK TO SCHOOL ARE FORCED TO WALK INTO THE STREET AND AROUND THE CAR BECAUSE THE HILL ON THE GRASSY SIDE IS TOO STEEP.

Please do not move the sign, as a courtesy to our student walkers, and to the parents who have to struggle to get the sign back to its intended place every morning.

Compliance with this sign and the willingness to let it remain in place are not required by law, but seem to be in the spirit of community cooperation for the safety of very young children who walk to school daily along Persimmon Tree.

I am quite open to hearing complaints if there are any, but would hope that the sign can stay put while we discuss them! Thank you. 301-469-9759

- Kristy Keteltas

February 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19 	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27 	28			

Feb. 1
Feb. 19
Feb. 27

Report Cards Distributed
No School, President's Day
Early Dismissal (12:35 pm)