

June, 2008

Carderocket



Inside This Issue:

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

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Carderock Springs Elementary School PTA Newsletter

Letter from the PTA President

Dear Carderock Families:

It seems like it was just yesterday that I wrote my first PTA President's letter welcoming everyone back from summer vacation. Now here I am wishing everyone a wonderful and fun filled summer as the school year is coming to an end. This year has certainly flown by!

Despite ominous weather reports, **Spring Fling** went off without a hitch! **Margaret Powell** and her team of volunteers did an **AWESOME** job this year! I think all would agree that it was a fantastic **Spring Fling**. Everyone really enjoyed the café seating on the upper black top and the healthier food choices! I think juicy, fresh watermelon will become a **Spring Fling** favorite from here on out.

Yearbooks are in! These wonderful keepsakes are produced by our students and will be looked at by our children for years to come. Many thanks to the Yearbook Coordinators, **Kristina Valencia** and **Holly Welch** for the hours and hours of support they have given. Our kids have been very fortunate to have had your guidance throughout the year which enabled them to produce such a beautiful Yearbook that they can all be proud of.

I would also like to thank our **Carderocknet Moderators**, **Anita Kattapuram** and **Judy McGowan**, for keeping this important avenue of communication running smoothly and efficiently. Judy releases your school and PTA related postings and maintains the membership, while Anita tracks community related postings and disseminates them through the weekly **Community Announcements**. We all have come to rely on this mode of communication and very much appreciate all of the behind the scenes work our moderators do each day.

Carderock is a remarkable school in so many ways. We have exceptional students, we are fortunate to have an incomparable staff, very soon we will have a brand new state-of-the-art school building, and equally as important, we have a dedicated and very involved parent community. Thank you all for your time and effort. Your copying, baking, party planning, weeding, moderating, planting, organizing, art hanging, editing, publishing, fundraising, sorting, stage directing, hosting etc... have benefitted us all and have greatly contributed to giving our children and staff a real sense of community at school.

Finally, I would like to thank our extraordinary **PTA Executive Board** for their service, leadership and time this year. It has truly been a pleasure to work with this group of committed, intelligent people who took the time to make the PTA and our mission a priority this year. Many thanks to **Sara Bhatia**, **Lynn deBettencourt**, **Jenn Fechter**, **Sheryl Golub**, **Karen Hutchinson**, **Sharon Keegan**, **Kristy Keteltas**, **Deb Lang**, and **Joni Shapiro**. Our Carderock community was lucky to have had your good judgment and thoughtful input in dealing with the many issues that came to our attention over the course of the year.

I would also like to congratulate and wish good luck to our newly elected 2008-2009 PTA Executive Board: **Sara Bhatia**, President, **Jenn Fechter**, VP, **Karen Hutchinson**, VP, **Sharon Keegan**, VP, **Ana Sanchez** and **Joni Shapiro**, Co-Secretaries, **Cindi Debisschop**, Treasurer, **Jennifer Gold**, MCCPTA Delegate, and **Sheryl Golub** and **Deb Lang**, Co-Cluster Reps. I will stay on the Board next year as Executive Vice President.

Have a wonderful summer and **THANKS AGAIN!**

Maxine C. Schnitzer



Thank you for making
copies ...

baking
cookies ...



helping at
recess and
so much
more!



Parent Volunteer Committee -

Theresa Goldsholle and Ana Sanchez

To the many parents who volunteered their time and talents during this past school year, we want to say THANKS!

Whether you were: working in the classroom...laboring behind-the-scenes with the laminating machine or copier...making cake-walk fancy cakes, holiday cookies, and treats for the International Night... stapling endless flyers for the Wednesday packets...planning class parties and grade level socials...chaperoning field trips...delivering Giant gift cards...volunteering for recess duty...supporting the cast of our student variety show...organizing Sally Foster orders...engaging our kids in community service projects...hanging masterpieces for Art and Literacy Night... preparing lunch for the teacher's luncheons...helping out at the Book Fair... decorating and preparing the space for the auction and so much more...

Your work has made a difference. Carderock Springs Elementary School is fortunate to have such generous and caring volunteers. Thank you to all of you who have volunteered and continue to volunteer through the end of the year. Enjoy your summer!

Bonus Card Program – Amy Kwak (Daneker)

Congratulations everyone! By shopping for groceries and using your Giant Bonus/Safeway Club cards, you have helped CSES earn \$6,200.00 this school year.

The news gets better - because there is an accounting lag time of a couple months, the actual total amount earned for the '07-'08 school year will be even higher than that!

The Bonus Card program is one of the most effortless ways to earn money for CSES, but remember that your purchases will count only if you are registered with the program and you scan your grocery card every time you shop. Please contact me (amy.kwak@beconet.com) if you are not sure whether you are registered or if you have any other questions.

Thanks, and have a fabulous summer!

Staff Appreciation Committee – Suzanne Dritschillo and Ana Sanchez

Thanks to all the parents who participated and showed a heartfelt appreciation to the CSES staff! Thanks to:

- all the bakers who contributed to the fabulous dessert buffet.
- all the chefs who created great salads for the lite fare buffet.
- all the parents who dropped off gift certificates at the front office. All the teachers were able to win a prize in the raffle!!
- all the parents who dropped off gifts for the teachers
- all the parents who sent a contribution that allowed us to purchase gifts and treats for our staff!

Thank you!!!

GT/LD Network

IS YOUR CHILD BRIGHT BUT STRUGGLING? Are you puzzled by your obviously bright child's school struggles? Does your child shut down, melt down, or seem inattentive, bored or uncooperative? Take a moment to read through this checklist to see if your child may have undiagnosed learning challenges.

- Written Output** - Student handwriting is primitive and/or sentence structure is simple and use of writing conventions (punctuation, etc.) is weak.
- Spelling** - Student typically learns spelling words in a visual fashion. Older students may have developed compensation strategies that incorporate auditory components.
- Reading** - Student displays significant inconsistencies. Reading decoding skills may be poor but comprehension is high or decoding skills are strong but comprehension is poor.
- Math** - Student grasps mathematical concepts quickly but has difficulty with simple computations. May do poorly on easier problems, while excelling on the "challenge" problems.
- Rote Memory** - Rote memory skills are weak. Student does poorly on skill and drill activities and may have difficulty memorizing spelling words, math facts, etc.
- Visual/Motor Integration** - Student has poor visual motor skills. These may be evidenced by difficulty copying from the board or overhead.
- Organization** - Student lacks organization skills. He or she may forget to turn in completed work, have a messy desk. He has poor transition skills from one activity, subject or room to another.
- Sequencing** - Student has difficulty with chronological order. Student prefers the whole picture, and has strong imagery and spatial arrangement skills.
- Visualization** - Student is highly visual and has difficulty with tasks that are auditory in nature. Student's attention may wander after 10 minutes of verbal instruction.
- Aggression** - Student acts out frustration by hitting, bullying, talking back or displaying other such behaviors designed to distract awareness from a disability.
- Self-Concept** - Self-concept is often low, but can fluctuate. Student verbalizes negative self-appraisals such as "I can't do it" or "This is too hard". The student is reluctant to take risks.
- Passive Behavior** - The student appears lazy, withdrawn, helpless, or stubborn and/or student is extremely compliant to teacher requests but does not seek out peer and social interactions.
- Impulsivity** - Student displays characteristics of the ADHD student, such as risk-taking, talking out, striking others, an inability to perceive consequences for actions.

Have you checked more than a handful of boxes? If so, you may want to learn more about GT/LD (gifted and talented students with learning disabilities) programs and services in MCPS. For information and resources, please view the MCPS GT/LD web page at <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/enriched/gtld/>.

If you have further questions, please contact MCPS GT/LD Specialist, Marisa Stemple (301) 309-6272 or Marisa_R_Stemple@mcpsmd.org for more information.

This information has been provided by the GT/LD Network (www.gtldnetwork.org)
