

March 2007

CARDEROCKET



Carderock Springs Elementary School
PTA Newsletter

www.CSESPTA.org

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**Our Next
PTA Meeting**

Tuesday, March 6

Letter from the PTA President

Kristy Keteltas

Dear Parents:

Wow! What a show! For those of you who saw the **Variety Show** on Friday night, I think you will agree that our Variety Show Chairs, **Karen Hutchinson, Lynda McIntyre** and **Nancy Holden**, did a fabulous job of showcasing Carderock talent. It was great to see kids who work on interests outside of school have an opportunity to share those talents with their friends. It was also great to see our budding performance artists take the stage, many for the first time, to receive a warm Carderock response. What a great first experience on the stage for these kids. Thank you, Karen, Lynda and Nancy for all your hard work, organization and flexibility.

For all the wonderful good spirit that the show highlighted, and the friendships that it showcased, we all know that not every day on the playground is a happy day. Ms. Thompson, the paraeducator, and the recess volunteers have worked hard to maintain certain standards of respect and good citizenship on the playground and in the school community. Ms. VerPlank has been a wonderful guide through these choppy waters, providing staff guidelines for intervention in peer issues, and establishing an open door for students who want to talk about friendships and difficulties. We were treated to a presentation by Ms. VerPlank in February, thanks to the planning of **Christine Fruehwirth**, our **Parent Education** Chair. Christine brought us the fall presentation of Pam Mintz on Teaching our Kids Tolerance, and she arranged for Ms VerPlank to present on peer relationships. We will be hearing from Christine herself in April. Drawing from her experience as a Life Coach, she will present on Time Management for Busy Families. We appreciate Christine's efforts this year in bringing us speakers and topics that are so relevant to families' needs and concerns. Thank you, Christine.

If you did not make the PTA meeting on March 6th, let me encourage you to tune in to the upcoming plans for the **Carderock renovation**, due to begin in **January of 2009**. Over the past number of years, the PTA and the Carderock Educational Foundation have worked hard to explain the differences between the two organizations to avoid confusion. The PTA provides programming, advocacy and support to students, staff and parents, here and now. The Foundation is focused on fundraising and planning for the future. At this point, whether it is clear or not, the future is NOW, and both organizations are joining with the Principal and her staff to **prepare for our new school**. We have a very limited amount of time left to raise surplus dollars to improve the school. When the County comes calling this spring, they will want to hear what our Facilities Committee (forming now) cares about in the new school. They will want to know **what upgrades we will want to add, and whether we can pay for them!** We need to hand them a check in October, 2008. Please consider **supporting this weekend's auction**, and the Foundation, as it will determine what kind of school we can build for our children, and those who follow them. Please keep your eye out for more information on the process as we move forward. If you are missing the email updates, please subscribe to Carderocknet@yahoogroups.com.

I look forward to seeing you at the April and May PTA meetings, as we discuss these matters further.

-Kristy Gersten Keteltas

International Night Needs You! Bring the World to CSES on April 12!

With a month to go until International Night on April 12, we are looking for a few good countries and a few good volunteers to make this night outstanding. As the Carderocket went to press, we already have 7 countries signed up to do country booths, but many of the countries from Europe, Asia, Africa, and South America that we have had in past years are not yet represented. To organize a booth, all you need to do is bring crafts and activities related to your favorite country/country of origin for students to enjoy. In the past, country booths have had flags, maps, musical instruments, crafts, games, art (including do-it-yourself arts and crafts opportunities for students to complete). It's a fantastic way to help our kids learn more about the world that awaits them! Please step up as a country booth volunteer organizer for your favorite country or region by e-mailing Ned Hodgman and Bob Erdman at [intlните@verizon.net](mailto:intlnite@verizon.net) or call Ned at (301) 326-7137 to talk about this. We are very lucky to have such a great event every year at Carderock, so -- join in the fun!

Parent Education

Christine Fruehwirth

Thank you to Clayton VerPlanck for facilitating a wonderful discussion on "Healthy Friendships" on Friday, February 23rd. Please contact me if you were not able to attend, but would like the handouts so I can email them to you directly.

On April 17th, we will be having our final Parent Education event of the year. Ms. VerPlanck and I will be co-facilitating a discussion on "Stress and Anxiety in Children" and "Time Management for Busy Families." It will take place immediately following the PTA meeting that evening. Please let me know if there are any specific issues you would like addressed as we finalize our presentations.

Volunteer Committee

Jenn Fechter, Theresa Goldsholle & Karen Perl

Thank you to all of you who have volunteered already this year!

Please remember to record the number of hours you are volunteering ... 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. 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 your convenience at home. We are required to tally volunteer hours at the end of the year for a report to the County and want Carderock to receive the recognition it deserves!

If you are looking for volunteers to support a particular activity, the Volunteer Job Market is still your best resource. Please send us your volunteer requests each Friday for inclusion in the following week's Job Market.

Finally, please keep the school office updated with any changes to your emergency or non-emergency phone numbers. Staff will forward this information to our Committee for inclusion in the Emergency Contact List.

Feel free to call us if you have a request, question or suggestion. Thank you for your continued support of our school!

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Carderock Auction 2007

The Teachers and Staff have out done themselves once again!

Last year for the auction, as you remember, they created and donated magical adventures for our children. It was a huge success!

The children who attended those events now have wonderful memories of a special time spent with their friends and teacher.

**Saturday
March 10th**



What a cool thing!

What until you see the adventures they came up with this year!

Here is just a sample. Please read the catalog for a complete list. I promise, you will not be disappointed!

Carousel rides and picnic nibbles!

How does an afternoon movie sound! Magical!

Ice Skating and Ice Cream!

Spend a Sunday afternoon strolling through the National Geographic Museum in DC.



Piano Lessons – now that's music to my ears!

Hike from River Bend State Park to Great Falls for a picnic (that's the Virginia side for you Marylanders)

6 Girls getting manicures and then "doing" lunch in Bethesda! How cool is that!



Bring your Checkbook or Cash. No Credit Cards. Thank You.

March 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	29	30	31

March 6
March 10
March 27

PTA Meeting
CSES Foundation Auction
NO SCHOOL for students, professional work day