



# The Chalkboard

December  
2010

Chesak / Martin  
**PTA**

*everychild.onevoice.*

## Drive for \$5

The Chesak/Martin PTA will be partnering with the school social workers on the annual Drive for \$5 campaign which runs Nov 29th - Dec 5th. Send in gift cards with your students to the CMPTA. Gift cards should be for no less than \$5, or in \$5 increments to any local stores, big box retailers, gas stations, drug stores, etc. A list of suggested retailers is available on our website. The gift cards will be distributed by the Chesak and Martin Social Workers to families in need in time to make their holidays a bit brighter. If you are a family that can use assistance this year, please contact your school social worker to get more information on this program.

## Member Care Meals

The Chesak/ Martin PTA is trying to determine interest in a Member Care Meal program for the future. Do you like to cook and enjoy helping others during a difficult time? Do you know a Chesak/ Martin family or staff member that may need help with meals (due to illness, birth of a child, extended absences, death in a family, etc.)? If so, please contact us at [cmpta158@yahoo.com](mailto:cmpta158@yahoo.com). We would like to start this new program in January, and would like to get a list of interested volunteers to draw upon to make and deliver meals going forward.

## Family Events

Our November event, Donuts with Dad, was a great success. Thank you to all the families that donated food in lieu of an entry fee. Food was donated to the Grafton Food Pantry in time for holiday needs. As always, our families are more than generous, and our community thanks everyone for a terrific event that produces terrific results! Look for more information on our Family Movie Night coming in January.



### Dates to Remember:

Breakfast with Santa	12/4
Variety Show Auditions	12/4
CMPTA Meeting 7pm Chesak	12/9
Family Movie Night	1/7
CMPTA Meeting 7pm Chesak	1/13
Variety Show	1/22
Dad's Club Chili Cookoff & Baggo	2/5

### DID YOU KNOW:

- ♦ *Spirit Wear delivery is the week of December 6th.*
- ♦ *Dad's Club Pumpkin Carving Event was a huge success and fun for all!*
- ♦ *You can get pictures and news of CMPTA events on [firstelectricnewspaper.com](http://firstelectricnewspaper.com).*

## Assemblies

Assemblies have all been booked. Tim Hanning's The ProKids Show was at Chesak in November to do assemblies for the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> graders. Paddy Lynn storyteller will be visiting the kindergarteners on January 12th. Craig Pierce will be visiting Martin 3<sup>rd</sup> graders on January 7th and John Lynn will be doing an assembly at Martin for 4<sup>th</sup> grade on March 21st.



## Ways and Means

Thank you to all of the families and staff who supported our Fall Fundraiser either by selling products or making a direct donation! We truly appreciate it! Top selling students, top selling classes and class participation winners will hopefully be announced before winter break. Thanks again for supporting Chesak and Martin schools through the PTA!

## Membership Drive

The Fall PTA Membership Drive was a huge success. Thank you to all the new parents and staff we have on board this year. Last year we had a total of 240 members, so far this school year, we have 416 members! The classrooms that had the most parent members enjoyed their popcorn parties recently as Martin won the staff drive and was served breakfast in early October. We look forward to seeing you this year. Remember to show your support by putting the PTA member decal in your car window!

## Education Nation Scorecard

National PTA® has partnered with NBC News, GreatSchools, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and other organizations to create the Education Nation Scorecard ([nbcscorecard.greatschools.org](http://nbcscorecard.greatschools.org)). The tool provides useful and clear information about performance at individual schools, districts, states, and for the nation as a whole. Parents can use the tool to look up their child's school and to see how it is doing compared to schools in the community, district, state, and nation. Parents can also use it to view graduation rates, NAEP (National Assessment of Educational Progress) scores, and to see if your state has adopted the Common Core State Standards, among other things. ([www.pta.org/common\\_core\\_state\\_standards.asp](http://www.pta.org/common_core_state_standards.asp))

## Staff Appreciation

Thank you, Thank you, Thank you to the wonderful families of Chesak and Martin Elementary Schools! With the overwhelming treat donations, the Chesak Martin PTA was able to provide many days of treats and snacks for our hardworking staff during Parent Teacher Conferences. The staffs appreciated our efforts and it would not have been possible without you!



The Chesak Martin PTA is giving the Chesak, Martin and D158 Preschool staffs the gift of time this holiday season. We are providing a Gift Wrapping Service during the week of December 6-10, 2010 and we are looking for volunteer wrappers. If you have some time to donate, contact Jill Cross at [jcross1996@gmail.com](mailto:jcross1996@gmail.com). Shifts will run daily from 9-11am and 11am - 1pm in the PTA Room (Rm. 428) at Chesak. Wrapping paper, bow, ribbon and tape donations are greatly welcomed and supplies may be dropped off at the Chesak office by December 1st.