



THE CHALKBOARD

March
2010

Dates to remember:

March:

- 11th— PTA Meeting 7:30pm
- 13th - Scrapbooking Event at Huntley High School 10 - 6
- 17th - Third Grade Assembly
- 20th - Muffins with Mom at Huntley High School
- 29th - April 2nd - Spring Break

April:

- 6th - Fourth Grade Assembly
- 8th - PTA Meeting 7:30pm
- 23rd - Family Event - Roller Skating

May:

- 3rd-7th (Staff Appreciation Week)
- 13th - PTA Meeting 7:30pm
- 15th - Family Event Centegra Swim

Upcoming Events:

- Staff Appreciation Work Sessions and Meetings
- Flower Sale
- 2nd Grade Concerts

A Message from the President

Happy New Year! I hope you all had a memorable and restful winter break, and I think I speak for everyone that spring cannot come soon enough! A New Year always brings about New Year's Resolution. How about spending more quality time with your children at school and at home? We are always looking for parents who have a few hours to give to our children as part of the PTA. We are always in need of volunteers for our events to be successful. Can't come to the school? We still have many opportunities to help from home if that is what your time permits. Our PTA nominating committee is currently preparing to present officer and chairperson nominees for the 2010-2011 school year. If you are interested in serving on the PTA or know someone who is email us at cmpta158@yahoo.com.

We have several events coming up to keep us busy during these cabin fever months. We will be hosting a free Internet and Cell Phone Safety presentation in conjunction with the Lake in the Hills Police Department on March 16th. Kids are becoming technology savvy at an early age, best to be prepared to learn what you can do as parents to ensure their safety on line. .

Join us for one of our popular Family Events. Did you get to attend the free Family Movie Night in January? Everyone had a blast watching G-Force that night. And our Family Jump in February was a sell out! Next up will be Muffins with Mom on March 20th, another free event we can bring to our students and families.

We are trying to shore up our fundraiser deficit this spring by bringing you new fundraisers based on feedback from our fundraiser survey this year. A Scrapbooking Crop event is being held on March 13th, and we will be doing a Dine & Share night with Moretti's and Nicks Pizza in March and April, so stay tuned for details.

We appreciate all the feedback and support we have been receiving from the students, families and school staff. This is a year of change for us in the Chesak/ Martin PTA. Change can be good, but is sometimes hard to accept and embrace. In our case I can say with utmost certainty the changes we have contemplated this year are good ones and have been designed to meet the needs of our school community during these tough economic times.

*Look forward to seeing you soon, and best wishes in 2010!
Dana Wiley - President, Chesak/ Martin PTA*



What does the CM PTA do?

Many people want to know what the PTA does and where we spend the money we raise from fundraising and membership. Here's your answer! The PTA supports Chesak and Martin schools by: arranging and paying for assemblies, assisting in paying for field trips (including 5th grade Challenger), paying for 5th grade DARE graduation celebration, providing Young Author's blank books, providing free or low cost monthly family events, providing health and safety newsletters, organizing the annual Variety Show for students, providing school spirit wear at a low cost, organizing the Reflections program for students, arranging for Art to Remember projects to be distributed, planting gardens around our campus, providing free childcare at monthly meetings, organizing and distributing Wrap Pacs for student school supplies, welcoming Kindergarten students, paying for Scholastic news in the classrooms, allocating money for teacher's supplies, and organizing Staff Appreciation activities throughout the year. We hope this gives you a better idea of the programs and services we provide. None of these could take place without our wonderful volunteers. If you would like to be a part of our organization, please contact us to see how you can help. www.cmpta158.org

Hundreds of thousands of children dread going to school each day to face the taunts, jeers, and humiliation inflicted by bullies. Bullies are children who intentionally and repeatedly inflict psychological or physical damage on other, less-powerful children in order to inflate their own sense of self-worth. National PTA provides information on identifying and stopping bullying in your community. All children deserve to go to school free of intimidation. Help make your schools and neighborhoods bully-free. Visit www.pta.org/bullying.asp for more.



Committee Updates

Want to make a difference? Not sure how? Here's your chance! Illinois PTA is planning a Speak Up Speak Out Week April 19th - 23rd. A time to talk to your legislators either in person, by phone, email, or fax. No trip to Springfield necessary! Want to know more? Visit www.illinoispta.org.

The PTA would like to thank all of the students that participated in the **Reflections** program this year. We received 40 entries expressing this year's theme "Beauty is..." in music, photography, literature, video production and art. The entries were displayed in the Martin and Chesak display cases for students, faculty and parents to enjoy at the end of 2009. We would also like to thank the teachers and staff at both schools for taking the time to assist us in judging the entries. Their input was greatly appreciated.

Based on the judging results, fourteen Martin entries and eight Chesak entries were forwarded on to the District PTA Reflections Committee. We are currently waiting for the names of any student that may ad-

vance to the next level. The following students' entries were sent to the district level:

Martin

Rachel Adams, Rutva Bhatt, Amanda Juergensen, Rebekah Klempner, Sofiya Kyrlyuk, Brady Michel, Courtney Mills, Katie Ostrem, Matthew Rodriguez, Emily Schirmacher, Brendan Thompson, Bradon Wade, Taylor Wade and Paige Wegrzyn

Chesak

Zachary Adams, Blake Buczkiewicz (2 entries), Olivia Hummel, Megan Juergensen (2 entries), Tegan Thompson and Colin Wade

The Chesak/Martin PTA is very proud of all 40 participants for their creative and artistic ability!

On behalf of the Chesak/Martin **Variety Show** co-chairs a HUGE 'thank you' goes out to EACH and EVERY volunteer who helped with the show. A special thank you to our volunteer coordinator, Jill Cross, who organized our helping hands and worked the show too! Putting on this show is no small task and every single one of you helped make this wonderful experience possible for our school community! Everyone had a lot of fun!

DVD's can still be ordered. Please send \$6 (cash or check made out to the PTA) along with your child's name and teacher's name to the PTA mailbox at either school.

Annual Flower Sale Orders Coming Soon!



It may be winter still, but spring is not far away. Watch for orders for our annual flower sale which will be going home the week of April 5th with students. Proceeds from the sale go towards beautification projects such as the planting of trees and shrubs in and around our schools.

Staff Appreciation Week

Sometimes a simple thanks is all a teacher needs to feel valued. Sometimes a school wants to do more for those at the heart of learning. Since 1984 the PTA has designated the first full week of May as National Teacher Appreciation Week, a special time to honor the men and women who lend their passion and skills to educating our children. PTA events at the national, state, and local levels celebrate the outstanding contributions teachers make. PTA Teacher Appreciation Week 2010 will be May 2 - 8. The CM PTA is planning to honor **ALL** of our staff members for their outstanding contributions to our children by providing a fun-filled week of sweets, treats, and activities. If you would like to be a part of this fun committee contact Niki (nikiburkey@comcast.net) or come to the next Staff Appreciation Committee meeting on Thursday, March 11th at 6:45pm (just before the general membership meeting.)



Fun Family Events

The CMPTA is excited about the success of its Family Events this year. January's Movie Night in the Chesak gym allowed many families a free night out. February's day off at Pump it Up boasted the largest pre-sale they've ever seen. March's Muffins with Mom is sure to have a big turnout as well. The event will take place on Saturday, March 20th from 8:30 - 10:00am at the Huntley High School. The cost is free with the donation of a non-perishable food item. On April 15th we'll host a Dine & Share fundraiser with Nick's Pizza in Crystal Lake. Look for more information to come home with your child. Our final event of the year we will return to Centegra's indoor swimming facility for a night of water fun on May 15th. Check the website for more information on these events, as well as to see fun pictures from past events with your child.

Getting Involved

There are many ways to be involved in the CMPTA. We're always looking for new officers and committee chairs. If you're looking for something low key, attend the meetings and see what the committees are all about. Helping out on a committee is the best way to get to know what the CMPTA has to offer, and it's a great way to get to know your child's school.

