



Liberty Corner PTO

June 2013

A Message from the PTO Co~Presidents -- Bernie Taylor and Zaida Harrison

The year has certainly flown by! The children, faculty and volunteers have worked really hard to make this year so successful. While we are wrapping up the year with the fun filled *Field Day*, a *Volunteer Thank You Brunch*, and the *Fifth Grade Celebration*, we are busy preparing for next year's enrichment programs and school events.

The PTO recognized Teacher Appreciation Week with a wonderful Picnic in the Park themed luncheon organized by the chairs Lisa LaTourette and Heather Watson-Kramer. The well deserved thank you to the LCS Staff included great foods, desserts, refreshments as well as a door prize summer themed basket (butterflies, ladybugs and daisies not included).

LCS has the best wall art around thanks to the handprints of our Kindergarteners, new students and new teachers. Susan Rascio and Katie VanCleef organize Hallway Handprints, a colorful painted right of passage down the halls of LCS.

Thank you to the Kindergarten Registration chair Donna Selletti for making sure there were enough volunteers in place to welcome our incoming kindergarten children for their screening. It's a big day for the children and the parents and Donna made sure the children were entertained and comfortable at every station.

Many thanks go out to Tracy Colantuono, Ana Keenan and Sheri Orr who Co-Chair the very popular Field Day. Fun was had by all, students and volunteers alike. While the water games and water balloons were appreciated on this 90 degree sunny day, the parachute, the relays, the ball tosses and the blow up slide are must haves for our fun seeking students.

Thank you to the Fifth Grade Celebration Co-Chairs, Maggie Gould and Maura McEnroe, for the upcoming 5th Grade Celebration. They have organized and created a memorable day for the 5th graders to mark their graduation and remember their days at LCS.

Thank you to all the Volunteers throughout the year, from Pizza Night to Field Day, for all your time and effort. You truly understand it takes a village to raise our children and please consider volunteering in our village again next year. Sign up to be a Chair, Co-Chair, or Member of your favorite committee for the 2013-2014 school year. The form can be found at www.libertycornerpto.org under flyers and forms.

Have a great summer!

PTO Board 2012-2013

Co-Presidents: Bernie Taylor (bernietaylor20@gmail.com) and Zaida Harrison (zaidaharrison@verizon.net)

Co-1st Vice Presidents (Programming and Scheduling): Larissa Milligan (larissa_milligan@hotmail.com) and Davenie Pereira (daveniep@gmail.com)

Co-2nd Vice Presidents (Fundraising): Bridget Jaeger (bridgetj@jaegerlumber.com) and Deborah Nungester (dnungester@gmail.com)

Co-Treasurers: Karen Feringa (kmferinga@aol.com) and Pamela Haviland (pamchan@optonline.net)

Secretary: Sherry Mandel (sherrylnmandel@gmail.com)

Communications Officer: Heather Whyte-Kattas (heather.whyte-kattas@lexisnexis.com)

For more information go to www.LibertyCornerPTO.org

From the Principal's Desk -- Dr. Pecoraro



It's difficult to believe how quickly this school year has flown by. We sadly say "goodbye" to our fifth graders and wish them well at WAMS. They have been an amazing group of young people who have always chosen to do the right thing. As role models for their younger schoolmates, they have demonstrated outstanding character during Buddy Class activities and their interactions with our younger students. We hope they will continue to care about and for each other as they enter this next adventure of middle school.

We want to thank the countless volunteers who have worked with students and teachers throughout the year. Without the extra "hands" our jobs would be infinitely more difficult. You help us enhance the educational experiences of our students and we thank you for your time and effort on their behalf.

Now that the weather is getting more summer-like, teachers and students are thoroughly enjoying their new air conditioners. We so appreciate the efforts of the dedicated parents who persisted with this project. All rooms are now outfitted with window AC units. Teachers are now able to deliver instruction without the challenges that a hot and stuffy room can bring.

Dr. Oliver and I wish you and your families all the wonderful experiences summer can bring. Take time to enjoy family and friends. We look forward to working with you and your family during the 2013-2014 school year.

CONGRATULATIONS to Mrs. Beadle!

We are so proud to announce that Mrs. Carol Dory Beadle has been selected as a quarterfinalist for the Music Educator Award presented by The Recording Academy and the GRAMMY Foundation. Mrs. Beadle is one of 217 quarterfinalists out of 30,000 applicants. Her application will be finalized as of June 11 and it is wonderful that an outside agency as prestigious as the GRAMMY Foundation has recognized the amazing talents and teaching abilities of our very own Mrs. Beadle. Continued good luck to her as she moves along in the process.

LCS PTO for 2013~2014

It's not too early to start thinking about next year and what committees you might be interested in contributing to for the 2013-2014 school year. Please contact Larissa Milligan, larissa_milligan@hotmail.com, or Davenie Pereira, daveniep@gmail.com if you would like to serve on the PTO Executive Board or a specific committee.

We would not be able to hold all our activities without the support of our wonderful parent volunteers!

LCS Family Fun Run ~ Elda Feldman and Christine Pietrantuono, Co-Chairs

On Saturday, April 6, 2013, we held our 3rd annual LCS 1 to 3 Mile Fun Run and Walk at Harry Dunham Park. We had an excellent turn out with more than 130 walkers and runners registered and participating and enjoyed perfect running weather. It was fun to cheer for our LCS students of all ages, their parents and our dear LCS teachers as they ran the course. All LCS students had big smiles as they came through the finish line and received their medals. A big thank you goes out to our fantastic committee for all of their phenomenal help and enthusiasm. This includes Erin Standing, Ailsa Ferguson, Susan Gibbons, Megha Malhotra, Sara Garvey, Gina Rossomondo, and Meimei Gao. A special thanks to Sara Garvey for leading all participants for some stretching exercises at the start of the run. We also greatly appreciate the assistance of the Basking Ridge Volunteer First Aid Squad for taking the time to be at our race.

Staff Appreciation Luncheon ~ Lisa LaTourette and Heather Watson-Kramer Co-Chairs

On Tuesday, May 7th, the LCS PTO was delighted to host the Liberty Corner School Staff Appreciation Luncheon in the LCS Library. The Liberty Corner School teachers and staff were treated to a delicious lunch of fresh salads, yummy sandwiches and amazing desserts, as a small token of our appreciation for all that they do for our children throughout the school year.

The theme of this year's luncheon was "Picnic in the Park". The Library tables were beautifully decorated with fresh Gerber Daisies, ladybugs and butterflies on top on a patch of green moss. We were also able to award a beautiful straw bag filled with summer essentials as a door prize for a lucky staff member.

The Staff Appreciation Committee would like to thank The Market Place Panera for donating the refreshing iced tea for the luncheon. We would also like to send a big thank you to all of the volunteer bakers who sent in tasty desserts for everyone to enjoy!

We had a fantastic Staff Appreciation Luncheon Committee this year! The committee members were Natanya Levitz, Jackie Mandel, Robin McKeon, Nancy Barth, Renuka Sathe, Christine Pietrantuono, Sonja Legge, Lisa Janjua, Alison Elian, Liz Mannino, Nicole Aulicino, Gina Giuditta, Dana Jacobs, and Kristen Mulvoy Williams. Thank you for all the planning, preparation and execution!

Field Day ~ Tracy Colantuono, Ana Keenan and Sheri Orr, Co-Chairs

What a blast! On May 30, LCS enjoyed Field Day. For over an hour, each grade played indoors and outside with their classmates. The children slid down a giant inflatable slide, rode scooters around the basketball court, and enjoyed water sports, including duck races at an inflatable pond and a sponge toss. They also cooled off at the always popular pitching machine, hitting a target to burst water balloons over classmates' heads. The children also had time for dress-up relays, hands-free Jello-eating contests, a parachute, cup-stacking, and a football toss. They even had a dance party in the gym and played volley ball. Funded by the PTO and supervised by a dedicated group of parent volunteers, LCS had a fantastic Field Day! Special thanks to the PE Guys (Mr. Fico and Mr. Henthorn), the parent volunteers, and the LCS administration and staff, who all helped make Field Day such a success.

Your PTO at Work

Here is what your PTO Volunteers and Donations have accomplished:

Basically Bugs: A visiting naturalist from the Environmental Education Center brought this program to our Kindergarteners to complement their unit on insects. Topics such as insect life cycles, adaptations and the diversity of insects were covered, along with plenty of live creatures!

Edison's Workshop: Continuing with their studies about Thomas Edison, Planet Preeti of High Touch/High Tech "sparked" the 3rd graders imaginations with her lesson on electricity through several hands-on activities including making their own electrosopes.

Our Civil War: The 5th graders got a glimpse of life during the Civil War with this program presented by Kit's Interactive Theatre.

Traditions of India: Tying in with students' music and art studies, Ramya Ramnarayan and her dance troupe gave the entire school a sampling of Indian dance, a combination of movement, mime and music that began over 2,000 years ago.

Field Day: A successful day attended by all grades at different time slots. Volunteers worked with the PE teachers to run game stations as well as blow up slides, jello eating contests, water balloons and other treats.

Exciting Happenings coming your way from the PTO...

- **5th Grade Celebration**, Thursday, June 13th, Harry Dunham Park 11-2
- **Spirit Day-Patriotic Day**, Friday, June 14th
- **Fifth Grade Coffee-LCPC**, Wednesday, June 26th

Some friendly reminders:

- **Map** Wednesday, June 12th Gr. 5 (Russo) and Gr. 4 (Erik)
- **Map** Thursday, June 13th Gr. 5 (Mauro)
- **Map** Friday, June 14th Gr. 3 (Kalfus/Len/Benson)
- **Play "Proud to be American"** Friday, June 14th Gr. 1 9:30 Parents, 2:00 all school
- **Early Dismissal** Monday, June 24th, 1:00
- **Early Dismissal** Tuesday, June 25th, 1:00
- **Marking Period 4 Ends** June 26th
- **Report Cards Online-Marking Period 4** June 26th
- **Early Dismissal-Last Day** Wednesday, June 26th 1:00

The **PTO Pledge Drive** letters will be sent in mid-August via mail. Please be on the lookout for it and send your support before school begins in order to avoid the long lines at Back to School Night. Remember, all the wonderful enrichment programs that the PTO has been able to offer can't continue without your support!

If you ordered **School Supplies**, your child's kit will be on your child's desk at the LCS Meet and Greet on September 4th.

Thank You!

Family Fun Run: A big thank you to Elda Feldman and Christine Pietrantuono who were 'off to the races' when they chaired the Family Fun Run. Mother Nature cooperated by providing a beautiful morning to compliment the well organized, healthy outdoor activity for our school community. We had more participants than ever before with ever popular water bottles as take home prizes. Thanks for all your effort, Elda and Christine!

Staff Appreciation Lunch: Thank you to Lisa LaTourette and Heather Watson-Kramer for turning our own library into a 'Picnic in the Park' for the LCS staff. The themed luncheon was a big hit with three separate seatings of scrumptious food and fun conversation. Thanks ladies for a wonderful and delicious afternoon!

Field Day: Thank you to Tracy Colantuono, Ana Keenan and Sheri Orr for all their hard work that resulted in a fantastic Field Day that was enjoyed by all!

Enrichment Program: Many thanks to Angela Reynolds and the entire Enrichment Committee for putting together a robust enrichment program for our students throughout this year.

Box Tops: The PTO would like to thank Rae Delmo and Ema Schwed for collecting, cutting and sorting the generously donated Box Tops throughout the year as well as organizing the winning grade's pizza party!

School Supplies: Many thanks to Barb Sileo for chairing the School Supplies program for this year. Barb did an outstanding job coordinating the supply lists with the teachers and working with Staples to make school supply shopping easier for all LCS parents!

Photography: Thank you to Bridget Jaeger and her committee for all the time they donated throughout the year taking pictures of our children and making them available on the PTO website, so that we could share in their activities!

Specials Report

Don't forget to check out the teachers' websites for more information. Just go to www.bernardsboe.com and select **Liberty Corner School ORD** in the left hand column. Then scroll down to the teacher's name and click on their Oncourse icon.

Music — In the month of May, students learned about the music of India. They learned about the culture and about both traditional classical music and Bollywood music. From instruments to dancing, they touched all parts of the culture. The unit ended with a wonderful Indian Celebration on May 31st with the help of many helpful parents.

In the month of June, students will be reviewing the "Music of the Month" themes that they've had throughout the year via games like Jeopardy and Are you Smarter than a Fifth Grader. They will also be preparing for the End-of-the-Year Sing-Along which will be on the last day of school.

Thanks,

~Carol Beadle~

P.E.— SCHOOL'S OUT? NOT SO FAST! As we look back on the year in Physical Education, we have to say we are proud of our students' accomplishments, so far. We say so far because; May and June are arguably our busiest time of year. I'm sure when it is all over and we are preparing for next year and our summer camp, we will look back on this year with a feeling of pride.

Good luck to all our 5th grade students, we will miss you.

Thanks to all the volunteers on Fun Day and special thanks to the committee members that put a lot of time and effort into making it a "Fun" day for all. Did anyone get wet this year? Without the committee members and volunteers "Fun" Day would not be. All the students seemed to have a great time. What more could we ask for?

The younger students have been active with eye-hand/eye-foot coordination lessons that are developmentally appropriate and fun for all. The "big daddy" parachute was also a big hit with the kids and low flying planes. The fourth and fifth grade students have been participating in a sports education unit, which emphasizes sportsmanship and fair play. Ask your fourth or fifth grader about their team and their responsibilities as a team member. The sports education unit teaches our children to compete with all their heart, while understanding their opponents have a heart and feelings too. It is important that our children understand that sometimes we win and sometimes we don't, but we are never losers if we try our best and take the time to care. As it is painted outside the gymnasium, "We miss 100% of the shots we do not take".

All second through fifth grade students will be bringing home their spring fitness assessment. Please take the time to go over the report with your child and stay actively involved throughout the summer. We wish all a great summer and hope to see a lot of you at the PE Guys Camp. Thanks for all your support.

The PE GUYS



Family Fun Run



Field Day



Indian Cultural Night

