

STEVENS STAR



PTA Newsletter



October 2009

Francis L. Stevens Elementary School, Lake Hill Road, Ballston Lake, NY
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Northeastern District PTA

OBCalendar of Events

Wednesday, October 7th
PTA meeting
7:00pm



Monday, October 12th
Columbus Day **No School**

Tuesday, October 13th
Board of Education at the Middle School 7:30pm.

Wednesday, October 14th
PTA Curiosity Shop Begins.

Sunday, October 18th
Craft Fair High School
10:00 – 4:00

Monday, October 19th
Taste of Burnt Hills Dinner
High School 6:00 – 8:30pm
To Benefit the Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake Education Foundation
Monday October 19th 2009
From 6:00 to 8:30 pm
High School Cafeteria
Admission \$25 Tickets available at Mail 'n More or call 399-9050

Tuesday, October 27th
Board of Education at Stevens School, 7:30pm.

Sunday, November 1st
Daylight savings time ends "fall back"



Tuesday, November 3rd
Election Day

Friday, November 6th
Stevens PTA Fall Family Dinner

Monday, November 9th
Half Day for Grades 1-12



From the President

Congratulations, Stevens Superstars, on meeting Mr. Rothacker's Summer Reading Challenge! Congratulations, too, to the parents, family members and teachers who encouraged and enabled our kids to exceed the school target. Because the student population surpassed the goal of 375 participants who read the required amount over the summer, we need **VOLUNTEERS** for a **CARNIVAL this Friday, October 9th**. The carnival will take place during the school day. It includes a carnival act, bounces, games and more!

Please contact Jackie Ballinger at 885-1652 or jballin1@nycap.rr.com so that she can quickly pull the necessary volunteers together for face painting, bounce and game supervision and a surprise outdoor treat for K-2!

Thank you for volunteering to come together and help make these special events happen!

Thank you, thank you, thank you!

- Tricia Letendre, Suzanne DeVito and all the volunteers who contributed to a wonderful Welcome Back Breakfast for the teachers and staff.
- Colleen Grabb for heading the PTA membership drive. It's not too late to join!
- Helen Roos and the volunteers at Picture Day (I can't wait to see them!)
- Amy Agan and all the homeroom reps for participating in Back to School Nights, as well as the contributions you have already made to the classrooms.

I've already started my Holiday shopping from the fundraiser catalogs. Please join me, and don't forget to share them with family and friends so that we can have a successful event to raise money to support our PTA programs.

Be informed. Be involved. Visit these PTA links:

http://www.pta.org/Issue_Brief-SeeingisBelieving.pdf

http://www.pta.org/IssueBrief-Model_Partnerships.pdf

Have a great October. See you at the PTA meeting on the 7th at 7:00pm.

Amy

2009-2010 Stevens PTA Officers

President

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amy.aldrich.mo2v@statefarm.com

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Cathy Todd 399-4438
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PTATeacher Representatives

Sue Cifaratta and
 Betty Hanson

Articles for the Newsletter

Emailed or written submissions must be received by the 1st of the month for inclusion in the newsletter. Submissions by email should be sent to mgrabb@nycap.rr.com

Staff

Amy Aldrich PTA President
 Colleen Grabb - Editor,
 384-7336

Hmgrabb@nycap.rr.com

Asst. Editor, Laura Foster



HALFWAY THROUGH!

That's right! We are already halfway through the Fall Fundraiser. With the long weekend coming up the kids have an excellent opportunity to increase their sales before Tuesday, October 13th, when the sale is over.

ITEMS TO REMEMBER

There are now several different items that can be sent in to school that we will submit/recycle to gain credit toward very valuable tools for the school. Remember your **Box Tops, Campbell's labels, drink pouches, and Hannaford Dollars**. We also have the ongoing **Tools for Schools with Price Chopper** and the **Target Red Card TCOE** program.

Kim North, VP- Fundraising, 309-3551.

Banking Volunteers Needed

When: Friday mornings 8-9:30. (Art Room)

What: Set up supplies for banking, enter deposits from kids, and bring deposit to bank. You can volunteer monthly, every other week or weekly.

How: Volunteers can come to just set up computer and supplies first thing 7:55-8:15 and leave and/or come around 8:15 to greet the kids and log in deposits and give out prizes when earned.

Why: Most importantly, we are helping kids get in the habit of SAVING, with an interest rate higher than most accounts earn. There is also a great luncheon given in our honor of banking volunteers in the spring at the Desmond. Parent volunteers can also open an account earning 2% interest annually on balances under \$1000. Think of it as a CD with access to the money at any time.



Who: If interested please call Holly Schulte 384-0402, Banking Coordinator.



Library Volunteers wanted for the 2009-2010 school year

Help children fall in love with reading.
 Helping with shelving books is what keeps us in business!
 Library = a kinder, gentler, volunteer opportunity.



Volunteer once a week, Bi-weekly, or once a month. You are welcome to volunteer during your child's library class helping with book selection and projects. Help with seasonal and themed displays.

Contact: Linda Fieldhouse @ 884-2620
 or Linda@fieldhouses.net, or

Alison Cuyler our librarian @ 399-141
 ext. 3911 or acuyler@bhbl.org for information.



Let Us Know When Your Child is Absent or Late

Parents should always notify the school by **9:00AM**, either by phone call or email, whenever their child will be absent or late. If there is no call or email from a parent, the office staff must verify the student is absent by calling the parent. (A written excuse with a parent signature is still required when the child returns to school.)

bmlodzianowski@bhbl.org,
jbennett@bhbl.org

Win Win for Our School

Once again, we are participating with several programs that help provide equipment and supplies to our school. This year more than ever, with continuing budget constraints, we ask that you consider participating in our fundraising efforts.

Keep sending in the **Campbell's and Box Tops UPC's**.

Hannaford Helps Schools will give you school dollars that can be brought in to school.

Target's Take Charge of Education donates to Stevens every time you charge with your Target Red card that has been registered. **Price Chopper's "Tools for Schools"** continues to be a valuable program to help our teachers' select needed items for their classrooms.

New this year, staying with the Stevens Goes Green theme, we have joined up with **TerraCycle to recycle drink pouches**. The Capri Sun, Kool-Aid, and similar drink pouches may be placed in the receptacle in the cafeteria. They will be recycled back to TerraCycle, and by doing this, the company donates back to the school. Great for the environment and great for our school!

Kim North,
VP-Fundraising, 309-3551

INSTRUCTION CARD FOR PRICE CHOPPER TOOLS FOR SCHOOLS SIGN-UP

(This does not affect Sunoco Gas Points)

1. Grab your PC Advantage Card or Key Tag
2. Go to <https://www2.pricechopper.com/toolsforschools/single.shtml>
3. Type in School Code 15698 (for Stevens Elementary)
4. Type in your First and Last Name.
5. Type in your 10 digit Advantage Card number.
6. You do not need to type in your email or phone number unless you want to.
7. Click SUBMIT

THANK YOU!!



What is Odyssey of the Mind?

Odyssey of the Mind is a team-based, creative problem-solving competition. Students work on a team of up to 7 members to creatively design solutions to one of five problems and then present their solution in a competition against other regional teams. It is an exciting learning experience that is challenging and fun.

If you or your child is interested in finding out more information about what Odyssey of the Mind is or how to become involved in this program, join us for an information meeting in the school library on Thursday, October 15 at 7:00 PM.

If you are unable to attend the meeting but would like to know more, please contact

Kelley Johnson at richandkelley@verizon.net or 698-7993.

Yearbook Staff Needs Pictures

The Yearbook Staff needs pictures of all the school events. Remember to bring your camera to school when you volunteer. Please email pictures with event and grade covered to Paula Wunderlich at ewunderL@nycap.rr.com

Or you can burn a disk and leave it in the main office for Paula to pick up. The more pictures, the better the year book will look. Please contact Paula at 399-6277 or ewunderL@nycap.rr.com if you can cover a school event.



Please contact Paula if you are able to take pictures at the Halloween parade. It would also be helpful to know who is covering the classroom parties. Thank you for your time.

We are looking for an artist who would like to see their work on the front page of the year book. Please submit your drawing by **November 2, 2009** for consideration. The drawing will be chosen by the yearbook committee and announced in the December Newsletter. The theme for the drawing is Stevens Elementary. Your favorite subject, place in the school, and/or friends.

Membership

The membership committee would like to thank all the parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, friends, neighbors, teachers, and staff who have supported the Stevens' membership drive. We are still accepting memberships so if you have not turned in your PTA dues, you can drop your envelop off in the office or send it in your child's backpack. Thank you to the Home Room Representatives for their presentation back to school night and their efforts in collecting the PTA dues. A final but important thank you to Bob Rafferty, our treasurer, for developing a smooth collection process. I know the Home Room Representatives appreciated the quick and efficient check out after each of the back to school nights.

One final note please, check out the PTA website listed on the back of your membership card to receive your discounts at participating stores.

http://www.pta.org/member_benefit_providers.asp

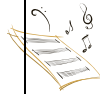


“Beauty is...” Reflections



Once again, it's time to start those creative ideas flowing and portray what “Beauty is...” to you. Reflections is a cultural arts program of the National PTA which encourages students to express their thoughts and feelings through creative arts. The six categories of the program include:

*Music
Composition*



Literature



*Dance
Choreography*



*Visual
Arts*



*Film
Production*



Please e-mail or call Lynette Albright for guidelines and an entry form. Submissions are due on November 4th, so start those pens writing, cameras rolling or feet dancing!

Lynette Albright
l@nycap.rr.com
399-7189



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