

# STEVENS STAR



## PTA Newsletter



September 2009

Francis L. Stevens Elementary School, Lake Hill Road, Ballston Lake, NY  
PTA® is a registered service mark of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers

Northeastern District PTA

### Calendar of Events

#### **Tuesday September 22nd**

Board of Education at Pashley  
7:30pm

#### **Wednesday September 23rd**

Back to School Grades 4 & 5  
7:00pm

#### **Thursday September 24th**

Back to School Grades 2 & 3  
7:00pm

#### **Tuesday September 29th**

Back to School Grades K & 1  
7:00pm

#### **Wednesday September 30th**

School Pictures

#### **Wednesday October 7th**

PTA Curiosity Shop Begins

#### **Monday October 12th**

Columbus Day **No School**

#### **Volunteers Needed**

Curiosity Shop begins October 7th.  
For more information,  
Please contact:  
Helen Roos 384-1836  
[ttd@nycap.rr.com](mailto:ttd@nycap.rr.com)

### **From the President**

Hello everyone, and welcome to the 2009-2010 school year! What a *FAST* summer.

I want to take moment to refresh you on what PTA is all about:

#### PTA Vision Statement

*Making every child's potential a reality by establishing the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc (NYS PTA) as the premier organization for parent involvement and advocacy for all children.*

#### Mission Statement

PTA is

- *A powerful voice for all children*
- *A relevant resource for families and communities, and*
- *A strong advocate for the education and well-being of every child*

How can you help?

A great way to figure out how you can contribute is to attend one of our PTA meetings. They are typically held the first Wednesday of each month from 7-8:00pm in the Media Center. Please join us!

There are already many volunteers hard at work on PTA committees that provide programs and enrichment to our students. We are still in need of more volunteers, though. I would like to encourage parents of younger students to jump in and find out what we are all about. Doing is the best form of adult learning!

#### **The following committees still need chairs:**

**Book Exchange**  
**Pajama Party**  
**Dare Reception**  
**Family Fun Night**  
**Fifth Grade Party**  
**Holiday Shop**

One last thing I wanted to pass along to you from the NYS PTA – September 20-26<sup>th</sup> is Statewide Turnoff Week. The NYS Department of Health Obesity Prevention Program and the Center for Screen-Time Awareness (CSTA) are sponsoring this event for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row. The main goal is to reduce TV viewing and other recreational screen time among children.

Thanks to all the parents, teachers and staff who make Stevens such a great school. I'm proud to be a Stevens parent, and look forward to having a very successful school year.

Amy

### **2009-2010 Stevens PTA Officers**

#### **President**

Amy Aldrich 598-2144  
[amy.aldrich.mo2v@statefarm.com](mailto:amy.aldrich.mo2v@statefarm.com)

#### **President-elect**

Sonja Olson 399-9510  
[sonjaolson@nycap.rr.com](mailto:sonjaolson@nycap.rr.com)

#### **VP - Fundraising**

Kim North 309-3551  
[knorth@nycap.rr.com](mailto:knorth@nycap.rr.com)

#### **VP-Homeroom Representative**

Amy Agan, 399-9069  
[Sagan2@nycap.rr.com](mailto:Sagan2@nycap.rr.com)

#### **VP - Programs**

Candy Burchett 339-6180  
[cisforcandy@yahoo.com](mailto:cisforcandy@yahoo.com)

#### **Secretary**

Jessica Rzeszotarski,  
399-9251  
[jrzesz@nycap.rr.com](mailto:jrzesz@nycap.rr.com)

#### **Treasurer**

Bob Rafferty, 399-3859  
[rafferty@colden.com](mailto:rafferty@colden.com)

#### **PTACouncil Representative**

Cathy Todd 399-4438  
[Ctodd00@msn.com](mailto:Ctodd00@msn.com)

#### **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](mailto:mgrabb@nycap.rr.com)

#### **Staff**

Amy Aldrich PTA President  
Colleen Grabb – Editor,  
384-7336  
[mgrabb@nycap.rr.com](mailto:mgrabb@nycap.rr.com)

Asst. Editor, Laura Foster

### **Fall Fundraiser!!!**

THE FALL FUNDRAISER IS BACK! This year we are very excited to bring back the Great American Catalog program. There is a wide variety of affordable gifts in every price range, and it features everyone's favorite Kathryn Beich Confections. Holiday shopping will be much easier with delivery just before Thanksgiving, so take advantage of this great opportunity to shop at home! We have many educational and fun activities and events planned for the upcoming school year that this fundraiser helps support, so please encourage the kids to take part. Top sales will earn classrooms great rewards! Look for the fundraiser packets to come home the week of September 28<sup>th</sup>. Thanks in advance for making this a very successful fundraiser.

**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. 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 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](mailto:Linda@fieldhouses.net), or  
Alison Cuyler our Librarian @ 399-9141  
ext. 3911 or [acuyler@bhbl.org](mailto:acuyler@bhbl.org) for more  
information.

### **Information if Your Child is Absent**

Parents should always notify the school by **9:00AM**, either by phone call or email, whenever their child will be absent. 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.)

**[bmłodzianowski@bhbl.org](mailto:bmłodzianowski@bhbl.org), [jbennett@bhbl.org](mailto: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**

### School Pictures

Wednesday September 30th School pictures will be taken. If you don't plan to purchase school pictures, **please have your child's picture taken anyway.** The picture is used by the district and his/her picture will be in the **yearbook.**

### 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](mailto: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 [wunderl@nycap.rr.com](mailto:wunderl@nycap.rr.com).

Or you can burn a disk and leave 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 [wunderl@nycap.rr.com](mailto:wunderl@nycap.rr.com) if you can cover a school event.

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*everychild.one voice.*

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