

## Note from the PTO President

The first day started off quietly enough—school buses appeared when expected, a few tears surfaced, but the kids made it to school safely. With the exception of that little earthquake registering a mere 5.8 on the Richter scale, they arrived home, unscathed, happy, and on time. A first day to remember!

The PTO is busy planning more memorable moments this year. We have some great events lined up—from the Halloween Bash to Family Game Night, Read Across America to the 5K Family Run. We hope you'll join us in making these events a success—look for volunteer opportunities listed in this newsletter. Whether you can volunteer for just a couple of hours or want to chair an entire event, there is something for everyone. Volunteer at home, volunteer at school. Don't know what to choose from or hesitant to make a volunteer commitment? Let us know and we'll help you find something that will work for you.

I'd like to extend a huge thank you to everyone who helped make Sneak-A-Peek night such a success. Efforts by the Owl's Outlet, Spiritwear and Membership teams made the evening run smoothly. In this newsletter, you'll find a thank you written by Jen Lee to all those who volunteered. I would like to thank all those people, in addition to Jen Lee for her tireless effort in making an incredibly busy evening work well for everyone.

The purpose of the PTO is to support the educational needs and well-being of the students at Folger McKinsey Elementary School. It is through your support that we make that happen. Please consider joining the PTO and making Folger McKinsey a great place to grow and learn.

Maureen Whittington  
FMES PTO President



## Weekly Folger Blast

Weekly Folger Blasts will be emailed over the weekend. If you would like your announcement included, please email Maureen Whittington at [mmwhittington@gmail.com](mailto:mmwhittington@gmail.com) by Thursday of each week.

If you are not receiving Folger Updates by e-mail, please send an e-mail to Kathie Hamlett at [sons4me2@yahoo.com](mailto:sons4me2@yahoo.com) to be added, or you can join the group by going to [FolgerMcKinseyE-mail-subscribe@yahoo.com](http://FolgerMcKinseyE-mail-subscribe@yahoo.com)

## 2011-2012 PTO Board of Directors:

President:	Maureen Whittington	( <a href="mailto:mmwhittington@gmail.com">mmwhittington@gmail.com</a> )
VP Finance:	Susan Hartley	( <a href="mailto:susanwhartley@gmail.com">susanwhartley@gmail.com</a> )
VP Programs:	Anna O'Connor	( <a href="mailto:annaro@msn.com">annaro@msn.com</a> )
VP Administration:	Sue Wright	( <a href="mailto:lshwright@comcast.net">lshwright@comcast.net</a> )
Secretary:	Jacqui Riley	( <a href="mailto:rileys@mail.com">rileys@mail.com</a> )
Treasurer:	Sandy Gaudet	( <a href="mailto:SGaudet@gaylordhotels.com">SGaudet@gaylordhotels.com</a> )

## Internet

### Safety Night

Are you in the field of computer security?

### YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL NEEDS YOU!!!!

If you would like to help with this program on January 11<sup>th</sup>, Please contact Anna O'Connor.

[annaro@msn.com](mailto:annaro@msn.com)

## *A Special Thank You!*

Our now annual Sneak-A-Peek event was very successful due to the many, many volunteers who made it happen. I would like to acknowledge each of you for your time and commitment to our school.

A big thank you to **Kim Naus** who helped out with every phase of this project from ordering, inventory, buying, set-up and clean-up. Good luck to you next year!

To the **Wright Family**, Sue, Chloe, Olivia and Tori: Thank you for your help with planning the logistics of the evening and coming up with a game plan to make the night run smoothly and efficiently. Your mind is better than mine. To the girls who gave up their Thursday afternoon to rubber band the hundreds of Ticonderoga pencils!

To the **Reynolds Family**, Karen, Thurman, Julia and Melanie: Thank you for all your help with set-up, clean-up and everywhere in-between. Julia's first grade table was very well organized all night long thanks to her and her pals Gracie O'Connor and Maddie Manley.

**Susan Hartley**: our new PTO VP of Finance. Little did you know what you were getting into, but you showed up Thursday early afternoon and worked long hard hours doing whatever was necessary and all with a smile, your positive attitude in the midst of chaos was appreciated. Welcome to the team!

A big thank you to all the **parents** of the students who volunteered their time to help with Sneak-A-Peek. Parents are the example for their children and your hours of volunteerism has generated the same enthusiasm for our youth, of this you should be proud. These students helped to man the school supply tables for each grade and helped parents by answering questions, locating merchandise and restocking supplies. I couldn't have done without the help of **Taylor Berger, Annie Echeverria, Matt Glady, Grace Gremillion, Dylan Kemmer, McKenna Lee, Kiera Murphy, Annie Myers and Julia Reynolds**.

In an effort to stream-line our check-out process, agenda books and lanyard flash drives were available at a separate table for parents wanting to purchase only those items. This table was very busy all night and thanks to the efforts of **Lise Chaisson and Maddie Echeverria** the lines were kept moving as well as the merchandise. You ladies rock! Cute pic in the Severna Park Patch too!

All the cashiers!!! **Kathie Hamlett, Laura Hyde, Lucy Byrd, Chris Smith, Tim Keys, Michelle Patschorke and Lauren Maddox** What can I say...the long lines I feared were non-existent! One of the most important yet chaotic jobs of the evening yet you kept calm under pressure and collected payment quickly keeping the lines moving. You're all hired...if only we received a paycheck!

This year a few parents volunteered their time to float around the room and help with whatever was necessary: answer questions, locate and restock merchandise, pass out grade level supply lists, help parents be aware of changes in procedures this year, all of which I think made the evening very successful because knowledge is power! Thank you to **Stephanie Smith, Kelly Cornacchia and Kristi Kemmer** for your ability to work a room!

Many offered to help stay and clean-up this year and this was such a help....because of you I got home at a reasonable hour. Thanks to all who packaged up unsold merchandise, put supplies away, rearranged the cafeteria tables and counted money. Like most of the PTO sponsored events, volunteerism is at the heart of our success. When you give time to your school, you give time to your kids. I thank the many volunteers again who made this event successful and apologize if I missed mentioning anyone for your efforts that evening.

Many thanks,  
Jen Lee  
School Store Coordinator

### **And more...**

*Special Thank You's* to **Rachel Blackwood, Meredith Reaser** and her daughter, **Megan** for helping with PTO membership and the Spiritwear team of **Renee Bellanca, Linda Cingel, Sherry Leikin, Kristine Milewski and Mary Pat Seeman** who coordinated their efforts to offer great Folger items for all!

**YOU HAVE QUESTIONS???**  
**GIVE A HOOT NIGHT....HAS THE ANSWERS**

**OCTOBER 6th, 7:00pm at Whitehurst Clubhouse**

Why **YOU** should give a HOOT!!!!!! What can be more important than your child's education?

**\*PARENTS CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE:**

- Find out what makes an effective teacher.
- How to support an effective teacher.
- How to report a teacher failing to meet the needs of the children.
- How to give your child a voice in their education.
- How YOU can make a difference in your child's education!**
- AND WHY YOU SHOULD!!!!**

- \*MSA Testing:** Why are they so important?  
 What does it mean for MY child?  
 What does it mean for the school?

- \*New Families: Please come!**  
 Meet new friends and find out the answers to these and other important questions.

If you are interested in helping with this event please contact Anna O'Connor [annaro@msn.com](mailto:annaro@msn.com).

**Aluminum Recycling**

Mr. Edwin Takemori has been tirelessly collecting aluminum cans and donating all profits to Folger McKinsey for many years. He will be continuing to do so this year. Collection will start in October, so get a trash bag and start collecting those cans! **Remember to put the name of student, teacher and grade on bags of cans so he can give the students credit.**

Mr. Takemori's address is  
 54 Robinson Landing Road (Berrywood South)  
 Severna Park and he can be reached at 410-431-7360 or [takemorijudo@verizon.net](mailto:takemorijudo@verizon.net).

**HALLOWEEN FAMILY DANCE**

**NEEDED: SOMEONE TO  
 CHAIR THE EVENT!  
 OCTOBER 28**

**IF YOU HAD A GREAT TIME AT THE  
 HALLOWEEN DANCE LAST YEAR,  
 THEN PLEASE CONSIDER CHAIRING  
 OR CO-CHAIRING THIS EVENT!**

**THE GROUND WORK HAS BEEN  
 LAID AND READY TO GO.**

**PLEASE CONTACT ANNA O'CONNOR.  
[ANNARO@MSN.COM](mailto:ANNARO@MSN.COM)**

## PTO Membership/Direct Donations

Thanks to all of those who were able to make it out to Sneak a Peek and picked up their PTO Membership forms. We are happy to say that we had a great turnout that night! If you did not pick up your personalized form that night, it was sent home in backpacks during the past few days. If you haven't received one, a blank form is attached to this newsletter. Feel free to return it in your child's backpack in an envelope labeled "PTO Membership", or bring it with you to Back to School night. The cost to join the PTO is the same as last year, just \$15! What a bargain considering all the things our PTO is able to provide for our staff and students.

With the exception of the Folger 5K/Family Fun Run, we will not do any fundraising this year. That's right, you will not be asked to sell gift wrap! We are asking instead that each family gives a "Direct Donation" to our school. One hundred percent of this money is used to fulfill wish lists of our teachers and sponsor events (and tax-deductible to you!). Last year we were able to purchase printers for most classrooms, a die cut machine, a new reading program and so much more. This year we made it easy for you to write one check for both Membership and Direct Donation. You will find Direct Donation information on the Membership form. Blank forms will be available at Back to School Night as well.

The deadline to join the PTO and be included in the *very handyschool* directory is September 16th.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me, Sue Wright, at [LSHWright@comcast.net](mailto:LSHWright@comcast.net)

## Fundraising Lite:

Giant/Safeway/Food Lion/Target Receipts, Ledo's Pizza & Franklin's Toys: Sign us up, Baby! We all shop—let's earn money back! The PTO needs a volunteer to register Folger with each store, and then encourage Folger parents to register their card, eat pizza or shop for toys. It's that simple. It doesn't take long. Each month you would put a reminder in the newsletter and also in the weekly e-mail blast. It's that simple—an easy job that can be done from home! Ms. Bachmann uses this money to purchase new programs for our school. Let's help her out! Contact Susan Hartley if interested: [susanwhartley@gmail.com](mailto:susanwhartley@gmail.com)

## Help Wanted: Looking for YOU!

Want to learn more about things going on at Folger? Want to meet new people?

Want to make a difference in your child's education?

**GET INVOLVED** 

We are looking for a few volunteers to help out this year:

## Box Tops

Hopefully you have been clipping and saving box tops all summer.

Our goal this year is to raise over \$1200.. The collection box is currently located in the lobby by lost and found. Our first contest this year is an easy one and will end on October 31st. For every 20 box tops brought in your child's name will be entered in a drawing for a prize to be awarded to one student. Please make sure to label the bag or envelope clearly with their name and grade. Attached to this newsletter is a collection sheet that can also be used. A great way for the younger children to practice counting.

If you are unfamiliar with box tops, there are three easy ways you can help raise money for our school.

**CLIP** - Clip the box top from hundreds of participating products and send them to school. Each one is worth 10 cents.

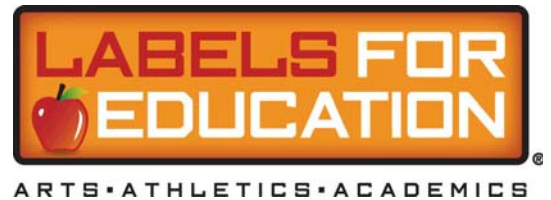
**SHOP ONLINE** - Shop at your favorite online stores through the Box Tops Marketplace ([boxtops4education.com/marketplace](http://boxtops4education.com/marketplace)).

**READ** - Buy books online through the Reading Room, a partnership between Box Tops and Barnes and Noble.

Sign up at [boxtops4education.com](http://boxtops4education.com), it is easy and free. If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Hussey at 410-793-5159 or [hussbus5@comcast.net](mailto:hussbus5@comcast.net)

## Campbell's Soup Labels

Don't forget to save your labels!  
Look for more information in coming weeks!!!



## September At-a-Glance

Date	Day	Event	Time
5	Monday	School Closed for Labor Day	
7	Wednesday	Committee Chair Kick-Off in Woods Fellowship Hall	6:30 pm
13	Tuesday	Picture Day (Non-PTO Function)	
15	Thursday	Folger Back To School Night	6:30 pm
19-27	Mon-Tues.	Folger Book Fair (Non-PTO Function)	
20	Tuesday	PTO Meeting in Media Resource Room	10-11:30 am
20	Tuesday	Room Parent Orientation in Media Resource Room	11:30 am
21	Wednesday	Ledo's Pizza Night	
27	Tuesday	Volunteer Orientation in Media Resource Room (Non-PTO Function)	10:00 am