

Letter from the President

The holiday season will be upon us before we know it. I'm currently reading a book titled, "Simplify Your Christmas", which I would highly recommend to those of you who get stressed even at the glimpse of the approaching holiday, as I do. I'd also like to recommend that you get some quick and easy holiday shopping done on November 11th right in Ashland. That's right, you can hit the Book Fair and the PTA Spirit Wear table all on your way into the PTA meeting. The Book Fair will be held in the Elementary Library from 5:30 to 8:00 that evening. The Spirit Wear table will be set up by 6:00 right outside the art room. You'll be able to shop before and after the meeting and place orders that will be ready by December 16th. And...there will be free babysitting from 6:00 until 8:00. Now that's stress-free shopping if you ask me! Then, you can attend the meeting and learn about natural health remedies that will help keep you and your family feeling well this holiday season. Have you been wondering about whether or not everyone in your family should be getting flu shots? If so, we'll be hearing about and discussing the pros and cons of that at our meeting also. I hope to see you there.

Sincerely,

Heather Miles Mange

Buddy Pack Update

The PTA, in cooperation with Southern Boone Elementary and Primary Schools have identified 18 kids to participate in this program. Each week back packs are sent home with snacks, lunch and breakfast items. The kids who are participating seem to love the program. The PTA is very grateful to the following organizations that have made this project a success:

- The Ashland Baptist Church for providing us with a location to store food and fill backpacks.
- The Girl Scouts who conducted a wonderful food & back pack drive.
- The students who volunteer from the National Honor Society
- PTA member volunteers for ordering the food, filling and delivering packs and donating additional items.
- School personnel for identifying kids and handling the administration of the program.
- The Central Missouri Food Bank for making this all possible.
- Local businesses who are becoming involved by generously donating to the cause.

This project is a wonderful example of our community coming together to take care of each other. Those wishing to volunteer may e-mail us at sobocopta@gmail.com or call Nancy Nickolaus at: 657-4123.

Don't Miss the November PTA Meeting/Presentation: Tuesday, November 11th
Elementary School Art Room - Free babysitting available in the gym from 6:00 to 8:00
6:00 to 6:30: Spirit Wear table will be set up right outside the art room.
6:30 to 7:00: Meeting
7:00 to 7:45: Presentation by Kate Branham, FNP, Namaste Healthcare (natural health remedies and the pros/cons of the flu shot)

Thanks to Our Volunteers!

Passport Fundraiser a Big Success:

The PTA would like to thank everyone who contributed in some way to our 2008 Passport Fundraiser. Due to everyone who sold and/or purchased books, we were able to surpass our 2007 amount and our 2008 goal! This one fundraiser allows us to assist with everything that was on our list this year, such as field trips, supplies for positive behavior support, scholarships, and teacher wish list items. Another big thank you goes to Jodi Frank for serving as the fundraiser coordinator. Great job everyone!

Walk to School Week:

Thank you to the following PTA members who provided parents with rides back to their cars during Walk-to-School Week: Amy Collette, Nancy Nickolaus, Liz and Danny Clark, and Heather Miles-Mange.

SafeKids Program:

Thank you to the following PTA members for assisting with the SafeKids programs at the Primary and Elementary Schools in October: Amy Collette, LeeAnn Jestis, Kelly Redford, Deanna Schupp, and Heather Miles-Mange.

Box Tops and Moser's Fundraisers:

Please continue to send your box tops and Moser's receipts to school on a regular basis. They are a great source of income to the PTA.

Recent PTA Activity

Although it seems as though the school year has just begun, your local PTA has already accomplished a great deal. A listing of these accomplishments follows:

- Launching of the Buddy Pack program, which is currently serving 18 students
- A Successful Passport Fundraising event held in September
- Spirit Wear sales at football homecoming and M.S. parent/teacher conferences
- September Room Parent Meeting
- Wish List letters have been sent to the teachers and a committee set up to review requests.
- Sponsorship of the middle school 100 % Club first quarter events
- Sponsorship of the high school visiting musician.
- Sponsorship of kindergarten and 5th grade field trips
- Parent / Teach Appreciation snacks provided on conference days.

As you can see, we are hard at work improving the education in your community! There is still time to become a member! For a membership form, please go to our website: <http://schoolweb.missouri.edu/ashland.k12.mo.us/pta/index.htm>

Complete the form and submit it to one of the school offices along with your dues of \$5.



Spirit Wear Sales Event Coming Soon!

If you don't get your orders in on November 11th at the PTA Meeting:

Friday, December 5th

High School Commons/Gym

6:00 to 8:00 (approximate times)

Orders will be ready for pick-up/delivery by Dec. 22nd