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COUGAR COURIER
Cold Spring Elementary School
9201 Falls Chapel Way
Potomac, MD 20854
Phone (301) 279-8480

www.mcps.k12.md.us/schools/coldspringes

The Cold Spring Parent Teacher Association
www.coldspringPTA.glynn.com

PTA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President: Pete Thomson
pete@pjthomson.com

President-Elect: Debra Bernal
debra.bernal@va.gov

Vice President: Jonathan Lusk
jlusk1965@comcast.net

Treasurer: Sudha Sivaram
ssivaram@jhsph.edu

Recording Secretary: Lynn Jordan
lynn.jordan@finnegan.com

**Corresponding Secretary: Carolyn
Messitte** cmessitte@gmail.com

MCCPTA DELEGATES

Jeff Alexander:
jeffalex@stanfordalumni.org

April Kaplan:
aprilkaplan@hotmail.com

PTA MEETING SCHEDULE

Cold Spring All Purpose Room, 7:15pm;
Babysitting provided for ages 4 and up.

Tuesday, December 1, 7:15 pm

Tuesday, February 2, 7:15 pm

Tuesday, March 2, 7:15 pm

Tuesday, May 4, 7:15 pm

Tuesday, June 1, 7:00 pm (potluck)

President's Letter
By Pete Thomson

October is a busy month with a number of events going on that you and your kids won't want to miss! The first thing is the Homeless Walk, scheduled for Wednesday, October 14th. This will be the 13th annual Walk for the Homeless held at Cold Spring! Our students, staff, parents, and friends are invited to walk, jog, or run through the lower field of the school to raise money for Hand-to-Hand. Hand-to-Hand offers food, clothing, transitional housing, job training, and other supportive services to the homeless and working poor families who live in Montgomery County. In past years, we have raised thousands of dollars in this event, which is always well attended.

The big event of October is the Book Fair, October 19th—23rd, which gives students and parents the opportunity to buy award winning, high quality books for their students. The Fair lasts for a full week and has a wide variety of books available for purchase and a portion of the proceeds goes to the PTA, which helps us provide the events and activities that we have every year. This year's fair happens to coincide with a very important date for many of our children, the release date of Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Day, the 5th book in the very popular series and sure to be a hot seller. The last day of the Fair is one of the most-popular events of the year -- Bingo Night and the Teacher Raffle! If you are new to the school, the Teacher Raffle is an event where we raffle off activities with the teachers. We also have a fun, free Bingo event at the same time, where the kids can get prizes. I look forward to seeing you there.

Halloween is on the 30th this year. There is a parade and parties for the kids in the afternoon. Seeing all of the creative costumes is very entertaining.

October also brings our Membership drive to an end. In late September, we sent our reminder notices to everyone who hasn't joined so far this year. I strongly encourage you to support the PTA by joining and donating, if you can. There benefits are substantial, but the most direct benefit to you is the school directory, which I use almost daily throughout the year.

I wish everyone a very happy October!

Pete Thomson
Cold Spring Elementary PTA President
pete@pjthomson.com

PTA Committee & Community Announcements

Bingo Night & Staff Raffle

It's a Cold Spring tradition—Bingo Night featuring the Staff Raffle! Come enjoy a fun family night of entertainment sponsored by the Cold Spring PTA on Friday, October 23rd at 6:30pm. There's no charge to play Bingo, so be sure to bring the whole family. Potomac Pizza will be on hand selling pizza and sub sandwiches so dinner is covered!

The Staff Raffle features fabulous prizes donated by our talented and generous Cold Spring staff to raise funds for the PTA. Raffle winners will be drawn at random and announced at 8:00pm at Bingo Night. Students do not need to be present to win.

Watch for more details coming home soon on the raffle prizes and ticket information. Questions? Call Sheila Menconi 301-315-9342 or e-mail her at smenconi@comcast.net.

Variety Show Committee

The initial planning meeting of the Variety Show Committee was held on Friday, October 9th at 1:30 p.m. If you were unable to attend the meeting but are still interested in being part of this committee and attending the meeting, please contact Rebecca Cornelius at rebeccacornelius@comcast.net.

HELP THE HOMELESS MINI-WALK
Cold Spring Elementary School invited students, parents, staff, and friends to walk during the school day on Wednesday, October 14th. This event was held to raise funds for Hand-to-Hand. Hand-to-Hand is a non-profit agency that provides services for homeless individuals and their families. P.E. teacher Mike Robison set up a course

around school grounds to give students a unique opportunity to help others while getting fit.

Fannie Mae, the corporate sponsor for the walk, provided grants based on the number of registration forms submitted (\$20.00 donation per registration form). If more than 250 people registered at our walk, Hand to Hand will receive \$5,000!! Students who registered to walk received long-sleeved commemorative T-shirts the morning of the walk. Donations directly benefit families that are at risk of becoming homeless in Montgomery County.

The Book Fair is Here!

October 19-23

Cold Spring PTA will once again host a children's book fair in conjunction with independent bookseller Bookworm Central, a fantastic provider of interesting, unusual, and of course, classic books. Books make great holiday gifts, and the kids LOVE shopping at the fair. So be sure to come by and encourage your child's love of reading and support the Cold Spring PTA in a great fundraiser! While you are there, be sure to check out your child's teacher's wish list, as well as the library's wish list, and purchase a book on their behalf. The book fair will be open from 8:30 until 3:30 daily in the school library. The book fair will kick off on Monday, October 19, and run through Bingo Night on Friday, October 23. If you are interested in volunteering to staff the book fair, or have any questions, please contact Lynn Jordan at lynn.jordan@finnegan.com or (301) 838-2824. The bookfair coincides with the much-anticipated release of the latest Diary of a Wimpy Kid book, and plenty of copies will be available!

Cold Spring Dance Club 2009-2010
Registration will begin Monday, November 2nd. Flyers will be available in the main office kiosk and attached to a Cold Spring Yahoo Groups listserv announcement (please make sure you are on this listserv, so you will get notice).

The classes will be held Wednesday and Friday afternoons in the APR from December 2nd to March 5th and taught by Rebecca Cornelius. Students in grades 2–5 will be performing in the March 4 & 5, 2010 Variety Show. Class sizes will be limited and filled on a first come first served basis. Contact Rebecca if you have any questions rebeccacornelius@comcast.net.

The schedule is as follows:

Wednesday 3:15-4:00	2 nd grade
Wednesday 4:00-4:45	3 rd Grade
Wednesday 4:45–6:00	4 th /5 th Grade
Friday 3:15–4:00	Kindergarten
Friday 4:00–4:45	1 st Grade

Native Pride Dancers coming to Cold Spring November 4
To commemorate Native American History month in November, the first cultural arts assembly will take place on November 4 and feature the **Native Pride Dancers**, a nationally known American Indian dance troupe from the Midwest. Director Larry Yazzi and five additional dancers from several different tribes will delight Cold Spring students with their traditional, unusual and phenomenal Native American dances. Their traditional beaded clothing, haunting music and fancy footwork will keep our students spellbound throughout the 45-minute performance. Last year they delighted audiences in the family theatre at the Kennedy Center and this year they are only in our area for two weeks so we are truly privileged to have them perform. Please join us if you can--9:15 am grades K-3 and 10:15 am grades 4-5.

Susan Fox
Cultural Arts Committee

Cold Spring PTA Announces **REFLECTIONS 2009** Theme
“Beauty is...”

REFLECTIONS is a national PTA program that encourages individual students to create original works of art inspired by this year’s theme “Beauty is...”. The program is designed to enhance arts education by providing an opportunity for students to express their artistic talents and receive recognition for their efforts. Students may enter one or more works of art in any of six arts areas: visual arts, literature, photography, musical composition, dance choreography, and film/video production.

All submissions will be displayed and students acknowledged for their work. Submissions are judged in two grade divisions, K-2nd and 3rd-5th. The top four submissions in each arts area, within each division, will be forwarded on for further judging at the county, state and national levels. Judging is based on creativity, artistic merit, and interpretation of the theme.

Students can obtain an entry packet or additional information by contacting the Reflections Chair, Jennifer Capparella at capparella-winig@comcast.net or (301) 424–4211. All entries must be submitted by Friday, November 6th.

DRAFT
Minutes of the Cold Spring Elementary School PTA Meeting
Date: September 9, 2009

The PTA portion of Back –to-School Night convened at 6:45 pm.

Officers Attending: Pete Thomson (PTA President), Debra Bernal (PTA President Elect), Jonathan Lusk (Vice President), Sudha Sivaram (Treasurer), Lynn Jordan (Recording Secretary), and Carolyn Messitte (Corresponding Secretary).

Pete Thomson introduced himself and the current year’s PTA board members. He described the PTA and the many activities and programs it strives to bring to the school. He then explained the proposed budget and indicated that we would be asking for a \$65 donation per student again this year to fund PTA programs, rather than conducting large-scale fundraisers. Pete presented the budget and asked for a motion to approve, which was garnered and then seconded. All those present voted in favor of the budget as presented. No one was opposed. The budget for 2009-2010 was approved.

The PTA portion of Back-to-School Night concluded at 7:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Lynn Jordan, Recording Secretary.

New Fund Raising Opportunities Just Announced!

America's Favorite Schools Contest

As students settle into their new classrooms, Care2 is partnering with GreatSchools to announce a new way for parents, educators, and communities to rally around their school. **From September 14th through November 8th, anyone can vote in the America's Favorite School contest at <http://www.care2.com/schoolcontest/2400880> to help Cold Spring win \$20,000 and chances in the \$500 a week drawing.**



Target

Use your Target Visa or REDcard when you shop at Target and support Cold Spring: **Cold Spring ID 58117**. Just visit www.target.com/tcoe, or call 1-800-316-6142 to designate our school.



Harris Teeter

If you purchase your groceries at Harris Teeter, they will contribute a portion of their earnings to Cold Spring. The **Cold Spring ID is 7901**.

Register at http://www.harristeeter.com/community/together_in_education/link_to_your_school.aspx.



Campbell's Labels for Education

Campbell's *Labels for Education* is a program that helps schools obtain free educational merchandise in exchange for proofs of purchase collected from eligible Campbell brands. [See what products are eligible](#). You can help by saving and forwarding proofs of purchase to Cold Spring ES. Cold Spring can then redeem them for FREE merchandise such as computers, software, physical education equipment, musical instruments, library books or even a minivan.



Subway

It's easy for Cold Spring ES supporters to participate. When supporters load cash onto a SUBWAY® Card linked to Cold Spring ES and use the card to pay when they dine at SUBWAY® restaurants, Cold Spring earns a contribution from each purchase. Cards can be picked up at a SUBWAY® restaurant, loaded and used to pay, and then linked to Cold Spring ES at SubwaySchoolRewards.com.