

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: Julie Oldach
julieoldach@verizon.net

President-Elect: Pete Thomson
pete@pjthomson.com

Vice President: Susan Lusk
susan@ipo.org

Treasurer: Andrea Portes
aggportes@verizon.net

Recording Secretary: Laurie Gira
tlebgira@aol.com

Corresponding Secretary: Denise Schleckser
dschleckser@verizon.net

MCCPTA DELEGATES

Christina Kyong:
ckyong@stoneridge.org

Jeff Alexander:
jeffalex@stanfordalumni.org

PTA MEETING SCHEDULE 2008-2009

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

Tuesday, October 7, 2008

Wednesday, November 5, 2008

Tuesday, December 2, 2008

Tuesday, January 6, 2009

Tuesday, February 3, 2009

Tuesday, March 3, 2009

Tuesday, March 31, 2009

Tuesday, May 5, 2009

Tuesday, June 2, 2009

President's Notes
By Julie Oldach

It's hard to believe that another summer has passed and a new school year has begun. It seems like only yesterday that we were saying goodbye and here we are again, rejoining many of our old friends, but also welcoming to Cold Spring many new families who will contribute to our community.

The summer is often a time of relaxation, but a lot of people have worked tirelessly over many hours this summer to help get the 2008-09 school year off to a running start. I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of all Cold Spring families to thank those PTA volunteers and Cold Spring staff who have done the hard work behind the scenes to make things go so smoothly, such as Sneak Peek, the 4th Grade Ice Cream Social, the Back to School Picnic, the Staff Welcome breakfast, and Kindergarten Orientation (which I attended wearing both my PTA and parent hats). It was wonderful to see so many new faces at these events.

Speaking of new faces, those of you who are new to Cold Spring may be wondering just what PTA is, and what role you can play in enhancing your children's educational experience. PTA sponsors many fun and enriching activities, including:

- Cultural Arts Assemblies
- Artists in Residence
- Visiting Authors
- Field Day
- Destination Imagination
- Geography Week
- Reflections
- Science Fair
- Read-A-Thon
- Book-A-Breakfast
- Foreign Language Instruction
- Book Fair
- Group Piano
- International Fair
- AND MORE!

Many of these events have already been scheduled, and you can see that schedule by following the link to the "PTA Events Calendar" at the home page at <http://www.coldspringpta.glynn.com>. PTA also helps the Cold Spring faculty and staff by raising additional funds to supplement the school's budget.

You may now be asking yourself, how can I help? If so, I am sure we have a volunteer opportunity that would be perfect for you. First, if you have not already done so, please send in the membership form that you all should have received. Second, if you would like to volunteer, please contact one of the PTA Board Members, who can put you in touch with the people who are in charge of our various activities and committees. Also, please attend our regularly scheduled PTA meetings, where your voice can be heard.

The PTA is only as vigorous as its members. Please contribute your special talents to keep our PTA vibrant in the coming school year. I look forward to working with all the parents of Cold Spring this year. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or suggestions.

Sincerely,

Julie Oldach
PTA President
301-762-5562
julieoldach@verizon.net

Pizza Night – A Hearty Thank You!

Thanks to all who participated in our first Community Night at Z Pizza. Through your participation, the Cold Spring PTA earned \$658.37! Thanks again!

Volunteer Corner

One of the many components making Cold Spring Elementary School a success is the level of parent participation in school activities. The CSES PTA creates many opportunities for the students by providing in-school enrichment programs and after-school activities, in addition to community service projects and fundraising to support these activities. To maintain these programs that contribute to the success of our children, the PTA is always eager and appreciative of parent support and time. Whether you have enough time to chair a committee or are only able to provide sporadic assistance, the PTA can always use your help.

Anyone interested in volunteering in any capacity at the school (classroom help, room parent, PTA representative, etc.) can attend an informative meeting on Wednesday, September 17th at 9:00 am at the school. If you are unable to attend, the information will also be available on the PTA website at www.coldspringpta.glynn.com in the volunteer opportunity page.

The Book Fair is Coming! October 10-16

Cold Spring PTA will once again host a children's book fair with a terrific, independent bookseller, Bookworm Central, a fantastic provider offering interesting, unusual, and of course, classic books. Books make great holiday gifts and the kids LOVE shopping at the fair. Please 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. Because of the school closure schedule this year, the book fair will kick off on Friday, October 10, and run through Thursday, October 16. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Lynn Jordan at: lynn.jordan@finnegan.com or (301) 838-2824.

Recycle...it all adds up!

Your used printer cartridges and cell phones can make a difference. We've just started a new recycling program through FundingFactory – collecting used inkjet and laser printer cartridges and cell phones. We are helping keep the earth clean while earning money for the PTA to help fund special projects. You can make a difference and help us earn even more by saving your used cartridges and cell phones. Please deliver your items to one of the bins located in the hallway outside of the teachers' lounge. If you have any questions about this program, or if you'd like to get more involved, please contact Jane Burns, janeburns@mindspring.com, (301) 251-2806.

Destination Imagination Coming Soon!

It's time to start thinking about a new season of Destination Imagination! DI is a creative problem-solving exercise for kids in all grades. Teams of 5-7 students choose the challenge that interests them, then write and perform a skit at a school assembly as well as in a tournament in the spring. Depending on the challenge they pick, kids can create a story that incorporates building structures, making music videos, improvisation, and literature. We hope to have as many teams as possible. Each team will need one parent to act as team manager, who will supervise the weekly meetings. Each team will also need one parent to act as an appraiser who will help judge teams on the day of the tournament. More information is available on the DI website, <http://www.idodi.org>. Sign-up forms will be sent home soon; anyone interested can contact Karin Novak at Karinn@aol.com or Ms. Hanley at joan.b.hanley@mcpsmd.org.

Visiting Author comes to Cold Spring!

On October 10 the students of Cold Spring ES will host acclaimed children's author and illustrator, Arthur Dorros for a daylong celebration of ideas, imagination, writing, illustrating, editing and learning. Mr. Dorros is the author of over 30 children's books, with titles such as Ant Cities, Abuela, Numero Uno, City Chicken and Alligator Shoes. Many of Mr. Dorros' books offer a humorous take on animal life, science topics and family relationships.

Mr. Dorros will have an all-school assembly in the morning and work with the third, fourth and fifth graders in workshops in the afternoon. The assembly will highlight how his experiences as a child and an adult have led to his stories and illustrations as well as help the students find their own stories. In the workshops, Mr. Dorros, will focus on how a story is developed from idea to bound book. He will focus on finding ideas, editing and illustration as related to both fiction and non-fiction books. It should be a wonderful day and we hope that all will give Mr. Dorros a warm, Cold Spring welcome on October 10.

Hands On Science

We are excited to announce the starting of the Hands On Science Program at Cold Spring. Hands On Science (HOS), originating in Montgomery County in 1980, has provided quality informal science programs for children from Kindergarten through the sixth grade for over 27 years. The theme for HOS this year is ENERGY. The children will explore the Natural Energy (non-solar) in the fall, Mechanical Energy in the winter, and Solar Energy in the spring. Motion Commotion for the kindergarten through first graders actually encourages action as they figure what makes things happen. The second and third graders will be full of Action Attraction amazement as they make water stay inside an upside down cup and balance a cat on the edge of the table. Earth Power will encourage fourth and fifth graders to become explorers through time as they take a look at the earth's powerful beginnings. The program will be offered as a one-hour class per week for 8 weeks starting during the week of October 13, 2008. Please look for sign up information and the detailed schedule in your child's backpack. For any questions, please contact Monica Pyo @ 301-838-2020 or email her at mjpyo@yahoo.com.

Dance Club

Dance Club is divided into two groups this year. The younger grades, K-2 will be taught by Rebecca Cornelius on Wednesdays in the APR for an 8 week session running January 7th through February 25th with the International Performance on Sunday, March 1st. The young dancers will learn several multicultural folk dances to perform at this exciting biannual event for the community. The schedule is as follows:

Kindergarten	3:10 - 4:00 pm
First Grade	4:00 - 4:50 pm
Second Grade	4:50 - 5:40 pm

Registration for Mrs. Cornelius' classes will not be available until November. We will notify parents of the registration process and the cost in the upcoming PTA and Principal's newsletters. We are considering having an electronic registration process instead of sending home paper registration forms. Class size will be limited.

Dance Club for grades 3-5 will be held on Mondays in the APR beginning in November. Look for more information on this wonderful program from Jackie Olney.

Stay In Touch! Sign Up for the Cold Spring Listserv

If you haven't already done so, please take a moment and sign up for the Cold Spring PTA listserv. It's free, takes just a few minutes to sign up and is a great way to keep up to date on current information and happenings. Please be assured that all e-mail addresses will remain strictly confidential. To sign up for the listserv:

- Go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ColdSpringPTA/>
- Click on the "Join This Group" button
- Sign in using your Yahoo ID and password. If you don't have one, you'll need to sign up (it is free)(you can receive listserv e-mail at NON-Yahoo e-mail addresses)
- Follow the steps as detailed on Yahoo's site, including posting a non-yahoo address
- In the comments section, please include the name(s) of your child/children so we can verify enrollment at Cold Spring

The system will then automatically send your request to join to our group's moderator who will then add you to the list. You will receive a confirming e-mail once you've been added to the list.

Please be assured that only Cold Spring families (and staff) may sign up for the listserv, and all e-mail addresses are kept confidential

Be sure to include your name and child's name in the space provided on the yahoo site. We are very careful to check sign-up requests against Cold Spring class lists to ensure that only Cold Spring families are on the list. If you have any questions regarding the listserv, please contact the moderator, Jonathan Lusk, at jlusk1965@comcast.net.

Cold Spring PTA Announces REFLECTIONS 2008

REFLECTIONS is a National PTA program encouraging individual students to express themselves by creating original works of art by interpreting this year's theme, which is "WOW!" REFLECTIONS. This is a wonderful venue for students to create and be recognized for original works of art. There are six categories of artistic expression and students may enter more than one piece of art in each category if desired. The six categories are literature, visual arts, musical composition, photography, dance choreography, and film/video production.

The goal of REFLECTIONS is for students to have fun creating. All entries will be displayed and all entrants will be recognized for their efforts. Entries are judged in two grade divisions, K-2nd and 3rd-5th. The top four entries in each category, in 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 theme.

Students can obtain an entry packet and find out more about REFLECTIONS by contacting the Reflections Chair, Debra Bernal at debra.bernal@comcast.net or 301-838-0418. All entries must be submitted by November 7, 2008.

Foreign Language in Elementary School (FLES)

Depending on enrollment, the following FLES language classes are slated to be offered before and after school.

For 2nd - 5th graders:

Spanish Level I - Wednesdays 7:45 - 8:45 AM

Spanish Level II - Thursdays 7:45 - 8:45 AM

Spanish Level III - Tuesdays 7:45 - 8:45 AM

Spanish Level III adv. - Tuesdays 7:45 - 8:45 AM

Mandarin Chinese Level I - Fridays 7:45 - 8:45 AM

French Level I - Wednesdays 3:10 - 4:10 PM

For Kindergartners and 1st graders:

French Intro - Wednesdays 3:10 - 4:10 PM

Spanish and Mandarin Chinese Intro for kindergartners and 1st graders may also be offered if minimum participation numbers are met. Please send an email to the address below.

Registration forms will be distributed to your children's backpacks shortly. Please contact Duffy Kean (duffy.kean@verizon.net, 301-983-1938) if you do not receive a registration form and it can be emailed to you.

Help the Homeless Walkathon 2008
October 15, 2:00 p.m.

The Cold Spring Elementary School will soon hold its 12th annual Walk for the Homeless! Cold Spring 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 homes and working poor families who live in Montgomery County.

Your registration form is the key to the success of the walk! **We hope to collect a form for every walker**, as the Fannie Mae foundation will donate \$20.00 to Hand-to-Hand for EVERY form submitted. Parents/guardians must sign for Cold Spring students. Additional forms will be in the main office.

All students who register will receive commemorative **t-shirts** the morning of the walk. **Forms will be sent home Wednesday, September 24th, and must be submitted by October 10th** to ensure delivery of shirts for the mini-walk. Hand-to-Hand would greatly appreciate your donation of \$10.00 or more to support the work of the organization. Last year our school community generously donated over \$3,400.00 – the largest amount we've ever raised! Let's step out again and make this year's mini-walk another success!

The first two classes to submit 100% of their forms will be treated to an **ice cream sundae party!**

Thank you in advance for your continued support of this important cause. If you'd like to volunteer on the fifteenth, we would appreciate help with water distribution and picture taking for the yearbook.

Please contact Lauren Reed (301) 279-7571 or Beth Sherman (301) 340-6463.



Cold Spring Myth-busters

Ms. Congeniality not a teacher requirement?

By Ralph Nelson

Warning: *Don't try any of these things you are about to read at home. Ever! Remember, Cold Spring Myth-busters has years of experience doing these interviews - and that's what keeps us safe.*

When you think about all the teachers in the past who have made a difference in your life, were they fun or tough? Chances are if you were a distracted student like I was, they usually had to be tough. But, what about teachers in general? Do they have to be tough all the time to make a difference in our kids? Don't know? Read on.

September's myth: You don't have to be Ms. Congeniality to be a good teacher?

To research this one, Mythbusters sat down with Cold Spring's new 5th grade GT teacher Mrs. Allison Peterson. Although we didn't know much about her, we figured she must have a lot on the ball to be hired to replace our educational icon Mrs. Darling who left this summer to take care of her family.

Note: This is a gender neutral article. Although Ms. Congeniality is obviously feminine and I'm not sure what an appropriate male counterpart is, please assume an appropriate substitute for our male teachers.

Mythbusters: Thank you for joining us. We've been investigating a difficult myth this month and need your help; "You don't have to be Ms. Congeniality to be good teacher."

Note: Mrs. Peterson sat across from us during the interview dressed in an eclectic artist motif: floral skirt, white blouse and jean jacket – accessorized with dangling earrings and a colorful combination of bead and gold necklaces. Her answers were short and simple except when we talked about children where she added personal thought and detail.

Mrs. Peterson: *(Pausing)* Thanks for having me. Sounds like you are asking me if I have to play hardball to get through to my students?

Mythbusters: Well, yeah. Most of my teachers did.

Mrs. Peterson: Maybe you were a "studentzilla" or something.

Mythbusters: *(Pausing while thinking of some way to get the interview back on track)* Ah . . . Did you always want to be a teacher growing up?

Mrs. Peterson: Not really. As a matter of fact, I never wanted to be a teacher. I was the deputy clerk for a circuit court judge specializing in criminal law before I switched to teaching.

Mythbusters: *(Thinking: Ah, she was around criminals. Now we are getting somewhere. This lady must be tough.)* OK, what did you study in school and did you have any tough teachers who inspired you?

Mrs. Peterson: Actually, I was more of a jockette in high school and my teachers did say I chatted a little too much. When you are the youngest of four, I think you have to speak-up. Anyway, there was one teacher I will always remember. My 11th grade creative writing teacher, Mr. Homer Meade, knew how to get people to learn – especially when he taught me to start drawing a concept before writing about it.

Mythbusters: A teacher encouraged you to “doodle?”

Mrs. Peterson: *(Smiling)* Actually I love doodling. If doodling is what it takes for kids to learn, then I’m all for it. I believe in letting kids take ownership for their learning. I want kids to explore the best way they can learn. It’s all about what makes them comfortable.

Mythbusters: *(Trying to get back to the tough teacher myth)* How about college? You must have run into some strict professors there.

Mrs. Peterson: Hmm. Don’t think so. I went to Clark University for my B.A. in American Government and then in order to teach I earned a dual masters in Elementary Ed and Teaching. Right now I am 2 years into my PhD in Education Administration. Now that I think about it, most of my teachers have been pretty amiable.

Mythbusters: *(Starting to think maybe I was studentzilla)* Didn’t you have any teachers you didn’t like – that made you clean chalkboards after school?

Mrs. Peterson: *(Pausing, thinking)* In high school, I was always friends with my teachers – and actually played tennis with them. Students can be friends with their teachers you know. Education isn’t a confrontational process – it’s a cooperative experience. I even have a “teacher’s pet” job in my classroom where the students sit next to me in class. When I need something – whatever -- they do it for me. Although the seat is usually used for kids that are having a tough day, when it is vacant, all my students compete for it.

Mythbusters: Wait. You have a rotating teacher’s pet job in your classroom? Isn’t that a little silly?

Mrs. Peterson: Not at all. It’s fun. I’ve always had fun with everything I’ve done because I thought it was important and I try to teach the same way.

Mythbusters: *(I’m thinking this lady must drive every pessimist she meets crazy. Besides, she’s making this myth next to impossible to prove. Time to try a different track)* Why did you get into teaching?

Mrs. Peterson: Because of my daughter Lauren. After she was born, I stayed home. When she started private school, I wanted to spend more time with her so I subbed in the art classroom – and then I started teaching art. I love art. After I taught the K-2 art class, I expanded my teaching to K-3 so I could keep teaching my K-2 students as they got older. Then I expanded to teaching K-4. You get the idea.

Mythbusters: *(Thinking: Yeah. You’re way too happy. Noticing something shiny on her wrist, we wondered if this was a medical bracelet that could get this interview on a more serious track.)* Is that a medical alert bracelet?

Mrs. Peterson: *(Mrs. Peterson pauses and pulls up her sleeve with a grin)* No. My husband and daughter gave me this. It says “Ancora Imparto” or Italian for “Still Learning.” They gave it to me because they know how much I enjoy learning. But I like to wear it because I enjoy my Italian heritage and because I like to think as a teacher I am held to a higher standard to keep learning and growing. I owe it to my students.

Mythbusters: (*Stressing*) You know, you are just a little too happy. **Something** must bother you.

Mrs. Peterson: Actually, beauty pageants bother me.

Mythbusters: (*Surprised, exasperated*) **Finally.** What bothers you about beauty pageants?

Mrs. Peterson: The fact that they don't show women are first intelligent and their appearance is a byproduct.

Mythbusters: Oh, that must really grate on you.

Mrs. Peterson: It used to until I entered one.

Mythbusters: (*Visibly surprised*) Huh?

Mrs. Peterson: At 17, I entered the Miss Teen Massachusetts. They had an essay contest, Ms. Congeniality contest, and an evening gown contest.

Mythbusters: What about the swimsuit competition?

Mrs. Peterson: Oh I don't think so. If there was one of those I don't think I would have entered . . .

Mythbusters: (*Cynical*) And I suppose you won the essay contest hands down?

Mrs. Peterson: Nope. I took second in the essay, but won the Ms. Congeniality. I was so relaxed from not really caring about the rest of the competition I won.

Mythbusters: (*That's it*) Wait, a 1st and 2nd place out of 3 judging areas. You didn't win, did you?

Mrs. Peterson: (*Grinning*) Yes, I was Miss Teen Massachusetts – but I missed being Miss Teen USA.

Mythbusters: (*Frowning, sarcastic*) That proves it. Even a blind squirrel finds a nut occasionally.

Mrs. Peterson: (*Still grinning*) Now that's not a very nice thing to say. You should try to turn that frown upside down. You'd be happier . . .

MYTH: Plausible. You don't have to be Ms. Congeniality to be a good teacher. But it can't hurt.

Want to brighten your day? Then stop Mrs. Peterson in the hallway and welcome her to Cold Spring. She is a beautiful addition to our teaching team – and maybe, just maybe, after meeting with her you'll leave with a smile. I did.

September 2008

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1 No School Labor Day	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 Back to School Night	12 Instrumental Music Assembly (4 th Grade only)	13	14
15	16	17 PTA Volunteer Meeting	18	19 Lifetouch Individual Pictures	20	21
22 B.G.I.S.P. Meeting	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 Early Release K - 12 (Grading)	30 No School (Rosh Hashanah)					

October 2008

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1	2	1	2	3	4	5
6	7 PTA General Meeting	8	9 No School (Yom Kippur)	10 Book Fair Begins Visiting Author	11	12
13 Columbus Day	14	15 Homeless Walkathon	16 Book Fair Ends	17 No School (MSTA Convention)	18	19
20 Red Ribbon Week	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31 Halloween Parade/Party 1 st Marking Period Ends		

Here's a fund-raiser that will cost you ABSOLUTELY NOTHING!!!

In the 2007-08 school year Cold Spring parents raised over \$3000 for our school!

Anyone who registers their name either on-line or the attached registration pages by Friday, Sept 26, 2008 will be entered in a \$100 American Express gift card raffle



I. Collect General Mills Box Tops

Box Tops for Education is a school fundraising program supported by General Mills that has helped America's schools raise over \$200 million. The Box Tops for Education program offers schools an easy way to earn cash through everyday activities like buying groceries or shopping online. Schools can raise a total of up to \$60,000 each year. Recently, Cold Spring raised over \$400...we can do even better this year, without spending one extra penny.

All you need to do is clip Box Tops from participating Box Tops products and drop them in your class box at Cold Spring so they can be collected and redeemed. Each Box Top is worth 10 cents to Cold Spring! For a complete list of the hundreds of participating products, visit www.boxtops4education.com.



II. Sign up for BonusBucks at Giant

Log on to <http://www.giantfood.com/aplus> to designate online or complete the registration sheet attached to designate Cold Spring as one of up to three schools eligible to receive Bonus Bucks. CSES earned over \$2400 in 2007-08!

If you have misplaced your BonusCard, please call 1-877-366-2668 to obtain your number. You must have this number to participate in the BonusBucks program.



III. Sign up for "escrip" Program at Safeway



Safeway's "escrip" program works in the same way as Giant's BonusBucks. Register online at <http://www.escrip.com> or use the registration sheet attached.

Call Safeway at 1-877-723-3929 to obtain your card # if it has been lost or misplaced.

If you have any questions, please contact Susan Lusk at susan@ipo.org. Let's make this a great, and profitable, year. It only takes a few minutes of your time!



Dear Parents:

Welcome to the start of a new school year and another year of A+ BonusBucksSM. Starting October 3, 2008 through April 2, 2009, Cold Spring Elementary will have the opportunity to earn cash through Giant A+ BonusBucksSM Program. All you have to do is fill out the Registration Card below and:

Bring it to the Giant/Safeway/Box Tops mail box in the CSES main office

OR

Drop it off at any Giant store

OR

Log on to www.giantfood.com/aplus to register online

OR

Dial 1-877-366-2668 to register your card over the phone

After you register your card, each shopping trip at Giant using your BonusCard earns CASH for our school! Each month, the amount of CASH awarded will be updated on the Giant website. Our school will receive a check at the end of the program. The money can be used for any of our school's educational needs.

Remember, even if you registered your card last year, you must re-register this year for our school to receive credit. Attending to this simple process makes a HUGE difference to our school. We need your support.

Please be sure to register your card to benefit Cold Spring Elementary School using ID #00749 on the Registration Card below. Also, don't forget to encourage your friends and relatives to do the same. It could mean the world to our children.

(Register by Sept 26 and you will be entered to win a \$100 American Express Gift Card!)



Visit www.giantfood.com/aplus or complete this card and mail or drop at the customer service desk to register your card for this school year and select the schools to receive your A+ Bonus Bucks.

You can earn A+ Bonus Bucks from October 3, 2008 - April 2, 2009.

1. Clearly fill in your 12-digit card number below:

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2. Clearly fill in the first three letters of your last name:

--	--	--

3. Fill in the School ID number for your chosen School(s). You may choose up to three schools:

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

If you choose more than one school your A+ Bonus Bucks will be evenly distributed among those three schools. Fill in the school ID codes of ALL schools each time you add/change your registration.

You can only select schools that have registered for the program.

Make Giving as Easy as Shopping!



Use your Safeway Club Card for Education
when you do your everyday shopping!
It's Free... It's Easy... It's Powerful!

Your participation easily means \$100's for our group! If you already have a Safeway Club Card for Education, please complete the following and place your form in the designated box in the Cold Spring main office. We will input the information for you.

Group Name: Cold Spring Elementary School

Group ID: 6489882

First and Last Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Zip code: _____

Safeway Club Card Number: _____

(If you don't remember your Safeway Club Card for Education number please call 877-723-3929 to obtain it.)

or

Register online at
www.escrip.com

(Register by Sept 26 and you will be entered to win a \$100 American Express Gift Card!)

Minutes of the Cold Spring Elementary School PTA Meeting
Date: June 3, 2008

Call to Order

Laurie Gira called the meeting to order at 7:20 pm.

Attendance

Presided over by Laurie Gira, PTA Past President and newly inducted President, Julie Oldach.

Those officers in attendance were Laurie Gira, President; Julie Oldach, President-Elect; Andrea Portes, Treasurer, Denise Schleckser, Corresponding Secretary, and Carla Meister, Corresponding Secretary.

Also in attendance were: Mr. Martin Barnett, Principal, Susan Lusk, Pete Thomson, Christina Kyong, Lisa Kerness, Jane Coburn, and Ralph Nelson.

WELCOME and INTRODUCTION of all who were present.

AGENDA:

Principal's Report:

Mr. Barnett again thanked the PTA for staff appreciation week.

Several teachers will be leaving: Ms Abramson will be leaving for a position at Potomac Elementary; Ms. Shapiro will be leaving for a position at Seven Locks; and Ms. Newman will be retiring. Christine Little from Diamond Elementary will be filling Ms. Newman's position. Ms. Little is very enthusiastic, credentialed, and has many ideas.

Mr. Barnett met with Ray Trout and confirmed that we will have a gym in four (4) years rather than two (2) as planned. The portables will stay as it is more expensive to move them than to keep them. We will get a sidewalk around the driveway with a rail and possibly a new bike rack because of all the children now riding their bikes!

The 5th grade closing ceremony will be held Wednesday, June, 11, at Ritchie Park High School.

Officers' Reports:

Secretary's Report: The May minutes were presented for approval. There were no changes. A motion was made to accept the minutes as written. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Andrea Portes presented the Treasurer's report. There are no major issues or concerns at this time. We received \$181.96 from EScrips. We have close to \$3,000 coming in from various fundraisers. This will help to build up our reserves which are low. There was also an expense of \$100.00 for a gift card for Andy Mitchell for all his help with our books.

As to Staff Appreciation/Teacher support, the teachers were polled and many would like a poster machine (a large format printer). Next year's PTA will see how we are doing financially and look into this.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Environmental-Committee: Jane Burns reported last month that Staples is no longer a good source for recycling printer cartridges, ink-jet cartridges, etc. She has come up with some alternatives and still continuing her search for a viable program.

Summer Math Packets Year Books: Summer Math packets were distributed June 2 and Year Books were distributed June 3.

PTA Newsletter: The PTA received 14 completed surveys. Thirteen out of the 14 supported going green with the newsletter (reading it on-line) with copies in the office for those who do not have computer access. The PTA newsletter will be going green in the fall!

School Tool Boxes: Approximately 114 orders for School Tool Boxes have been received and more are coming.

Chess Club: There is still no chair for the chess club. It looks as if there will be no chess club next year.

Visiting Author: Julie Oldach reported that Arthur Dorros (Ms. Crandall's brother), will be our visiting author on October 10. Sue Fox and Mrs. Papano are handling the details. There will be a school wide presentation and then the classes will be broken up into smaller groups.

New Club: A new club is being contemplated. Mr. Robison along with Sheila Menconi spoke with Mr. Barnett about a new after school program for next year. It would be called Fun Fit program. They are proposing a 10 week session every Tuesday and Thursday. Faye Mitchell would be the chair and the nutrition expert. There would be room for approximately 25 students and registration would be approximately \$70.00. If there is a lot of interest, additional classes may be added.

As this would be a PTA endorsed club, the PTA is looking into viability, liability issues, and implementation. Mr. Robison is also checking into whether he is allowed to do this in light of his teaching contract.

Cougars on the Go: Weather permitting, if the students walk on Wednesday, June 11, they will most likely reach the Pacific Ocean/West Coast!! Go Cougars.

Theresa Zolet has again graciously accepted running this program during lunch next year.

Back to School Night: It was suggested that at back to school night next year there be an apple tree with apples. On each apple there will be an item that a teacher would like for their

classroom. This would be similar to a giving tree at Christmas, only for teachers. You would choose an apple and sometime during the school year would provide that teacher with their “wish.”

One item all the teachers have been wanting is new furniture/chairs for the teachers’ lounge.

Mr. Barnett says the staff loves the courtyard that was fixed up by the PTA. They use it all the time.

Election of PTA Officers for 2008-2009:

A motion was made to add Pete Thomson as nominee for President-Elect. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

The following slate of officers was presented for election:

Julie Oldach—President
Pete Thomson—President-Elect
Susan Lusk—Vice President
Treasurer—Andrea Portes
Reporting Secretary—Laurie Gira
Corresponding Secretary—Denise Schleckser
MCCPTA Representatives—Christina Kyong and Jeff Alexander

A motion was made to elect the slate of officers as presented. The motion was seconded and the slate of officers was elected unanimously.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made and passed.
The meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Carla Meister.