

Visit us on the Web:
www.district279.org/elem/bg
Contact us at :
birchgrovepto@yahoo.com
October 15, 2008

PTO News

Parent Teacher Organization...we're all members!

GET OUT AND VOTE ON NOVEMBER 4TH!

Upcoming Important Dates:

- October 20th:
Market Day pick-up, 4:15-5:15
- October 21st:
PTO Meeting 7:00 Media Center
- November 4th:
Election Day
- November 11th:
Market Day orders due
- November 18th:
PTO Meeting 7:00
- November 21st:
Turkey Bingo & Silver Bells fundraiser pick-up.



These items are listed on the Birch Grove website on the PTO Calendar page.



Come to the PTO meeting and tell us what your favorite new Market Day food is!
www.marketday.com

SHOW ME THE MONEY

At our September PTO meeting, we approved the budget for the 2008-09 school year. The details are on the back of this Newsletter.

Items to note:

- We came in short on the income budgeted last year by \$6,600. That means we had to deplete reserves and we needed to make some cuts to this year's budget.
- Birch Grove has cut the SEM Enrichment position. This was funded by the PTO and has now eliminated \$9300 in expense from the budget.
- We had to budget zero dollars to reimburse our teachers for classroom

supplies. This will be a top priority to add back to the budget if our current year improves.

- The Happenings Book fundraiser has concluded and it slightly exceeded budget! That's good news.
- The Market Day Brochure Program is currently underway. This is the most significant opportunity for our school to raise money.

OPT OUT

We know that your dollars are stretched by our economy. We also know that you may be uncomfortable selling to your friends and neighbors.

We wanted to remind you

that you can Opt Out and simply make a tax-deductible donation to the PTO. The best part about that option: 100% of what you give goes right to the school. There's no cut for anyone else.

WHERE DOES THIS MONEY GO?

All the money raised by the PTO goes right back to the school.

We pay for field trips, room parties, playground supplies, hospitality supplies, behavior recognition events, ice cream social, and many more items. We also try to save up to fund special projects, like building the new playground in 2005.

THANK YOU CORNER!

We want to extend a thank you to Heather Carroll.

Heather is in charge of this year's **Scholastic Bookfairs**.

The Bookfairs are so important to our school. They give students the opportunity to find awesome books. They give families the opportunity to donate a book to their classroom. And, they provide funds and books for our school!

Thank you to those who participated and to Heather for making it such a success.

OCTOBER 21ST PTO MEETING: FEATURING PRINCIPAL ZASTROW

Mr. Zastrow is our guest speaker at the October 21st PTO parent meeting.

Mr. Zastrow plans to talk about all the site development plans and how the arts will be further integrated.

Please plan to attend this meeting. It's a great opportunity to hear about our school and visit with our Principal in a very casual setting.

Remember, free child care will be provided!

Tuesday, Oct 21st, 7:00 Media Center

WE STILL NEED YOUR HELP!

We still need help in the following areas. Please consider giving a few hours to help our school:

- Turkey Bingo—do you have any connections to collect donations for prizes?
- Burger King Nights—could you spare a few hours to greet people?
- Hospitality— could you help organize the conference dinners for our teachers (one more left), be in charge of getting refreshments for special events?

Contact Pam Gangestad 763-561-1374 or
gangestadp@district279.org
or
birchgrovepto@yahoo.com

Birch Grove PTO Budget 2008-2009

8/1/2007 Through 7/31/2008 Using 2007-2008

Category Description	Actual 2007-2008	Budget 2007-2008	Difference	Budget 2008-2009
INCOME				
Bookfair Income (Oct, Feb)	897.57	1,600.00	(702.43)	950.00
Box Tops Income	594.62	1,000.00	(405.38)	600.00
Burger King Income	1,087.48	500.00	587.48	500.00
Carnival Income (Mar)	5,678.55	7,000.00	(1,321.45)	5,500.00
Cartridges For Kids	160.50	50.00	110.50	100.00
Cash Donations"Opt Out"	20.00	100.00	(80.00)	100.00
Food Perspectives Income	757.00	1,000.00	(243.00)	500.00
Gift Wrap Income	6,598.35	10,000.00	(3,401.65)	NA
Gold C / Happenings (Sept)	2,341.50	2,800.00	(458.50)	2,300.00
Interest Inc	2.10	20.00	(17.90)	10.00
Kemps Give Em Five	467.80	500.00	(32.20)	200.00
Read-A-thon (Feb)	3,700.40	4,000.00	(299.60)	3,500.00
Shop for School Income	38.66	100.00	(61.34)	100.00
Turkey Bingo	1,418.71	2,000.00	(581.29)	1,400.00
Market Day-Monthly Food Program	-	-	-	-
Market Day-Brochure Program (Oct)	-	-	-	6,500.00
Wal-Mart Foundation	300.00	-	300.00	-
TOTAL INCOME	24,063.24	30,670.00	(6,606.76)	22,260.00
EXPENSES				
6th Grade Recognition (\$4 per student)	-	400.00	(400.00)	400.00
Activity Night (formerly Peer Mediators)	150.00	150.00	-	75.00
Administration (PTO)	199.59	150.00	49.59	150.00
Behavior Recognition	1,750.00	2,500.00	(750.00)	2,000.00
Field Trips	1,015.50	3,450.00	(2,434.50)	1,500.00
Hootie -(Dog)	1,872.00	2,000.00	(128.00)	-
Hospitality	568.70	600.00	(31.30)	600.00
Ice Cream Social	75.63	100.00	(24.37)	100.00
Instructional Supplies (\$40 per FTE)	1,275.00	1,700.00	(425.00)	-
Legionville (Patrols)	-	260.00	(260.00)	-
New Budget Requests	900.00	1,000.00	(100.00)	100.00
Playground	75.00	150.00	(75.00)	150.00
Popcorn & Oil	150.00	300.00	(150.00)	200.00
Room Parties (\$1.50 per student)	822.75	900.00	(77.25)	900.00
Sams Club membership	-	35.00	(35.00)	-
SEM Enrichment Salary	6,475.00	9,300.00	(2,825.00)	-
SEM Enrichment Supplies	100.00	200.00	(100.00)	-
Sunshine Expense	-	150.00	(150.00)	150.00
Valleyfair (5-6 patrols, 6 mediators)	900.00	1,700.00	(800.00)	850.00
Volunteer Coord. Salary	5,150.00	5,150.00	-	5,150.00
Volunteer Coord. Supplies	200.00	200.00	-	150.00
Wastebasket Revue Donation	-	40.00	(40.00)	-
TOTAL EXPENSES	21,679.17	30,435.00	(8,755.83)	12,475.00
OVERALL TOTAL	2,384.07	235.00	2,149.07	9,785.00