



**Improving Your Child's Education Experience
One Parent at a Time. . .**

Hello Fellow Parents! It's that time of the school year again when it seems the kids have a new fundraising form in every Wednesday envelope. Here are a few answers to frequently asked questions regarding Rush Creek P.T.O. fundraising.

Why do we fundraise at Rush Creek?

P.T.O. contributed over \$80,000 to the school last year which provides & supports over 20 programs and activities that would otherwise not be available to our students. Thank You!

Why does P.T.O. offer so many fundraisers?

By offering so many choices and opportunities throughout the year, we hope to appeal to everyone's interest.

Are parents supposed to participate in every fundraiser?

Absolutely not! P.T.O. hopes that by providing many options, each family will find one or two fundraisers that appeal to them.

Are families required to participate in fundraising?

No. Any support that families give Rush Creek Staff and Students through fundraising opportunities is optional.

Instead of fundraising, are donations accepted?

Yes! P.T.O. will gladly accept direct donations. P.T.O. is a qualified non-profit organization which means any donation you make is tax-deductible and **some employers will even match your donation** to Rush Creek - see if yours does. P.T.O. receives 100% of your donation (no administrative fees), so please consider donating any amount that is appropriate for your family.

Rush Creek P.T.O. Optional Donation Opportunity

Name _____ Amount \$ _____

Child's Name _____ Room # _____

Thank you! Please return to your child's teacher or P.T.O. box in the Main Office.

Rush Creek P.T.O. Tax ID #: 41-1722725 (may be necessary for matching donations)

**Please note that fund-raising information will still come home in the Wednesday envelopes. Please disregard this information or return it to your child's teacher if necessary.*

YOU CAN ALSO EARN MONEY FOR RUSH CREEK

... WITHOUT SPENDING ANY EXTRA MONEY

Product Labels – save General Mills box tops, Campbell's labels, Kemps & Land O'Lakes milk caps, & Tyson labels. Return to the appropriate bins outside the cafeteria. Rush Creek received over \$1,900 last year.

Taste Testing – Sign up to taste-test food and Rush Creek will receive \$9/visit and you will receive at least \$21/visit....Rush Creek earned over \$1,300 last year. Simply complete the attached form and return to school with your child. If you are already signed up with another organization through Food Perspectives, please do not complete another form. For every 30 new testers signed up, Rush Creek receives a \$100 bonus.

... DOING WHAT YOU ARE ALREADY DOING

Scrip – Buy gift cards for you to redeem for personal use or give as gifts for full face value. Rush Creek also receives from 2% to 20% of your purchase price. You get 100% of the money you spend.....Rush Creek received over \$1,500 last year.

Target (VISA) Red Card – Sign up for the Target Visa and choose Rush Creek as your designated school and 1% of your Target purchases goes back to Rush Creek. This is an easy way to help the school. Rush Creek received over \$7,000 from Target last year!

VISIT THE RUSH CREEK ELEMENTARY WEBSITE

www.district279.org/elem/rc/

Click on the *PTO Information* tab and scroll down to the *Event Chairperson* link to view a list of fundraising activities and the chairpersons you can contact to volunteer. For only a few hours a year, you can make a big impact on your child's educational experience.

A BIG THANK YOU TO EVERYONE

The PTO Board of Directors realizes that in these tough economic times that families must scrutinize every dollar spent. Rest assured that the mission of PTO fundraising is to provide direct benefits to our students to improve their educational experience. For example ...

A couple of years ago, the PTO made a commitment to purchase document cameras and projectors for use in each and every classroom. This technology provides great flexibility for the teachers and genuinely enhances the learning environment for our children – both critical in this period of rising classroom numbers. A schedule was developed to purchase a number of cameras and projectors each year.

We are thrilled to announce that because of your tremendous support, every K-6 classroom at Rush Creek Elementary will have a document camera and projector at the start of the 2009-10 school year!

Thank you for your continued support of the Rush Creek P.T.O!
Harry Kennedy - 2009/2010 Rush Creek P.T.O. President