

KP PTA Eaglenews



October 2011

Co-Presidents' Letter

By Debbie Attar and Michele Santy

What an exciting start to the school year! To all the new and returning families and students, we say WELCOME! As KP grows, so too will the PTA. We will continue to help provide the best learning environment and community for our children.

We've enjoyed two fantastic family events already. It was exciting to see so many families and teachers at the Back to School Picnic. It was such a fun evening, and we hope it will become an annual event. Thank you to everyone who participated in the 8K, 2 Mile Challenge and 1K Fun Run. The race is already a community tradition, and under Jenny Smith's leadership for an unbelievable 18 years, is a critical fundraiser for KP. We are so fortunate that she has dedicated so much time to the race, year after year. Thank you, Jenny!

We are happy to announce that the budget has passed by an overwhelming margin. Please feel free to contact Jim Myers, the PTA Treasurer, or either one of us anytime during the year if you have a budget-related question. In each (continued on page 2)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Presidents' Letter, Calendar, Dads & Donuts, Open House, PTA Meeting
- 2 Presidents' Letter (continued), PTA Thanks, Walk to School
- 3 Spirit Wear, Book Fair, Yearbook, Eagle Fund, Eaglenet
- 4 Lunch Room Tips, Recess Aides, Box Tops

→ OCTOBER CALENDAR ←

4, Tue.	PTA Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
5, Wed.	Walk to School Day
10, Mon.	Dads & Donuts, 8:15 a.m.
10, Mon.	Open House, 9:15-11 a.m.
19, Wed.	Literacy Night, 7 p.m.
21, Fri.	No School (MSTA Convention)
28, Fri.	Halloween Parties/Parade 2 p.m. First Marking Period Ends
31, Mon.	No School, Professional Day HAPPY HALLOWEEN!

First PTA Meeting Coming Up

Tuesday, October 4, 7:30 p.m. in the Media Center (Baby-sitting is provided in the All-Purpose Room for potty-trained children, three and older.).

Presentation: Elementary Integrated Curriculum/Curriculum 2.0

Dads & Donuts Followed by KP's Open House

Join us on Monday, Oct. 10th (Columbus Day) for Dads & Donuts – KP dads (and other important people in our students' lives) are invited for coffee and a donut in the all purpose room. Directly after, walk your students to their classrooms and stick around for the Open House. Watch your child in action in class – and take a look around their world for a morning!

Co-Presidents' Letter (Cont. from Page 1)

newsletter, we will highlight how the PTA is supporting the school and the KP community. Last month, the PTA paid \$3,000 for the school's membership with the Kennedy's Center's Changing Education Through the Arts (CETA) program.

October marks the launch of The Eagle Fund...Together We Can Soar! This will be our largest fundraiser of the school year contributing to approximately 50 percent of our fundraising budget. Our goal is to raise \$25,000 this year. Your generosity is truly appreciated. Your support will make a difference!

We encourage you to stay informed, stay connected and stay involved. Make sure to sign-up for Eaglenet, if you have not done so already. As always, we welcome your ideas and suggestions on how the PTA can continue to enrich the educational life of our children. As we mentioned, we have added a link on our website at www.kppta.org for our EagleBox so that you can offer suggestions easily and anonymously.

We look forward to the best year yet!

Special Thanks from the PTA Goes To...

- **Herlene Chatha and Kim Stokes** for organizing the Staff Luncheon during Training Week, and providing the refreshments at the PTA informational Fair;
- **Melissa Best, Kelly Weiss, Beth Seabreeze, Lisa Schell, Susan Priestler, Julie Meyers, Marinela Papasava, Valda Vinson, Pushpa Tandon, Stacey Crittenden and Sheila O'Connell** for hosting tables at the PTA Informational Fair and/or Back to School Night;
- **Leora Greene** for updating the KPPTA website;

- **Leslie Schwager** for organizing the Summer Math and Summer Reading prizes;
- **Laure Haak and Julie Meyers** for kicking off registration of Hands On Science and Language Fundamentals, respectively;
- **Jenny Smith** for her incredible organization of the Kensington 8K, 2K, Fun Run, **Kelly Weiss** for hard work getting the KP community excited about the race, and **Kimberly Ramsay** for taking our 5th graders' pictures to create a great kid's t-shirt;
- **Rima Assaker and Garet Knapp** for their hard work on the newsletter, and for **Kathy Zwack** for getting it out to all of you;
- **Daisy Whittemore** for drafting the Room Parent Guide;
- **Jennifer Daymude and Tamara Stuckey** for representing KP parents at the summer SIP meeting;
- **Suzanne Borden** for coordinating our fun-filled First Annual KP Back to School Picnic;
- **Beth Krupinski** for organizing the School Supplies Drive for Oakview Elementary to commemorate Patriots Day;
- **Darin Bartram** for moderating the KP Eaglenet;
- **Lisa Schell** for introducing our new line of spirit wear.

Walk to School Day! Wednesday, Oct. 5th

Join KP families on a crisp walk to school! Get some early morning exercise, and help the environment while helping yourself!

www.kppta.org

Join Eaglenet and stay in the loop

Join the KP Eaglenet, our interactive e-list. To join, please send an email to KP parent Darin Bartram at bartram3515@verizon.net with your child's name and teacher.

Look Like An Eagle!

Have you seen the new KP spirit wear? T-shirts and sweatshirts in brand new colors are now in. Get your new KP shirts – or KP car magnets – by contacting Lisa Schell: lisaschell@verizon.net.

Click! Snap!

Yearbook Pictures Needed!

The Yearbook Committee is seeking candid and posed pictures for this school year's yearbook. Send your pictures for consideration to Petra Lenz at petralenz@hotmail.com. The higher the resolution, the better.

Gather Items for the Bazaar

KP will hold its Annual Holiday Bazaar on Saturday, Dec. 3. Start thinking about items you'd like to donate to be sold at the White Elephant Sale that day (no clothing or stuffed animals, please). Collection bins will be out in November. Contact Rima Assaker at assaker@verizon.net for information or to help.

Science Fair Coming in November

The Science Fair is coming up. Now is the time for your student to start thinking about ideas for their projects. For information or to help, contact Caroline King at cacking@comcast.net.

Starbucks Cards are in!

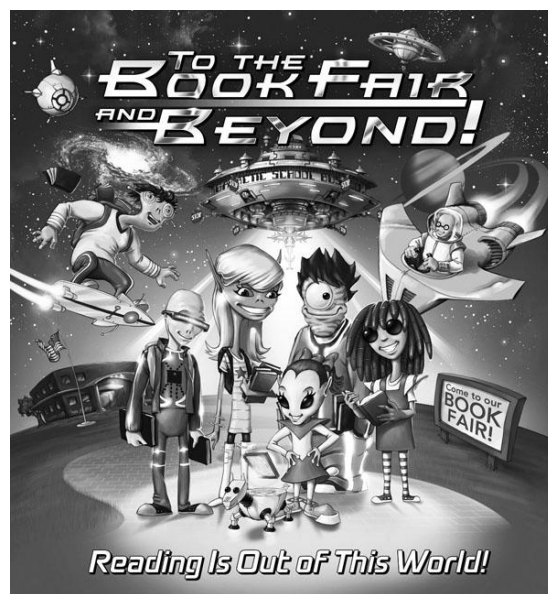
The KPPTA sells \$25 and \$10 Starbucks cards and earns 7% - 10% on each card sold. Get your KP PTA Starbucks cards today and earn some money for your PTA! Please email Lilli Joncas at lillijoncas@hotmail.com to get your cards - she will have your order available to pick up in the school office or can make arrangements to get them to you directly. Thank you for your order!



Eagle Fund ...

Together We Can Soar

Our direct-donation fundraiser is under way! Please support the KP PTA by contributing to the Eagle Fund. For more details, visit www.kppta.org.



SAVE THE DATES!!
SCHOLASTIC BOOKFAIR
takes over the MEDIA CENTER
NOVEMBER 7 – 11, 2011

Look for emails in mid-October on Eaglenet calling for volunteers and **SIGN UP TO HELP!!** It's GREAT fun and you can **SHOP** while you volunteer!

LUNCH AND RECESS AIDES

We continue to look for additional volunteers to help out at recess and in the lunchroom. Aides in both locations continue to comment how much more smoothly recess and lunchroom runs when there are more hands-on-deck. This is especially important in the younger grades as dozens of hands are often waving for help in opening an applesauce or a yogurt tube, or a tricky container. Sometimes our youngest friends raise their hands just to let you know that their grandmother is coming to visit!

We are using an on-line tool customized for Kensington Parkwood by Lotsa Helping Hands (thank you KP Parent Brooks Kenny!) to organize our volunteer efforts for Kindergarten thru Third Grade Recess and lunch. This tool makes it easy for individuals to find opportunities to volunteer while eliminating the need for superfluous phone calls and emails.

There are two ways to sign up:

- Email Sheila O'Connell scoconnell@verizon.net – provide your first and last name as well as your email address. Sheila will add you to the community.
- Want to help with **K and 1st Grade**? Visit <https://www.lotsahelpinghands.com/c/646325/> and enter your name and email address. You will receive an email with a link that you must click on to set your password.
- Want to help with **2nd and 3rd Grade Recess and Lunch**? Visit <https://kp.lotsahelpinghands.com/c/647020/> and enter your name and email address. You will receive an email with a link that you must click on to set your password.

Once you have joined the **KP Lunchroom Volunteers Community**, you will receive a confirmation email and can easily log in to see the specific dates and times that we need recess and lunchroom volunteers. If you are already a member of a Lotsa Helping Hands community, you must use the same email address and password. Thanks for your help in making our recess and lunchroom times the best for our kids at KP!

Of course, if you suddenly find that you have the time or are in the neighborhood, you are always welcome to drop by KP and help-out.

Tips to Help your Child in the Lunchroom

When packing your child's lunch, remember to:

- Break the seal on bottled drinks. Just a quick twist can help quench your child's thirst after a great workout on the playground.
- Cut a small snip into snack bags and candy wrapper. Even most adults have a hard time ripping these packages open.
- Include a napkin, straw, and other utensils, when necessary. Yes, we all forget sometimes.
- Ask your child what they have difficulty opening. Who knew that Johnny couldn't get his straw into his juice pouch? Maybe do a test-run at home!

Clip Box Tops and Earn KP Cash

Earn cash for the KP PTA every time you shop for groceries. Clip Box Tops from hundreds of your favorite products. Each Box Tops coupon is worth 10¢ for the KP PTA — and that adds up fast! Go online and visit: www.boxtops4education.com for valuable coupons!

Another way to earn cash for the PTA is by shopping online. Remember, you can help our school when you shop at these and other retailers: Target, Barnes & Noble, Nordstrom, and Lands End. Visit their website at www.boxtops4education.com. Choose the KP PTA as your designated school.

Newsletter Production

Editors: Rima Assaker, Garet Knapp
Copy/Distribution: Kathy Zwack

Submissions for Eaglenews are due by the 15th of the month for consideration to be published in the following month's newsletter.