

A LOOK INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Notes From President 2
- Dates to Remember 3
- Scholarships 4
- Birthday Book Club 4
- Treasurers Report 4
- Pancake Breakfast 5
- Race For The Schools 6
- Fundraiser Forum 7
- Grants 7
- Spotlight on Community Partners 8
- Birthdays 10



**PTO
CONNECTIONS
FEBRUARY 2008**

A NOTE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

One of the reasons we do this newsletter is another example of a “link” of communication between all of us. In my position, one of the most difficult aspects of my job is making sure we effectively communicate with each other and are on the same page. It is a two-way street and we need to understand each other, the jobs that we do no matter if it is regarding PTO, as colleagues, as parents or individuals. There should always be that mutual respect and a positive attitude when working with others or doing the job you do.

Receiving general meeting minutes that we email directly to all PTO board members is another communication tool. While I would prefer that we all come to the general meetings, I know that is not realistic. If you are unable to attend, please read them when they are sent to you. They contain the factual accounts of what occurred at the meeting, not just some hearsay from a friend. Thank you for understanding and helping do your part with communicating!

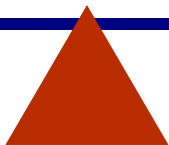
As I look back at all the good we have done so far, my hope is that we continue to look at the big picture and do what we do best for PTO. Don't just do your position, see how we are all interconnected and how each position is “linked” to another and we all need to see that to accomplish our goals. PTO is the greatest “link” between parents, teachers, and the community and I thank you for doing your part!

We are starting the process for nominations for the 2008-2009 school year. If you know of any friends or neighbors that may be interested in joining the PTO Board, please let me know! Let's get the word out about what we do for our children, schools and community!

It is hard for me to individually thank each one of you who do their job so well...from the Planner ladies, to Pancake, to the Secretary, to the Head Reps/Building Reps and PR, but please know that each one of you is appreciated in all you do!

As always, if you have any questions/concerns/comments please feel free to email or call me.

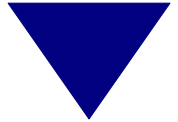
Best Wishes,
Anne



The mission of Hudson PTO is to act as a community link between parents and the school community; financially supplement the education of the Hudson school children; actively support the Hudson City Schools; and provide programs to instill a fun and positive atmosphere within the home, school and community.

FEBRUARY 2008

PTO CONNECTIONS



DATES TO REMEMBER

**PTO General Board Meeting - Monday, February 25th, 7:00 pm
Middle School Media Center**

**The 51st Annual PTO Pancake Breakfast
Saturday, March 1st, 8:00 am - 1:00 pm
Hudson High School Commons**

**PTO Special Grants Meeting - Thursday, April 10th, 9:30 am
Hudson Library**

**PTO General Board Meeting - Monday, April 28th, 9:30 am
Hudson Library**

**PTO Spring Luncheon - Thursday, May 15th, 11:30 am
The County Club of Hudson**

**PTO Executive Board Meeting - Monday, May 19th, 9:30 am
Hudson Library**

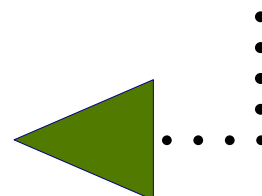


**Just a reminder that we will have
several important issues on the agenda
at February's Board Meeting.
In addition, the meeting will also
include Hudson City Schools
Administration.
If you have concern or questions,
please plan on attending this meeting.**

Remember to Vote in the Ohio Primaries on Tuesday, March 4th.

Birthday Book Club

The first run is completed! We had 83 enrollments at the schools: Evamere, Ellsworth, McDowell, and East Woods versus 77 one year ago. This represents an increase of approximately 8% over last year. Overall, the PTO contributed \$1,245 to the libraries at these schools through Birthday Book Club. Enrollment forms for the third run will be distributed at the schools by February 22nd and will be due back on February 29th. The certificates, book plates and book marks will be distributed to librarians for the children that choose to enroll. If anyone is aware of a child that would like to participate in the program, but cannot for financial reasons please let us know.



SCHOLARSHIPS

On January 29th, Kathy Sandberg announced to the 2008 Graduated Class the good news that our PTO will be awarding once again, (5) One-Thousand Dollar Scholarships. This occurred at a 7:30 a.m. assembly for all seniors.

This year's essay will be:

"YOU HAVE JUST FINISHED YOUR 300 PAGE AUTOBIOGRAPHY, PLEASE SUBMIT PAGES 217 AND 218 OF YOUR AUTOBIOGRAPHY."

We hope to read many creative essays this year!



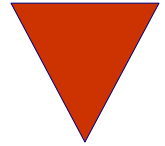
Treasurers Report

On behalf of Cindy and Mary, thank you to everyone that has made the two treasurer system such a success. Please continue to contact Cindy with your cash box requests (specifying both bill and coin requirements) and when you have funds for deposit. A quick reminder regarding deposits, please roll the coins and remove staples from checks before giving them to Cindy.

Mary will continue to handle all financial reporting as well as check and credit card requests. At the present time, we are asking that items ordered in advance, greater than \$250 be purchased either with the PTO credit card or check. We hope this will reduce and/or eliminate the need for PTO members to purchase items with their personal funds and credit cards. As the credit card process is new, please feel free to call or email Mary with questions regarding usage.

FEBRUARY 2008

PTO CONNECTIONS



Pancake Breakfast

It's the 51st Anniversary of the Annual PTO Pancake Breakfast! Come and show your support!

The Hudson Parent Teacher Organization is inviting residents of Hudson and neighboring communities to enjoy breakfast at the Hudson High School commons from 8 AM to 1 PM on Saturday, March 1st.

Volunteers are still needed! Don't miss the opportunity to be a part of this fun and exciting community event with a purpose. For the PTO Pancake Breakfast to continue to be a success, we need a small army of cheerful volunteers that include parents, staff and

students, all working together. Flip pancakes, pour coffee and juice, sell tickets, or greet hungry patrons, you'll be glad you did; you can help make someone's day and support our schools at the same time. Volunteers are especially needed for the 10:30-12:30 shift. To volunteer: please call Jennifer Dudinec at 330.653.8492.

The breakfast, which traditionally draws thousands of diners from Hudson and surrounding communities, will feature a student Art Expo, live entertainment, games and prizes. For the first time, the breakfast also will feature the Hudson School's History Museum, an extensive display of items from the school district's collection of artifacts and photos, dating back to the 1880s.

The Pancake Breakfast is the PTO's largest yearly fund raiser. The proceeds go right back to the schools in the form of student scholarships, grants for the teaching staff, purchase of classroom materials, and activities and programs for students.

Advance sale tickets are available through February 22 from students in grades 3 thru 5 and until February 28 at the Learned Owl Bookstore on Main Street. Advance sale tickets are \$5 for adults and \$3.50 for children ages 3-12. Children 2 and under are free. Tickets will be \$6 for adults and \$4 for children on the day of the event.

For additional information about the event, call Co-Chairs Heather Heller at 330.650.2347, JoAnn Townsend at 330.655.9785, or Marie Zeller at 330.653.5012. More information and as well as volunteer forms can be found by visiting us at www.hudsonpto.org.



GET INVOLVED!

PTO is a great way to learn more about your kids school, connect with other parents and become involved in your community. It is not only a great source of information but also serves as an important link in building a supportive school environment where kids and teachers can do their best work!

PTO is also a lot of fun! We have many positions available at all of the schools for the 2008-2009. Help us plan an event for your child's school, organize volunteers and/or participate in the many PTO sponsored activities and make new friends along the way!

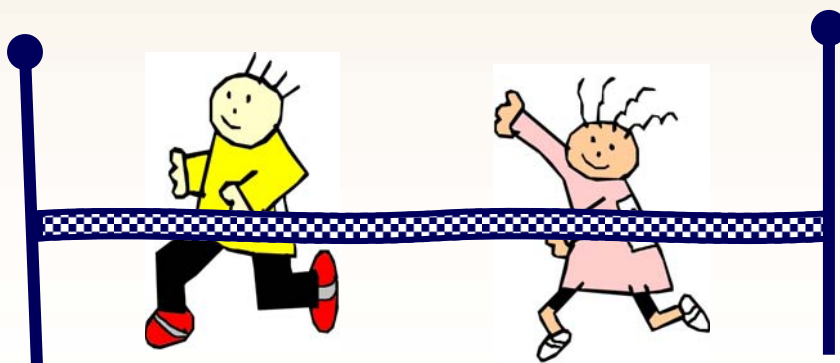
Our success is based on your involvement.

Please contact Nomination Co-Chairs Laura Hudeck at 330.650.2326 or Sue Carter at 330.650.6686 with any questions you may have or to express your interest in becoming a PTO volunteer.



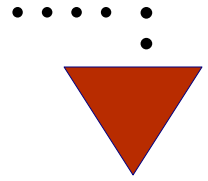
Save The Date!

Hudson PTO's First Annual Run For The Schools 5 K Race & 1 Mile Family Fun Run/Walk Sunday, September 14, 2008



FEBRUARY 2008

PTO CONNECTIONS



Please mark your calendars for Thursday, April 10th for the Special Grants Meeting. The meeting will begin at 9:30am in the North Meeting Room at the Hudson Library. Also, please plan to stay until we have reached a consensus regarding the grant monies to be awarded.

A flyer will go out within the next week to all teachers encouraging them to start thinking about grant requests. An introductory letter about the Special Grants program will be sent to all teachers mid-February when the grant applications are available in their schools. The deadline for requests will be March 14th. Please let me know if you have any questions.

THINK SPRING!
Beth Cavoli

Fundraiser Forum

The Rewards program contributes directly to the PTO general fund through a variety of programs. The participating programs include Acme, Giant Eagle, Heinen's, Pizza Bogo, the Funding Factory, and Sherwin Williams.

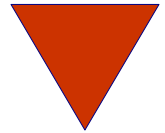
Acme, Giant Eagle and Heinen's grocery stores all participate in programs that help our schools. Acme provides cash back when receipts for qualifying products are turned in. Giant Eagle provides technology items to the schools. Register your Giant Eagle card on-line or at the store to participate. Heinen's provides cash back to the schools for qualifying purchases. You must register your Heinen's card each year to participate.

Pizza Bogo offers 5.5% of sales on Thursday nights during the school year. Mention Hudson PTO when ordering to participate and you will also receive a free garden salad.

PTO earns technology points from Funding Factory by collecting used ink cartridges and cell phones. The items are recycled and the points earned are used to purchase technology items for the schools.

Sherwin-Williams Neighbor to Neighbor cards benefit the cardholder as well as the schools. Use the card when purchasing paint or other items at the Sherwin Williams store and receive a 20% discount on regular priced items or 5% on sale items. A percentage of the purchase is reimbursed to the schools.

Ann Blechman



spotlight on community partners

Community First continues to promote positive youth development in Hudson using the framework of the 40 Developmental Assets researched by The Search Institute in Minnesota. Assets are positive experiences, qualities and values kids need to possess to grow up healthy and happy. Last year, Community First spent a great deal of time on a program called the Asset Campaign in the schools. You may notice Community First banners hanging in the entrance ways of each school including Montessori, Seton, and WRA! Those banners state the asset or theme that particular school is focusing on within their curriculum. Every school has a Community First asset team composed of administrators and teachers. They define how their asset can be incorporated into everyday curriculum. Many programs are happening within the schools like mentoring programs because of the district embracing the asset ideal. Now that the school programs are strong, Community First will focus on a community awareness campaign called Take a Second. Make a Difference. This program comes from the state of Kansas and promotes the idea that if adults exhibit a simple act of kindness to a child/adolescent - it can change how they perceive adults. A community committee has helped us to develop programming for the year and parents will receive more information through the schools. Look to April for the Take a Second. Make a Difference. Merchant month downtown. Our membership drive gets underway in February. A family membership is \$10 and with that families will receive two Kid Connection Cards with discounts from area merchants. K-5 will receive a membership form in their book bags. Remember that Ready~Set~Relax is Tuesday, March 11! No homework, No after school activities...just family time. Community First has two different Boards that look at what we do: a community advisory board with members from organizations to the superintendent to city government officials to concerned citizen volunteers - we also have a hard-working volunteer Board much like PTO where you can sign up to work on one committee per year.

Spotlight (continued from page 8)

Both Boards meet three times per year. If you would like to learn more about Community First or serve on one of the Boards contact Cheryl Rauch at 330-528-3116. Community First is funded by the local Foundations in Hudson, private donors and fund raising efforts. There is so much more to say about Community First - we hope to have our city designated as one of the top 100 places to raise youth in the coming year. Anytime you have an idea that helps to promote positive youth development in Hudson - we would love to hear from you. PTO is a valuable partner for Community First and we hope to work on many things together in the future. For more information call Cheryl or Laura Gasbarro at 330.650.0752. You can also visit our web site at www.hudsoncommunityfirst.com.



Just A Reminder

PTO Spirit Wear will be on sale at the Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, March 1st. Have your checkbooks handy and shop early for best selection. When it's gone, it's gone!!

Don't forget to get your 2007-2008 Monthly Planners and Student Excuse Pads. These great planners are free with a paid PTO membership of only \$15.

The have all the important school and PTO dates and information and are in a convenient travel size format so they are easily accessible on the go!!

Student excuse pads are still available at for only \$2 year round at the Middle School Book Store. Keep them handy instead of writing notes for the teacher all year long when your child has an early dismissal or will be absent from school.





BOARD BIRTHDAYS

NOVEMBER

Melissa Snyderman 11/13
Cheryl Gamble 11/14
Donna Niehaus 11/24
Carla Gasser 11/26
Danielle Hunt 11/28

DECEMBER

Debi Bohrer 12/1
Carol Morgan 12/4
Debbie Petersilge 12/4
Gretchen Greissing 12/11
Michelle Hartline 12/20
Cindy Mosko 12/24
Peggy Sexton 12/30

JANUARY

Ann Blechman 1/1
Patti Engleman 1/2
Mary Beth Zammataro 1/3
JoAnn Townsend 1/5
Jennifer Northrup 1/6
Laura Hudeck 1/6
Beth Slater 1/12
Kim Graham 1/13
Marie Zeller 1/13
Jen Morocco 1/15
Debbi Rauh 1/21
Debra DeRoche 1/28

FEBRUARY

Chris Frantz 2/19
Lori Hart 2/28
Veronica Bashian 2/28

MARCH

Lori McGloughlin 3/3
Laura Zaleski 3/3
Kay Reed 3/9
Stephanie Kaiser 3/16
Cynde Hoffman 3/26
Caroline Johanning 3/30

APRIL

Tricia Johnstone 4/28

MAY

Monica Schie 5/1
Linda Morris 5/17
Stacey Rosenthal 5/18
Melissa Otto 5/19
Dana Zak 5/26

JUNE

Cheryl Rauch 6/4
Bronwyn Pierson 6/8
Cindy Brice 6/11
Colleen Gawne 6/21
Noreen Flowers 6/26

JULY

Mary Stepanek 7/5
Margie Ator 7/8
Heather Potts 7/10
Frances Zelch 7/19
Cindy Shedloski 7/22
Beth Cavoli 7/23
Amy Beegle 7/27
Heather Heller 7/28
Mary Apicella 7/28