

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Happy New Year!

I wanted to first thank all of those parents who helped at the various holiday parties and holiday stores. It is an extremely busy time of year, and yet we still had a number of parents volunteer their time...we soooo appreciate your commitment to our children! An extra big THANK YOU to Laura Schultheis, Rachel Steigerwald and Cara Schultz, the PTO board members in charge of the holiday stores at each school. To set up, run and tear down the holiday stores is a monumental task and these ladies really stepped up and did a fabulous job (especially Cara, who had to set up in the dark, due to a power outage!).

I also wanted to remind parents once again that you must be scanned the Friday before the Valentine's party to attend the party. We still have parents who are not scanned. If you aren't scanned in time, you may not attend the party.

The MAE Science Fair will be kicking off next week. Each 2nd, 3rd and 4th grade class will be visited by a "Science Fair Ambassador", which is a child who has participated in the Science Fair previously. The students will be able to ask questions of these "Ambassadors", so that they can become familiar with the Science Fair process. At the end of the week, every 2nd, 3rd and 4th grade student will get an entry form sent home with them to fill out. If you do not receive an entry form, or it is misplaced, extra copies will be available in the school office, on the PTO website and on the district website. I ask all parents of an MAE child to encourage your child to participate in the Science Fair. It is a wonderful way to introduce your child to the world of science and frankly, they all have a blast! Approximately 230 children participated last year and we are looking for even more to enter this year!

Even though field trips for the elementary students are a few months away, field trip chaperones will be chosen in the next month or so. This is to allow those chosen to get the necessary clearances to be able to accompany your child's class on the field trip. Please refer to the "District Policies", "Section 573 - School Volunteers" on the district's website under the School Board tab to determine what clearances you need to secure if chosen for a field trip. Also remember that the PTO does not pick the field trip chaperones...this is done by your child's teacher.

Our next PTO meeting is Tuesday, January 8th in the PTO room at the Primary Center. There will be much to discuss as we look ahead to many of the events occurring in the spring, including teacher luncheons, field days and field trips. Please plan to attend.

Stay warm and dry!

Carol Knox

President

cknox522@yahoo.com

Important Dates:

Tuesday January 8th- 9:30 PTO Meeting PC PTO Room

Friday January 18th- End of 2nd 9 Weeks

Monday January 21st-No School

Wednesday January 23rd-Market Day Pick Up

Monday February 4th- 2 Hr. Delay

Tuesday February 5th-9:30 PTO Meeting PC PTO Room

Happy New Year Primary Center Parents.

I hope everyone had Merry Holiday Season and a terrific winter break. Thank you to all the Contact Parents and Party volunteers who made the Holiday Parties at PC a huge success. I know the Holidays can be a very busy time, so your time and effort is greatly appreciated. Please remember to get your license scanned if you have not done so already.....the Valentine's Parties will be here before you know it.

The dates for the Valentine's Parties at PC are as follows:

Thursday, Feb. 14th

Am Kinder 10:15am-11:15am

Pm Kinder and First grade 2-3pm

**ALL LICENSES MUST BE SCANNED BY FRIDAY FEB. 8TH**

Happy New Year and thanks for all you do,

Katie Ray

PTO- PC Head Building Chair

Contact Parents

Hi All!

I hope everyone enjoyed their time off! The holiday decorations at the Primary Center are put away for another year and the winter scene remains. A big thank you to Preetha Ramanathan, Jennifer Grabowski and Katie Ray for their help during such a busy time of year. Stay warm! Spring will be here before we know it!

Kim Cenci

PC Decorating

MAE Holiday Shop "Wrap Up"

I hope that everyone had a wonderful holiday. I would like to thank the parents, teachers, and school staff for your continued support with the MAE Holiday Shop. It is such a busy time of year so all of your helping hands are greatly appreciated. And I would also like to give a big thank you to the Holiday Shop Committee who graciously helped so much in the Holiday Shop. So many thanks to Sherri McEwen, Tracey Weaver, Jennifer Howell, Carrie Jablunovsky, Beth Muchnok, Diane Leachman, Heather Zimmerman, Joleen Barshick, Vanessa Johnson-Horn, Adrienne Winstead, Belinda Terzich, Greta Huggins, Megan Prazer, Carissa Giordano, Tonya Woolridge, Juli Louttit, Pam Vivirito, Nichole Fromlak, Catrina Fritsch, Cindy Neff, Krissy Ramsey, Lorrie Southwell, Debi Radomski, Christi Kolarcik, Joe Schmitt, Mandy Burkert, Sharon Hamlett, and Debbie Kozora.

We could not have done it without you all!!!

MAE Holiday Parties

A big thank you to all the parents and family members that helped with the holiday parties at MAE. The kids all had a great time and the parties could not have happened without all of your help. Your time and donations are very much appreciated.

#### Centennial Holiday Shop

I great big thank you to all the parents that helped set up, run and tear down the holiday shop this year! It was a great help, and I know the children still enjoy having mom and/or dad help them out.

#### MAC Holiday Party -- Volunteer Thanks!

I am so grateful for all of the help and donations that parents offered for the Holiday Party at the Centennial. It was a crazy busy week for most of us, and I really appreciate that you took the time to help the kids have a fun party. I wish you all a very happy new year!

To the 5th grade face painters: the candy cane mustaches were a stroke of genius and obviously very popular. Many thanks for your creativity and patience!

A special thank you to the women of the PTO, who always show up, work hard, and make things fun: Laura Schultheis, Karen Harvey, Jacki Kearney, Carol Knox, Karen Lussier (lifesaver!), Katie Ray, Kim Cenci, Tina Richard.

-Susan Cable

PTO Centennial Building Chair

Thanks to all the families who supported the Mars PTO Night at Posti's Pizza! The PTO received a check for \$485.00 thanks to your patronage and the generous support of Posti's Pizza. We truly appreciate the opportunity to work with Posti's and look forward to our Spring PTO Pizza Night!

MARKET DAY ~ HELP YOUR SCHOOL & FEED YOUR FAMILY

Happy New Year from Market Day, this January you get a FREE Eat Well Guide with any purchase. You can order online at [marketday.com](http://marketday.com) until 11PM on Thursday, January 17, 2013 or send in your order sheet to the school by Wednesday, January 16, 2013. Market Day pickup will be Wednesday, January 23, 2013 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. at the MAE Cafeteria. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer to help, you can call Sheri McMaster at (724) 625-3997.

Sincerely,

Mars PTO

Mars Area Elementary PTO