



Hawk Herald



August 28, 2009

Volume 40, Issue 1

Message from the PTA President

Tracey Coleman

Welcome! Whether you are new to Hunting Ridge or have been here for years, I am pleased to wish you "Happy New Year" from Hunting Ridge PTA.

Did you know that PTA is the largest volunteer organization whose sole purpose is to help ALL children? With more than five million members across the nation, PTA is a strong advocate for children's issues in all levels of government as well as in local communities. Hunting Ridge PTA is proud to carry out this mission with our goal of bringing home and school together to enrich the lives of all students here at Hunting Ridge.

Our first family event is the "Hawks Salute America" picnic on September 11. This is a great place to meet new classmates and reconnect with old friends. We will have live music this year, tasty food from a new caterer, and plenty of fun and games for everyone. Will your family be one of the lucky ones to bring home a cake from the cake walk? Later this year, you will not want to miss the Moms & Munchies and Dads & Donuts breakfast mornings, the roller skating party, and the Multicultural Fair.

We are also offering a full slate of assemblies to enhance the educational experience; each grade will have its own curriculum-related program, and our Cultural Arts committee will bring in art, music and dance performers for the whole school. The Health & Safety committee has some fun activities planned to demonstrate the importance of eating healthy foods and staying active, and the Book Club will engage students in some lively book discussions. Of course, we continue to offer valuable services like the directory, our website (www.hrpta.org), spirit wear sales, the Holiday Shop and many more.

How do we pull all of this off? With the support of the Hunting Ridge families like you! It is Membership time, and I encourage every household to join PTA. Does this mean you have to attend meetings and run events? No, although you are certainly welcome to get involved; simply becoming a member shows that you support our mission and our plans for the year. We also rely on your financial support, and we have opportunities from direct donation and catalog purchases to the monthly food co-op (Market Day) to fit any budget, so please consider making a contribution to help us start our year financially strong. I would love to be done with fundraising by October and focus on our programs the rest of the year!

Our other big news is that Hunting Ridge PTA is going electronic this year! We are building an email database so we can communicate better with as many families as possible. The Hawk Herald will also switch to email distribution later this year, saving money and the environment at the same time. Stay tuned for more details.

I hope to see you at the picnic on September 11 and at events throughout the year!

Tracey



September

- 9/1 Room Parent Orientation, 2:45pm, in the Cafe
- 9/2 Market Day orders due
PTA Fundraiser begins
- 9/7 **NO SCHOOL** - Labor Day
- 9/9 Hawk Herald deadline
Board of Education meeting, Sundling, 7pm
- 9/10 Market Day pickup
- 9/10 Parent Orientation:
6:30pm - 1, 2
7:15pm - K, 5, 6
8:00pm - 3, 4
- 9/11 "Hawks Salute America"
Back to School Picnic, 5-8pm
- 9/14 Intermediate Orchestra,
Whiteley, 7:45am
- 9/15 PTA Meeting, Noon, LRC
(free babysitting available in Room 110)
- 9/15 Intermediate Band,
Hunting Ridge, 7:45am
- 9/17 Picture Day
PTA Fundraiser ends

Hunting Ridge School

1105 West Illinois Avenue
Palatine, IL 60067
Phone: (847) 963-5300
Absence Recorder: (847) 963-5301

Mrs. Diane Murphy, Principal
Mrs. Nancy Bradish, Assistant Principal

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Hunting Ridge PTA Newsletter, PTA District 37

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with your full name and email address

Message from our Principal

Mrs. Murphy

Dear Hunting Ridge Parents and Guardians,

A hearty welcome to all Hunting Ridge families! It is always exciting to begin a new school year and to see all the new faces and familiar faces! Teachers have been working hard to prepare for the upcoming year and PTA has put in a lot of time to prepare for this year also! We welcome parents into our school and hope you join the PTA - the organization that best advocates for all children!

Our new south wall is looking great! The walls are structurally done, but some finishing work will be attended to over the next few weeks. Bulletin boards will be installed on the inside walls as well as window blinds. This work will be done when students are not in the classroom.

As for the morning entrance, the classrooms that line up on the upper blacktop (K, 3, 4, 5) will temporarily be lining up on the lower blacktop. (Hopefully, this will only last a few days.) Our staff will have "all hands on deck" to ensure that students line up properly and enter the building in an orderly fashion. Please continue to have the children who walk and are dropped off at school, enter from the Mallard side (west) of the school. Please do not drop off students on the Harvard side (east) of the school as that is where all of our buses drop off and pick up children. Staff members will be out redirecting anyone who forgets! Thank you! Dismissal time and exits remain the same.

This year there will be no fliers coming home from organizations outside of our school district. All of these fliers will be posted on our district website. We will have a few paper copies on hand in the atrium if you do not have access to our website. You will continue to receive fliers in regards to Hunting Ridge, District 15, PTA, District 15 Educational Foundation, or any group that is part of the District 15 family.

P.B.I.S. is coming to Hunting Ridge this year! P.B.I.S. stands for Positive Behavior Intervention Supports. It is designed to reinforce and encourage positive behavior by developing school-wide expectations, while discouraging problem behaviors. It is very similar to our current behavior program but better! Please refer to page 17 in your 2009-2010 Hunting Ridge Parent Handbook to learn more about this program. Our students will learn all about P.B.I.S during the first few days of school.

We have some good news to share! Our ISAT results are coming in, and I am proud to report that once again over 90% of our third - sixth graders met or exceeded state standards in reading and math! Congratulations! What a fantastic statement to make about the academics at this school. Thank you staff, parents, and children for a united effort in educating our students. (More information will be forthcoming!)

Mark your calendars for Thursday, September 10. This is the night of Parent Orientation. First and Second Grades will meet at 6:30pm; Kindergarten, Fifth and Sixth Grades meet at 7:15pm; and Third and Fourth Grades meet at 8:00 pm. The next evening, September 11, is the Back to School Picnic! Looking forward to seeing all of you at these events!

We warmly welcome you to our school, but please remember to go to the office once you enter the building, sign in, take a badge, proceed to your destination, and sign out when you leave. We do this for the safety of our children, so everyone knows you are not a stranger in the building.

I would like to thank everyone for a smooth beginning to this new school year. I look forward to a wonderful year and working with all members of our Hunting Ridge family. If you have any questions, concerns, or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone, note, email, or in person.

Again, welcome back!

Sincerely,

Diane Murphy, Principal



Ways & Means

Brita Higgins, Vice President of Ways & Means

How do we support all of our wonderful PTA activities?
Our catalog fundraiser this year is . . .

The Great American Opportunities Featuring Kathryn Beich

Yes, that is a mouthful for a company name! You will find a greater assortment of high quality products, from gift wrap to jewelry, fair trade merchandise, Kathryn Beich chocolates, personalized items, canvas expressions, magazine subscriptions and more! You are sure to find items that you will use and want to give as gifts!

Our sale runs September 2 - September 16. We will have a fundraising kick-off at all lunch periods on September 2. Order pick up will be during Parent-Teacher Conferences in November. Please support the Hunting Ridge PTA by participating in our fundraiser. PTA receives 40%-50% profit on all items sold. Your participation is greatly needed and appreciated! The money raised benefits all of our children! We need your help to meet our fundraising goal for the 2009-2010 school year! Watch for details coming home in your child's backpack in early September.

Hunting Ridge PTA Direct Donation

Once again, we are offering the opportunity to directly donate to PTA instead of participating in the fundraiser, or better yet, do a little of both! No matter how you choose to support PTA, we hope you will! The Hunting Ridge PTA will spend an average of \$40.00 per child this year. We can not do it without your financial support! Please consider a generous donation for this worthwhile effort! To donate, send your check for any amount made out to "HR PTA" to school in a sealed envelope marked "PTA Donation". Hunting Ridge PTA keeps 100% of your donation; it is tax deductible and you will receive a personalized tax letter.

Retail Fundraising

Dominick's - 10% Back to Schools

Hunting Ridge PTA will earn 10% of your purchases of participating products made at Dominick's between August 12, 2009 and September 15, 2009. To participate, visit www.backtoschools.escrip.com and follow the easy instructions to register your rewards for HR PTA. It is that easy! Registering your Dominick's card earns rewards on your Dominick's purchases all year long!

Target - Take Charge of Education

Register your Target Card or Target Visa online at www.target.com/tcoe to Hunting Ridge and we will receive a cash donation from Target totaling 1% of all purchases! Family and friends can register their cards as well. It only takes a minute and directly helps our children!

If you have any questions about any of these fundraisers, please contact Brita Higgins at (847) 776-3535 or at 4higgs4@sbcglobal.net.

Legislation

Jacqueline Kurkcu, Vice President of Legislation

Our school is now back in session, but did you realize that our state government has been busy working through the summer? Currently there is a bill amended by the Illinois Senate (HB174) that addresses the funding crisis faced by the State Board of Education. The PTA with nearly 145,000 members, the majority of whom are parents, believes that we are especially qualified to voice opinions on this subject.

Our views have always been important! Because local government often decides how to spend federal and state money, local organizations such as the PTA have even more responsibility to tell local policy makers what we need and want. You can read in detail more about this bill and all other bills currently before the floor by logging onto www.illinoispta.org, and should you feel strongly enough about the topic, you can lobby your Representative in the Illinois House of Representatives (also found on www.illinoispta.org).

As your legislative voice here at Hunting Ridge, I would love to keep you informed throughout the year of the many changes our government is working towards as well as the current issues. There will be a sign up sheet at Parent Orientation asking you to be a part of the Legislation "Call to Action" Committee. All I need is your email address.

Please check out our wonderful Hunting Ridge website for legislation information at www.hrpta.org. You can email me at jkurkcu@comcast.net with any questions or concerns.

Back to School Picnic

Margaret Lee and Polly Schill

All family members of Hunting Ridge students are invited to the PTA's annual back-to-school family event...

Hawks Salute America!

Friday, September 11, 2009
5-8 pm

Food catered by Photo's! Games for tots and students! Music by local band, Bucket Number 6!
The bake sale and... the ever-popular cake walk! We hope you can come!

All food will be pre-ordered. Look for an order form in your student's backpack during the first week of school.

Volunteers Needed! Volunteers Needed! Volunteers Needed!

The Picnic Committee needs volunteers for one hour shifts before the picnic (setup), during the picnic, and after the picnic (clean-up). If you are available to help, please email Polly Schill (pchefpolly@juno.com).

If you have any picnic questions, please contact Margaret Lee, (847) 705-1465, bmlee33@yahoo.com or Polly Schill, (847) 202-3885, pchefpolly@juno.com

New Family Welcoming

Ann Murphy and Polly Schill

We would like to welcome the following new students and their families to Hunting Ridge!!

Kindergarten:

Nadia A	Rayan B	Grace B	Adam E
Allison E	Sandro J	Aleksand K	Zain K
Michelle K	Andrea K	Bryan L	Michael L
Rachel M	Nihal M	Delaney N	Connor N
Samuel O	Jessica P	Jeremy R	Brendan R
Angela S	Sidney S		

First Grade:

Martyna C	Emma C	Amanda H	John N
Brandon P	Omar S	Arielle S	Hunter T

Second Grade:

Alex R	Monica Y
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Third Grade:

Lindsey F	Kyle H	Shyam S	Lukas S
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Fourth Grade:

Yeoun Wo P	Siqi W
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Fifth Grade:

Munkhsoy D	Clarissa D	Zachary G	Thomas J
San Ha L	Zachary M	Mahiro O	John S
Matthew T	Jada W		

Sixth Grade:

Bradley H	Justin V
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Print Center - Workroom
 Brita Higgins and Jeanette Stevens

The PTA Print Center/Workroom is looking for parent volunteers for the 2009-2010 school year. If you have one free morning or afternoon (8:50-11:20am or 12:50-3:20pm) one or two days per month, your teachers could really use your help! Volunteers make copies, create books, laminate class resources and perform a variety of other creative jobs requested by the teachers. The Print Center volunteers provide a valuable service for the teachers at Hunting Ridge by freeing them and their Program Assistants to spend more time in the classroom with students and planning projects to expand our children's minds.

We hope to have enough volunteers to allow the Print Center to be open five days per week with morning and afternoon shifts. Your shift can be flexible based on your needs. As of August 1, the print center does not have enough volunteers to fully staff all time slots, thus may not be available five days a week for our teachers. If you can assist, please email your name, days you are available and morning/afternoon preference to the addresses below. All volunteers will be trained. Thanks for your help!

Brita Higgins, 4higgs4@sbcglobal.net, (847) 721-6077
 Jeanette Stevens, athomemama42@comcast.net, (847) 221-5941

Picture Day
 Chris Popovich



Save the date!

Picture Day is Thursday, September 17!

Parent Orientation

September 10, 2009

6:30-7:15pm First and Second grades
 7:15-8:00pm Kindergarten,
 Fifth and Sixth grades
 8:00-8:45pm Third and Fourth grades

PTA Help Wanted

Hunting Ridge PTA would like to fill these committee openings. If you are interested, please contact president Tracey Coleman at (847) 934-8251 or traceycoleman@sbcglobal.net.

- Environmental Education: Get our students interested in recycling and environmental awareness.
- Hawk Herald newsletter: We need one more editor to work with Nancy and Becky each month to produce this newsletter.
- Reflections: Help coordinate our students' participation in this national PTA art/music/literature contest
- SPARK (Special education Parents Accessing Resources and Knowledge): Be our representative to this District 15 support group for parents of children with special needs.

Reflections

Jacqueline Kurkcu

Welcome to another fun year of the PTA-sponsored Reflections program! This year's theme is

"Beauty is....."

which allows kids to be creative and artistically express their ideas on either paper or film, or through music or dance. The PTA will once again be hosting an after-school workshop for the kids who would like a little guidance or inspiration with their entries. Watch this space for more details in next month's edition.

In the meantime encourage your kids who are interested to look around for ideas of what "Beauty Is.....". Of course, if you have any questions you can always contact me at jkurkcu@comcast.net.

Room Parents
 Diane Zara

Thank you again for volunteering.

Please note the Room Parent meeting time has changed to 2:45pm in the cafeteria on Tuesday, September 1.

Hawk's Nest Showcase

Mrs. Karen Surdyski, LRC Director

Does your child collect things, like rocks or erasers? How about baseball cards or stuffed animals? If your child would like to show them to all the students at Hunting Ridge...tell them to stop by the LRC and fill out a Hawk's Nest form. The openings fill up fast so do it now!

Yearbook

Jacqueline Kurkcu, Jacqui Downing,
Brian Chalmers

The Yearbook Committee is already off and running and we cannot put together a wonderful book without hundreds of photographs taken by you and us!

Did you take any photos of the kids on the first day back at school? We would love a copy! We also would love you to take plenty of fun pictures at our "Hawks Salute America" back-to-school picnic this year. You can either copy them onto a CD and place them in our PTA yearbook folder in the school office or email them directly to jacqui@netxchicago.net.

We appreciate all of the help you have always given us with photos of the kids.

LRC

Kim Piotrowski and Liz Cohen

The Learning Resource Center (LRC) is looking for volunteers who would work either once or twice a month in the morning or afternoon for approximately 2-3 hour shifts. Volunteers are needed to assist in checking out books, shelving and other miscellaneous tasks. If interested, please contact Kim Piotrowski (jk.piotrowski@sbcglobal.net) or Liz Cohen (lizcohen1@att.net).



We welcome the following new staff to Hunting Ridge:

- Ms. Becky Flechter - Grade 4
- Ms. Mary Gilling - Orchestra
- Mr. Shane Jensen - Grade 6
- Mr. Jeremy Jetel - Grade 6
- Mrs. Clara Lee - ESL (part time)
- Ms. Jennifer Myers - Program Assistant
- Ms. Rachel Smith - Program Assistant
- Ms. Valerie Lenzion - Transitional Kindergarten



Directory

Lilly Luca

It is that time of year. Time to think about joining the PTA and getting a free copy of the Hunting Ridge School Directory. Deadline for membership is September 11, 2009. This year the PTA is offering multiple copies of the Hunting Ridge School Directory. You can get your free copy by joining the PTA and get additional copies for \$2.00 each. This way you can have one in the car or at the office. If you have any questions, please call Lilly at (847) 340-1952.

Health & Safety Committee

Linda Millar

The Hunting Ridge PTA Health & Safety Committee is pleased to announce year two of our Action Plan for Healthy Kids. Please look in the Hawk Herald regularly for information on upcoming events. Our plans for the year include such things as participation in International Walk to School Day in October, Walk to School Wednesdays, seminars conducted by the Palatine Police Department including Kids on their Own, fitness events, fruit and veggie challenges and more! Please join us this year - by working together we can make a positive and healthy impact on our children's lives.

Fremd Viking Booster Club

Sports & Cultural Passes Available

Avoid waiting in line for home football games or cultural arts events by purchasing Fremd Booster Club sports or cultural arts passes. The package provides you with four admission passes to all home MSL regular season football and basketball games or cultural arts shows depending on the package you choose.

You can register online at <http://bit.ly/fKYqh>. For questions, please contact Christine Hoffman at hoffman_christine@hotmail.com.



Packing a Healthy Lunch

Wendy Milligan, RD, LDN, Healthy & Safety Committee Member

Packing a Healthy Lunch

It is that time of year again when you find yourself staring into the fridge or pantry wondering what to pack in the lunch box. You want it to be healthy, but you also do not want it to end up in the trash at the end of the lunch period. Finger foods help younger children to eat and talk at the same time allowing them to fill up and still have time for the playground. Older kids are more likely to eat lunch if they help with choosing and preparing it. Here are a few tips to help get the school year off to a great start:

Plan Ahead and Go Green

- Keep the pantry and fridge stocked with items you will need such as pre-washed and chopped fruits and vegetables.
- Try to prepare lunches the night before to avoid the morning rush out the door.
- Choose insulated lunch boxes over brown bags and send labeled reusable containers and utensils.

Keep it Safe

- The American Dietetic Association reports that nearly 60% of kids do not wash their hands before eating, but nine out of ten would do so if a moist towelette or sanitizer was included in their lunch.
- Perishable foods should not be left out for more than two hours to avoid spoiling. Keep hot foods in a thermos and include an ice pack for cold items, and remember to keep lunch boxes washed.

Make it Healthy

Lunch provides 1/3 of your child's daily nutritional needs so remember to include the major food groups.

- Lean Protein - turkey, chicken, roast beef, tuna, hard boiled egg, beans, veggie burger, nuts, nut butters or seeds
- Whole Grains - whole grain breads, pitas, bagels, whole wheat tortillas or pasta, brown rice, crackers, pretzels or cereal
- Fruits - apple slices, grapes, orange segments, chopped melon, pineapple chunks, raisins, applesauce, kiwi, banana, canned fruit or 100% juice
- Vegetables - baby carrots, sliced cucumbers or bell peppers, grape tomatoes, celery sticks, blanched broccoli, sugar snap peas, baby spinach or salads
- Low-fat Dairy - skim or 1% milk, low fat yogurt, string cheese, cheese cubes, low fat pudding or cottage cheese. If your child will not or cannot drink milk, try to include another source of calcium such as flavored milk, fortified soy milk, or calcium fortified orange juice.

Make it Fun

- Instead of the typical sandwich, use a whole wheat tortilla to make a roll-up, stuff a pita or send leftovers from dinner.
- Use large cookie cutters for fun sandwich shapes.
- Send a topping such as granola or cereal to sprinkle on yogurt.
- Send a dip. Dip strawberries in yogurt or apples in peanut butter. Dip baby carrots in hummus or broccoli in ranch dressing.

Avoid Pitfalls

- Avoid empty calories like soda, candy, chips and fruit chew snacks.
- Limit pre-packaged, processed foods which are high in salt, fat and sugar.
- Prevent boredom by not packing the same thing day after day.

Sending your child to school with a healthy lunch not only gives you peace of mind, but it gives your child what he or she needs to stay energized, fight off colds and flu, learn and grow.

Kelly Miller Circus

District 15 Educational Foundation and the Rolling Meadows Park District Foundation

The Kelly Miller Circus

comes to town on

Friday, September 18, 2009
and
Saturday, September 19, 2009

Community Center Grounds

3705 Pheasant Drive, Rolling Meadows



Tickets are \$12.00 per person - general seating

For information contact Tina Huss at (847) 963-3160, husst@ccsd15.net

Northwest Suburban Council PTA/PTSA presents

"Now We're Talking"

A parent's guide to coaching your teen towards healthy sexuality

Monday, September 21
6:45p.m.

Walter R. Sundling Jr. High
1100 North Smith Street, Palatine

All parents of children in District 15 are invited to this presentation by a representative from PHD in Palatine. Due to the nature of the topic, this event is for adults only. The evening will also include a short NWSC PTA/PTSA general member meeting.

For more information, contact HR PTA president Tracey Coleman at traceycoleman@sbcglobal.net.

www.hrpta.org

Checkout the Hunting Ridge PTA website for news, events, forms, past issues of the Hawk Herald and other helpful information.

A Note from the Editors:

Nine issues of the Hawk Herald will be published during the 2009-2010 school year. We can be reached at hawkherald@gmail.com. One copy per family is sent home from school with the youngest/only child in the family until we are set up for electronic distribution. At that time, you can opt for a paper copy. Paper copies will be provided to all Hunting Ridge faculty members until we switch to electronic distribution. An electronic copy of each newsletter is sent to the PTA President, Newsletter Editor(s) and Webmaster of each District 15 school, as well as all members of the District 15 Board of Education and the Director of District 37 PTA. Current and past newsletters can be found on the Hunting Ridge PTA website, www.hrpta.org.