



Hawk Herald



September 16, 2011

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Message from the PTA President Diane Zara

I hope everyone enjoyed the Back to School "Kick Off" picnic! I am actually writing this nine days before the event, and the long-term forecast predicts 74° with sun. I hope they are right! Thanks to picnic chairs Michelle Burger and Gretchen Riskind and their committee of Mary Wallace, Brita Higgins, Sue Gould, Bessie Christodouloupoulos and Bonnie Peterson. Over 100 additional volunteers were recruited to make this picnic a success. Thanks to you all!

The dean of the Harvard Business School, Nitin Nohria, said "Communication is the real work of leadership". In an effort to communicate effectively with our families, HR PTA uses an email system called Constant Contact. We use Constant Contact to electronically deliver this Hawk Herald newsletter and to send you informational emails from PTA and the school. Our ultimate goal is to have EVERY family's email address in this system. Please visit our PTA website, www.hrpta.org, to sign up to be on our mailing list.

What PTA events are on the radar...
Our first Market Day was held this month. It is a convenient way to buy terrific food products and support Hunting Ridge at the same time. Market Day chairs, Debbie Perrin and Stacy Covitz, will continue to send paper flyers home with the students, but remember you can order online at www.marketday.com. Before the weather turns cold, PTA's Health and Safety committee will sponsor our annual International Walk to School Day. On Oct 5, kids are encouraged to walk to school to promote a healthy lifestyle. Palatine "VIP's" will be on hand to pass out stickers and praise your kids' healthy initiative. Moms, get ready to relax and socialize on the mornings of Oct 14 or Oct 21 when you are invited to Moms and Munchies. The breakfast is on us! If you have a green thumb or just enjoy nature, come help us plant and improve the school grounds on Oct 15 for Beautification Day. The Reflections Program is also kicking off very soon. In its 40-year history, the program has encouraged millions of students across the nation

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September & October

- 9/16 Waste Free Lunch
Back To School Picnic 5:00 - 8:00
- 9/22 Picture Day
- 9/26 NWSC PTA General Membership Mtg
7:00 pm @ Sundling
- 9/28 Market Day Orders Due
- 9/30 Map Testing Ends

and in American schools overseas to create works of art for fun and recognition. Students in preschool through grade 12 are encouraged to create and submit works of art in six areas: dance choreography, film production, literature, musical composition, photography and the visual arts (which includes art forms such as drawing, painting, print making, and collage). Look for more information to come home soon!

Have you noticed? There is no wrapping paper to sell this year! Instead, we are holding a **Silent Auction** at Durty Nellie's on October 22. This will be PTA's **ONE MAJOR FUNDRAISER** of the year. Please contact **Kristine Galazka** at kgalazka@earthlink.net if you would like to donate an auction item or volunteer on the planning committee. I encourage everyone to attend. This is not only how we will raise the bulk of the funds required to bring you all the wonderful PTA programs, events and services this year, but the night is sure to be a blast!

Happy Fall,
Diane

- 10/5 Celebration Day
- 10/5 International Walk to School Day - Wear Blue
- 10/6 Market Day Pick Up
- 10/10 NO SCHOOL - Columbus Day
- 10/11 NO SCHOOL - Teacher Plan Day
- 10/12 Hawk Herald Articles Due
- Board of Education Mtg. @ Sundling 7:00 pm
- 10/14 Moms & Munchies A-K @ 8:00 am
- 10/15 Beautification Day 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
- 10/17 CogAT Testing Begins - Grades 2, 4 & 6
- District 37 PTA Annual Mtg. & Dinner 6:00 pm at Cotillion
- Health exam/immunization exclusion
- 10/18 6th grade Cross Country Meet
- PTA Meeting 7:00 pm
- 10/20 6th grade Cross Country Meet-Rain Date
- 10/21 Moms & Munchies L-Z @ 8:00 am
- Waste Free Lunch
- Hawk Herald Distributed

Hunting Ridge School 1105 West Illinois Avenue
Palatine, IL 60067
Phone: (847) 963-5300 Absence
Recorder: (847) 963-5301
Mrs. Diane Murphy, Principal
Mrs. Christine Mitchell, Assistant Principal
Diane Zara, PTA President, (847) 202-9272
huntingridgepta@gmail.com
Newsletter Editors: Carolyn Conlee, Wendy Gladney, Teresa Saunders, Karla Lammers
hawkherald@gmail.com
Hunting Ridge PTA Newsletter, PTA District 37

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Please email us at
huntingridgepta@gmail.com
with your full name and email address

www.hrpta.org

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

Message from our Principal Mrs. Murphy

Dear Hunting Ridge Parents and Guardians,

The official 2011-2012 school year is in "full swing"! We have settled nicely into the routine of learning. Parent Orientations are finished and were very well attended. It was so great to see everyone here on those nights! Tonight is our Back to School Picnic and I'm looking for another great turn out of all of our families and staff getting together as the new school year begins.

Construction Update: It appears that we are in good shape! We had some trouble with a few univents, and we hope they are all working well now. The few rooms that did not have some of their bulletin boards finished are now done. The equipment in the music rooms that was ruined is also replaced.

Testing Update: During the week of September 19th we will be sending home the ISAT (grades 3-6) and ACCESS results in your child's backpack. MAP testing for grades 2-6 continues until the end of September, and as soon as we get the "okay" from the district, we will send those results home as well. This should happen around the second week of October.

Birthday Treats: Our district wellness policy states that NO EDIBLE BIRTHDAY TREATS are allowed in the classroom. Please don't be offended if an edible treat is returned to your child to take home. A non-edible treat, a book or game for the classroom are all acceptable items. Thank you for understanding!

Morning drop off/Afternoon pick up: So far, this is going smoothly. If you drive your child to school and want to walk him/her to line up, please park on Mallard, south of the driveway closest to Illinois Ave. Our parking lot is needed for our staff to park, and we have more staff members this year than in the past who need those spaces. Thanks to all of you for helping us out with that! Also, students who walk or are dropped off at school must use the Mallard side of the school. We have many, many buses that use the Illinois entrance and the Harvard side of the school to drop off students. Again, you may park along the east side of Mallard Drive to pick up your children after school. Thank you!!

It is always exciting for me to visit the classrooms and watch the learning take place! Our mission statements are done and displayed in classrooms as well as on the bulletin board by the café. Be sure to ask your child about his/her classroom and/or personal mission statement.

I would like to thank all of you for making the beginning of the school year a smooth one! I commend this outstanding staff for their efforts to prepare for their students in a much smaller time frame this year! As always, I welcome your concerns, comments and questions.

Sincerely,

Diane Murphy, Principal

Ways & Means
Kristine Galazka, Vice President



SAVE THE DATE...

This year, in lieu of selling wrapping paper, the PTA is having a SILENT AUCTION on October 22, 2011, 5:30 pm - 9:00 pm, at Durty Nellie's in downtown Palatine.

Mark your Calendars today!!!

This Silent Auction will be the PTA's ONLY Major Fundraiser this year!

We have already collected a lot of fun and creative donations, BUT we still need more to reach our goal. We need your help!

Don't want to go soliciting?

- Donate a bottle of wine worth \$20 to \$30 to be added to a wine chest.
- Fund a need by donating any amount of money and we will put an auction item together in your honor.
- Get together with a group of friends - donate a special talent, group dinner party, wine tasting or kid's birthday party.

Have more time to give?

- We are still in need of volunteers to help out to prepare for the Silent Auction.
- We also need people to help out the night of the auction.

If you can help or have something you want to donate please contact Kristine Galazka at 847-925-1760 or kgalazka@earthlink.net.

Legislation

[Kim Eck, Vice President of Legislation](#)

Did you know that you can make recommendations for amendments to the bylaws of the Illinois PTA, the local unit and the council bylaws? This is YOUR opportunity to submit suggested amendments, which you feel are relevant to the governance structure of the Association.

Since bylaw amendments are an action item at the Illinois PTA Convention, any suggested changes need to be submitted for review prior to the Convention. The 2012 Convention will begin March 8th; therefore the deadline for proposed bylaw amendments to be considered by the Committee is October 15, 2011.

Please submit your suggestions for consideration, in writing, to:

Illinois PTA

Attention: Bylaws Committee

PO Box 907

Springfield, IL 62705-0907

Action Alert

Urge Congress Not to Stand in the Way of Healthier School Lunches

As our children start a new school year, some members of Congress want to roll back progress on improving school lunches, despite the sky-high childhood obesity rates. As PTA members, we can send a loud and clear message to Congress that we want healthier school meals.

According to the National PTA website, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has proposed common-sense nutrition guidelines to improve school lunches and breakfasts, including more fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and low-fat milk and less salt, unhealthy fats and calories.

Unfortunately, Food Industry groups are working to get Congress to stop USDA from finalizing these sensible school nutrition standards. The House of Representatives has already included a rider in its Agriculture spending bill urging USDA to start over from scratch and propose a new set of school

meal standards-even though tens of thousands of parents and organizations supported these important improvements.

If the Food Industry is successful in convincing the Senate to do the same, the goal of seeing healthy school lunches in cafeterias across the country will be in jeopardy.

Please send an email to Senator Matt Murphy today asking him to support USDA's efforts to improve school meals. For more information, visit <http://capwiz.com/npta2/issues/alert/?alertid=53210626&PROCESS=Take+Action>.

Book Fair

Susan E. Gould, Monika Bhatla & Linda Millar



Save the Date!

What: Hunting Ridge PTA Book Fair

Where: Barnes & Noble - Deer Park Town Center, Deer Park, IL

When: Saturday, November 19th - 9 am - 10 pm

Participate in special Hunting Ridge activities from 12 noon - 5 pm
Online purchases can be made Saturday, November 19 - Wednesday, November 23
using our special purchase code 10531010 to check-out

The Hunting Ridge PTA Book Fair will be held in a NEW location this year - at Barnes & Noble in Deer Park Town Center. The new location will provide a huge selection of books, CD's, DVD's and other great items for our families to choose from.

Enjoy the Book Fair, where you can:

- Complete your holiday shopping before the Thanksgiving shopping crowds.
- Purchase books and other items to donate to classrooms.
- Enjoy fun activities and mingle with classmates.
- Have a delicious snack at the Barnes & Noble Café, including special Hunting Ridge Hawk treats.
- Support Hunting Ridge as a portion of the proceeds of all sales including the café come back to the Hunting Ridge PTA and our school.

Health & Safety

Linda Styzen & Jen Feeley



KIDS - As part of our yearlong action plan for Healthy Kids, we are inviting every student to participate in Hunting Ridge's annual "Walk to School Day". On October 5th, join us and millions of children, parents, teachers and community leaders from over 5,000 schools in the United States and from over 40 countries around the world and celebrate International Walk to School Day.

On October 5, wear blue and walk or ride your bike to school. Remember to use the cross walks and to look both ways! Once you reach school, you will be given a special sticker to wear. Wear this sticker all day to show that you participated in this international event.

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