

HAMILTON
ELEMENTARY



PTO Pulse

www.hamiltonelementarypto.com

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JANUARY 23, 2012

COMING UP!

100TH DAY OF
SCHOOL!
WEDNESDAY
2/1

PTO MEETING,
TUESDAY 2/7,
9:30AM

FAMILY FUN
FEST
PLANNING
MEETING,
TUESDAY 2/7,
10:30AM

HOLIDAY
PARTIES,
MONDAY 2/13
& TUESDAY
2/14

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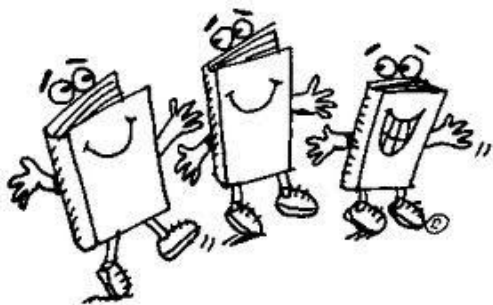
President's Message

By Holly Garcia, PTO President

Planning is underway for our 2012 Family Fun Fest! We are excited to be doing this family event again this year. We have made some changes from our inaugural year, so be sure to save the date of Saturday, April 14th and come check it out. The event will be held from 3-7 p.m. at the CFISD Exhibition Center off of Telge (across from Cy-Fair High School). We have got a great group led by Cindy Schluter, VP Major Fundraising, and they need your help. If you are interested in being a part of this fun day, please contact Cindy at majorfundraising@hamiltonelementarypto.com. You will find more specifics in this issue of the PTO Pulse. I look forward to working with everyone to make this a great event for our school!

Book Drive

We will be collecting new or gently-used children's books for our sister school during the Valentine's parties. Our goal is to provide each child at Holbrook with a book to take home. To do this, we will need approximately 1,100 books. If each family brings in just two books, we will reach that goal! This is a great way to clear out your child's bookshelf to make some room for those new books from the Barnes and Noble Book Fair sponsored by Ms. Lucas the weekend before, while reaching out to our sister school at the same time!



Got Kids' Meal Prizes?

We are once again collecting prizes for the Kids' Zone portion of the Family Fun Fest. If you have any packaged kids' meal prizes that you would like to donate, please drop them off at the front office in the box labeled "Kids' Meal Toys". Thank you for your help!

Attention 5th Grade Parents:
We need your
5th grade baby photos!

Age 3 months to 1 year works best.
Send a jpg image to Lisa,
memorybook@hamiltonelementarypto.com
Or send a photo to school and I'll
scan it for you.
Please send ASAP! Call Lisa if you
have any questions at 281-615-8631.

Nominating Committee

We are looking for volunteers to serve on the PTO nominating committee. As a member of the committee, you will gather candidates for open positions on the PTO Board. There are several board positions that will be open for the 2012-2013 school year:

President
 Secretary
 Treasurer
 VP Major Fundraising
 VP Minor Fundraising
 Co-VP VIPS
 Co-VP Communications
 VP Membership

If you know of someone you feel would be great on the PTO board and would like to be a part of nominating that person, or if you have any questions about what a board position entails, please contact Holly at president@hamiltonelementarypto.com.

Eat Cypress Cards

Don't forget to use your EatCypress Card that was distributed last month to generate donations for Hamilton Elementary and earn points towards rewards for you to use on future visits! No expiration, no obligation - earn money for Hamilton all year long!

Calendars

Don't forget that you can still purchase Hamilton PTO 2011-2012 calendars featuring our talented Hamilton lions' artwork at any time in the school office. At just \$8, they're packed with all the dates and reminders you'll need to make the rest of the school year a great one!

Historical Figures Visit Hamilton!



On January 18th, two pivotal men in American history visited Hamilton Elementary. The 4th graders caught a glimpse of Sam Houston through a wonderful portrayal done by Mr. Bill Perryman. The 5th graders had a chance to know Abraham Lincoln like never before. Mr Perryman, History in Person, drove all the way from San Antonio to bring to life these two fascinating men for us. This opportunity, both educational and entertaining for all the students and the teachers invited, was sponsored by the PTO through its Cultural Arts program.



Be a Principal Pal!

Join your fellow grade-level volunteers for a chance to supervise the kids while they are in recess and lunch. This is a great way for moms and dads to help the teacher, and it is fun to see how the kids interact. It's also a great opportunity for someone who doesn't want to commit to a long-term volunteer activity. Please e-mail the chairperson listed for each grade if you would like to volunteer for any of the dates and times listed below:

3rd: Wednesday, January 25th-- 12:40-1:45: principalpals@hamiltonelementarypto.com

1st: Friday, January 27th --1:10-2:15: principalpalsK1@hamiltonelementarypto.com

2nd: Monday, January 30th --12:10-1:15: principalpals@hamiltonelementarypto.com

5th: Wednesday, February 1st --11:40-12:45: volunteers@hamiltonelementarypto.com

4th: Friday, February 3rd --10:40-11:45: volunteers@hamiltonelementarypto.com

K: Monday, February 6th --11:10-12:15: principalpalsK1@hamiltonelementarypto.com

Go Wild with Science Activities!

Please take a look at PTO manager to volunteer for the following **January Science Resources** events:

2nd grade Reptiles Class Demonstrations:

Jan. 23 - time TBA -You must have attended the training in order to handle the animals. However; other volunteers will be needed to assist the children with their 2 finger touch & the slide show presentation. Contact Jennifer, at 2sciencecoordinator@hamiltonelementarypto.com with questions.

2nd grade Insects:

Demo date - first week of February 2012- contact Jennifer, at 2sciencecoordinator@hamiltonelementarypto.com with questions.

2nd grade Body Coverings:

Training - Jan. 27, 9:30am-12:30pm

Demo date (approximate) - February 2012- contact Jennifer, at 2sciencecoordinator@hamiltonelementarypto.com with questions.

4th grade Aquatic Bird Study Skins Training:

Jan. 27, 9:30am-12:30pm, at the SRC - contact Teri at 4sciencecoordinator@hamiltonelementarypto.com with questions.



Library Opportunities

Are you looking for a new volunteer opportunity? Do you like to interact with students of all ages? The library currently has one volunteer opportunity available: Thursday mornings from 9 a.m.-noon. This is a weekly commitment. Duties include checking books in and out, re-shelving books, and any other duties with which Mrs. Lucas needs help. It's easy, fun and you often get to see your kids and their friends in action! If you are interested, please contact Sarah at library@hamiltonelementarypto.com.

Junior Achievement

Junior Achievement is here! First Grade JA is in full swing and will continue through February 7th. All of the grade level dates are posted in PTO Manager. We are still in need of volunteers, so login to PTO Manager and check the dates to see if you can participate. Your lesson plan and materials are already provided; all you have to do is present the material! Spring JA training is available at the Berry Center January 24th from 9:30 am to 12:00 pm. For reservations, please contact richards@jahouston.org.



2012 Family Fun Fest

Saturday, April 14th, 2012
3-7pm, CFISD Exhibit Center

2nd Volunteer Meeting: February 7th

SPA room, 10:30 am

(immediately following the PTO general meeting)

Who should attend?: Anyone interested in more information about the event or volunteer opportunities and volunteers already signed up.

Meeting Topic: We will discuss the planning schedule, any new ideas, answer questions about committees, and more! We want you to volunteer in the area that interests you the most!

Please contact the committee head below if you are interested in volunteering!

Thank you so much to all the volunteers who have already signed up to help!

Fun Fest Teams

- 1) **Event Coordinator:** Cindy Schluter: majorfundraising@hamiltonelementarypto.com
- 2) **Volunteer Coordinator:** Allison Reimers: funfestvolunteers@hamiltonelementarypto.com— Coordinate, schedule and work with teams to secure adequate volunteers and proper placement.
- 3) **KidZone:** Jennifer Muse: kidzone@hamiltonelementarypto.com — Work with KidZone coordinator on design and activity selections and day of event set-up and tear-down.
- 4) **Teacher Auction:** Lisa Lorenz: Work with teachers on auction item selection, populate auction sheets and set up auction area on day of event.
- 5) **Silent Auction:** Lynda O'Donnell: funfestsilentauction@hamiltonelementarypto.com — Document donations, set up auction display boards, coordinate auction finalization.
- 6) **Basket Auction:** Mary Ihfe: funfestbaskets@hamiltonelementarypto.com— Work with home-room moms on basket guidelines, coordinate basket collection at school, organize early display of baskets, and supervise auction on day of event.
- 7) **Food & Beverage Team:** Cherie Lynch: foodandbeverage@hamiltonelementarypto.com — Work with Food and Beverage coordinator, volunteer time to cook at event, help with concession set-up, and volunteer day of event.
- 8) **Fundraising:** (NEEDED!) Work with fundraising coordinator on paw donation collection and display, and/or solicit donations via e-mail & personal contact.
- 9) **Checkout:** Michelle Chauviere: Design efficient checkout process and coordinate and facilitate check out. Assist with actual checkout on day of event.
- 10) **Photography:** Anya Lucas: Capture festivities for yearbook according to school photography guide lines.
- 11) **Decorations:** Katy Bream and Amy Blazer: funfestdecor@hamiltonelementarypto.com— Plan the decorations to be displayed around the SRC. Set-up and take down the day of the event.

Thank You!



Thank you to our Garden Committee for helping grow and maintain one of the best school gardens in the district!

Did You Know?

Spouses or immediate family members of **Exxon-Mobile employees** can also apply volunteer hours towards grants for Hamilton Elementary. Please check with your employer for more information. This is a great way to turn your precious time into funds for our school.



Attention 5th Grade Parents!

This is it, parents of 5th graders- your child's last year at Hamilton Elementary! Be a part of the fun and help with 5th Grade Day. We currently are looking for volunteers to help with Decorating and Games & Activities. 5th Grade Day is a part of the PTO budget, so all we need are your ideas and time. Do you love the show "Minute to Win It?" Are you always coming up with fun games for your kids? Join the Games & Activities committee. Do you like to design? Are you always re-decorating your home? Try out the Decorating committee. We can't do this fun event without your help. You won't want to miss this special day, and you won't be able to attend if you are not a volunteer. Please contact Holly Criswell at 5thgradeday@hamiltonelementarypto.com for more information.

VIPS "Blips"

If there is a volunteer you would like to see recognized in our Volunteer Spotlight or VIPS Blip, please e-mail Holly Garcia at president@hamiltonelementarypto.com.

Stay "In the Know" with the PTO!

All PTO Pulse newsletters are distributed via our new PTO Manager system. Be sure you are in our PTO Manager database to receive them. Go to our website www.hamiltonelementarypto.com and click on the PTO Manager tab to sign up.

Thoughts? Comments?

If you have anything you'd like to ask, comment on, or share with the PTO Board, you can contact us via our website at www.hamiltonelementarypto.com or contact president Holly Garcia directly at president@hamiltonelementarypto.com.

The purpose of the PTO is to provide fund-raising activities that will culturally and fundamentally promote the welfare of the student and enhance their overall learning experience. The information contained in this newsletter is provided by Hamilton Elementary PTO for informational purposes. We reserve the right to refuse or edit any submissions. Our website is updated continually.