



## COMING UP!

SONIC SPIRIT  
NIGHT,  
THURSDAY  
12/15

MONDAY &  
TUESDAY,  
12/19 & 12/20,  
HOLIDAY  
PARTIES

WINTER  
BREAK,  
WEDNESDAY,  
12/21/11-  
TUESDAY  
1/3/2012

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## President's Message

By Holly Garcia, PTO President

As we prepare for the holiday season and get ready for a new year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you- our Hamilton parents, grandparents, guardians, and community members - for all you do. As a global volunteer, I have been to other elementary schools over the past few years, and every time, I walk away with a renewed sense of how wonderful our Hamilton volunteers are, and how grateful I am that we have such a large volunteer base. Our children are very fortunate. Have a blessed holiday season and Happy 2012.

## Classroom Parties

You should have received information regarding the holiday classroom parties from your homeroom parent. There are many ways in which you can help in making this a fun time for your children. If you have any questions, please contact your homeroom parent. Here is the party schedule:

Monday, December 19<sup>th</sup> (PPCD, Kinder, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>), 2:30-3:15pm

Tuesday, December 20<sup>th</sup> (Life Skills, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup>), 2:30-3:15pm



## Be Santa for a Day!

We need a few "sleighs" to help deliver the adopt-a-family gift donations from our homerooms to Holbrook Elementary in the morning on **Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup>**. If you are able to help, please contact Norma at [sisterschool@hamiltonelementarypto.com](mailto:sisterschool@hamiltonelementarypto.com).

## Silly String Event this Week!

All students who sold 20 or more items from our Delicious Delights fundraiser in the fall will get to participate in the Silly String Event on Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup>. Get ready to have some fun!

## 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](mailto:president@hamiltonelementarypto.com).

## Eat Cypress Cards

You should have received a free EatCypress Card in your child's backpack two weeks ago. Please be sure to activate your card on [www.EatLocalRewards.com](http://www.EatLocalRewards.com). Shop at participating merchants who will swipe your card or scan the QR code 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 our NEW Hamilton PTO 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 coming school year a great one!



### Thank You

Thank you to all our principal pals volunteers who helped with lunch/recess duty over the last two weeks!

Thanks to all our homeroom moms, homeroom helpers and grade-level coordinators who are busy preparing for the holiday parties!

Thank you to party coordinator Kristie New for organizing the holiday parties!

### Did You Know?

For easy access to your child's teacher's website, go to the Hamilton Elementary PTO site!

[www.hamiltonelementarypto.com](http://www.hamiltonelementarypto.com)

[Follow this link to find out what is going on your child's classroom!](#)



## Volunteer at our Sister School

Holbrook Elementary School needs volunteers to help on a regular basis in their library on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. and/or from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Their librarian will take any time within these ranges that you can help, so if you work in the W. Tidwell and 290 area, and can take a longer lunch once in awhile, this would be a great global opportunity.

Please contact Ms. Mahlmann at [brenda.mahlmann@cfisd.net](mailto:brenda.mahlmann@cfisd.net) for more information. If you have any questions about sister school activities, please contact Norma at [sisterschool@hamiltonelementarypto.com](mailto:sisterschool@hamiltonelementarypto.com).

*No one is more cherished in this world than someone who  
lightens the burden of another.  
~Author Unknown*

## Go Animal with the 2nd Graders!

Several 2<sup>nd</sup> grade science demo trainings are coming up in January! Don't miss out on this fun volunteer opportunity! You don't have to be a science expert to teach the kids about these interesting topics. The Science Resource Center will provide all the training you need. Several trained volunteers are needed to handle the animals, but no training is required to help with the slide show /notes or with the kids. The training dates and demos are:

Insects Demo:

Training - 01/20, 9:30am - 12:30pm OR 1:00-4:00pm at the SRC  
Approximate demo date - February 2012

Body Coverings Demo:

Training - 01/27, 9:30am-12:30pm at the SRC  
Approximate demo date - February 2012

Reptiles Demo:

January 23rd



## Junior Achievement

All of the JA dates have been posted in PTO Manager and e-mails have been sent out to all volunteers registered in PTO Manager. Please reply to these e-mails so we can confirm volunteers for each homeroom class. We are still in need of volunteers. We will be contacting the homeroom parents to assist in securing a volunteer. This is a great program and can be taught with another parent. The lesson is already laid out for you, and all materials are provided. For more information, contact Anya at [jrachievement@hamiltonelementarypto.com](mailto:jrachievement@hamiltonelementarypto.com).

## Attention 5th Grade Parents!

# We need your 5<sup>th</sup> grade baby photos!

(Age 3 months to one year old works best)

Every year at Hamilton Elementary, the PTO publishes a 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Memory Book as a gift for the 5<sup>th</sup> grade students to celebrate their last year of elementary school. (This is separate from the school yearbook.) A committee of volunteers takes photos all year, then prepares the book for printing. We also include baby photos of all 5<sup>th</sup> graders. It's a great project, but we need MANY photos to make this book a success. We need your help on the first step....

**Send a baby picture of your 5<sup>th</sup> grader "attention PTO Memory Book" to school.** Be sure to write your child's name on the back of the picture. (Photos will not be returned.) OR,

DIGITAL IMAGES ARE EASIEST! Scan & email the baby photo to Lisa at [memorybook@hamiltonelementarypto.com](mailto:memorybook@hamiltonelementarypto.com).

Thank you for your help in making this a special gift to our 5<sup>th</sup> graders. Please contact Lisa at [memorybook@hamiltonelementarypto.com](mailto:memorybook@hamiltonelementarypto.com) if you have any questions.

## 5th Grade Day T-Shirts!

Order your child's 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Day t-shirt now! 5th grade students will wear these shirts the rest of the year on Spirit Day Fridays, group photos for the yearbook and the memory book, on 5th Grade Day, and more! Let your 5<sup>th</sup> grader show his/her 5<sup>th</sup> grade pride with a uniquely designed shirt just for the class of 2019!

Forms will go home stapled to your child's conduct card. This form is also attached to this edition of the PTO Pulse and may be printed and turned in to your child's teacher. *Exact change only. No change will be given, and any overage will be considered a donation to 5th Grade Day.* **All orders are due by December 16th!**



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IT'S TIME TO ORDER YOUR CHILD'S HAMILTON ELEMENTARY

5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE DAY T-SHIRTS

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Featuring the theme of this year's 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Day

**"MINUTE TO WIN IT"**

*Plus, the name of every 5<sup>th</sup> Grader will be listed on the back of the T-shirt!*



- YOU WILL ONLY HAVE THIS ONE OPPORTUNITY TO ORDER YOUR CHILD T-SHIRTS SO THEY CAN WEAR IT THE REST OF THE SCHOOL YEAR AND ON 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE DAY.
- **ORDER FORMS ARE DUE: DECEMBER 16**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

HOMEROOM TEACHER: \_\_\_\_\_

SIZE	PRICE	QUANTITY	TOTAL
Youth Small	\$ 12.00		
Youth Medium	\$ 12.00		
Youth Large	\$ 12.00		
Youth X-Large	\$ 12.00		
Adult Small	\$ 12.00		
Adult Medium	\$ 12.00		
Adult Large	\$ 12.00		
Adult 2XL	\$ 14.00		
Adult 3XL	\$ 14.00		
ORDER TOTAL:			\$

**EXACT CASH ONLY PLEASE! NO CHANGE WILL BE RETURNED. ANY OVERAGE WILL BE DONATED TO 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE DAY.**

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Please turn in the order form to your homeroom teacher.

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# 2012 Family Fun Fest

Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2012  
3-7pm, CFISD Exhibit Center

**First Volunteer Meeting: January 17th**

**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 Cindy Schluter at [majorfundraising@hamiltonelementarypto.com](mailto:majorfundraising@hamiltonelementarypto.com) or the committee heads listed below!

## Fun Fest Teams

1) Volunteer Coordinator **(NEEDED!)** – Coordinate, schedule and work with teams to secure adequate volunteers and proper placement.

2) KidZone – **Jennifer Muse** - Work with KidZone coordinator on design and activity selections and day of event set-up and tear-down. If interested in being a part of this team, contact Jennifer at [kidzone@hamiltonelementarypto.com](mailto:kidzone@hamiltonelementarypto.com).

3) Teacher Auction – **(NEEDED!)** Work with teachers on auction item selection, populate auction sheets and set up auction area on day of event.

4) Silent Auction – **(NEEDED!)** Document donations, set up auction display boards, coordinate auction finalization.

5) Basket Auction – **(NEEDED!)** Work with homeroom moms on basket guidelines, coordinate basket collection at school, organize early display of baskets, and supervise auction on day of event.

6) Food & Beverage Team – **Cherie Lynch** - Work with Food and Beverage coordinator, volunteer time to cook at event, help with concession set-up, and volunteer day of event. If interested in being a part of this team, contact Cherie at [foodandbeverage@hamiltonelementarypto.com](mailto:foodandbeverage@hamiltonelementarypto.com).

7) Fundraising – **(NEEDED!)** Work with fundraising coordinator on paw donation collection and display, and/or solicit donations via e-mail & personal contact.

8) Checkout – **(NEEDED!)** Design efficient checkout process and coordinate and facilitate check out. Assist with actual checkout on day of event.

9) Photography – **(NEEDED!)** Capture festivities for yearbook according to school photography guide lines.

Thank you for considering an area to volunteer!





Please join us this **Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup>** for Spirit Night!

PTO will be on site, so come out for a stress-free meal or treat!

In addition to the fun, we will be selling \$5 Community Cards that Sonic has graciously provided us. Filled with valuable Sonic discounts, they make great stocking stuffers! This month, in the spirit of giving, we have decided to donate 100% of the money raised from the sale of the Community Cards to our sister school Holbrook Elementary to help out with their holiday party expenses. We hope to see you there!

## VIPS “Blips”

If there is a volunteer you would like to see recognized in our Volunteer Spotlight or VIPS Blip, please e-mail Holly at [president@hamiltonelementarypto.com](mailto: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](http://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](http://www.hamiltonelementarypto.com) or contact president Holly Garcia directly at [president@hamiltonelementarypto.com](mailto: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.