

The Mount Airy Parr's Ridge PTA

Your "Guide MAP" to what is happening in our two schools!



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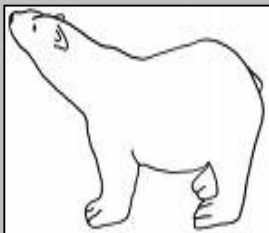
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President's Corner

Happy New Year to our MAES and Parr's Ridge families. After an extended winter break due to snow, we are excited to get back in the swing of things! We ended 2009 with our annual holiday shop and dinner auction. Thank you to all of our families who participated as guests, volunteers and/or donors at this year's dinner auction. At this time, it appears we have made over \$16,000 in profit for our two schools! Our activities, programs and initiatives cannot happen without you and this is a wonderful example of continuous support you provide.

Our first PTA general meeting is just around the corner on January 20th at Parr's Ridge at 7pm and we are pleased to have Mr. Michael Scalzi as our guest speaker. He is the Behavior Support Specialist for Carroll County Public Schools and will be presenting "Managing Anxiety at School for Children and Parents". We are thrilled to have him and hope you'll join us.

Have a wonderful January and stay warm!

Lee Piccolo

Yearbook Reminder

Information has been sent home to order the 2009 -2010 Parr's/MAES yearbook. Orders must be turned in by January 15th. Once again, the yearbook will encompass both Parr's and MAES students. Cost per yearbook is \$17.00 each.

These books are a keepsake that of the memories our children will have of their early school years.

Volunteer Training

It's time to get your volunteer training certification before the school year ends. Our next training session is **Wednesday, January 20th, 6:00pm at Parr's Ridge.**

Mark Your Calendars!

January 2010

- 12** PTA Executive Board Meeting – PARRS (8:45AM)
- 18** Schools Closed – Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday
- 20** PTA General Meeting – PARRS (7:00 PM)
- Volunteer Training – PARRS (6:00 PM)**
- 25** Schools Closed – Professional Development Day for Teachers

February 2010

- 9** PTA Executive Board Meeting – MAES (8:45AM)
- 15** Schools Closed – President's Day
- 16** Schools Closed – Professional Development Day for Teachers
- 19** Bingo Night for PARRS/MAES Families – PARRS (6:30PM)

Kudo's Corner -

Many thanks to **Julie Sadler** and her many volunteers who helped make this year's HOLIDAY SHOP a success!

Many thanks to **Rita Misra** for her monthly updates from the Carroll County Board of Education!

Many thanks to **Terri Warehime and Sue Askeland** for managing our monthly Reading Incentive Program!

**Help Wanted!!!****Bingo Night (PARRS)**

Volunteers are needed to assist with the fun family event that sells out every year.

Donuts with Dad (MAES)

A Chair is needed for this Spring 2010 event

Market Day

Volunteers are needed to assist monthly with distribution.

If you are interested in helping a committee, please contact Susie Paschal at 301-831-7376 or sfpaschal@comcast.net.

Legislative News

Carroll County Board of Education prepares two budget requests each year: Capital and Operating. The Capital budget funds school construction and renovation (the 2011 Capital budget request was approved by the BOE on Sept 23). The Operating budget funds staffing, classroom resources, transportation, facility maintenance, etc. (approved by the BOE in Feb). Check these out at <http://www.carrollk12.org> After BOE approval, the budget requests are sent to State agencies, and then County Commissioners for final approval. Since funding is limited attending key meetings and writing to your representatives is critical in making sure improvements to our schools get done!

Email the BOE: ciecker@k12.carr.org, clfoley@k12.carr.org, gwbauer@k12.carr.org, bjshree@k12.carr.org, pwgadbe@k12.carr.org, jaseide@k12.carr.org; and copy the County Commissioners: jgouge@ccg.carr.org; dminnich@ccg.carr.org; mzimmer@ccg.carr.org

Next BOE meetings: Wed. Jan 13 and 27, 5PM, at 125 N. Court St., Westminster. Broadcasts on Cable TV Channel 21, meeting agendas at: <http://www.boarddocs.com/mabe/ccps/Board.nsf/Public?OpenFrameSet>
The proposed FY11 Operating Budget will be presented to the BOE Jan 13th. Public Hearings will be held at 6PM on Jan 27th at 125 N Court St. in Westminster, and at 7PM on Tues. Feb. 9th at Manchester Valley HS, Manchester.

For more information contact Rita Misra: misraspaurs@gmail.com or Lee Ann Leshko-Lindsay: leannleshko@lindsay.us

09-10 Yearbook Cover Art Contest

The Yearbook Committee had a record number of entries from the 2nd and 5th graders for the Cover Contest this year.

Congratulations to Ben Buckman from Parr's Ridge and Victoria Cole from Mount Airy Elementary. Their first place entries will serve as the covers of the 2009-2010 yearbook!

Second and third place went to Katie Berry and Kyle Dizon at MAES and Paige Abbott and Delaney Gass at Parr's.

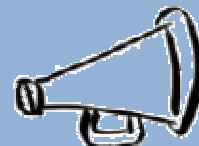
Thank you to all who participated.

Reminder: Friday's are "School Spirit Days"

Just a reminder that Friday's are "School Spirit Day's" at both Parr's and MAES. Students can dress in their spirit wear or clothes reflective of their school colors in an effort to show their Polar Bear or Cardinal PRIDE.

We look forward to celebrating our schools each week with this fun tradition!

Friday's just got a little easier to dress our kids for school!



Mt. Airy Music Education Awareness Night

Q: What do these successful people have in common?

*John Quincy Adams, Mahatma Gandhi, Thomas Jefferson, Neil Armstrong,
Alexander Graham Bell, Thomas Edison, and Charles Dickens*

A: They all grew up playing a musical instrument !

Research Shows that preschoolers who had 8 months of keyboard lessons had an average of 46% improvement in their spatial IQ, and students who had studied music at least 4 years scored an average of 59 points higher on verbal and 44 points higher on math scores when taking the SATs!

Music Education is IMPORTANT, REWARDING, and FUN!

Students, Parents, Teachers, and other members of the community are encouraged to join our own school music directors and **SPECIAL GUEST Dan Trahey of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra** to learn about the benefits of having strong instrumental music programs in our schools! Representatives of regional music organizations will also be on hand to provide information on extracurricular opportunities for our children

***Please Join us at Parr's Ridge Elem School
(202 Watersville Rd.) on January 13th at 7PM.
Refreshments will be provided!***

Whether you're a student interested in playing an instrument, or a parent who would like to encourage your child to take up music, this promises to be an informative and enjoyable evening.

This event is sponsored by the MAES/Parris Ridge PTA & endorsed by the MAMS PTSO and SCHS Instrumental Music Boosters