



PTA Roar

Parkwood Elementary PTA Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 8, November 2011

Next issue: January 16, 2012
Submissions due on 12/31/11 to mmohrlok@hotmail.com

SAVE THE DATE:

PTA Board Meetings
Nov 15 + Dec 20
7 pm, Parent Center
Open to ALL
Parkwood parents & teachers

You are Invited!

&
**Reflections Art
Contest Recognition
Ceremony**
&

**Monday
Nov. 14, 6 pm**
Parkwood Resource
Room

Join us in
celebrating our
Parkwood artists
and their works!

**Light Snacks will be
served.**

It is time for parents to teach young people early on that in diversity there is beauty and there is strength.

~ Maya Angelou

PTA Reflections: *Diversity Means....*

In its more than 40-year history, the national Reflections program, sponsored by local, state, and national PTAs, has encouraged millions of students across the nation and in American schools overseas to explore their artistic talents. The program offers students the opportunity to create works of art for fun and recognition.

Each year, students in preschool through grade 12 are encouraged to submit works of art in six arts areas:

Dance choreography / Film production / Literature / Musical composition / Photography / Visual arts

Several Parkwood students have participated in this year's Reflections program themed, "Diversity Means..." The PTA will be hosting a **Recognition**

Ceremony on Monday, 11/14 to honor and acknowledge all participants. Please join us!

If you are wishing you'd had more time to develop your piece, **next year's theme has already been announced: "The magic of a moment..."** So go ahead and get started. We can't wait to see what you come up with!



Diversity Means: Parkwood!

National PTA is looking for a theme for the 2013-2014 Reflections Program year.

The student who submits the winning entry will receive a \$100 cash award and his or her theme will be presented at the National PTA Convention. Submissions are due by 12/15/2011. Check out the National PTA website for information and a submission form: www.ptareflections.org/cs/theme_search.

~ Michelle Manis, Parkwood Reflections Coordinator, manisfam@mac.com

Annual Holiday Food Drive—Shop The Sales!

★ It's never too early to begin collecting items for the District PTA's Annual Holiday Food Drive (Dec. 5-16, 2011) to help families in need.

Each school is asked to target a special item. **Parkwood's item is Stuffing and we hope to collect 250 boxes.**

In addition, these are the most request-

ed items: peanut butter, pasta, canned beans, condiments, hot & cold cereal, canned fruit, canned tomato products, granola bars.

Shop the sales and stay tuned for more information!

For questions, contact *Jill Heiney-Smith* at jillheineysmith@comcast.net.

The WORKS— Clothing Assistance to Shoreline School District Families

The Shoreline PTA Council partners with local PTA units in Shoreline and Lake Forest Park to provide clothing assistance to Shoreline School District families through The WORKS.

Families experiencing economic hardship have the opportunity to shop for free gently used clothes and new underwear, socks and hygiene products.

The WORKS is open every

Wednesday evening from 6:30-8:00 pm and is located at North City Elementary School, 816 NE 190th ST.

For more information, please visit The WORKS or contact Parkwood Family Advocate Mary Servais.

Donations are accepted every Wednesday evening from 6:00-8:30 pm. To arrange a pick up or alternate drop off please call (206) 393-4616.

Parkwood Autumn Fundraiser A Success!

Thank you all for participating in our fall catalogue fundraiser.

We are happy to report that we raised a total of over \$3,000.

With your support we can grant teacher and library grants, provide after school programs and scholarships, and host valuable community building events at Parkwood like the Back to School BBQ, Talent Show and more!



Easy Way to Support Parkwood PTA: Bartell's B Caring Card!

It's easy to sign up at Bartell's for your B Caring Card and have a percentage of your purchases donated to Parkwood PTA. When you shop at Bartell's just ask to sign up and they'll give you a form. Fill out your name and address and check the box next to Parkwood PTA on the back of the form. Yes, we are on the list! Then buy stuff! Doesn't cost you anything and Parkwood PTA gets up to 4%. It's almost too easy. . . Thank You, Bartell's!



Monday Morning Mingler @ Parkwood!

Start the week with a warm coffee and a sweet treat after dropping of your kid(s)! And best of all: meet and mingle with other Parkwood Parents right in the Parkwood school lobby. Look forward to seeing you there...

PTA President's Corner

Thank you to everyone who has joined the PTA! Membership does not require that you volunteer for the PTA (although we would love it!) but it provides the support we need to be a nonprofit organization, as well as for the activities we try to organize. There is still time to join if that PTA envelope got lost in the beginning of the year shuffle! The fundraiser was also a big success this year. Your support will help the PTA provide classroom grants, after school programs and a variety of other programs that benefit our children. The Family Involvement Network gathered in late October and

we will keep you updated with our ideas and goals for more parent involvement throughout the year. Keep your eyes open for Heritage Night coming up after the December break, it should be a fun event. Thank you again for all you do for our children at Parkwood!

~ Natalie Lecher
natalie.lecher@gmail.com

Follow us on Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/parkwoodpta>



Not a PTA Member yet?

Being a member doesn't require you to attend regular meetings or volunteer on committees. It does show your support for the community at Parkwood. And PTA isn't just for parents! Grandparents, aunts, uncles, neighbors are all welcome to join.

Membership envelopes are available at the office.

Questions?
Please contact Stephanie Korn at slkorn@hotmail.com.

What Kids Need to Succeed: 40 Developmental Assets®

Whether they're your own children, your students, or members of your community, all kids need some of the same things.

Search Institute® has identified building blocks of healthy development—known as Developmental Assets—that, if developed, help young children grow up healthy, caring, and responsible.

Following are some of the Developmental Assets for children in grades K-3 (age 5-9). If you'd like to see the entire asset list or the lists for other age groups, you can find them at www.search-institute.org.

EXTERNAL ASSETS

SUPPORT

Family Support | Family continues to be a consistent provider of love and support for the child's unique physical and emotional needs.

Caring School Climate | Child experiences warm, welcoming relationships with teachers, caregivers, and peers at school.

Parent Involvement in Schooling | Parent(s) talk about the importance of education and are actively involved in the child's school success.

EMPOWERMENT

Community Values Children | Children are welcomed and included throughout community life.

Children as Resources | Child contributes to family decisions and has opportunities to participate in positive community events.

BOUNDARIES AND EXPECTATIONS

Family Boundaries | The family

maintains supervision of the child, has reasonable guidelines for behavior, and always knows where the child is.

School Boundaries | Schools have clear, consistent rules and consequences and use a positive approach to discipline.

Positive Peer Influence | Parent(s) monitor the child's friends and encourage spending time with those who set good examples.



High Expectations | Parent(s), teachers, and other influential adults encourage the child to do her or his best in all tasks and celebrate their successes.

CONSTRUCTIVE USE OF TIME

Creative Activities | Child participates weekly in music, dance, or other form of artistic expression outside of school.

Child Programs | Child participates weekly in at least one sport, club, or organization within the school or community.

Time at Home | Child spends time at home playing and doing positive activities with the family.

INTERNAL ASSETS

COMMITMENT TO LEARNING

Achievement Motivation | Child is encouraged to remain curious and demonstrates an interest in doing well

at school.

Learning Engagement | Child is enthused about learning and enjoys going to school.

Bonding to School | Child is encouraged to have and feels a sense of belonging at school

Reading for Pleasure | Child listens to and/or reads books outside of school daily.

POSITIVE VALUES

Equality and Social Justice | Parent(s) encourage child to be concerned about rules and being fair to everyone.

Integrity | Parent(s) help child develop her or his own sense of right and wrong behavior.

Honesty | Parent(s) encourage child's development in recognizing and telling the truth

SOCIAL COMPETENCIES

Planning and Decision Making | Parent(s) help child think through and plan school and play activities.

Cultural Competence | Child continues to learn about her or his own cultural identity and is encouraged to interact positively with children of different racial, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds.

Peaceful Conflict Resolution | Child continues learning to resolve conflicts without hitting, throwing a tantrum, or using hurtful language.

POSITIVE IDENTITY

Self-Esteem | Child likes herself or himself and feels valued by others.

~ Compiled by Marion Mohrlök

Parkwood Kudos

THANK YOU to everyone who helped with the PTA Autumn Catalogue Sales Fundraiser and special thanks to:

Lisa Hayes for once again organizing the entire effort; **Principal Laura Ploudre** for hosting a special fundraising assembly; **Lisa Donnell and RoseAnn McLaughlin** for collecting envelopes, making announcements and answering parent questions; **KaLyn Burmeister** for counting and processing money; **Susan Lovelace** for delivering catalogs and helping with the display case; and **Heather Fox** for depositing the raised money. Thanks to **everyone who gave donations, bought and sold stuff.**



Thank you to Parkwood Parent **Michelle Manis**, who stepped up to organize the Reflections Art contest! Way to Go!



Thank you to **Doug Manis** for creating a Parkwood PTA Twitter Account and for his tireless work on our website www.parkwoodpta.org.

Printing of this newsletter is generously donated by **Evergreen Print Group**
 1480 NW 70th St
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 Thank you, Mr. Parks!

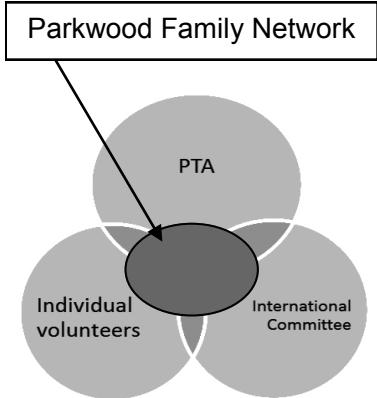
Parkwood Family Network

In the past couple of months we have had some planning discussions among various Parkwood parents and staff, with a focus on building new ways for more parents and families to share ideas and be connected and involved in our school community.

In our October 25 meeting, many parents met to further define and develop a vision of a Parkwood Family Network—combining the efforts of the PTA, the International Committee and the many parents who are volunteering in the class rooms or throughout the school.

If you are interested in helping the following ideas come to fruition, please contact the people below:

- Orientation process for new families @ Parkwood
 Natalie Lecher, natalie.lecher@gmail.com
- Classroom Networks
 Marion Mohrlök, mmohrlök@hotmail.com
- Expanding after-school programs
 Susan Lovelace, teachingenglish@comcast.net
- Heritage Festival/ education programs about different cultures
 Mary Servais, mary.servais@shorelineschools.org, Elena Harrington, elenacem@yahoo.com & Lana Seikaly, lanaseikaly@gmail.com.



Besides working on these concrete things, we will continue the process of forming and strengthening our family network and will keep you posted.

If you have more questions about the Parkwood Family Network, please contact principal Laura Ploudre, or PTA president Natalie Lecher.



Diversity Means...

Diversity in the world is a basic characteristic of human society, and also the key condition for a lively and dynamic world as we see today. ~ *Jinato Hu*

If we cannot now end our differences, at least we can help make the world safe for diversity. ~ *John F. Kennedy*