

Carol Planitzer

From: McMurray Elementary School PTA [mcmurraystar@verizon.net]
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To: cplanitzer@comcast.net
Subject: September/October McMurray PTA Newsletter

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The McMurray Star

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Carol Planitzer, 2nd VP
Sherie Lammers, 3rd VP
Christine Belfiore, 4th VP
Nan Cambell, Treasurer

September/October 2010 PTA Newsletter

A Note from the PTA President

by Lisa Briegel

As always, it's been a busy start to the school year here at McMurray Elementary. First Day Welcome Packets were assembled, then reassembled, and sent home with students. We've had New Student Orientation, Walk-Thru Night, McMurray Kick-off, our first PTA meeting, Picture Day, Registration Night for After School Happenings and Dance, the Book Fair, and Open House. The Brunches with the Principal are right around the corner in October. It has truly been a whirlwind, and it's not over yet as the PTA Board and Committee Chairs are hard at work preparing for events throughout the rest of the school year.

Forms went out and forms have been pouring back in. Chairs from the Volunteer, Book Fair, Library, and Open House Committees have been sorting through many of those forms. They are setting up volunteer schedules, trying to involve as many parents as possible. There has been a tremendous response to our membership and donation requests. For the very first time, there was a line stretching all the way into the lobby for After School Happenings. Frankly, I'm overwhelmed by the enthusiasm for all these PTA programs shown by McMurray families!

It is my hope that the McMurray PTA will help build the connection between home and school for both parents and students. Even though our children are older and approaching that middle-school transition, they still

Jodi Hannah, Asst. Treasurer
Rochelle Saxon, Secretary

Upcoming PTA meetings :
October 12
November 9

Thanks to Gina Wells and Sharon Kolesar for scheduling the classes and organizing our students for Student Picture Day!

Thank you.....

to our membership chairperson, **Mary Ulan**, for her hard work organizing our PTA membership dues and list.

Thank you.....

to Volunteer Coordinators **Cindy Bieda, Lesli Bucher** and **Amy D'Orazio** who have been working hard to organize our PTA volunteers.

Committee chair people may contact our volunteer coordinators for lists of volunteers for specific events and programs.

Thank you.....

to **Minna Allison** for planning the terrific school assemblies for our children!

Spirit Wear

Orders are due
Friday, September 24.
See samples and place
your order at Open House!

School Spirit Days...

value our involvement in school (though they may not always show it!). It is our way of demonstrating to them that we value education and they should too. Please continue to show your support to the school and to the McMurray PTA. At any point during the year, not just the beginning, we welcome new memberships or offers to volunteer. I hope to see you soon!

McMurray Elementary School

Open House---Update!

Wednesday, September 22, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Open House for Grades 4 & 5th grade
(Teachers would include all 5th grade, Mrs. Fox-O'Kelly, Mrs. Barry, Mrs. Schinosi, Mrs. Callaghan, Mr. Owen, Mrs. Zuccarini, Mrs. Riberich & Mrs. DeSalvo.)

Teacher presentations will begin at 6:45 PM for 4th grade and 7:00 PM for 5th grade in your child's homeroom.

Thursday, September 23, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Open House for Grades 4 & 6th grade
(Teachers would include all 6th grade, Mr. Lovett, Mrs. MacKay, Mrs. Crocker, Mrs. Vance, Ms. Barth & Mrs. Wermlinger.)

Teacher presentations will begin at 6:45 PM for 4th grade and 7:00 PM for 6th grade in your child's homeroom.

Be sure to stop by the Multi-Purpose Room for refreshments and information!

Thank you to our Open House Chair Person, Jennifer Gaudlip, for organizing refreshments and volunteers!

Meet Our Principals

4th Grade Brunch with the Principals

Friday, October 8

If you plan to attend, Please RSVP to **Mollie Breier**

5th Grade Brunch with the Principals

Friday, October 15

If you plan to attend, Please RSVP to **Margaret Rauscher**

Friday, September 24
Friday, October 22
Friday, November 19

Wear Red and White to
qualify for prize drawings
at lunch time.

A **BIG** thanks to Debbie Healey
Langley and all who volunteered
at the New Student Orientation
this August!

Abitibi Paper Recycling

Drop off paper trash
anytime!

This recycling project
benefits PTA sponsored
programs for our children.

Save your....

Box Tops!

You can get 70 bonus Box
Tops at Giant Eagle when
you purchase any 12 products
that feature Box Tops in a
single transaction using your
Giant Eagle Advantage Card.
The bonus Box Tops will
print at the register.

Offer is good
through September 30.

Send in Box Tops with your
child...put student name and
room number on bag or

6th Grade Brunch with the Principals Friday, October 22

If you plan to attend, Please RSVP to [Gina Wells](#)

All brunches will be held in the
McMurray LGI at 10:30 a.m.

Refreshments will be provided by our PTA.

PTA Reflections Contest 2010-2011

"Together We Can...."

Entry Deadline: November 8

Categories:

Film/Video

Production

Photography

Visual Art

Dance

Choreography

Musical Composition

Literature

Updated 2010-2011 contest guidelines and student entry
forms are available on the [National PTA website](#).

don't forget...

McMurray Elementary Book Fair is this
week....visit the Book Fair during Open
House!

Halloween Parties will be held on
Friday, October 29 from 2 p.m. - 3 p.m.

After School Happenings

Openings still exist in the following after school classes:

collector page.

Open PTA Committee Chair Positions:

Book Fair: 4th grade
parent needed to co-chair

McMurray Day: 4 co-
chairs needed

Hospitality: 1 chair needed
to set up and organize
refreshments for PTA
meetings

For more information or to
volunteer, please contact
[Carol Planitzer](#)

McMurray Kick Off Thank You!

The McMurray PTA would like
to thank all the volunteers that
helped make McMurray Kick-
off a success. Also, thanks to
all the teachers that were able
to attend.

A special thanks to our
chairpersons Tina Beinhauer
and Jamie Sticha. A
HUGE thank you to No Tune
Left Behind. A good time was
had by all!!!

**Market Day
at Pleasant Valley
Elementary School**

Self Defense Workshop
Creative Experiences Holiday Workshop
Fall Pottery Class
Cool Science for Curious Kids

If interested, please contact [Lisa Briegel](#)

After School Dance

(for Bower Hill and McMurray students)

If interested in signing your children up for these Monday
tap, jazz, ballet and pre school tap classes, please
contact Kim Schaeffer at 724-969-4028. The first class
begins Monday, October 4 at McMurray Elementary
School.

New Safety Initiative for PTSD

**Beginning September 13, 2010, all visitors to Peters Township
School District will be required to show photo identification
(driver's license, state issued photo ID, etc.) when entering
any of our schools.**

**This additional level of security allows us to better track visitors
to the buildings and to help to validate the parents and
community members who are entering the building. Visitors will
provide their ID cards to the main office staff and be given a
visitor's pass for their visit. Upon return to the main office to
sign out from the visit, their ID will be returned. Visitors who are
dropping off items in the main office and not entering the main
building will not be required to provide the photo ID. For large
group events within the buildings, parents will be provided with
tickets prior to the event. Safety is a partnership between our
staff members, students, parents and the community. The
District will continue to proactively work to improve the level of
security throughout our schools to protect the students of all
ages who are entrusted to the care of the school district
throughout the day.**

Office Depot

5% Back to Schools Program

School Name: McMurray Elementary School

ID #: 70087063

Market Day is a GREAT & EASY way to make money for the PV PTA, which of course benefits the school! Any questions please contact [Melanie Hutnik](#)

via email or at 724.747.4464. Order forms can be found in the McMurray main office.

Don't forget!! Sept order forms are due in to school by Fri 9/24 or due online by midnight 9/29. Credit cards are accepted as payment online; if you prefer to pay at order pick up, it must be with either cash or check-no credit cards are accepted at time of pick up.

The PV PTA is sharing this information through the McMurray PTA.

Our school will earn credit equal to 5% of your purchases to use for free supplies!

You can credit the school each time you shop at Office Depot. Remember to give our school ID # in store or at www.oficedepot.com or when calling 1-800-GO-DEPOT.

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