

THE ARROWHEAD



Issue 4 Volume 2006-2007

January 2007

The Principal's Pen

by Dr. Mary D. Monsour



The holidays are behind us, and the snow-sparkled landscape unfolds before us as we bundle together to wait out the new season's hibernation. As I look back over the last month, I wonder why I worried so much about finding the perfect gift, cooking the juiciest meal, and ensuring that my house was cleaner than at any other time of the year. Did anyone really notice? For what reason did I put so much emphasis on these material things? What importance do they have on my family's perception of goodwill?

When I look at my own three children, I marvel at their life's paths and am proud that I had a small part in it. And yet I have to remind myself that their ideals were not borne from my shopping expertise; their morals have nothing to do with how well I cooked the Thanksgiving turkey. It was the gift of presence that made the difference in how they turned out. Time is such a gift and one that we deplete easily and carelessly. Too often, it is easier to crowd an already burgeoning schedule with one more outing, one more sport, one more task. It almost takes careful planning not to plan in excess.

As I set my New Year's goals, I am acutely aware of making time for family my first priority. What better gift can I give my children and my grandchildren than an ear for their problems, a heart for their joys, and a smile for their thanks? How better can I spread the true meaning of the holidays, goodwill, than by beginning with my own three children and husband?

The greatest gift one can receive is the gift of one's presence. The greatest gift one can give is time. They cost nothing, are non-returnable, and take no planning. The rewards are immeasurable!

Have a great New Year.

Notes from the President

by Lori Cuervo

Dear Parents,

We're almost half way through the school year. Time goes by so quickly. Many PTA programs have already been completed, and many more are yet to come. Because we are all so busy with work, family, and other activities, I often wonder if I've taken the time to thank the many people who have helped the PTA, and me in particular, throughout the year. Since I will likely not be able to do it personally, let me say "thank you" here.

- Thank you to the PTA Board for handling all the details involved in making our programs run so smoothly.
- Thank you to all the chairpeople who handle all of the little things that go into membership, dances, bulletin boards, spelling bees, newsletters, spiritwear, and all of the other school activities.
- Thank you to all of the parents who generously donate their time, food, and money to support PTA programs.
- Thank you to the teachers and school administrators who work with our children every day.
- And most importantly, thank you to my family for putting up with me.
- Lastly, I'd like to give one big "thank you" to all of the parents who have signed up to receive bulletins, notices, and newsletters via

Silent gratitude isn't much use to anyone.

~G.B. Stern

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**The NEXT MS PTA
Meeting will be
held on
February 20th**



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THANK YOU FROM THE PTA



January 29th TEACHER APPRECIATION Breakfast

The next event in the series of Teacher Appreciation activities will be a breakfast on January 29th.

If you would like to help or contribute to this event please contact:

Lori Cuervo 724-941-1574
or
Carol Aurin 724-348-4714



7 SPRINGS SKI BUS



Catch the Ski Bus Friday, Jan. 26

Here's hoping the cold weather and flakes keep falling.



The next PTMS Ski Bus Trip is scheduled for January 26th (weather permitting). The Bus leaves at 3:15 P.M. and returns around 12:00 A.M. All participants must hold a paid reserved spot.

Questions? Contact Mrs. Hanley at 941-2688 ext 4510 or hanleys@pt-sd.org or pick up a form in the MS office.

STUDENT / FACULTY BASKETBALL GAME

Mark your calendar now for some family fun!

Plan on attending the Student—Faculty Basketball Game on

March 7th at 7:00—9:30 P.M.
in the **PTHS Gymnasium**

Come and cheer for your favorite student or teacher.



VOLUNTEERS WANTED

For the 8th Grade Dance
Contact Robin Golias: 724-942-1989
For the 8th Grade Picnic
Contact Cathy Luzier: 724-942-0788

WHAT'S UP THIS MONTH AT PTMS

January 24

7th Grade Band Concert (Auditorium)

7:30 P.M.—9:00 P.M.

January 25

8th Grade Band Concert (Auditorium)

7:30 P.M.—9:00 P.M.

January 27

Forensic Tournament—Awards Ceremony

8:00 A.M.—3:00 P.M.

January 29

Teacher Appreciation Breakfast

9:00 A.M.

January 31

NAEP Test

Randomly Selected from Grade 8

&

Strings Concert (Auditorium)

7:30 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.

February 2

Jr. High Chorus Performance (Trinity High School)

8:00 A.M.—5:00 P.M.

February 10

PJAS Tournament (W & J College)

7:00 A.M.—3:00 P.M.

February 12

PSSA Writing for Grade 8

8:00 A.M.—3:00 P.M.

February 21

F.L.E.X. Mardi Gras Carnival (Cafeteria)

9:00 A.M.—3:00 P.M.

PSSA TESTING TIME

Required PTSD Testing will begin soon. Just to remind everyone, here are the dates:



February 12-15

8th Grade

PSSA Writing

March 12 - 23

7th and 8th Grade

PSSA Math & Reading

April 23-27

8th Grade

PSSA Science

Children Learn What They Live

Dorothy Law Nolte, Ph. D.

If children live with hostility,
they learn to fight.

If children live with ridicule,
they learn to be shy.

If children live with tolerance,
they learn to be patient.

If children live with encouragement,
they learn confidence.

If children live with praise,
they learn to appreciate.

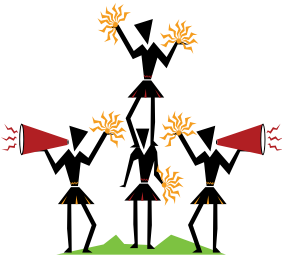
If children live with fairness,
they learn justice.

If children live with security,
they learn faith.

If children live with approval,
they learn to like themselves.

If children live with acceptance, and friendship,
they learn to find love in the world.

CHEERLEADING CLINIC



The Peters Township High School Cheerleaders will host their annual Cheer Clinic for Kindergarten through 8th Grade on Saturday, Feb. 3, 2007 from 12:15 P.M.— 4:00 P.M.

Those attending will learn dance, cheers, stunts and cheer technique, taught by the Peters Township High School Cheerleaders. There will be a performance for all the parents starting at 3:45 p.m. There will also be a 7th and 8th grade special clinic for those interested in trying out for the PTHS Cheerleading Squad. PTHS Cheer tryout is scheduled for May.

Walk ins are welcome the day of the clinic for \$30.00. For more information, please call Jackie Ranalli at 724-348-4756.



SPELLING BEE 2007



Can You Spell That Please??



The 2007 Peters Township Spelling Bee was held Wednesday, January 10, 2007. Among the qualifying participants were 6th grade students from McMurray Elementary and 7th and 8th grade students from Peters Township Middle School. The fifty-two spellers gathered in the LGI at Peters Township Middle School to rise to the challenge of becoming one of the top two spellers in Peters Township.

The first and second place winners will represent Peters Township at the Washington County Spelling Bee to be held February 13, 2007 at the Washington and Jefferson College, Olin Fine Arts Center.

Pictured in the back row from left to right are Mr. Matthew Cheran, Pronouncer, Nick Snyder, 2nd place winner, Dr. Mary Monsour, Assistant Principal of PTMS, Chelsea Chen, 1st place winner and Karen Ellis, PTA Spelling Bee Chairperson, Ms Renee Brown (not pictured) was the Teacher Co-ordinator.

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

email. The PTA has saved a significant amount of money by ending the printed newsletter program. This money is being spent on other items to support our students. In addition, the email program has saved our volunteers countless hours of phone calls to arrange PTA activities. If you know a parent who has not signed up for the email program, please invite them to do so. Share a copy of your newsletter with them, and show them what they are missing by not being on our email list. About half of the families in our school have signed up so far. Wouldn't it be great to be able to contact all families?

Lori

PTSD NEWS



January is School Director Recognition Month.

We thank our school directors for contributing many public service hours to school board duties and responsibilities.

NOTICE

The Peters Township Board of School Directors has set the third Monday of each month at 7:30 P.M. in the District Administration Building as the date/time/place for their regular monthly meetings for the coming year with the following exception: the February meeting will be on Tuesday, February 20, 2007. Anyone needing ADA special arrangements to attend a meeting should contact Cheryl Cawley at 724-941-6251, ext. 7207 prior to the meeting.

SPRING DANCE

Sponsored by PTMS PTA

Date: Friday, March 2, 2007

Time: 8:00 P.M.—10:00 P.M.

Where: The PTMS Gym

Cost of admission:

\$3.00 with student I.D.

\$4.00 without I.D.

This Spring event is filled with dancing, food, refreshments, and tons of fun!

Volunteers are wanted and needed so please contact:

Margo Blasiak

724-942-0993



AWARDS



Congratulations

To the Middle School teachers who received teacher of excellence nominations:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| ☆ Mr. Matt Cheran | ☆ Ms. Nicole Mitchell |
| ☆ Mr. Vaughn Dailey | ☆ Ms. Dee Petricca |
| ☆ Mr. Dave Davies | ☆ Mr. Terry Wagner |
| ☆ Ms. Donna Fox | ☆ Mr. Jayson Zeminski |
| ☆ Ms. Christine Kedzuf | |



And the Award goes to..

PTMS PTA has been recognized by the National PTA with the following awards this year:

- ☆ **Increased Membership**
- ☆ **Enrolling > 50% of the school families**
- ☆ **Enrolling the majority of the teaching staff**

CASHBACK FOR STUDENTS

REMEMBER:



The PTMS PTA is still collecting so don't be a groundhog and hibernate. Clip those General Mills boxtops, and snip those Tyson 1-2-3 tops, and use your Giant Eagle Advantage Card!

Also, remember that Target and Office Depot have special programs if using the Target REDCARD or earmarking your purchases by saying "PTMS."