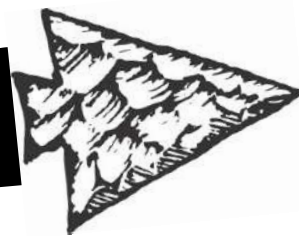


THE ARROWHEAD



Issue 8 Volume 2007-2008

May - June 2008

The Principal's Pen

by Dr. Mary D. Monsour



Summertime brings with it not only a more relaxed pace but also time to read, a favorite pastime of mine. Here are some excellent adult reading books that may enhance your parenting skills, give you food for thought on a personal basis, or just relax you enough to take you "somewhere else" for a few moments of time.

Night by Elie Wiesel. This is one book you will not be able to put down once you start it. From beginning to end, I sat with rapt attention reading the account of one young man as he endured the Holocaust with his father. This book is highly recommended for teenagers in grade 8 but it was one I found to be particularly insightful for adults as well.

The Power of Now by Eckhart Tolle. Though this book was on the Oprah List it is not why I read it. I happened upon it recently while I was traveling and began a conversation with a fellow traveler. Before I boarded, I had already been to the airport's bookstore and had a copy in hand. This is not a book that you will read from cover to cover in one sitting. Instead, it is a great "five-page turner" that you will need time to digest and reflect upon before you can read more.

Eat, Pray, Love by Elizabeth Gilbert made me hungry, thoughtful, and amazed as I read this woman's trek through Italy, India, and Indonesia. Living a life we may all want to explore on some day's of our lives, Gilbert writes in a

Continued on page 3

Notes from the President

by Lori Cuervo

Dear Parents, Teachers, and School Staff:

Since this is the last newsletter of the year, I would like to say "thank you" to the many individuals who have made this a fabulous year for the PTA and hopefully for the students, faculty, and staff. First, thank you to the PTA Board. Each of you worked many hours this year not only to run the PTA but also to volunteer to chaperone dances, bake for Open House, cook for Teacher Appreciation events, and donate many hours of your time to make sure the students and teachers enjoyed the school year. Second, thank you to our committee chairpersons who organized and ran all of the PTA committees. You provided many activities for our students and did so under budget. You should be commended for your efforts. I hope those of you who are staying at the Middle School next year will volunteer to chair your committees again. Third, thank you to the numerous volunteers who donated their time, food, and money. None of those mentioned above could have done it without you; your generosity is very much appreciated. Fourth, thank you to the school staff answered all of our phone calls and cleaned up after each event. And last but not least, thank you to the teachers and administration. You have made our experiences at the Middle School this year very enjoyable.

I have enjoyed serving as PTA President for the last two years. Thank you all for giving me the opportunity to help in some way at the Middle School. Good luck to all of you next year.

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Get involved in your PTA!

Volunteer a little or a lot. Contact Carol Aurin, PTA President 2008-2009 at 724-348-4714 for more info!



This group is working in cooperation with the PTSD to offer these events or programs.

EIGHTH GRADE RECOGNITION ASSEMBLY

The Middle School Faculty and Administration invite you to attend an Eighth Grade Recognition Assembly honoring the future graduating class of 2012.

Wednesday, June 4, 2008

1:00 P.M.

Peters Township Recreation Center

We hope to see you on this special occasion.

Dr. Anthony F. Merante
Principal

Dr. Mary D. Monsour
Assistant Principal

PTMS PTA 2008-2009 OFFICERS

Congratulations to the newly elected PTMS PTA Officers for the 2008-2009 school year. Best of luck during the new school year.

The following individuals were elected at the May 20, 2008 PTA meeting.

President: Carol Aurin

1st Vice President: Sheril Wilson

2nd Vice President: Bethany Frizzell

Treasurer: Jodi Hannah

Secretary: Sarah Lindsay



PTA REMINDERS



Don't forget to sign up for district emails. And make sure you also sign up for building specific emails as sometimes a high school email is sent to those who signed up for high school email and it is not sent district wide!



PT Spirit Wear and PTMS Gym Clothing orders will be taken during the 7th Grade Orientation (August 14th) and the 8th Grade Schedule Pick-up (August 15th). See page 5 if you would like to order Gym Clothing NOW.



WHAT'S UP THIS MONTH AND NEXT MONTH AT PTMS

May 29, 2008

Grade 8 Band Concert

PTMS Auditorium

7:30 P.M.

May 30, 2008

Grade 8 Celebration

PTMS Cafeteria

7:30 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.

June 1, 2008

8th Grade Picnic

Peterswood Park

10:30 A.M.—2:00 P.M.

June 3, 2008

7th Grade Band and 8th Grade Jazz Band Concert

PTMS Auditorium

7:30 P.M.

June 4, 2008

Eighth Grade Recognition

Peters Township Rec Center

1:00 P.M.

June 6, 2008

Last Student Day

June 11, 2008

Report Card Distribution

June 16, 2008

PTSD School Board Mtg

DAO Board Room

7:30 P.M.

June 17, 2008

PTSD Kennywood Day



THE PRINCIPAL'S PEN

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

humorous, down-to-earth manner, putting herself and her issues right out there for everyone to see. The only problem with this book is that I found myself starving for pasta for the first one hundred pages. Hmmm. She certainly touched my life!

Teen-proofing by John Rosemond. If you have teenagers, if you live in a home where the "last word" and who has possession of it is an issue, then this is the book for you. Rosemond is down to earth and uses his common sense to describe how to deal with raising an adolescent. From allowances to curfew to handling the more difficult issues our children face, John Rosemond's ideas are easy to follow and work. I highly recommend this book to all parents of teenagers.

Enjoy and have a wonderful, relaxing summer!



8TH GRADE CELEBRATION

The end of the year is fast approaching, and plans are being made for the Annual 8th Grade Celebration. ALL 8th grade students are invited and encouraged to attend! This is an annual event that celebrates the last days of middle school and the last time to be together as a class! It is not a formal or semiformal but rather a chance for the students to dress up a little and have some last days of middle school fun!



WHEN: Friday, May 30, 2008
WHERE: PT Middle School Cafeteria
TIME: 7:30 P.M. until 10:00 P.M.
TICKET SALES: At the door the night of the dance
ADMISSION: \$6.00 per person

A FEW THINGS TO REMEMBER WHEN PLANNING FOR THE DANCE:

- Pictures will be taken the night of the dance. They will be available at a cost of \$1.00.
- Attire: Girls: NO STRAPLESS OR MIDRIFF Baring /BACKLESS DRESSES (in other words, straps required and NO abdomens or backs showing!) Long gowns are discouraged.
Boys: Ties and jackets are optional: NO t-shirts, jeans or sneakers – Dress shirts, Khakis and dress shoes work well.
- Transportation: NO LIMOS!!!
- If you have any questions call Lorra Brannen @ 724-942-4323 or email her at lorraleee@verizon.net.

Let's make this a memorable and enjoyable event for everyone!

To the PTA readers: Thanks for letting me play with this newsletter during the past two years. This marks my 6th year of doing a PTA Newsletter (started when Alex was in 2nd grade). I am off to high school for the last time, but I am sure our paths will cross again.



Have a wonderful summer!

Gail Varcelotti (gvarcelotti@educationonthego.org)

First Day of
Classes for
2008-2009
School
Year



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR PTHS WELCOME BACK NIGHT

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS FOR WELCOME BACK NIGHT—THURSDAY, AUGUST 21, 2008

Sign up now - we will contact you in August

If you can help, please contact Debbie Meadows at

drmnssig@aol.com and 724-348-6392

Have a fun and safe summer

Some of things we may need help with include:

- Stuffing and mailing "welcome back packets"
- Welcome back night set-up
- Assisting guidance counselors
- Taking up emergency cards
- Serving hot dogs and drinks
- Traffic Control, etc....

PTMS 2008-2009 GYM CLOTHING ORDERING INFORMATION



The Peters Township Middle School requires all 7th and 8th graders to wear standard gym clothing in the physical education classes. The required gym outfit is red shorts, of an appropriate length, and a white t-shirt with the student's name written on the front.



The Peters Township Middle School PTA is offering the service of ordering approved gym clothing as a courtesy for parents. You are free to purchase your own gym clothes from other sources. Please use the order form found on page 5 of this newsletter and make checks payable to PTMS PTA. Orders will also be taken on August 14 during the 7th Grade Orientation and on August 15th during the 8th Grade Schedule Pickup.

The PTA will be offering the gym clothing sale again in November for children who have winter and spring gym classes. If you have any questions, please call Theresa Rhen, PTMS Spiritwear Coordinator, at 724-941-0785.

PTMS PTA REFLECTIONS FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2008-2009

Start thinking of your entry this summer.

THE 2008-2009 THEME is

WOW!

The six entry categories are:

- Dance Choreography
- Film/Video Production
- Literature
- Musical Composition
- Photography
- Visual Arts

Participating in National and Pennsylvania PTA's Reflection Program is an opportunity for students to explore and learn about various art forms. It does not matter whether an entry created for the Reflections Program has been created as a classroom assignment or independently at home.

When children express themselves through words, pictures, music, photography, and other art forms, they grow intellectually. They learn to analyze their thoughts, feelings, and ideas. They learn to look at things, people, and experiences in a fresh and exciting way, and they become more interested in the ideas and works of others. The Reflections Program also helps parents encourage and recognize the continuous self-discovery process of their children.

Young artists participate in the Reflections Program through their local PTA or PTSA. A student may submit an entry in any of the six arts areas listed below. Only original works of art are accepted. Once judged at the local level, the winners go on to the council and/or district judging. Those winners go to the Illinois PTA to receive recognition. The best project each grade level, from each category, will advance to the National PTA level.



CASHBACK FOR STUDENTS: KEEP SAVING AND USING THESE!



Keep saving boxtops and using the Cashback programs during the summer. They keep on earning cash/items back to the Peters Township Middle School all year-round. Our kids benefit from the educational materials and equipment purchased with these rewards.

Please keep up the good work and keep saving and using these programs. **Box Tops for Education, Target: Take Charge of Education, Office Depot "5% Back to Schools" Program & Giant Eagle Apples for Students.**

Peters Twp Middle School PTA Gym Clothing Sale

Pay by check only. Make checks payable to: PTMS PTA. Be sure to include this completed order form.

Place your check and order form in an envelope marked PTA Spiritwear / Gym Clothing.

Please mail your envelope to:

Theresa Rhen 100 Lightholder Dr., McMurray, PA 15317

ORDERS ARE DUE BY JULY 1, 2008

Merchandise will be distributed in August.

Please pick up your order on Aug. 14 @ 7th grade orientation or on Aug. 15 @ 8th grade schedule pick up.

Please make sure to order proper sizes as they cannot be exchanged.

Please address any questions to Theresa Rhen @ 724-941-0795.

This is not a fundraiser. It is strictly a service to the 7th and 8th grade students.

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------|-------------------------|
|  | Girls Softe Authentic Red Shorts, Inseam 3" Junior Sized | | | | | | |
| | XS | S | M | L | XL | Price per | Total |
| Quantity | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | \$7.00 | \$ <input type="text"/> |
|  | Girls Softe Long Red Shorts, white stripe, Inseam 11" Junior Sized | | | | | | |
| | XS | S | M | L | XL | Price per | Total |
| Quantity | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | \$10.00 | \$ <input type="text"/> |
|  | Plain White 50/50 T-Shirt | | | | | | |
| | XS | S | M | L | XL | Price per | Total |
| | Adult Quantity | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | \$4.00 | \$ <input type="text"/> |
| | Youth Quantity | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | \$3.00 | \$ <input type="text"/> |
|  | White 50/50 T-Shirt with Blank Box for Name | | | | | | |
| | XS | S | M | L | XL | Price per | Total |
| | Adult Quantity | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | \$7.00 | \$ <input type="text"/> |
| | Youth Quantity | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | \$6.00 | \$ <input type="text"/> |
|  | Boy's Red Mesh Shorts with Liner. Inseam 7-1/2" | | | | | | |
| | XS | S | M | L | XL | Price per | Total |
| | Adult Quantity | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | \$10.00 | \$ <input type="text"/> |
| | Youth Quantity | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | \$9.00 | \$ <input type="text"/> |
| GRAND TOTAL | | | | | | | \$ <input type="text"/> |

Student Name _____

Phone Number _____

Grade _____

Paid By Check Number _____

Amount \$ _____

Service provided by 3K Enterprises

THIS GROUP IS SHARING THE ATTACHED INFORMATION THROUGH THE PETERS TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT. THE EVENT OR PROGRAM IS NOT INITIATED OR SUPERVISED BY THE DISTRICT.

PTMS CALENDAR 2008-2009 (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

| DATE | EVENT | TIME |
|----------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| August 14 | Grade 7 Student Orientation | 9:00 A.M. – Noon |
| August 14 | New Move In Parents Orientation | 12:30 A.M – 2:30 P.M. |
| August 15 | Grade 8 Student Schedule Pick-Up | 10:30 A.M– 1:00 P.M. |
| August 18, 19 | New Staff Orientation | All Day |
| August 20 – 22 | Faculty In-Service | All Day |
| August 25, 26 | Faculty Clerical | All Day |
| August 27 | First Day Students | All Day |
| September 12 | Student Pictures | Day -Completion |
| September 16 | PTA Meeting | 9:15 A.M |
| September 18 | Open House | 6:30 – 8:30 P.M. |
| October 15 | Take Your Parent To School | 8:00 – 3:00 P.M. |
| October 20 | Parent Advisory | 6:30 – 7:20 P.M. |
| October 21 | PTA Meeting | 9:15 A.M |
| October 24 | Halloween Dance | 8:00 – 10:00 P.M. |
| Oct. 28 - 31 | PTMS Red Ribbon Week | Tues-Thursday Themes |
| November 10 | Parent Conference Day | Noon – 7:30 P.M. |
| November 18 | PTA Meeting | 9:15 A.M |
| December 4 | Chorus Concert | 7:30 P.M. |
| December 5 | Winter Dance | 8:00 – 10:00 P.M. |
| December 19 | Variety Show | DAY |

PTMS CALENDAR 2008-2009 (CONTINUED)

| DATE | EVENT | TIME |
|--------------|--|------------------------|
| January 21 | PTA Meeting | 9:15 A.M. |
| January 14 | Strings Concert | 7:30 P.M. |
| January 28 | Band Concert – Gr. 7 Band Concert – Gr. 8 | 7:00 P.M. 8:00 P.M. |
| February 17 | PTA Meeting & Brunch with the Principal | 9:15 A.M. |
| March 6 | Spring Dance | 8:00 – 10:00 P.M. |
| March 9 – 13 | Middle Level Education Week | Daily |
| March 11 | Student/Faculty BB Game | 7:00 @ PTMS |
| March 16 | Middle School Advisory | 6:30 – 7:20 P.M. |
| March 17 | PTA Meeting | 9:15 A.M. |
| April 1 | Grade 7 Parent Orientation | 6:30 – 8:30 P.M. |
| April 21 | PTA Meeting | 9:15 A.M. |
| May 1 | Grade 7 Celebration | 8:00 – 10:00 P.M. |
| May 19 | PTA Meeting | 9:15 A.M. |
| May 7 | Chorus Concert | 7:30 P.M. |
| May 21 | Strings Concert | 7:30 P.M. |
| May 28 | Grade 8 Band Concert | 7:30 P.M. |
| May 29 | Grade 8 Dance | 7:30 – 10:00 P.M. |
| June 4 | Grade 7 Band Concert & Grade 8 Jazz Band Concert to Follow | 7:30 P.M. |
| June 5 | Grade 8 Picnic | 9:30 A.M. – 1:30 P.M. |
| June 10 | Grade 8 Awards | 9:15 A.M. |
| June 11 | Last Day for Students | |

PSSA: Writing – February 9 - 20**READING/MATH: – March 16 - 27****SCIENCE: April 27 – May 8**

Peters Township School District

Long Range Vision Plan

Committee Member - Area of Interest

The Peters Township School Board invites you to join in creating the PTSD vision for the future. The goal is to have a diverse population of participants to assist us in this visionary process. The Peters Township School Board invites residents of Peters Township, employees of the Peters Township School District and Peters Township business owners to take part. Please fill the "Area of Interest" form found below and return it to the PTSD Administrative offices, 631 East McMurray Road. Please mark the envelope, "Vision Plan".

All forms must be received no later than June 16th.

Additional forms are available at www.ptsd.k12.pa.us, in all school buildings, the Peters Township Public Library, and at the PT Recreation Center.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone # _____

Email address _____

Please mark 1st and 2nd choices:

_____ Buildings Grounds & Transportation

_____ Personnel & Staffing

_____ Community Relations & Communications

_____ Safety

_____ Education

_____ Special Education

_____ Finance

_____ Technology

If you have any questions please contact Julie Ann Sullivan at: sullivanj@pt-sd.org