



# CARNEY ELEMENTARY PTA NEWSLETTER



## A message from the President...

The holidays are upon us already! You can feel the excitement and hear the buzz of activity as soon as you enter the building. The energy level is high. Our students (and teachers) are ready for the well-deserved break. We have worked so hard this year.

The school year started as an explosion of activity and has been going steady ever since. We are so happy that we were able to get a jump start on our planning this year. We accomplished a lot and did it better than before.

The PTA was busy all summer and did not take a vacation. We discussed abundant subjects. We met with the Administrators as well as the faculty and staff to share our plans. They heard us and we heard them. We planned many events and we have been very excited to get to them.

We started with the Welcome Back breakfast and luncheon for the faculty and staff the week before school started. At the end of the week we had Sneak a Peek, the first day of school, volunteer trainings, new family orientations, it was a whirlwind of activity. Thank you to our Hospitality chair, Tricia Roberts, she was very busy feeding everyone and providing a welcoming environment.

Thank you to our Administration, Faculty and Staff for allowing us to contribute our thoughts and ideas and trying to accommodate us and our requests. There are many expectations coming from all directions. We try to help and support as much as we can and it can be hard to accomplish their goals with added requests and responsibilities. All of the flexibility, patience and cooperation is

greatly appreciated. We do aim to work as a team with our faculty to create a consistent home and school environment.

Thank you to all of those that participated in the activities of the school year so far. We hope that you and your families are able to **participate** in some capacity, in many forms, whether it be sending in items for an event, volunteering, allowing your child to take part and especially attendance at the events that have been given so much time, thought and planning.

We look forward to the rest of the school year. Please have a happy and safe holiday. Enjoy the long winter break. See you next year!!!

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**

*C. Michelle Reinhardt*

PTA President

### PTA MEETING DATES

**All meetings are held at 7 p.m. in the  
school Library**

January 13, 2014

**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

February 10, 2014

**BOD MEETING**

March 10, 2014

**BOD MEETING**

April 14, 2014

**BOD MEETING**

May 12, 2014

**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

## PTA Board of Directors

2014-15

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### **CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE**

[www.carneypta.org](http://www.carneypta.org)

### **CONTACT US BY EMAIL**

[info@carneypta.org](mailto:info@carneypta.org)

### **'LIKE' us on FACEBOOK**

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## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

We would like to thank everyone who has joined the PTA. Our strength is in numbers and this year our numbers are a strong 198. Don't forget to activate your membership. The information came with the membership card. There are PTA 'member exclusive' deals that you can use with several retailers.

If you haven't had the opportunity to join the PTA you are still able. Go to our website and download our membership form. We welcome new members through March 31st.

Congratulations to our winners! During the first week of school we drew names from all of the memberships received that day. Each student received spirit wear as a prize. It is a funny coincidence that we had a winner from every grade, with 2 in Kindergarten. We didn't try that :-)

Nathan Stephenson- Kindergarten

Sofia Martsoukos- Kindergarten

Natalie Whitney- Grade 1

Jason Kellerman- Grade 2

Gregory Hoer- Grade 3

Alayna Diamond- Grade 4

Ben Holder- Grade 5

On Back to School night we had a drawing from all of the memberships received up to then. Congratulations to Lisa DiPietro who won a \$25 Visa card. Her son Jackson is in 1st Grade.

Congratulations to Ms. Harrison's class, our first class to reach 100% membership. Our grade level leaders have been working hard to meet or beat their membership goals.

Kindergarten- Avil

First Grade- McGinnity

Second Grade- Wolfe

Third Grade- Oettel

Fourth Grade- West

Fifth Grade- Roach

Thank you to all of our members for your continued support. We look forward to more members 'next year.'

## CONGRATULATIONS!!!!

Councilman David Marks awarded County Council citations to Lynn Stevens and our own Dad's Club chair Ed Heiger for their work on the school beautification project. We are so proud!



## RACE FOR EDUCATION CULMINATION



Thank you to everyone who participated and contributed to the Race for Education!

A HUGE thank you goes to the Race for Education chairperson, Judy Heiger. Doing this event at the start of the school year was a new experience and trying to fit this in the midst of the chaos at the beginning of the year was a difficult undertaking. Judy did a great job.

The race earned the PTA \$10,616.50 to fund our programs and activities. Although we fell short of our goal of \$15,000.00, Mrs. Ward and Mrs. Roemer were good sports and kissed Daisy the Pig in front of the whole school during their assemblies on November 13th.

Congratulations and an extra big THANK YOU to our students that went above and beyond went turning in their labels. Students who turned in the most labels in each grade had lunch with Daisy the Pig, Farmer Minor and the pugs and pick a friend to join them.

Julie Roberts- Pre-K

Ethan Grefe and Aspen Cook- tie in the 2nd grade

Erica Cook- Kindergarten

Hanna Martin, Nyla Dinkins, Harmony Desayou- 3rd grade tie

Jovi Fowler- 1st Grade

Raymond Ferrante- 4th grade

Ethan Smith- CALS

Megan Pfaff- 5th grade

For bringing in the most labels in the school by the deadline, winners received a \$50 Toys R Us gift card. Congratulations to the winners Raymond Ferrante, 4th grade and Megan Pfaff, 5th grade.

And, finally, by random drawing, two students get to have lunch with the staff member of their choice and bring a friend. Congratulations to Hannah Reich of 5th grade and Julia Raynor of 2nd grade.

## PARTY, PARTY FOR SUMMER READING

Slime, snacks, molecules and a Mad Scientist.

"FIZZ, BOOM READ," was the theme for the summer's reading program. In keeping with the Baltimore County Public Library theme, Mrs. Wiles devised a plan.

All students who signed up for the BCPL summer reading program and returned their completed packet received an invitation to participate in this year's party.

The students arrived and were taken to watch our Mad Scientist in action. He was able to perform his crazy experiments for the students while they learned all kinds of whacky stats and stunts and he involved the students in the program.

While students had snacks and a drink they used mini marshmallows to make some molecule diagrams of the chemicals that make up slime.

The big hit was the making of the slime. The students learned how to make real slime with 2 ingredients and some paint. Their creation was to go home with them. It was gross and they loved it!!!

So make sure that when you hear about the summer reading program you sign up and get those books read.









## CARNEY IS GETTING AIR CONDITIONING!!!!



Good news is in. A HUGE thank you goes to our previous Advocacy chairperson, Sherry McCammon. Sherry and her committee made a nuisance of themselves...and with a fantastic payoff. The squeaky wheel gets the grease, right? The advocacy committee worked hard with Councilman David Marks.

In September we received word from David Marks...

Plans call for design work in 2015 with construction in 2016. This HOT school is about to get COOL!



THANKS SHERRY AND DAVID!!!!



## FALL BOOK FAIR

Book fair is always an exciting time at Carney. Thank you to all of you who participate in our book fairs. The excitement from our students from the moment they see the book carts is so encouraging.

The Fall book fair made approximately \$5000. Our family night was very fun and there were many who walked out with some prizes and activities. With the credit that we receive from these purchases we are able to get items for the PTA and for school, especially some of the books that Mrs. Wiles needs for the library.

Our next book fair is in February and our third book fair that is usually held in May is our BOGO sale. As a thank you for your book fair support we love to give back to you. All of the items in May are Buy One Get One Free.

**A break from school doesn't mean a break from books. HAPPY READING!!!!**

## CARNEY'S 1ST FALL FESTIVAL

Our very first Fall Festival was a huge hit. In combination of a request from families to have a family social event in the beginning of the school year and a need for a 5th grade fundraiser, emerges the Fall Festival to benefit this year's 5th grade class.

With this event came the introduction of the first Carney Cake Walk. Thank you to Nicole Glass and her family/committee that was able to run the event for a full 2 hours, making over \$200. Thank you to all of those that donated baked items for the walk. We had a great response that made for a very successful event.

Those in attendance played carnival type games, dressed in costume if they wanted, made some great fall crafts and danced to some popular songs and some Halloween music.

Lots of prizes were won. Thanks for sharing the experience with us. It was a great time!

## COMMUNITY TREE LIGHTING AND SANTA VISIT

Together with the Carney Improvement Association (CIA), the PTA welcomed Santa and Mrs. Claus to Carney Elementary. Following a fabulous Ravens win on Sunday, December 7th, families came together to visit with Santa, have some refreshments and be part of the community. According to members of the CIA this year's event had the highest attendance to date.

Upon entering families donated food items to the needy of the Carney community. Meg O'Hare and her CIA committee will see that the food is distributed to the area food pantries and organizations that will see that our community is fed.

The evening ended with a stroll outside to the front of the school for the tree lighting. The group sang carols and awaited the beaming of light from the Carney tree.

## SO WHAT'S NEXT WITH THE PTA, ACTIVITIES, VOLUNTEERING?

Well, despite the PTA's efforts at trying to increase our continuous communication we are finding that there isn't enough time and man power to do things exactly the way we have wanted. This is our first newsletter in a year and it was very difficult to get this one accomplished. Starting in January we will be joining the school's newsletter with a 'PTA SECTION.' Thank you to everyone who continuously tries their best to get the word out, especially Angela Purdum with Facebook and email, Ed Heiger with the website and a HUGE thanks to Judy Heiger who keeps the sign up to date in rain, sleet, snow and hail. You all do a fantastic job.



### CAN YOU HELP?



We are still trying to enlist the help of classroom and/or grade-level liaisons. This person would help the teachers to communicate and enlist the help of others when needed, whether assistance is needed at home or at school. If you would be interested please email the PTA at [info@carneypta.org](mailto:info@carneypta.org).



### BOX TOPS for EDUCATION IN THE NEW YEAR



Just before the Winter break our box top chairs placed collection boxes in each classroom for the upcoming collection deadline. The deadline is in the spring so upon return from the break we will be collecting the box tops from each container and compiling the results so that the top class in each grade will win a Wii Dance party. Box tops are a great and simple way for us to earn money for our PTA. Thank you to all of you who participate in this great and easy fundraiser.



### SPIRIT NIGHTS

Thank you to everyone that joined us for our school spirit nights at Chick-Fil-A and Chili's. Our night at Chick-Fil-A turned out to be their second highest in their history. However, Chili's we don't feel really good about. We chose Chili's to go along with the Barnes and Nobel night. Although, it seemed packed with Carney families every time anyone was there, they only contribute 10%. It didn't seem like very much for the amount of people that attended.

**ANNOUNCING a SPIRIT NIGHT over Winter Break:** Monday, December 29th from 3-9 SWEET FROG, Perry Hall. You must present the flyer for us to receive credit. There will be prizes, drawings and special guests between 5-7.

# A HAPPY NEW YEAR

## 2015 is going to be a great year!

