

James Franklin Smith PTA Newsletter

September 2008

PTA Calendar

October

- 10th Cherrydale Fundraising Kick Off
- 11th ECEG Celebrity Basketball Game
- 14th Board Meeting (6:15pm)
- 18th Beautification
- 20th Red Ribbon Week
- 24th Cherrydale product sales end

November

- 11th No School, Veteran's Day
- 17th Fall Book Fair begins
- 18th Board Meeting (6:15)
- 19th Conference Day
- 19th Cherrydale product pickup day
- 26th – 28th Thanksgiving Holidays

December

- 12th Celebrate the Holidays Event
- 16th Board Meeting (6:15)
- 17th Barnes & Noble Story Time
(With Mr. Hodgins Master Story Teller)
- 22nd-2nd Winter Break

January

- 13th Board Meeting (6:15)
- 14th General Association Meeting 8:15am
- 19th No School, Martin Luther King Day

February

- 6th Dinner/Auction Event
- 16th-20th No School, President's Break
- 23rd Jump Rope for Heart
- 24th Board Meeting

March

- 17th Board Meeting (6:15)
- 18th General Association Meeting 8:15am
- 27th Multi-Cultural Night
- TBA Spring Book Fair/Open House

April

- 10th-17th No School, Spring Break
- 21st Board Meeting (6:15)
- 22nd General Ass. Meeting 8:15am (Elections)
- 27th Staff Appreciation Week Begins
- 29th Staff Appreciation Luncheon

May

- 12th Board Meeting (6:15)
- 15th Walk-A-Thon and Carnival
- 25th No School, Memorial Day

June

- 9th Last Board Meeting
- 12th Last Day of School

Headline News!

\$28,000 given to JFS teachers for direct classroom support

Each teacher has been given \$35 for each student in their class from the money raised from last year's Walkathon. This money directly affects the quality of your child's education and allows teachers to teach in more creative and enriching ways. These funds pay for copying charges, laminating expenses, ink cartridges, photo paper, classroom science and art supplies, reading circle books, and more. Thank you to all the families who raised these funds last year!

Upcoming Events

ECEG Celebrity Basketball Game

Oct. 11th at Silver Creek High School

Raffle Ticket Sales:

All JFS students received a packet of 10 raffle tickets to sell for the Evergreen Community Education Group's (ECEG) fundraiser. JFS is one of the 19 Evergreen School District schools (and Silver Creek High School) that are participating in a community wide fundraiser for our schools. The money raised will be split among the schools and our goal is for every student to sell their 10 raffle tickets.

Why are we participating when we have our own successful fundraisers? For starters, we are all part of a larger community and school district. Our school is very fortunate to have an active parent base, but there are several other schools without this support. This event provides the other schools with a model of how to fundraise and provides them with much needed funds. Secondly, by participating, JFS parents demonstrate their willingness to listen to the needs of our district and this is noticed at the district office.

Please sell your raffle tickets and send the stubs and cash back into your child's teacher by Oct. 3rd. There are wonderful prizes for the raffle and there will be a student raffle for children who sell at least 10 tickets.

Dinner Ticket /Game Ticket Sales:

This year there will be a dinner prior to the basketball game. You will have your choice of burger, veggie burger, polish dog, or hot dog. In addition, you will get a drink, chips, and an apple. The cost is \$5 in advance, and \$6 at the door. During dinner (4:30-6:00), there will be live entertainment (i.e., Silver Creek choir, hula performance, Taiko drums and appearance by Ronald McDonald 5:30-6:00). Return form by Oct. 3rd to reserve your prepaid meal (will call pick up).

Game ticket sales are ongoing on a first come, first served basis. Please return your flyer with cash attached. If we sell out, your entire order will be returned.

Cherrydale Fundraiser (Oct.10-24)

Students will come home with information about our new fall fundraiser on Oct.10th. There will be many options this year from gift wrap to jewelry to cookie dough! Delivery is expected on Nov. 19th in time for the holiday season.

PTA News & Information

Arts Attack Update

We currently have docents for all classes except the following: Mrs. Hunter, Mrs. Alexander, and Mrs. Swenor. If you would like to volunteer or get more information, please contact Sujana Mukund at sujana_mukund@yahoo.com or Rubina Ahmed at rubinaahmed@yahoo.com

There will be an orientation meeting for all docents and interested people on September 26th at 9:30 am in the MPR.

New JFS PTA Website

Thanks to our wonderful and talented PTA Treasurer, Sharon Bennett, we have an updated website. You can reach this site easily from the JFS school site, www.eesd.org/jfs or directly at www.jfs-pta.org. We will try and update this new website frequently.

James Franklin Smith PTA Newsletter

September 2008

Movie Night: A huge success!

WOW!!! What a great evening! A record crowd turned out to enjoy the first PTA event of the year, Movie Night. We couldn't have asked for better weather. Many enjoyed the movie, "Over the Hedge", on the new movie screen. This much safer and easier to set-up screen was purchased from last year's ECEG Celebrity Basketball Game proceeds. Along with the usual pizza dinner, we also had Lucy's Tamale Factory there selling their delicious tamales. As always, the snacks, popcorn, and glow sticks were the big hits. While Movie Night is not a fundraising event, we actually made some money this year! Thank you to all those who came out and enjoyed the event. We'd also like to thank all the volunteers who helped to make this event a big success, especially Loretta Mosley for chairing this event again.

Membership/Pledge Drive Update

So far we have 192 PTA members and have collected more than **\$17,370** in donations for our pledge drive. We are now well on our way to our goal of \$25,000. Thank you to all the families (as of Sept. 22) who have made donations to our pledge drive:

The Ahmed Family	The Ahn Family
The Ahuja Family	The An Tran Family
The Bennett Family	The Bhagavatha Family
The Black Family	The Brandon Tran Family
The Bui, Amy Family	The Cai Family
The Cao Family	The Castelblanco Family
The Chaney Family	The Chang Family
The Cherniss Family	The Chiu Family
The Jenny Dang Family	The Hieu Dang Family
The Davis Family	The Day Family
The Denny/Casquinha Family	
The Desai Family	The DeVore Family
The Ebreo Family	The Fowler Family
The Gupta Family	The Ha Family
The Hanlon Family	The Hatton Family
The Hidzick Family	The Ho Family
The Hoang Family	The Hsu Family
The Hu Family	The Huong Nguyen Family
The Hussain Family	The James Family
The Jones Family	The Kallel Family
The Kapoor Family	The Kartik Family
The Kasi Family	The Kasturi Family
The Khan Family	The Kim Family
The Lao Family	The Lawson Family
The T. Le Family	The J. Le Family
The L. Le Family	The Lin Family
The Mandalam Family	The Mann Family
The Mathur Family	The McCombs Family
The Millard Family	The Mukund Family
The Naik/Desai Family	The Ngo Family
The M. Nguyen Family	The N. Nguyen Family
The T. Nguyen Family	The Y. Nguyen Family
The Pai Family	The Pham Family
The Piprottar Family	The Beth Pham Family
The Hoang Pham Family	The Quan Family
The Rallapalli Family	The Reddy Family
The Sanghvi Family	The Sanjeevaiah Family
The Sharkawy/Ragab Family	
The Thai Family	The Thich Family
The Thorbecke Family	The Tran Family
The Tran Nguyen Family	The Lan Tran Family
The Trang Family	The Tria Family
The Van Besouw Family	The Walsworth Family
The Weiss Family	The Williams Family
The Yaramada Family	The Yeddula Family

If your name is missing, please contact Tracy at tw69@sbcglobal.net. We will continue to update this list in all PTA communications, so if you would like your name removed contact Tracy.

Key Budget items for 2008-2009

At our first General Association meeting on Sept. 10th, we voted on our budget for the school year. Some of the key items we will be supporting this year include:

- \$28,000 for Direct Classroom Support
- \$20,000 for Technology upgrades
- \$ 5,000 for Library supplies
- \$ 5,000 for Arts Attack supplies
- \$ 2,500 for Assemblies
- \$ 2,000 for PTA Events (Multicultural Night/Winter Festival, etc.)
- \$ 1,800 for Teacher Appreciation
- \$ 1,000 for School Beautification

Measure T: Parcel Tax for ESD

According to the San Jose Mercury News, Measure T would impose a \$90 per parcel tax for five years. It would generate about \$2 million a year to keep smaller class sizes, restore music and arts, provide for campus security, as well as improve science and math. The JFS PTA has voted to support this measure and encourages its membership and the entire Evergreen community to support Measure T. Even if you don't have affected children, these funds will help your neighbors, and your home value. Quality schools produce quality members of society and keep our test scores high. Join us in support of Measure T on Election Day.

Join our Yahoo Group!

Join our Yahoo PTA group - an easy way to stay informed. Follow the easy directions on our new website. You can choose how often you want to receive emails from the group or simply visit and peruse the topics when you want to. Contact Tracy at tw69@sbcglobal.net if you need help!

After School Programs Investigated

JFS parent, Erika Millard, has been investigating several new after school options. She is working with the district on logistics, but hopefully some new choices will be: cheerleading, flag football, yoga, golf, and a new and improved drama program for the spring. All activities will be right after school and will be held at JFS. Fees will be reasonable (\$10 a class or less) and scholarships will be available based on need.

Beautification Day- Oct. 18th

Come join other JFS students and families for a fun day of community service on Saturday, October 18th. At 9:00am, come ready to pull weeds, plant flowers, and make JFS beautiful. Please bring your own gardening tools and gloves if you have them, and don't forget sunscreen and some water.