

James Franklin Smith PTA Newsletter

June 2009

PTA Calendar

June

9th Last Board Meeting
12th Last Day of School

August

24th First Day of School

President's Address

It's has been an honor to serve this year as your PTA President. I have met so many wonderful parents that I feel truly blessed to be a member of the JFS community.

My goals for the year were to outreach to new volunteers, build knowledge about what PTA does and to run successful events, changing it up a little so we could experiment with what really works. With an incredible amount of support from the entire executive board I can say I believe we have achieved all of these goals.

Firstly we are seeing many new faces come forward to help. This is incredibly important to the success of our school. We are all different people brought together with the common goal of creating an outstanding school environment and experience for our children. Thank you to those of you who stepped out of your comfort zones to help us. We hope you realize that we are not such a bad bunch of parents to work with! We do have a lot of fun....

Secondly, for the last few years I have been astounded by the lack of knowledge surrounding PTA. What are our goals? Why do we do what we do? As a PTA all we can do is put the information out there as we do on a regular basis. But communications are often tricky.

I think the latest round of budget cuts helped us get our message across. PTA is here for our entire school communality. The money we raise helps to keep the school running. It provides what we consider basic necessities for the classroom as well as added support for the advanced technology we want for our children. We are also here to provide community building events that as parents we want to see our children attend. This encourages a sense of belonging and pride in our school.

At the state level, PTA, partially funded by your membership dues, works diligently in Sacramento, to advocate for our schools, teachers and children's needs.

Thirdly, we have had very successful events this year. When I look back over the year I have to smile. We have had a lot of fun together and some trying times too. We have been amazed and thankful at both the monetary and volunteer support we have received this year. We hope you have enjoyed all the events we provided from Movie Night and Math Night to the Walkathon event. All have been extremely well attended and supported.

I would like to personally thank my executive board this year. What a terrific group of parents and teachers we had. Thank you all for your support and encouragement. I would also like to thank the incoming executive board who I look

forward to working with in my new position as co-communications next year.

I hope you all enjoy these last few days of school and that your summer is relaxed and enjoyable. I look forward to seeing you all back to school in the fall when we will be excited to reveal all we have in store for you next year.

Tracy Wilkinson
President

New Technology Purchased

We are proud to announce the purchase of 25 new laptop computers for use in our elementary classes ready for use in the next school year. This will allow the teachers to run centers and do group projects. This is a big step towards our school's technology goals.

This is thanks to all the wonderful parents that have supported our PTA efforts this year. THANK YOU ALL!!!

PTA's 2009/2010 Board Members

At our last General Association meeting we elected our new executive board for the 2009/2010 school year. Our new officers are:

Co-Presidents: Sharon Bennett and Sujana Mukund
Vice President: Loretta Mosley
Secretary: Sumathi Venkatapathy
Treasurer: Mohan Kumar
Parliamentarian: Sheri Roham
Co-Communications: Lisa Day and Tracy Wilkinson
Historian: Romina Ahuja
Auditor: Neeta Kapoor

We would like to thank all of the parents that have stepped up to fill these board positions. With a tough financial year ahead for schools, the role of the PTA becomes that much more important in helping provide the additional resources the school needs to continue to provide non-stop education to our children.

Join our Yahoo group

Join our yahoo 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. Contact Tracy at tw69@sbcglobal.net for help.

JFS PTA Website

Check out the PTA website at www.jfs.pta.org. We will try and update this new website frequently.

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Jimmy's Walkathon and Carnival Birthday Bash Was a Blast!

We were really happy to see so many of our JFS families enjoying this fun end of year event, which took place on Friday the 15th at the school.

We all enjoyed the beautiful weather while the walkers had fun with a first lap around the field with Mr. Hodgkin and Jimmy. Each walker being cheered on by parents and teachers while collecting tickets for every lap they walked. They were then able to use those tickets to play many of the fun games, take part in activities such as face painting and enjoy tones of great food from cotton candy and Sandy Candy to desserts, hotdogs and Pizza.

We even had a magic show this year. We all enjoyed the shows from Tonia Maclean AKA Miss Appear. And for some children the fun and memories of this event are kept alive as they take care of their new pet goldfish supplied to us by Bay Aquarium on Aborn Road.

PTA would like to thank the many volunteers that came to help that day and the teachers who encouraged their classes and came to the event to help and show their support. Thank you to all the brave teachers that got wet in the Pitch Burst game or creamed at the Pie Toss game which was run very successfully by this years 6th graders. Thank you 6th Graders!

On Friday the 29th the children were treated to an all school assembly to celebrate the success of this event and to find out who all the winners were.

Two classrooms won an ice-cream party for having 100% of their class take part in the walkathon. Congratulations to Mrs. Roman's and Miss Huang's classes. Way to go!

We also awarded prizes (\$50 gift certificates) for each grade level to the person in that grade that raised the most money.

Awards went to:

Kindergarten Jenna Garcia
1st Grade Timmy Locke
2nd Grade Andrew Ng
3rd Grade Katherine Williams
4th Grade Alec Coburn
5th Grade James Nguyen
6th Grade Chelsea Nguyen and Jennifer Kim

Congratulations to you all!!

This event has raised \$23,000 and will be used towards next year's school programs and event as well as our school technology goals. Thank you everyone for your support.

Our thanks to our sponsors:

Camp Galileo www.campgalileo.com

Loretta Mosley Intero Real Estate Services
(408) 357-6112

Bay Aquarium 2752 Aborn Road. Tel: (408) 279-1204

Miss Appear www.magicandloons.com

Thanks To



Bay Aquarium

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