



McMahon School PTA Quarterly Newsletter



151 North Temple Street, Lewiston, Maine 04240
PTA Website: WWW.MYSCHOOLONLINE.COM/ME/MCMAHONSCHOOLPTA

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Welcome Back!

The McMahon School PTA would like to welcome everyone back to school after this wonderful summer! To those new to McMahon, *WELCOME* to our School! Please take a moment to read this newsletter to find out what the McMahon School PTA is and how you can become involved.

Being in the PTA is an opportunity to build relationships with the people who affect your children's learning – teachers, school administrators, school counselors, etc. Plus, you'll meet other families, get to know your children's friends, and receive helpful resources on topics such as:

- Working with teachers,
- Helping children develop good homework habits, and
- Keeping your kids safe and healthy.

To learn more about our PTA, please contact Lyse Roy at 786-0103 and/or join us at our first PTA meeting of the school year on September 2 from 6-8pm in the school Library. ***We welcome new members!!!!***



Mark Your Calendar!

Here are some upcoming events you will want to know about.

Sept 1	Labor Day – No School
Sept 2	PTA Meeting 6-8pm in Library
Sept 2-5	Book Fair
Sept 4	Open House 6-7:30pm
Sept 9	Bus Safety
Sept 15	Fund Raiser Kick-Off
Sept 29	School Picture Day
Oct 6	Fund Raising Money Due In
Oct 7	PTA Meeting 6-8pm in Library
Oct 10	In-Service Day – No School
Oct 13	Columbus Day – No School
Nov 4	PTA Meeting 6-8pm in Library
Nov 11	Veteran's Day – No School
November 24-28	Thanksgiving Recess

Congratulations to our new Principal!

The PTA would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our new school Principal, Althea Walker on her recent promotion! Mrs. Walker steps into her new position with a lot of experience and knowledge of McMahon School, having been the Assistant Principal for the last 5 years. She has been a very active member of the McMahon School PTA in the past and we know she will be a super leader for our children.

Mrs. Walker received her BS in Elementary Education at USM. She further continued her education to receive her MA in New England and American Studies at USM and a CAS in Literacy and Administration. Prior to coming to McMahon, Mrs. Walker worked 8 years in Richmond teaching grades 3 and 4. Before working in education, Mrs. Walker was a stay-at-home mother to four children. She now enjoys boating with her three grandchildren.

As you may be aware, Linda Golding has been transferred to Farwell School to become the principal there. We want to thank Mrs. Golding for all her hard work at our school. She will be missed greatly!



Althea Walker, Principal



George Veilleux, Assistant Principal

Congratulations to our new Assistant Principal!

Congratulations are also in order to Mr. George Veilleux, who was promoted to be the new Assistant Principal at McMahon. Many of you already know Mr. Veilleux because he has been the Speech Therapist at McMahon for the past 16 years! He has been doing Speech Therapy for the past 24 years. Mr. Veilleux has an MA in Speech Pathology from UMO, an MS in Educational Administration from USM, and an MS in Speech Pathology from UNH. He is really happy to be on board and is anxious to see the children again. He is looking forward to working with the staff on curriculum development in areas of reading and writing.

Ch-Ch-Ch-Changes . . .

From the nervous jitters of that very first day of school to the anxiety of changing schools, students face some pretty unnerving adjustments throughout their academic career. Help ease your child through these transitions with expert advice and useful tips.

- Kindergarten Readiness
- New School Blues
- School Transitions
- Health and Safety
- Parent-Teacher Communication
- Raising Good Citizens
- Subject Matters

The National PTA website has articles on these things are more! Check these out at:

<http://www.pta.org/parentinvolvement/bts/articles.asp>

We're on the Web!

Want to know what's coming up at for activities at McMahon? Want to become more involved in the PTA? Check out all that and more at our website! WWW.MYSCHOOLONLINE.COM/ME/MCMAHONSCHOOLPTA You'll find all sorts of things about what's going on at our school, like:

- Calendar of Upcoming Events
- Volunteering Opportunities
- Goals and Initiatives
- Membership
- PTA Members
- Fundraising Activities
- PTA Meeting Schedule
- Educational Activities
- Fund Games and Activities for Kids
- Links to other Great Websites



PTA Officers

Co-Presidents	Lisa Bussiere and Lyse Roy
Co-Vice Presidents	Nicole Boulet and Lisa Schulze
Treasurer	Ann Michaud
Secretary	Lisa Asselin

PTA Meetings are held in the school library on the first Tuesday of each month from 6pm - 8pm. Here are the dates for the remainder of 2003:

September 2 October 7
November 4 December 2

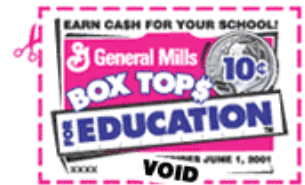
Please make an effort to participate in your child's education by being actively involved in the school. Only by working together can we achieve our goals and afford our children the best possible education.

Save your Labels and Raise Money for our School!

For the past several years, the McMahon School PTA has collected Campbells Labels for Education and Boxtops for Education to raise money for our school. This continues to be an easy source of income that doesn't cost anyone anything! Collection Boxes are located in the school lobby to the right of the Main Office reception window. Please help us by cutting out these labels and dropping them in our boxes throughout the year.



New Coupon



Old Coupon

Below is an example of what to save from the product label



Look for these reminder symbols on eligible packages.



Bonus Box Tops for a Limited Time!!!

From now until November 2, 2003, purchase 3 or more boxes of Betty Crocker Fruit Snacks (this includes Fruit Gushers, Fruit Rollups, Fruit by the Foot, Scooby-Doo, Looney Toons and More!) at Hannaford and receive 5 bonus Box Tops for Education for our school!! What an easy way to help the PTA raise money for our children.



Celebrate Family Day – Sept 22

Family Day---A Day to Eat Dinner With Your Children is a national observance that emphasizes the importance of regular family activities. Sponsored by the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse (CASA) at Columbia University, Family Day highlights the need for families to make dinners together a regular event. According to research conducted by CASA, the more often a child eats dinner with his or her parents, the less likely the child will smoke, drink, or use illegal drugs.



Celebrating Family Day can be as simple as eating together with your children and engaging them in family activities. For more information on Family Day, visit the CASA website at:

<http://www.casacolumbia.org> or call (212) 841-5248

McMahon School Pride Clothing is Here!

Tiger Pride has arrived! Check out the display of the new pride clothing for McMahon School. The bulletin board by the main office has a display of hooded sweatshirts, long and short sleeve t-shirts, shorts, and hats. All are available in a variety of colors and styles. Sizes available for children as well as adults. See the display for samples and sizes. Order forms are available at the display. Contact Lyse Roy for further information @ 786-0103 or via e-mail @ RayLyseRoy@aol.com.

This Year's Fundraiser for PTA

This year's fund-raiser for McMahon School will again be selling products from Meadow Farms, as well as Crystal Journey Candles. Two years ago when we did this fund-raiser the PTA made an \$18,000 profit on just the Meadow Farms products (50% profit on all sales). The candles are new this year and hopefully a nice addition. All the prizes are provided from Meadow Farms, which mean less out of pocket for the PTA and more money in for the students. Along with the prizes, 8 life-size Sponge Bob pillows will be provided as prizes to the high volume sellers for each grade. Sponge Bob will be visiting each class during the fundraiser to get the students excited. The fundraiser will kick off on Monday September 15th. Terry Tatlock, a representative from Meadow Farms, will be at the school explaining to the students what they will need to do. A display of samples will be in the school lobby for both parents and student to view. All orders and money will be due back to the school between October 6 and October 8. Reminders will be sent home during the event regarding the timelines. Also note that delivery of items will be in mid-November, which leaves plenty of time for holiday shopping!!!



Hannaford **Helps Schools**

From September 6 through December 6 when customers purchase participating General Mills products, they will receive "school dollar" certificates. Buy 3 GM products and get a certificate worth 2 school dollars, buy 6 GM products and get a certificate worth 4 school dollars, buy 9 and get 6 school dollars. These school dollars add up quickly when everyone works together to save them. McMahon must turn in our school dollar certificates to Hannaford by December 31. There will be a collection box near the front office. Schools receive checks by March 2004. In addition to the money raised through the "school dollar", every Hannaford supermarket will donate a \$1,000 education grant to the registered school in its area which raises the most funds (we won this last year!! Let's try again this year).



L/A Children's Chorus Holding Auditions

L/A Children's Chorus, Central Maine's community choir for children who love to sing, is holding auditions for new members during the months of August, September and October. The chorus is open to all boys and girls from Androscoggin, Oxford, Kennebec, Sagadahoc, Franklin and northern Cumberland Counties from the second through eighth grade. No prior experience or musical training is required. Parents looking for a disciplined, after-school program providing high quality training in music are invited to place their child in the L/A Children's Chorus. Over the years, the young singers have performed with the Portland String Quartet and members of the Portland Symphony Orchestra in concert. Favorable reviews of these performances have appeared three times in the Audience section of the Maine Sunday Telegram. The chorus, which is set to start its eleventh season, also has an active handbell program. Rehearsals are held twice weekly during the early after school hours in the Calvary United Methodist Church of Lewiston. Two major concerts are given each year in the concert hall of the Olin Arts Center at Bates College. Past tours have taken the chorus to the Province of Quebec and Washington, DC. For more information about membership, please call the music director, Dr. Brian Franck at: 753-0970, write care of: The Ward Center of Lewiston, P.O. Box 8243, Lewiston, Maine 04243-8243 or use the Chorus e-mail address: lachildchoir@adelphia.net.