

MES PTO Newsletter

March 2004

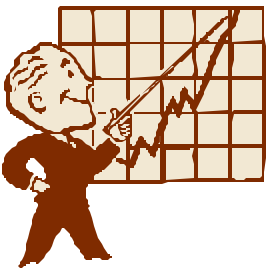


Presidents Message

It seems like spring is finally on the way. With or without the good weather, though, our kids are getting lots of activity. The **Coast to Coast Marathon** is already a huge success! The kids are having a great time and getting lots of exercise. I want to give a huge thanks to Krista Matthews for the tremendous amount of effort she put into this event. This event is tying together not only physical fitness, but also geography and math. And on the physical fitness side, it is helping introduce the kids to lifelong fitness skills, which are so important. If you haven't already gotten there, try to stop by one morning and see the kids in action – it's really amazing! Or check it out on the Web <http://www.region15.org/mes/marathon.htm>.

The **climbing wall** that was purchased in part by the PTO is now up in the gym and the kids are using it. Have a look at it next time you are at the school. The teacher's had their auction for the **Relay for Life** and it was a great success. This year the PTO is going to team up to help the teacher's team instead of having our own team. Maryanne Holland is heading up this effort. The proceeds from the refreshments sold at the PTO dance on March 19 will go to benefit the Relay for Life. And don't forget that the **Author Dan Gutman** is coming in April. There's lots of great things going on to enrich the kids in all different ways.

Our fundraisers for the year are winding down. **Yankee Candle** was a great success and thanks to Sue Letho for organizing that. We are still looking forward to **Krispy Kreme** donuts – I think the kids will have some room for them after all their morning running!



Dr. Sippy will be coming to MES on Tuesday March 23 at 7:00 pm to give an overview of the budget. His presentation will help explain the various components of the budget and the requested increase. I highly recommend coming to hear this so you can make an educated decision for the upcoming budget vote.

Our next PTO meeting will be Tuesday March 16 at 10:00 am. Hope to see you there.

Upcoming MES Calendar:

Week of Feb. 16 – 20th - Winter Vacation		
Saturday	Mar. 13	Hockey Outing at Harbor Yard
Tuesday	Mar. 16	PTO Meeting 10a.m.
Friday	Mar. 19	Family Dance - MES Gym, 6:30 p.m.day Report Cards Sent Home
Tuesday	Mar. 23	Dr. Sippy Budget Presentation 7 p.m.
Tuesday	Mar. 30	Incoming Kindergarten Parents Meeting 7pm
Friday	Apr. 9	No School (Good Friday)
Spring Vacation April 19th – 23 rd		
Tuesday	Apr. 27	PTO Meeting 7:00pm



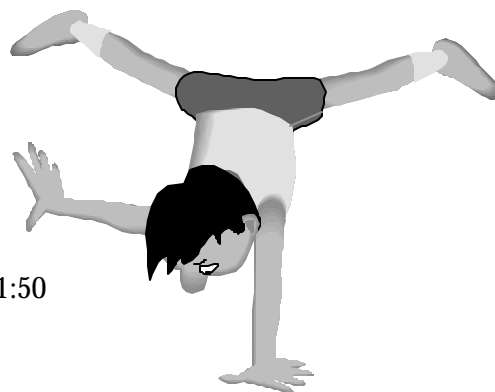
MES Family Dance

Jill Civitello is coordinating the volunteers for the MES PTO dance on Friday March 19. She needs hall monitors as well as people to work at the bake sale. If you or your spouse can help out, please Email Jill at jcivi@sbcglobal.net.

GYMNASTICS

Thank you to everyone who sent in their forms and volunteered to help in the gym. We had a great response. Gymnastics will continue until April 16. I have listed below some classes that we could use additional help in. By next week we will have put up the schedule in the gym. If you can help, please give me a call (Denise Petrucci 758-9863) or check in the gym for the schedule. The following classes could use more volunteers:

Minutillo:	Monday and Thursday 9:10 - 9:50
Lee:	Monday and Wednesday 11:10 - 11:50
Lettick:	Monday and Thursday 11:50 - 12:30
Koppel:	Thursday 10:30 - 11:10
Gugliotti:	Wednesday and Friday 11:50 - 12:30
Benson:	Wednesday and Friday 10:30 - 11:10
Evans:	Tuesday 10:30 - 11:10 and Friday 11:10 - 11:50
Flisher:	Tuesday and Thursday 1:50 - 2:30
Goode:	Tuesday and Thursday 2:30 - 3:10



Thanks again to everyone for all of the help you have given. The kids really appreciate it.

Denise Petrucci, Jackie Desmarais, and Janet Landry

Relay for Life

The *Tribury Relay for Life* is scheduled for June 5 & 6, 2004 at Pomperaug High School from 9 am Saturday to 9 am Sunday. The Relay is an upbeat event that offers everyone in the community to participate in the fight against cancer and to teach our children the value of community service. If you are interested in participating, please let me know. Thank you. Maryanne Holland 598-0427

PTO MEETING MINUTES 3/16/04

Call to order: 10:00 a.m.

President's Report:

New committee format for next year; large comm. will have chair & subcommittees

PTO Dinner, Tuesday, May 11, 2004 at Colonial Tavern, More Information to follow

Dr. Sippy's Budget presentation 3/23/04, 7:00 p.m. at MES. Attendance highly recommended -hear understandable budget breakdown.

Treasurer's report: Monies coming in from various events

- Book sales for author visit in April went very well
- Yankee candle o.k.
- Roller skating \$ being given to Relay for Life team
- Teacher grants:\$1700.00 of \$7000.00 spent, teachers need to get grant info in A.S.A.P.
- All monies in from yearbook.

Principal's Reprt: For current budget info strongly recommend Dr. Sippy's presentation. Question and answer segment.

- Music in halls areas used for reading groups and other activities. Music a noise factor. Will be played before & after school.
- Noise in hallways enforcing quiet behavior when students pass through halls due to learning taking place.
- Curriculum update Principal & Reading specialist meeting to look at each child's development, growth, & new strategies; developing database to look at student info over period of years. May become model for other elementary schools.
- Visit from early childhood consultant looked at K-2, may make revisions for K screening and K-2 report card info; extremely impressed with learning atmosphere at MES.
- Math in-service training - for teachers in grades 1&2 in district on-going support. Teachers leaving bldg replaced with sub for part of day, using same sub for a.m. & p.m. to maximize efficiency.
- Early intervention "C for fragile readers; trying to offer huge support for beginning readers; seeing great rewards.
- Pay-pal acct is up and running "C<http://www.region15.org/mes/MESPTO/donate/htm>; recvd \$100.00 donation already!
- Coast to coast Marathon Terrific participation; approx. 100 students/day; visit MES website at marathon current infoYearbook: In the works

Ways & Means:

- Krispy Kreme preliminary delivery date for up-coming fundraiser 5/12/04 (Wed)
- Possible fundraiser next year "C design your own personalized items (winter/spring suggested)
- Innesbrooke (wrapping paper) Sept. 3-17 i@04

Cultural Arts: Author Dan Gutman visit April 7. Book orders did very well

Friendship: Sent card to Mrs. Percival

Volunteer Coordinator:

- Jill Civitello to head family dance. Bad weather Fri. pm will cancel event. Check website. Selling finger foods at dance. Call Jill if want to make baked good.
- Many upcoming events, let Suzanne Kinishea know if available.
- Vol. Forms for next year to include email address
- Help mount artwork Wednesdays 3:30-4:45, Thursday's 10-1:30

Hospitality: superintendent visit and K registration

Gym Volunteers: Need help with gymnastics until Spring break mostly 4th & 5th grades. Call Denise Petrucci or sign-up in gym.

Publicity: large article recently in Rep. Am. Newspaper re: climbing wall; working on coast to coast marathon publicity

PTO Advisory: Letter writing campaign to support buget to various newspapers; calls to families to have both parents vote; call Jackie Mulhall if want to volunteer

Great Books: Need more teacher volunteers contact Rena Shove/Krista Mathews

Program Incentives: Mall program participate in May; info will go home

Moving on: Hoping to have Velcro wall; next mtg in April

Community Srvc:

- PTO to support faculty team
- Over \$5000.00 raised at auction
- Donating punch & raffle \$ from family dance to Relay

Teacher Appreciation:

- Di'Amelios catering luncheon in May
- Teacher's getting menus in advance for meal selection
- Gift: insulated lunch pack
- Volunteers needed for serving and baked goods

New Business:

Sell MES shirts (Dee Woodward for personalization); Denise P/Beth M Volunteer for committee
Coast to Coast Marathon: have gotten some sponsorship \$, need more; event tie in with field day to keep incentive going; need items from local businesses for raffle; need recess duty volunteers (Call MES 11:40am to confirm outdoor recess only if outside); Ordered incentives for every 5 miles get token to add to shoe laces; can ask Krista or Stockno for personal mileage accumulation; amazing turn out; related books in library & learning about USA as we go; pen pals with sister school in CA; hope to marathon next year; Website: PECLOGIT.COM or ORG; call Krista with questions
Mtg end 11:00 a.m.

Next Mtg: APRIL 27 (4th Tuesday) 7:00 pm