

Falmouth Middle School PTO News

Winter
2010

Important Dates to Note

Feb. 9 @ 10 am - FMS gym
Naturalization Ceremony

March 8 – Spirit Day!
2:30-5 pm Basketball Game between
8th grade girls vs. female teachers and
8th grade boys vs. male teachers.
Snacks and late bus available.

March 9 – Teacher Appreciation
Luncheon

March 16 @9 am - FMS library
PTO Meeting – Where our schools are
today.

TBD
MS Talent Show

May 11 @ 9 am - FMS library
PTO Meeting

Message from our President

Thank you for all the support you have given to our school, staff, and students so far this year! We thought it would be great to let you know where the funds have been allocated this year and what the PTO has done.

We started the year with a wonderful Meet and Greet with many parents and teachers catching up and/or meeting for the first time. We got to the real needs of the school and students at an early meeting with the principal. Volunteers were organized for outside recess. We sponsored the computer safety programs and helped get teachers off to a good start with mini grants. We had a successful magazine drive, which is our only fundraiser. Allocations of these funds can be seen below. A great book fair was held to benefit the librarian's needs. School dances have been great for the student's social life. Presentation on the Day after Peace - what the children did for Peace Day and what the plans are to expand this for next year. Service Learning in our school. Things we are working on now - more great programs to help our educators and our parents, a talent show, the teacher appreciation luncheon, a school spirit day with basketball game with the teachers, supporting our musical, band and chorus productions. 8th grade farewell.

Please continue your support for our school - it really makes a difference no matter how much you can do!

Annual FMS Magazine Drive Results

This year, total gross sales exceeded **\$33,000!!!**

Thanks to your continued support, FMS has earned to date:
\$12,046 (as of 1/25/10)!!!

What does the money raised go towards?

- 8th Gr./Staff Charity Hoops (school spirit day) – PTO covers the cost of snacks.
- 8th Gr. Farewell – PTO covers half of the boat rental cost for graduation party.
- Enrichment :
 - ✓ 5th grade -- mobile carts for storing (and moving) shared classroom materials; new pencil sharpener for each classroom
 - ✓ 6th grade -- Greek Week activities
 - ✓ 7th grade -- 7th grade activities
 - ✓ 8th grade -- Discovery Week activities
 - ✓ UA -- art reference books; archery supplies; badminton birdies; DVD player; audio books for library; headphones for computer; music production; buses to happy wheels
 - ✓ GT/Special Ed. -- books; phonological assessment tool
- Grants
- Teacher Stipend – PTO provides teacher s, guidance, nurses, etc. with \$50 to use for supplies.
- Teacher Appreciation
- Custodian/Bus Driver Appreciation
- Naturalization Ceremony
- Talent Show
- Playground Equipment - new basic equipment provided each year.
- Principal Fund - MS Principal is given a discretionary fund to use for budget shortcomings.

Things You Can Do

- Volunteer in the classroom
- Bake for the teachers' luncheon
- Buy your next gift from our magazine drive
- Attend a PTO meeting to meet others like you
- Smile at teachers when you go into the school
- Join the PTO board - nominations in April
- Encourage your child to do the talent show
- Join us for the spirit day basketball game
- Chaperone at one of the dances
- Help with outside recess
- Tell parents of younger friends what it's like at our school
- Encourage your child to always do their best

Next PTO Meeting

Date: March 16 @ 9:00 am
Location: MS library
Subject: Where our schools are today

PTO is sponsoring this timely discussion of how parents can be of help to our schools. In tough economic times, everyone needs to help each other. We will hear what the school is facing for budgets next year and what is being done to help with changes coming up.