



January 2012

www.District76PTO.org

Upcoming Events

JANUARY

3 - Return to school
7 - Market Day
16 - No School
18 - PTO Meeting
25 - No School

FEBRUARY

3 - Sweetheart Ball
4 - Market Day
14 - Valentine's Day Parties
15 - PTO Meeting
13-16 - WO Book Fair
13-16 - WO Conferences
13 - Blood Drive at WO
20 - No School
21-23 - FH Book Fair
21-23 FH Conferences

MARCH

1 - 2nd Grade Concert (DL)
3 - French Toast Brkfst (WO)
3 - Market Day
7 - Kindergarten Orientation
(6:30)
12 - Kindergarten Concert
(DL)
15-19 - DL Book Fair
15 & 19 - DL Conferences
21 - PTO Meeting
22 - WO Picture Day
23 - No School
26 - Spring Break Begins

Note from the President

Happy New Year!!! I hope that you and your family had a wonderful winter break and a great start to 2012! As a PTO, we sure ended 2011 with a bang, raising more than \$1,000 on our Barnes & Noble/McCarthy's Fund-Raiser and pushing our Manna donations to more than \$2,000!!! In addition to that, our biggest joy was granting Mrs. Benton's request for new desks. Apparently, several classrooms at Diamond Lake were using desks that were very old and did not work properly. Well, thanks to your support, the PTO was able to buy all of the new desks needed at Diamond Lake!

While I sit around breaking all of my New Year's Resolutions (please pardon any chocolate stains on this newsletter), I thought that, the least I can do, is help you NOT break yours. Here is what the PTO has up our sleeves:

YOUR RESOLUTION #1: I will spend more time with my kids in the New Year.

PTO's HELP: Join us for the following:

* Chuck E Cheese Dine-out: January 19th from 5:00-8:00

* Sweetheart Ball (girls and their fathers/special man in their lives): Feb. 4th 6:30-8:30.

YOUR RESOLUTION #2: I will eat healthier in the New Year.

PTO's HELP: Sign up for Market Day and get a great deal on healthy vegetables, fish and seafood. The Market Day Website contains recipes, menu ideas and a whole section on "Eat Well for Less!" The next order date is Feb. 1st with a pick-up date of Feb. 3rd.

YOUR RESOLUTION #3: I will budget better in the New Year.

PTO's HELP: The Manna program is a great way to help with your budgeting and benefit the schools as well. Buy your grocery and gas gift cards with us--budget for a two week period and order the corresponding amount. You will receive the gift cards a few days later, which can help you stay within your budget for the two week period. And while you are at it, consider buying the cards for birthday and Valentine gifts (we have Aeropostle, AMC Movies, Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Bed Bath & Beyond, Best Buy, Fannie Mae and many more)! To date, we have raised more than \$2,000 with Manna purchases. Join the fun by sending an e-mail to Alice Dutler at dutlers@comcast.net!

YOUR RESOLUTION #4: My family and I will read more in the New Year.

PTO's HELP: Get deals on adult and kid books at our annual Scholastic Books Fairs starting next month. With every book you buy with us, our school libraries benefit! Save the following start dates: Feb. 13th (West Oak). Feb. 23rd (Fairhaven) and March 15th at DL.

YOUR RESOLUTION #5: I will get more involved in the schools and PTO in 2012!

PTO's HELP: The schools and the PTO are always looking for more volunteers in various capacities--both big and small. For example, if you are interested in taking on a shift at a book fair, please contact Mary Schooley at maryschooley@sbcglobal.net or Lisa Jensen at jensenclan4@comcast.net. We are also looking for help with a spring event (contact me directly). You don't have to make it to a meeting, although the next one is scheduled for Wednesday, January 18th at 6:30 at Diamond Lake School (in the library). We will take help any way we can get it! Thank you for helping us help our schools!

Good Luck and Happy New Year! (I have to go now and eat another chocolate Bon Bon!)

Jamie Epstein

PTO President

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Directory 2011/2012**

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Treasurer's Report



For the months of Nov/Dec our fundraisers have included: Great American, Dine out-McCarthy's, Kid's Night Out, Market Day, Manna, Barnes and Noble and 3rd & 4th Grade Band and Choir Concert-Concessions.

We have raised over \$11,000 these past two months and are SUPER excited to give back to our schools! We funded an assembly at Fairhaven with Staley the Bear. We also funded Diamond Lake Schools with 100 new desks that we are very happy about!!!

As always, thank you for ALL your generosity! We couldn't do it without you!!!

Community Care

A HUGE thank you to everyone who participated in the Holiday Helpers Program - We were able to adopt all 39 children and fill their Holiday's with clothing and toys! The families were so incredibly touched by everyone's participation in making their Holiday a little less stressful.

As for the Food and Supply Drive, again, a HUGE thank you to everyone that participated! The District was able to put together enough baskets for 120 families. Also, another thank you to The Flangel Food Group, Ltd. for sponsoring this drive and donating 100 Turkeys! Look for pictures on the District Website of everything that was donated!

If anyone has any questions, please feel free to contact Lori Briere at loderick2000@comcast.net or [847.984.2628](tel:847.984.2628)

Sweetheart Ball - Feb 3rd

We would like to proudly announce the 5th annual SWEETHEART BALL will be held on Friday, February 3rd, 2012 from 6:30 to 8:30. Please mark your calendars and watch for more information to follow.

Market Day

Pick up some convenient and delicious food and support your schools as well. The last day for orders is Wed, February 1st. Drop your order form at school in the morning or you may order until 11 pm online. Pick up is on Saturday, February 4th, between 8:30 and 9:30.

February specials include: a FREE 4-pack of cookie dough cups with a \$40 purchase, a FREE pound of chicken gems with a \$90 online purchase when you enter promo code: **FEBBONUS** at checkout.



Also, February is the first month to qualify as a Spring Frequent Buyer. Make two purchases of \$40* between February and April. Then place a third order of \$40 in May to receive a FREE Cooler Tote at your May sale pick-up.

Misc. Items

- Don't throw away your Capri Sun packages! All schools will collect Capri Sun juice packs for the Terracycle recycling program. An easy way to earn additional funds for our schools!
- All schools accepting donations of old cell phones
- If your kids have grown out of last year's winter coats or boots, please consider donating them to Del Parra in the Family Resource Center at West Oak.

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS! We can't do it without you!!

Thank you so much to all of the marvelous party parents who worked so hard to create wonderful holiday parties for our kids: Marsha Duggan, Julie Jacoby, Kim Cohen, Jill Ede, Nancy Wayne, Liz Plummer, Andrea Fisher, Verina Joyner, Jessica Mena, Mary & Brian Walker, Sol Cabachuela, Tonya Coleite, Julie Dickey, Candice Calso, Heather McGuire, Sandy Lee, Jennifer Phelan, Jennifer Erenberg, Jennifer Brunkow, Cari Markeli, Pam Wagner, Shar Rao, Lisa Javorkuti, Michelle Kaboff, Julie Carey and Valerie Walker. What a difference you are making in our schools!