



BUSH HILL PTA NEWS

September 2009

Comments from the PTA President

Welcome back to school - children, parents, teachers, staff! What an exciting time of year! New school supplies and clothes! Hopefully cooler weather! Most likely a new teacher! Eager students!

Hope all the Bush Hill families had a wonderful and relaxing summer whether you stayed close to home because of the economy or you traveled to a new location or traveled to a familiar place to visit family or friends!

As your PTA president and a mom to a 6th grader, I am extremely excited about the opportunities before us this year. We have two major fundraisers planned for the year as well as a number of PTA sponsored events. I think most of you attended our first PTA event, the Ice Cream Social, held the first Friday of the school year. What a terrific turn out! Thank you to the staff and faculty and the parents that helped to make this such a successful event. Thank you to the Bush Hill families for bringing your child/children to the Ice Cream Social as families and students were reacquainted with old friends and made new friends. Our fundraisers will assist Bush Hill in defraying costs of the field trips scheduled this school year and for improved technology in the school that will benefit our children as well as provide funds to teachers to purchase supplies for their classrooms.

I ask that you join the PTA now and become a powerful voice for your children, to assist us in ensuring our children's success all year long. According to the National PTA website, "research proves that parent involvement has a positive effect on student success. When parents are involved in their children's education, they achieve more. Schools perform better. Teacher moral even improves. Ultimately, communities are stronger when parents get involved." Please consider getting involved with Bush Hill, volunteer for one of the many PTA events, become the classroom parent, volunteer to go on a field trip. I promise, your life will be enriched as a result of volunteering!

PTA meetings are held the first Tuesday of the month at 7:30 in the school's library. Come hear what is going on at our school and hear from the teachers about what the students are being taught. Our next meeting is 6 October. Hope to see you there! Minutes from the meetings will be posted on the Bush Hill website under the parents' page - <http://www.fcps.edu/BushHillES/pta.htm> . Be sure to visit the website on a regular basis for current information.

Welcome to this new year of learning!

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SALLY FOSTER FUNDRAISER

As we welcome the start of school, we also welcome our largest Fall fundraising event - Sally Foster! Your children brought home with them in their first Tuesday folders, the Sally Foster packets. Included in the packet is the catalogue, the order form and a flyer with all the great prizes the students can win. Our school can earn **up to 50% profit** for each item sold!

There are 64 gift wrap patterns for all occasions and holidays, 11 of which are reversible! For those that want to go green, Sally Foster offers a number of environmentally friendly products and exclusive gift wrap, most printed on recycled, recyclable and biodegradable paper. You can also find over 72 quality gift items, including scented candles, luxurious bath and beauty products, home décor items and items just for kids! Again this year is the Gourmet Chocolates from Harry London - the supplier to Disney! Yummy!

A prize will be given to each student who sells just one item! Students who sell over five items will become members of "The Leaping Frog Club" and win their very own Frog pencil. For those students that sell over ten items, they will be given a frog keychain! Students that sell over 20 items will earn the chance to win **a DVD player and a DVD Frogger game** as well as participate in "Leap for George," allowing the child to earn money depending on the distance they jump. Look for the frogs in the cafeteria.

Remind your out-of-town families and friends to support our school as well. They can shop online at www.SallyFoster.com and earn up to 50% profit to support our school. Be sure they include the Bush Hill account number - **498967**. Orders are sent via UPS directly to the customer. If their on-line order totals over \$60, their order will ship free!

All orders need to be returned to the school by **2 October**. Sally Foster orders will be available to be picked up in the gym after school on 22 October.

If you have any questions, please contact Andrea M. Palermo, your Bush Hill Elementary Sally Foster Chairperson at 703.922.9128.

Spirit Wear

Order forms were sent home in the Tuesday folder. All orders must be received by October 6th, checks can be made payable to Bush Hill PTA.

Safeway/Giant/Harris Teeter

If you did not link your Safeway card to Bush Hill last year, look on the bottom of your receipt for a redemption code. Please turn this receipt into your classroom teacher so that Bush Hill can collect on the "Back to School" promotion. Please turn in the form with your Safeway/Giant/Harris Teeter card numbers. We need to renew the cards each year.

2009-2010 SCHOOL CALENDAR

September 8, 2009 - School Begins	January 29 & February 1 - Student Holidays
October 12 - Columbus Day Holiday	February 15 - Presidents' Day Holiday
October 30 - First Grading Period Ends	March 29-April 2 - Spring Vacation
November 2-3 - Student Holidays	April 9 - Third Grading Period Ends
November 25 - Students Released 2 Hours Early	April 12 - Student Holiday
November 26-27 - Thanksgiving Holidays	May 28 - Students Released 2 Hours Early
December 23 - Students Released 2 Hours Early	May 31 - Memorial Day Holiday
December 24 - January 1, 2010 Winter Vacation	June 17 - Graduation On or After This Date
January 18 - Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday Holiday	June 22 - Last Day of School
January 28 - Second Grading Period Ends	