



KP/KG NEWS

Kings Park and Kings Glen Elementary Schools

October 2009

Up and Running

With Lions and Gators now in full gear, it has been a busy start to the school year. To continue into fall with the rich energy that staff and students opened the year with, it is important to highlight some simple ways parents and staff can help get our students up and running for a great day, each day.

Staff and students make strategic use of the limited time we have during school hours. Therefore, it is imperative that our students arrive to school on time.

While many students eat a good breakfast at home, please know that both schools currently offer a breakfast program, available to all students each morning. Being able to start the day on time and with nourishment, makes it much easier for students to tackle the challenges of their day.



Kings Park and Kings Glen School Newsletter October 2009

Inside this issue

- School Hours
- Fall Festival

Back Page

- October Calendar
- School Photos

The home / school partnership is such a critical part of our children's school success. Our staff is always looking for as much information as possible in order to support our students' learning. When important events happen in the lives of your children, whether they be positive or negative events, we ask that you share the information with us so that we can support them however necessary. Of course, we will do the same from the school perspective. As James Madison once said, "knowledge is power", and we want to help our students be as strong as they can be, **up and running** every single day!

Finally, make plans to get up and running, mathematically speaking, by attending this year's PTA Family Math Night on Tuesday, October 6 at 6:30 pm at Kings Glen. Tom Schersten is back by popular demand. Visit his website www.tomschersten.com and then come see him in person. You'll be glad you did!

From the principals
Sarah Skerker
Sam Elson

The PTA Connection

Jackie Kurisky, PTA President (president@kpkgpta.org) www.kpkgpta.org

Welcome to the 2009-2010 school year!

Let me introduce the PTA Board:

President, **Jackie Kurisky**

Vice President, KG **Leslie Rudisill**;

Vice President, KP **Nancy Grass**;

Vice President, Education **Linda Avers**;

Secretary, **Susan Moreau**;

Treasurer, **Stephanie Turner**;

Principals, **Sarah Skerker, KP** and **Sam Elson, KG**.

We have many events planned which are open to all the families in both schools. You can help your child succeed and maintain the high standards of education we expect at Kings Park and Kings Glen by joining the KP/KG PTA. The success of our PTA depends on your involvement and support.

Your \$10 membership fee raises valuable money for things like assemblies, educational supplies, lab materials, buses for field trips, technology enhancements and much more! PTA families will receive a free copy of the KP/KG Student Directory.

We are off to a busy start and have many volunteers to thank!

- Thank you to all those who stuffed the first Take Home Tuesday folders – KG students, alumni, parents and 2 Girl Scout troops.
- **Nancy Grass, Stephanie Turner, & Leslie Rudisill** for hosting the Welcome Back Luncheon for the staff at both schools.
- **Evelyn Cohn**, our Movie Night Chair, **Mike Horgan**, and all our volunteers for coordinating our first Movie Night.
- **Nancy Grass**, for coordinating our new Spirit Wear and our membership drive.
- **Greta Bishop**, for chairing the Reflections program.

PTA Fall Festival

Friday, October 30, 6:00 - 8:00 pm at KP

Admission is free. Put on your favorite costume and enjoy the fun, food and festivities! Some activities cost a nominal fee. Thanks to **Laura Jacknin** and **Sandy Hunter** for chairing this event!

Participate in our 4th REACH Reading Fundraiser.

Last year we exceeded our goal of \$20,000. Let's make it our best year yet! Key dates are:

- October 9 — Sponsor letters due back at school
- October 13 — Home Reading Cards will be sent home to record time spent reading
- Oct. 19 - 23 — REACH Reading Week – read all week, our goal is 300 minutes per child
- October 23 — Return Home Reading Cards to school.

Thank you to **Kristi Sevachko** for chairing this substantial fundraiser.

We're looking forward to another successful year. We appreciate your supporting your child at home and at school. Thank you!

Need to Know

School Hours

Monday — Friday school begins promptly 8:00 a.m.

Students may begin arriving at 7:30 a.m.

Monday dismissal is at 12:30 p.m.

Tuesday — Friday dismissal is at 3:00 p.m.

Three Ways to Purchase Cafeteria Lunch

You can add money to your child's school account in three ways:

1. **Check** - made out to the school cafeteria. Please include the child's name in the memo line. **Please write your child's name in the memo line.**
2. **Cash** - in an envelope with your child's name, teacher and **PIN number**.
3. **Online** - using **MyLunchMoney.com**. This is a safe, easy to use, convenient, private, secure and a great way to prepay for their child's meals. There is a cost to use this service. MyLunchMoney.com is a computerized system that allows parents to view their child's account at any time. Please note balances are updated within 24 hours.

Student lunches are \$2.65 and adult lunches are \$3.65. Parents can join their students for lunch with no advance notice. **Breakfast every morning starting at 8:00 a.m. is available and open to all families and costs \$1.50.** If your child is on a free lunch, the breakfast cost is 30¢. If your child is on a reduced lunch, the breakfast is **also free.** If you have not renewed your account, you must reapply immediately for benefits to be restored.

Advanced Academic Program

There will be four Advanced Academic Program meetings. All meetings are from 7:30-9:00 pm and will give parents an opportunity to view the Advanced Academic Program screening, timelines. *The meetings are open to the public.*

The Parents Information Night dates and location are:

- October 8 at McLean High School
- October 13 at Oakton High School

Parents / guardians of students not in the screening process by the Academic Center screening process by [clicking on the Academic Center Referral form to the school principal's office](#). **No late referrals will be accepted.** Second and seventh graders are screened only by referral. Referral forms are available on the FCPS website at www.fcps.edu/DIS/gt. They are also available at the school principal's office.

Coming up

ptly at 8:20 a.m.

8:05 a.m.

p.m.

Cafeteria Meals

Account in three ways:

1. In person - with your child's name and teacher
2. Online - **Child's PIN cafeteria number in the**

3. Phone - name, classroom



This service is easy
and allows parents to
avoid a convenience fee for

any that allows parents to prepay for
meals anytime from a computer or the phone.
Hours are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Meals are \$3.65. Parents are welcome to
cancel at 30 days notice. Also, both KP and KG offer
a **breakfast program** starting at 8:00 a.m. The breakfast program is
available if your child is on the reduced lunch plan,
or in the **free lunch program**, breakfast is
included. For application for free and reduced lunch,
please contact your school to continue.

Parent Information Nights

Join us for Parent Information Nights in October.
We will provide parents an overview of the continuum
of standardized testing and identification procedures and
discuss the results. *No registration is required.*

Topics are:

October 15 at Annandale High School
October 19 at West Potomac High School

Second grade screening pool may initiate
completing and submitting an Advanced
Placement application no later than February 5, 2010.
Students not in the pool and all third through
eighth grade. Parent information packets with
links to the CPS Advanced Academic web site at
www.cps.edu are available in the KP and KG school offices.

Holiday Support For Families In Need

Families who need assistance during the upcoming winter holidays *may* be able to receive help from our schools. Please contact either school as soon as possible and ask for KP guidance counselors Mrs. Lujan or Mrs. Sheats or KG guidance counselor, Ms. Miele. Requests are confidential and must be made prior to October 2.

Kings Park Principal Coffee October 5

Parents are invited to meet with KP Principal Sarah Skerker at a Parent Coffee at 9:30 a.m. in the KP cafeteria. The topic will be technology. Kings Glen will have a Coffee with the Principal at a later time in the school year.

Tom Schersten Presents Math Program

On October 6, KP and KG families are invited to participate in a hands on math program with nationally renowned math expert, Tom Schersten. Join us at 6:30 p.m. at Kings Glen and discover what fun math can be!

2009-2010 Standardized Testing Dates

During the week of October 19 - 22, the second grade and designated third graders will take the Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT). Tests are administered in the morning. Please avoid scheduling appointments and family events on these important testing dates.

Recent Events

Back to School Nights

Thanks to KP / KG parents and staff, we enjoyed three great **Back to School Nights**. Turnout was excellent, as parents heard teachers explain the curriculum and expectations for their children. Knowing that our students' success at school is directly related to the strong partnership between home and school, we know our Lions and Gators will have another great year!