

## Mason Prep PTO Mission Statement

*The purpose of the organization shall be to provide support for the Mason Prep School, its programs, activities, and events, as well as to further communication between the Headmistress and the parents. We will promote volunteerism through participation of the parents, faculty, and staff for the unified spirit of the school.*

## This from PTO Co-Presidents Carrie Singh and Lori Collins

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! It is hard to believe we are already welcoming in our second semester for the 2008–2009 school year! There are many opportunities to get involved with MPS activities in the coming months, ranging from the annual Parenting Night in January to the Mason Prep Student Talent Show in February to Field Day in the spring.

It is even harder to believe we are already starting to gear up for filling positions on next year's PTO Board. We are fortunate enough to have a talented, experienced, and hard-working PTO President-elect waiting in the wings to take over. Rebecca Kay will be the 2009–2010 PTO President and we look forward to her leadership. There will be board positions open with varying degrees of time commitment,

and we welcome new members. There are always opportunities to get involved with the PTO in addition to being a board member, so if you are interested in spending some time giving back to Mason Prep you can get in touch with any PTO Board member. We'd love to have you!

In the meantime, we send our best wishes for a happy and healthy new year. As always, if you have questions or concerns, we are only a phone call or an email away!

Thanks for your support.

Lori Collins and Carrie Singh  
2008–2009 PTO Co-Presidents  
[mpspto@gmail.com](mailto:mpspto@gmail.com)

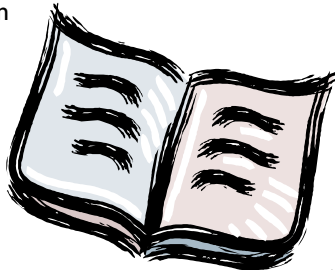
## Popular Scholastic Book Fair Returns to Mason Prep for One-Week Engagement

The reading stars will walk the red carpet to this year's MPS Scholastic Book Fair on Wednesday, January 21. Ms. Yates and fair coordinator Heather Harwell hope that parent volunteers will once again want to share in the fun of this great activity. There are plenty of volunteer opportunities to fit every schedule!

The fair will run from January 21 through January 28. For parents' convenience, on the evening of the Mason Prep Parenting Workshop (January 22, see article on back page) the fair will be open from 3:30 – 6:30.

You will have another opportunity to shop: Parent/Grandparent Night will be

Tuesday, January 27, from 3:30 – 6:30. This is the only time that a parent may read an AR book and take the quiz for his or her student. Don't forget to read the book first!



This year Scholastic and the Mason Prep Media Center will be collaborating in "ONE for BOOKS!" As part of this program, Scholastic will match every dollar we collect with a donation toward up to a million books to:

Kids in Distressed Situations, National Center for Family Literacy, Toys for Tots or MUSC Happy Wheels. Look for more information about this and other offers at the book fair. See you at the Scholastic Book Fair!

— Marci Yates

## Mark Your Calendar for January

- |       |                          |
|-------|--------------------------|
| 4     | Report cards issued      |
| 15    | Head's assembly          |
| 16    | Lunch website opens      |
| 19    | MLK Day, no school       |
| 21–28 | Book fair                |
| 22    | Parenting workshop       |
| 22    | Lunch website closes     |
| 22    | Chick-fil-a spirit night |

## Guidance Corner

Information is available in the guidance office about scholastic summer programs for students at various institutions of higher learning. Contact Mrs. Koon if you are interested.

## PTO Board Members

### Executive Committee

Co-President	Lori Collins
Co-President	Carrie Singh
Secretary	Liane Kerr
Treasurer	Tiffany Dacuba
Assistant Treasurer	Rebecca Kay
Goals and Evaluation	Kathy Phlegar

### Fundraising

Wrapping Paper/ Cookbook Chair	Linda Stevens
Wrapping Paper/ Cookbook Co-Chair	Suzanne Brown
Boxtops, Grocery & Retail Programs, Ink Recycling	Jeanne Lyles

### Student Support

Lunch Chair	Mandy Costa
Lunch Co-Chair	Teresa Beischel
Lunch Check Reconciliation	Michelle Baxley
Lunch Website Coordinator	Elizabeth Oliver
Knights Say No Chair	Tracy Blanchard
Knights Say No Co-Chair	Kimberly Zimlich
Homeroom Coordinator	Kathleen Martin
PE Uniforms/ School Spirit Items	Michelle Baxley
Mason Used Clothes	Rene Palko
School Supplies Chair	Rosa Barnes
School Supplies Co-Chair	Kay Kiser

### Teacher Support

Teacher Lounge	Kari Cribb
Teacher Appreciation Chair	Heather Walpole
Teacher Appreciation Co-Chair	Elisabeth Hanckel

### Administration/Facility Support

Website Committee Rep	Carrie Singh
Neighborhood Relations	Nancy Miller
Beautification/Decoration	Tea Madden

### Social/Community Building

Hospitality Chair	Rene Palko
Hospitality Co-Chair	Kathleen Duffy
Grandparents Day Chair	Renee Berry
Grandparents Day Co-Chair	Tiffany Dacuba
New Families	Diane Lewis
Family Fun/ Restaurant Nights	Kathleen Duffy

### Communication

President Elect 2009/2010	Rebecca Kay
Student Directory	Sheri Cooper
Newsletter	Caroline Maas
Teacher Representative	Colleen Barth
Headmistress	Dawn Howell
Assistant Headmaster	Erik Kreutner
Admissions & Development	Lynn Kornya

## School Support

### Important Tips for Ordering Lunch Online

Every month the website is open for at least seven days. During that time, there are at least seven ways that reminders to place your order reach you:

1. An email is sent notifying of the website opening.
2. An email is sent to all families that have not ordered two days after the site opens.
3. An email is sent to all families that have not ordered the day before website closes.
4. A sign is placed at carpool notifying of the website opening.
5. A sign is placed at carpool notifying of the website closing.
6. The school calendar includes website dates.
7. A flyer went home at the beginning of the year with all the website dates on it

Be on the lookout for these reminders so you don't miss out on ordering lunch. You have until midnight on closing day to order. The website will not be reopened if you forgot to place your order. If you would like to register additional email addresses for reminders, or if you need to update your email address, you can log on to the website and enter these changes in your account profile.

### Online Ordering Instructions

- On the ordering page after choosing your lunch items, select the "insert order" button. You will be directed to a new page with your order summary and cost.
- Once you see the cost, enter your check number then select the "submit" button. If you don't follow these steps your lunch has not been ordered.
- Please be mindful of your account balances. Any account balance of \$10 or under will not be refunded at the end of the year, but will carry over as credit to next year. Any balance due will be payable by the end of lunch service in May.

— Lunch Committee

### Coming in February

6	Progress reports issued
12	Valentine's parties, grades 1-4
12	Re-enrollment due
13	Lunch website opens
13-16	Winter break
19	Lunch website closes
20	Talent show
26	Chick-fil-a spirit night

## School Support

### MPS Parenting Workshop

The Mason Prep Parenting Workshop will be held on Thursday, January 22, at 7:00 pm. We have a wonderful line-up of speakers for parents of children of all ages so we encourage you to attend. Please gather in the gym at 7:00 and then divide up to attend the two sessions of your choice. Each session will last 45 minutes.

Remember: there will be one Homework Pass per child given to parents who attend. Let's have 100% attendance for this unique opportunity to hear from some of the parenting experts in our community.

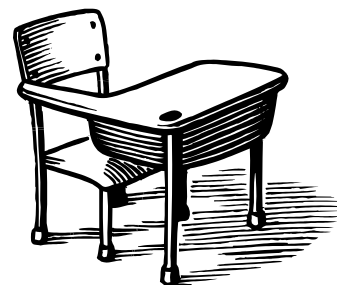
— Carol Koon

### December Teacher Appreciation

The two raffle winners for December were Mrs. Twomey and Mrs. Hahn, who each won a \$25.00 gift card to Target.

Thanks to the 4th grade parents for hosting the December teacher appreciation lunch/breakfast!

— Heather Walpole



### Special Thanks Go Out To:

- The 7th-grade parents for such wonderful pointsettias
- The 6th graders and their parents for another great holiday bazaar
- The PTO Board members for their contribution to the food drive for Crisis Ministries
- The lovely ladies on Bull S.: Lynn Kornya, Stephanie Hair and Annmarie Forsberg, for contributing to the PTO Board food drive
- Ms. Robertson and everyone involved in presenting a fantastic Holiday Program to begin our holiday break
- Mr. B, Mr. Brian and Mr. Rutherford for getting the school ready for our return