

Mason Preparatory School PTO Page March 2009

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,

Spring is nearly here! It's hard to believe how fast the year is going by. The PTO Board of Directors has been busy. You will have noticed by now that the lunch committee revamped the lunch menus with hopes of keeping children and parents happy. We always try to keep our menu options healthy, tasty and affordable.

The board is also bringing back the popular school supply ordering program we initiated last year. Innisbrook works with us to come up with affordable options for purchasing school supplies. Watch for information to come home in the next weeks.

We held our annual Variety Show, which is always a highlight of the year's events. It's such fun to see the students performing in ways we don't get to see during school hours. Special thanks go to Mrs. Duffy and Mr. Rutherford for all they did to make the event possible. And we are going to be holding the next Family Fun Night on March 27! Watch for information to come home.

We are very mindful of the financial challenges that many families are facing. As a result we are going to start putting some monthly tips in the newsletter to help you find ways to save a few dollars here and there. Nationwide PTOs are feeling the financial crunch as well; therefore, simple fundraising measures like saving box tops and recycling ink cartridges are a great way to supplement operating budgets. We have a PTO committee dedicated to these money raising programs.

This year a committee was formed to rewrite the PTO by laws. That committee has been working hard to come up

with a concise, clear set of by laws that best suit the needs of our PTO. Part of the by laws deals with the nomination and election of PTO Board of Directors. We hope to have those processes implemented and our new by laws voted on by year end.

The PTO Board of Directors is actively looking for new members and soliciting nominations for next year's board. Some positions are already filled, but there are openings available. If you are interested in being on the board or you'd like to nominate someone, please contact any board member.

We would also like to thank our current PTO Board for the hours of work they put into making Mason Prep a better place. We have a most wonderful group of women on the board that amaze us with their intellect, dedication, support and humor! Thank you all.

Perhaps the most exciting thing happening this spring, however, is the upcoming launch of the new and improved Mason Prep school website. We look forward in the coming weeks to its launch. Watch backpacks for news to come home from the school. There will be an entire portion of the website that will have important PTO information on it. In the process of uploading that information, a few of us have had the opportunity to sneak a peek at the website and it's going to be fantastic!

We hope this finds you well and that you remember that we are always a phone call or an email away.

Lori Collins and Carrie Singh
2008–2009 PTO Co-Presidents
mpspto@gmail.com

UPROMISE: Free Money for College and Mason Prep!

We encourage MPS families to join Upromise and reap the rewards. Here's how it works:

1. Sign up on line @UPROMISE.COM
2. Shop on line through UPROMISE.COM
3. Eat at participating restaurants
4. Go to the grocery store or drug store
5. Invite family and friends

Want to know more go to www.upromise.com or email Kay Kiser kisermtplsnt@aol.com

Mark Your Calendar for March

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|--------------|--|
| 8–13 | 8th-grade trip to Washington |
| 11–13 | 6th-grade trip to Earthshine |
| 13 | Report cards issued |
| 13 | Lunch website opens |
| 19 | Lunch website closes |
| 16–20 | Spring break |
| 26 | Head's Assembly |
| 27 | Family Fun Night |

Look for the PTO Page at the beginning of each month!

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

Fundraising Notes

Publix Pays Off for MPS

Since its inception, Publix Partners has contributed more than \$10,500 to Mason Prep's PTO (about \$1,000 per year). Pick up a Publix Partners in Education card at any local Publix or the MPS office. Just have the cashier scan your card during every Publix purchase and the school receives a portion of all purchases.

Family Fun Night Talent Show Recap

A great night was had by all at the annual Mason Prep Variety Show. The talent was wonderful and ranged from solo singers, to electric guitar players, to rope jumpers and pogo stick hoppers and comedians. The kids did a fantastic job all around.

Thanks to all the parents who helped. David and Nancy Miller provided food from The Kickin' Chicken; Agnes Yetman made wonderful decorations; and many helped set up and clean up: Kim Carter, Dana Cooper, Paige Stowell, Tammy DeMuth, Rhonda McFee, Bailey Duffy, Kristen Phlegar, Erin Phlegar and Maela Singh.

From the Lunch Committee

The lunch committee doesn't mind if you send your checks in to school in recycled envelopes. Please just be sure that it is clearly marked where the envelope needs to go and what it contains, but feel free to use those envelopes that come from junk mail or bills that you may be paying online.

Coming soon: Online PTO Page

Check the MPS website in the coming months to see the *PTO Page* newsletter, lost and found catalog, and other essential information, online!

Coming in April

1	Drama shows grades 1-4
2	Drama shows grades 5-8
3	Drama shows for families
8	Field Day grades 4-6
9	Field Day grades 1-3
10	Easter Holiday (no school)
17-29	Achievement testing
17	Lunch website opens
23	Lunch website closes

School Support

Save the Date!

March 27, 2009

BINGO

at Mason Prep

Great food, prizes, and family fun!

Get ready to play bingo and join other Mason Prep families for a wonderful night of fun and winning.

Please contact Kathleen Duffy at duffykm@masonprep.org if you are able to volunteer.

Your Monthly Money Saving Tip from the PTO

Did you know that postage stamps are going up in May to \$.44 each? You can save some money by buying the Forever stamp in bulk before then. Buy the Forever stamp at \$.42 before the rates go up, and even after any rate change, the stamp is valid. You can even buy them online and not have to stand in line at the post office.

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February Teacher Appreciation Lunch

Thank you to the sixth grade for hosting the February Teacher Appreciation Lunch!

Special Thanks Go Out To:

- The Nichols, the Kisers, the Singhs, the Nyers, the Lankaus, the Collins, and the Raineros for linking their Upromise accounts to Mason Prep and bringing in extra funds for the PTO while also saving for college.
- Cindy Brams for her stellar Quickbooks knowledge.
- Kathleen Duffy for putting on another great variety show.
- Kathy Phlegar for spearheading the by laws revisions.
- All the parents ordering lunch who send in their checks on time.
- Our MPS kids for being willing to try out some new lunch menu items.
- Mr. Rutherford for all the set up and clean up for the variety show.