



PTO Newsletter



October Edition

Events

Next PTO Meeting: Tuesday, November 17, 2009 in the Foothill Library, from 6:00 to 7:30pm. Please join us to discuss ongoing, upcoming and new PTO projects, learn about volunteer opportunities at Foothill, and meet other parents in the Foothill community. We appreciate everyone's time, energy, and commitment in making Foothill a great school for our children! Childcare is provided by Karen Viggio; please add your child/ren to the list by emailing Annie Weber prior to the meeting date at annie.weber@yahoo.com.

K-Kids Club collection drive

The Foothill K-Kids community service group will be holding a combined collection drive for non-perishable food and personal items during the week **of October 19-23, 2009**. Food items will go to Community Food Share (www.communityfoodshare.org) which will support a number of local assistance programs. Highest priority items are canned fruits, canned tuna/meats, dry cereal, canned meals (stew, chili) and peanut butter. The Boulder Shelter for the Homeless www.bouldershelter.org will receive donated personal items, including toiletries (shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, bath soap, deodorant -- preferably travel size), disposable razors, shaving cream, toothbrushes, feminine hygiene products, Kleenex, and Q-tips. Thank you for supporting these organizations with your donations!

Foothill Family Heritage Potluck

Join our community on **Wednesday, October 28, 2009** from 6:00 to 8:00 pm to celebrate music, crafts, and storytelling from various traditions. Bring your family, a dish to share from your family's heritage, and a piece of long, narrow cloth to weave through our community weaving. Watch for more information to come!
If you are interested in helping with the event, please contact Don Dulchinos at D.Dulchinos@cablelabs.com

Garden to Table Program

Garden Build at Foothill **October 25, 2009!**

Mark your calendars and come join the fun as we put in the garden beds for Foothill's Garden to Table program. We'll be building from 12:00 noon – 3:00pm on Sunday, October 25th. Please bring gloves and tools. We'll provide drinks, snacks, and FREE BOOKS for volunteers.

In the meantime, we need to collect the following materials for the build:

- newspapers (black and white, no colored inserts)
- cardboard (large pieces of brown cardboard for walkways)
- leaves
- grass clippings

Please leave materials under the tarp near the bike racks anytime between now and our build date, or bring them with you on October 25th. Please invite neighbors and friends to join us! No gardening experience necessary. Kids are welcome!

Kathy Tucker
Co-chair, Garden to Table
tuckerk7@gmail.com

Bingo in November!

Please join us for another fun-filled family night! The second BINGO of the school year – benefiting Foothill's THIRD GRADE CLASSROOMS - will be held on **Friday, November 13, 2009** in the cafeteria. Admission is \$2/person; bingo cards are \$1/each, with all proceeds going directly to the 3rd grade classrooms. Mark your calendars now, and third grade families, please see the VOLUNTEER sign-up sheet at the end of the newsletter with information on donating your time or snack items! For general questions about BINGO or to volunteer, please contact Dana Bacardi at 303-669-2150 or dana@therewithcare.org. See you at BINGO!

5:30-6:00 PIZZA, SODA, POPCORN & CANDY

6:00-7:30 BINGO

Fall Book Fair

The book fair is coming in November! Please watch for information in this month's Foothill Flyer, or contact our committee chair Cristina McGarr with questions or offers to volunteer: cristina@mcgarrfamily.com.

Volunteers Needed!

HELP!!!! WE NEED YOU!

Did we get your attention? Great, because the PTO needs your help on the following committees:

Landscaping: Sunday, October 25th 12 - 3pm - Join the Garden to Table crew to tidy up the school grounds and build beds for the new garden. There are a few landscaping volunteers already, and we need a Chair to coordinate them and supplies. Previous chairs have left great notes and a wealth of ideas, so all we need is a little elbow grease!

Heritage Night: Wednesday, October 28th, 6-8pm - We need a few more volunteers for set-up (4-6pm); during the event (6-8pm); and clean-up (8-9pm). Please contact Don Dulchinos at dopod@indra.com if you are available to help.

Grandparents' Event: Friday, November 20th - We need a Chair for this event to decide what direction to take this fun way to have different generations interact. In the past, we have done a coffee/tea, however, this event could be as simple as "Bring your favorite senior to school" for an after school tour. Your imagination is the only limit!

Publishing Center - Spring 2010 - We need a co-chair to help Corey Strohmeier (coreystrohmeier@yahoo.com) coordinate this special activity that helps our students publish one of their own stories into a keepsake book.

If you are able to help out with any of these committees in any capacity, please contact Heather Bush, VP of Fundraising and Community Events at heather.bush@comcast.net or 303-449-5258.

Updates



Feed the Fox

THANK YOU TO ALL THE FAMILIES THAT CONTRIBUTED TO OUR ANNUAL FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN. This year's program was our most successful ever. We raised over **\$54,725 dollars**, with a **54% participation rate** across our families.

The money raised will be used to support whole-school programs such as para-educators for increased playground safety, a music equipment upgrade, art room upgrades, a literacy tutor, assemblies, staff professional development and classroom mini grants.

As part of our Feed the Fox appeal, we conducted 2 competitions. First, our **Classroom Participation Competition** was a huge success. Our big winner was Ms. Bogner's K-PM class which logged a 78.3% participation rate. The students in that class have received tee shirts to celebrate this achievement. We are also awarding **CU Basketball tickets as part of a Foothill Basketball Party Event** to the 12 classes that achieved at least 55% participation.

12 Classroom Winners

- ✓ Barbara Bogner K-PM
- ✓ Shelley Lawton K-AM
- ✓ Shelley Lawton K-PM
- ✓ Anna Dicorleto 1st
- ✓ Jenny Grace 1st
- ✓ Mimi Soell 1st
- ✓ Lindsay Freeman 2nd
- ✓ Elizabeth Martin 2nd
- ✓ Holli Hoskins 3rd
- ✓ Shannon Van Scotter 3rd
- ✓ Lisa Kennedy 4th
- ✓ Kimberly Kleinman 4th

If you have children in these classes, stay tuned for information as to dates and times of the chosen basketball games. We plan to award 2 tickets to each student in these classes (one for them and one for a parent/guardian).

Our second competition was a drawing for **CU Football Tickets** for families that had contributed by Sept 8. **Winners are:**

- ✓ Julia Castillo
- ✓ Carson Bennett
- ✓ Eva Martinez
- ✓ Daniel Sussman

These students will be receiving 4 tickets to an upcoming CU Buffs football game.

It is not too late to contribute to Feed the Fox. Online donations can be made via the Just Give, "Donate Now" link: <http://www.bvsd.org/schools/foothill/Pages/default.aspx>, or via checks made to "Foothill PTO" (memo "Feed the Fox") and mailed to or left in the school office.

Thanks again for your support!
Kris Pederson, Feed the Fox Co-Chair

KidzArt Coming Soon!

Please watch for the KidzArt order form coming soon to students' Friday Folders. There will be a variety of fun things to order as gifts (delivered in time for the holidays) or for yourself using your child's artwork. A portion of the sales go directly to PTO. All the details will be included on the order form. Questions? Please e-mail Caroline Douglas at spd3cjd@msn.com.

Fox Tracks

Please cast your vote for Freiker. Patagonia is running a Voice Your Choice campaign to give money to a local environmental organization and Freiker is one of the three finalists! Cast your vote at the Pearl Street store until October 24. Here is the link for more information:

http://www.patagonia.com/web/us/patagonia.go?sssdmh=dm23.115934&assetid=24317&src=store_vyc

The new incentive program is going great – and we have handed out over 300 wristbands so far! Our students have made almost 4000 car-free trips to school! More wristbands will be awarded on the following Fridays at lunch recess-October 23, November 13 and December 11. All records must be up-to-date by the Monday preceding those dates. Please see the school website for complete details. <http://bvsd.org/schools/foothill/parents/Pages/VolunteerOpportunities.aspx>
Contact Blair Norman at Blairnorman@mac.com with other questions.

Thank you to everyone, including the volunteers, who participated in International Walk & Bike to School Day this year. Mother Nature gifted us with a glorious day and everyone's spirits seemed high. Last year, there was a 50% participation rate. According to our first count, we reached 67% this year (21% cyclists, 16% walkers, 30% bus riders). Congratulations, Foothill!

The event will be repeated next April for Earth Day. Any suggestions on how to improve this event in the future can be sent to Mary Closser at maclosser@gmail.com.

K-Kids Club

The Foothill K-Kids community service group meets on Tuesdays. Students can participate in planning meetings anytime during their lunch or mid-day recess each Tuesday between 11am and noon – and parents are invited to participate as well. Meetings are held in the conference room in the school library – where it is okay to bring in lunch. Depending on what plans the group decides to pursue, there may be activities that individuals or families can complete to help with a project, or times for group project work outside of school hours. The club website <http://sites.google.com/site/foothillkkids/> will be used to post information about projects. You can contact the group via email at foothill.k.kids@gmail.com.

Meet & Greets

A great big thank-you to all the hosts, parents and teachers who participated in the grade-level Meet & Greet socials and fundraisers. The events were very successful this year, raising significant funds for grade-level classroom needs. Totals raised were:

Kindergarten: \$1,330
1st grade: \$765
2nd grade: \$1,160
3rd grade: \$950
4th grade: \$905
5th grade: \$370

Bingo!

Thanks to all who joined in the fun on our first Bingo Night of the school year. The 4th grade classrooms raised over \$1,000! We hope to see everyone at the next Bingo, coming up on November 13th – sponsored by the 3rd grade.

PayBack and GoldC coupon books are still available at Foothill!

The Foothill PTO is happy to once again offer BOTH the Payback and GoldC coupon books for sale as a family benefit/PTO fundraiser. These coupon books offer discounts including \$5 off purchases, 20% off specials, and BOGO specials at many local and Denver stores, restaurants, museums, businesses, and ski resorts. Funds raised from the sale of these coupon books (\$5-\$10 per book in profits for Foothill!) come directly to the PTO, while you and your family will enjoy savings at merchants like Safeway, Glacier Ice Cream, Grand Rabbit's Toy Shoppe, Sunflower Farmer's Market, Denver area museums and attractions, and several Colorado ski areas! These coupon books will be available throughout the fall at upcoming Bingo Nights and/or other Foothill events, or by contacting our coupon book sales coordinator, Annie Weber, at annie.weber@yahoo.com. We can send books directly home with your child/ren and accept payment through your child/ren's teacher/classroom. Thanks for your support!

PTO Newsletter/Foothill Flyer

Please remember that the PTO is committed to utilizing the newsletter and/or monthly Foothill Flyer to convey important event information, dates, volunteer needs, and gratitude to our Foothill community. We are continually working to streamline communications, and strive to be as paper-free as possible in the process! Parents, please watch these publications for important reminders, updates, and general information about happenings at Foothill! **NEXT PTO NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION DEADLINE: Wednesday, November 18, 2009**

Green Star Schools: Go Green - Halloween/Party Tips!



Putting the GREEN in Halloween

Halloween is fast approaching and the students at Foothill are getting more excited with each passing day. With this spirit in mind, let's do our part to support green practices for Halloween parties both at home and at school!

- Avoid paper invitations by using free online sources or make your own digital invitations.
- Take time to make your own decorations which can be used year after year.
- Consider a costume exchange with friends, shop a second-hand store or tap into your creativity and make your own!
- Use dishes and cutlery that can be washed and reused (see below).
- Provide finger foods that require no utensils and can be served on napkins or paper towels, which are compostable. Buy foods that are organic, whole and, if possible, local. Purchase items with the least packaging. Make it festive – choose orange and black food items such as carrots, raisins and orange bell peppers.
- If you are using table coverings, avoid plastic tablecloths that are disposable. School butcher paper can be decorated by students and composted after the party. If you already have a plastic tablecloth, wash and reuse it as opposed to disposing of it after one use.
- Make Halloween prizes and gifts from recycled or natural materials. Keeping it simple will teach our children the value of moderation.
- Compost and recycle food scraps and leftover party items.

Thanks to parent donated PTO funds, all of our classrooms at Foothill have been outfitted with reusable plates and cups. Additional reusable cups, bowls and flatware are available if needed. Please contact Machal Gillach at mayoshihara@yahoo.com for further information about these items. Have a safe and fun Halloween and remember to reduce, reuse and recycle!

Treasurer's Report

Fundraising through the Foothill Elementary PTO is off to another wonderful year thanks to your generous donations. We made well over the budgeted \$50,000 and made \$12,000 more than last year.

The Meet & Greets were also very successful. The teachers appreciate all your help for their classroom wish lists.

The 4th Grade Bingo kicked-off the Bingo season with earnings of \$1,228, and we're sure the other grades will do just as well.

As you may know, the PTO has an open book policy. Therefore, here is the Treasurer's Report for the period including August 1, 2009 through October 5, 2009:

Foothill Elementary PTO 2009 Financial Year Treasurer's Report 08/01/2009 to 10/05/09				
	Income	Expenses Paid Out	Budgeted Amt. O/S	
FEED THE FOX FUNDRAISER				
Feed the Fox Income	54,725.15	-		
Literacy Tutor	-	12,500.00		
Para Support	-	8,500.00		
FH Support-Art	-	3,000.00		
FH Support - PE	-	1,000.00		
FH Support - Music	-	1,000.00		
FH Support-Prof Dev Conf	-	3,500.00		
FH Support - Spec Ed.	-	500.00		
FH Support - Tag	-	500.00		
FH Support - ESL	-	500.00		
Classroom Support	-	4,700.00		
Liaison - Students in Need	-	400.00	400.00	*
Liaison - Comm. Building	-	200.00		*
Assemblies	0	0	6,500.00	*
Assemblies - CAP	0	0	1,000.00	*
Scholarships			1,500.00	*
Total	54,725.15	36,300.00	6,900.00	
				*The remaining budgeted expenses are paid out as needed.
MEET & GREET FUNDRAISERS				
Kinder. Meet & Greet	1,330.00	1,330.00		
1st Grade Meet & Greet	765.00	765.00		
2nd Grade Meet & Greet	1,160.00	1,160.00		
3rd Grade Meet & Greet	950.00	950.00		
4th Grade Meet & Greet	905.00	905.00		
5th Grade Meet & Greet	370.00	370.00		
Total	5,480.00	5,480.00		
BINGO NIGHT FUNDRAISER				
1st. Grade Bingo	-	-		
2nd. Grade Bingo	-	-		
3rd. Grade Bingo	-	-		
4th. Grade Bingo	1,228.53	1,228.53		
5th. Grade Bingo	-	-		
Total	1,228.53	1,228.53		
PTO SERVICES				
T-Shirt	2,225.00	2,434.00		
Coupon books/BoxTops	1,490.00	-		
Yearbooks	4,815.00	-		
Total	8,530.00	2,434.00		
PTO SERVICES				
Target	163.75	-		
Whole Foods Bag CR	-	-		
Scrips/Ink Cart. recycle	25.17	-		
Friday Folders	-	486.00		
Total	188.92	486.00		

If you have any questions, please contact Laura Rogers at laura_rogers@comcast.net.

Thank you,
 Laura Rogers, Treasurer, Shina Culberson, Asst. Treasurer, and Tucker Humphrey, Bingo Treasurer

BINGO VOLUNTEERS

Dear 3rd-grade Parents,

Third Grade is hosting the next Bingo Fundraiser of the year on Friday, November 13th from 5:30 - 7:30pm. This is a great opportunity to support your child's classroom while having a social night out with other families from our school community. All proceeds from this event go DIRECTLY to the hosting grade's classrooms and will greatly benefit the 3rd grade - but this cannot be done without your help!

If you are willing to help in any way, please contact Dana Bacardi by e-mail at dana@therewithcare.org or by phone at 303-669-2150 as soon as possible.

This BINGO event will be a fun *and* fund-raising opportunity for our THIRD grade classrooms. If there are not enough volunteers, the event will be canceled. Please help us make this a successful BINGO event! The teachers greatly appreciate our help in raising money for the classrooms.

Thank you very much!!

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS *and* DONATED ITEMS

If you are interested, would you prefer to donate an item (such as candy, soda, or prizes) or volunteer your time during Bingo? Please e-mail me the following information:

Your name/phone number/email AND your child's name/teacher

Please indicate whether you would prefer to:

* Volunteer your time – this would be a 1-hour time commitment to help set up, distribute food or collect money.

* Volunteer to donate drinks and candy. Drinks include bottled water, canned juices or non-caffeinated sodas. The candies we need are Skittles or regular M&M's.

* Donate prize(s) – Age appropriate, gender specific and neutral.

Because we are only the second Bingo of the year, our prize supply is quite diminished; all donations big and small are greatly appreciated!

* Make a monetary donation – we will apply it towards grand prize purchases, supplies and/or the 5th grade fund.

****Donated prizes, snacks and drinks must be dropped off in 3rd grade classrooms by Friday, November 13th.**

Please contact Dana Bacardi at 303-669-2150 or via email at: Dana@therewithcare.org with any questions, or to volunteer!
Thank you!