



PTO Newsletter



September Edition

Events

Next PTO Meeting: Tuesday, October 20, 2009 in the Foothill Library, 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.

Bingo is Back!

Come one, come all, for a fun-filled family night! The **FIRST BINGO** of the school year will be held on **Friday, October 2, 2009** in the cafeteria! Admission is \$2.00/person; bingo cards are \$1/each, with all proceeds going directly to the 4th grade classrooms. Mark your calendars now!

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

6:00-7:30 BINGO

Please join us to support the 4th grade class, and to volunteer please print and return the form at the end of the newsletter, or contact Jane O'Herron at:

International Walk to School Day

The International Walk *and* Bike to school event will occur again this year on **Wednesday, October 7**. Children all over the world will take part in walking and biking to school, and our local event also includes students who bus to school! This event requires a tremendous amount of organization and assistance, especially between the hours of 7:45 and 8:45 a.m. on October 7th. Some volunteers will check in walkers and cyclists at the school, while others will lead 'Walking & Biking school buses' from designated areas north and south of the school.

If you would be willing to assist with this event or have any questions or suggestions, please contact Mary Closser at maclosser@gmail.com or 303-442-3129. Please mention your area of interest.

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

Updates

Feed the Fox

Thank you to all the Foothill families who have participated in our Feed the Fox donation drive! Your generous contributions and support are essential to making Foothill an amazing school for our children. We will have a complete update in the next Foothill Flyer (which will be distributed on Friday, October 2nd) to include participation and donation totals, as well as list the winners of our classroom participation competition and CU Buffs ticket drawing.

Meet & Greets

Many of you have already gathered for grade-level Meet & Greet evenings – thank you for your participation and support! We hope you've enjoyed socializing with teachers, meeting new families, and helping to fund important and exciting purchases for your child's classroom(s). For those of you who have not yet attended, check your child(ren)'s Friday Folders for the Meet & Greet invitation and information! We hope you have attended, or will be able to attend your grade-level event.

Garden to Table Program

Garden to Table is coming to Foothill! We will be the 10th Boulder Valley school to implement this innovative wellness curriculum. We will be setting a date for the garden build for sometime in October and welcome all Foothill families to participate. Here is some general information about the program and how it is being implemented at Foothill. What is Garden to Table? The Garden to Table program provides elementary schools with the resources and support to build vegetable gardens and create hands on learning experiences for students by growing, preparing and eating healthy food. For more information about Garden to Table, please visit www.growefoundation.org.

Current status at Foothill: The Garden to Table committee, which includes teachers, parents, Ms. Potes, and Bryce Brown and Deborah Foy from the Growe Foundation, is currently working on designing the garden space and planning a date to build. The garden will be located where the portable used to sit. We are determining whether to put in raised beds or ground plots, and how many plots to put in at this time. Upcoming events will include the garden build, a tool drive, and a drive to collect newspapers, cardboard and dry leaves for composting.

If you have ideas and expertise to contribute, please contact Kathy Tucker at tuckerk7@gmail.com. We welcome all volunteers regardless of gardening experience! Please watch for monthly garden updates in the Foothill Flyer and/or PTO newsletters. We'll keep you posted about the garden, what's growing, and what's cooking!

Fox Tracks

Thanks to so many students and parents for choosing to have a car-free commute to school so far this year. What glorious weather we have had to start off our car-free commuting. We have posted all the specifics of the program this year on the school website (link provided, below). Once on the website, please scroll down to the 'Fox Tracks committee' for current information:

<http://bvsd.org/schools/foothill/parents/Pages/VolunteerOpportunities.aspx>

Hopefully, every student who needed a new tag for the Fox Tracks program has received one. Mariella Colvin will be near the Freiker pole Monday afternoons in her Fox Tracks shirt if you experience any problems, or you can email Blair Norman with any questions at Blairnorman@mac.com. Please register your tag at freiker.org as soon as possible if you are a new participant.

If you are replacing a tag, just add it to your child's current tags on the website. If your child is already registered from last year, we are asking everyone to re-register this year. We have added a distance field so we can track CO2 saved and miles ridden! Bus riders can participate also. Please first register your child by putting your child's name/grade in the subject line and include an estimate of how far your child commutes to school one way. Please log your car-free trips by sending an email monthly or bi-monthly to foxtracks.bus@gmail.com. If your child bikes sometimes also, please include these days when you log your bus totals.

We have some families interested in riding bikes to school at least once a week from the Wonderland Hills Neighborhood. If you would like to join them in a 'bikepool' please contact Blair so we can put you in touch with each other.

Notice any green wristbands lately? Ask how the kids got them! And remember to mark your calendars for International **Walk to School Day** coming up on Wednesday, October 7!

PayBack and GoldC coupon books are 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 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.

K-Kids Club

The Foothill Elementary K-Kids Club started in the fall of 2008. The group is involved in community service projects as directed by the students involved, with support from faculty and staff of the school, along with parents. K-Kids is the largest international elementary school-age service group.

The K-Kids' motto is "We Build" and its objectives are:

- To provide opportunities for working together in service to school and community
- To develop leadership potential
- To foster the development of a strong moral character
- To encourage loyalty to school, community and nation

During the previous school year, K-Kids completed projects for Community Food Share, Share-a-Gift, Colorado Children's Day, and other charitable activities. There is even a brick in the front hallway of the school announcing the formation of this group, which in turn supports the acquisition of new playground equipment.

For Fall 2009

Students can participate in meetings anytime during their lunch or mid-day recess each Tuesday between 11:00am and noon. Meetings are held in the conference room of the school library (it is okay for students to bring their lunches into that room). Please ask your child to inform his/her primary classroom teacher about their attendance and remind them that participation in K-Kids cannot conflict with their normal classroom time – they must plan for time to get to and from their regular classroom. Depending on what plans the group decides to act upon, there may be project meetings or work outside of school hours – and more information will be posted here (or in the monthly Foothill Flyer).

For more information on K-Kids, please email foothill.k.kids@gmail.com or visit our website at <http://sites.google.com/site/foothillkkids/> or call Paul Bailey at 303-520-0200.

PTO Newsletter/Foothill Flyer

Please remember that PTO tries hard to utilize 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!

STUDENT DIRECTORY – Deadline September 30th

It is time once again to publish our Student Directory. To be included, **we must receive written authorization** from parents/guardians from each household **by September 30, 2009**. The Directory listing will include a home address and contact number for each enrolled child in your family, and students are listed in both alphabetical order and by individual classes.

Please print and return the following form to school (the form can also be found on our website at www.bvsd.org/schools/foothill) or email Jill Bagley at bagleyjl@comcast.net. Each Foothill household will receive a complimentary copy of the directory, regardless of whether you opt for your family to be listed.

Foothill Student Directory Authorization

VERY IMPORTANT! Please mark your request:

Please include my child/children's contact information in the 2009 – 2010 Student Directory.

Do not include my child/children's contact information in the 2009 – 2010 Student Directory.

Student(s):

Address*:

Phone Number:

Parent Signature:

**Address information is included in the Directory if you choose to be listed, and is requested for office use only should you opt out of the Directory. Thank you!*

BINGO VOLUNTEERS

Dear 4th-grade Parents,

Fourth Grade is hosting the first Bingo Fundraiser of the year on Friday, October 2nd 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 4th grade. This cannot be done without your help!

If you are willing to help in any way, please contact Katie Hawk by e-mail at katie.hawk@gmail.com or at home at 303-449-1422 by Wednesday, September 23rd.

This BINGO event is for the FOURTH grade classrooms. If there are not enough volunteers this 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 the first 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 are to be dropped off at the classroom by Friday, October 2nd.**