

September 2011
Volume 2, Issue 1

MES PTO Newsletter

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Character Education Trait of the Quarter:

Enthusiastic

*Have the character
trait of
enthusiasm
about getting the
job done.
People will
respect a person
who shows hard
work, passion
and dedication.*

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From the Principal's desk:

We have a phenomenal school year planned at Monaco Elementary. We are implementing three new programs this year:

First, is our theme for the year: *Making a Difference at MES*. If you know of anyone on campus that has made a difference in your child's life or at MES, please contact one of the office staff. Students who make a difference at MES will be announced at Huddle every six weeks and staff members will be announced during Faculty Meetings. The Making a Difference Wall is on the red hallway by the cafeteria. Please stop by and see who is making a difference at MES.

Second, is the Watch D.O.G.S.(Dads of Great Students) Program under the leadership of our school counselor, Mrs. Wright. It was an inspiring evening to see over 130 dads at the opening assembly who are ready to make a difference at MES. Our dads have signed up to dedicate one day during the year to be on campus with our students. "Thank you dads" for your willingness to step up and be a leader at our school and in our *community*.

The third program is the "Word of the Day". The goal of this program is to improve students' written and oral vocabulary skills. A new vocabulary word is introduced school wide to the student body, posted in classrooms, and in the red hallway each day. Please ask your child what word he/she learned each day.

Please remember your child's attendance at school is very important. If possible, make appointments for your child after school or late in the day. If your child is ill, please keep them at home so as not to spread the illness among classmates. Thank you!

I can't tell you how proud I am of our dedicated staff. They are an incredibly gifted group of committed professionals that are devoted to providing your child with an exemplary well-rounded education. IT IS GOING TO BE A GREAT YEAR! Jana Lowman

MES PTO President Message:

Dear MES Families,

We are very excited and looking forward to another great school year at MES. Please check out our new website for more details and updates throughout the year.

<http://monacoelempto.digitalpto.com>

September is "Join the PTO Month". The Monaco PTO Membership is only \$6 for an individual Membership and \$10 for a family to join. Forms are available on the last page of this newsletter. We also have additional forms available in the front office, our website, Monaco website and on the PTO Message Board.

Let's all "Make a difference" together at MES! Join the PTO today!

Sincerely,

Kelli Lavi, Monaco PTO President

Volunteers are seldom paid; not because they are worthless, but because they are PRICELESS! ~author unknown

PTO Highlights

We couldn't do it without you! Our sincere appreciation is sent to all the volunteers who donated their time, money or items to the success of our 2010-2011 school year!

Thanks to all of your efforts, we were able to raise over \$7,000 to support the educational goals and projects of MES.

2010-2011 PTO Funds purchased and/or helped with the following events:

Grandparents/ Special Friend Week
 5th Grade Camp Goddard Sponsorship
 2nd Grade Science Kits
 UIL Competition
 Book fairs
 Door prize donations
 MES Choir Field Trip
 Teachers Classroom Supplies
 5th Grade Frog Math Sets
 Sponsored Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

Sponsored MES Movie Night
 Teacher Appreciation Luncheons & Gifts
 Sponsored Spring Carnival Fundraiser
 Learning Garden Signs
 Box Top Classroom Parties
 Classroom Pizza Parties
 Classroom Popcorn Parties
 PTO Supplies
 Kitchen Supplies
 Bulletin Boards
 Science Section in the library



Featured Staff: MES Power Behind the Machine – Did You Know?

CONGRATULATIONS! PTO FEATURED STAFF OF THE QUARTER

Have you ever found yourself wondering about who is the power behind the machine that is Monaco Elementary school. Well wonder no longer! Whether it is a welcoming smile, kind words of encouragement or a gentle reminder of appropriate hallway behavior, the front office team keep the machine running smoothly!

A small team of five great ladies, willing to go the extra mile to support our students at a moment's notice, keep well over 300 students with staff involved, on the right track and most importantly Happy to be at school!

Thank You for all you do!



.MES Administrative Staff: Front row (l-r) Mrs. Lisa Henry, Mrs. Jill Bruce, Mrs. Jana Lowman. Back row (l-r) Mrs. Carla Daniel and Mrs. Dusty Wright

MES PTO Meeting Minutes & Dates

Have a Minute?

Our MES PTO has strong membership with very active parent volunteers and dedicated teacher representatives. However, monthly meeting attendance is relatively low. You may miss out on having your

voice heard when it is needed most. Our members are the heart of our organization; they determine the course of action we need to take!

Taking the value of your family time into consideration, this year the MES PTO will host

two (2) PTO meetings with one meeting per semester. Watch your kiddos folders and e-mails for updates on our 1st Fall Meet-n-Greet PTO meeting. You will also find meeting minutes posted in our quarterly newsletter and the PTO website!



Fundraiser News

For the 2011-2012 school year, the MES PTO will focus on three fundraising events. Aren't you glad you already completed the first one! The PTO sponsored Fundraising events for 2011-2012 are:

- (1) School Supplies (Summer 2011)
- (2) Box Tops for Education (All school year)
- (3) First Annual Fun Run (February 2012)

The success of the selected events is critical to your participation. Our priority this year is to keep family first while maintaining our support for the school. The fundraising goal this school year will help us continue to support the Monaco Learning Garden, sponsor our annual Teacher Appreciation events as well as contribute to the educational fund as determined by MES leadership and staff. We are off to a great start but we cannot do this without you! Stay tuned for more updates....



Box Tops for Education



Box Tops help us earn money for our school! You can find a complete listing of participating products and coupons online at www.boxtops4education.com. Please check out the Marketplace tab located on the website. Just by shopping through Box Tops, you can earn money for our school. It's that easy!

We will have two contests this school year. Our first contest ends Oct 14th. The classroom with the most Box Tops will win a special party for the students to enjoy. You can put your box tops in a sandwich bag or have your child fill out a Box Top sheet. Box top sheets are available online or in the front office. Please make sure you put your teacher's name to get credit for your class. You can send in your box tops with your child and your child or teacher will visit our new Box Top School house located in the front office to deposit box tops!

Start collecting today!

Monaco PTO



Hospitality Update

MES Staff Luncheons

The PTO really enjoys providing our staff a luncheon to show how much we appreciate them for what they do for our school. If you would like to

donate baked or store bought food items and/or paper goods for a luncheon please contact us. We will need your best recipes and dishes.

This year there will be three staff luncheons throughout the school

year with birthday celebrations and surprise snack days in between (Shhh...it's a secret)!

Answer the call to volunteer when the e-mail comes your way!



Craft Corner

This craft uses my three Favorite words – Cheap, Easy & Fun!

What a better way to spend time together and preserve your child's age & size!

You only need: White thick paper and Washable Paint (brown, red,

yellow & green).

*Start by covering work area & getting clean-up materials ready.

* Use the brown paint to cover the child's hand and forearm. Use a generous amount.

* Help them lay their arm & hand on paper and gently press arm & hand and roll fingers slightly. Lift arm straight

up off of paper. Clean arm ☺

* Have them dip fingers in other colors for creating the leaves on the tips and around the fingers (the branches). You can also add grass, or flowers at the bottom. A different color paper makes a great looking border.

Have fun!



One Minute Snack Mix



Bear Mix:

Teddy Grahams, Cheerios, raisins, mini pretzels and a few chocolate chips.



Crunchy Munchy:

Pretzels, Rice or Corn Chex, Cheerios, peanuts, Craisins and a few M&M's.



Super Snack:

Life, Cheerios, and Corn Pops cereals with golden raisins.

Let the Good Times Roll

September

Sept. 14 Read to Feed Meeting in Library 2:30 pm.

Sept. 16 StuCo elections 3rd - 5th grades; Muffins with Grandparents 7 am.

Sept. 22 Camp Goddard chaperone meeting 6:30 pm.

Sept. 23 Picture Day; Cookie dough fundraiser kickoff

Sept. 26-28 5th grade to Camp Goddard

Sept. 30 PTO Luncheon; Huddle

October

Oct. 1 Aubrey Peanut Festival

Oct. 3 PTO Meet & Greet

Oct. 7 End of Cookie Dough Fundraiser

Oct. 17 All Smiles Dental Mobile

Oct. 25 Fall Box Tops Contest ends

Oct. 28 Character Parade

Oct. 31-Nov. 4 Book Fair

November

Nov. 3 Picture Re-takes

Nov. 3 SWASHBUCKLE – An Educational Pirate Adventure

Nov. 3-4 Parent/Teacher Conferences

Nov. 11 3rd grade field trip

Nov. 14 All Smiles Dental Mobile

Nov. 21-25 Thanksgiving Break



Save the Dates & Mark your Calendars!

PTO Membership Drive

JOIN MES PTO
2011-2012!

Welcome all new and returning families to Monaco Elementary School!

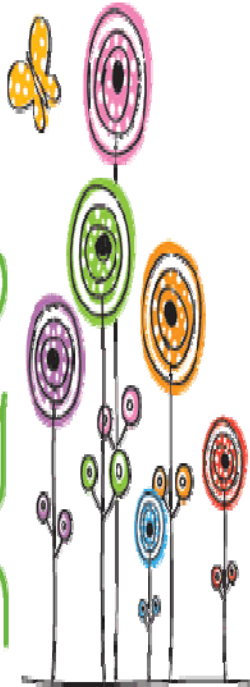
2010-2011 Membership:
140

2011-2012 Membership Goal:
165

- Volunteer
- Get Involved
- Make A Difference

Visit the new Monaco PTO website at:
<http://monacoelempto.digitalpto.com/>

Monaco
Learning
Garden



Monaco PTO Elementary School



THE EXCITING NEW EVENT YOU'VE BEEN WAITING FOR

Event scheduled for February 2012
If you have any questions about the FUN Run in general, or are interested in sponsoring this event, please email the Monaco_pto@yahoo.com.

President and Fundraising Committees

Kelli Lavi

Vice President of Membership & Volunteer Coordination

Tricia Blankenship

Vice President of Special Events & Hospitality

Julie Loyd

Secretary and Treasurer

Tanisha Freeman

If you are interested in a Chair position please contact the Monaco PTO!

Stay Connected!

E-Mail us at:

Monaco_pto@yahoo.com