Pleasant View Monthly

February 2010

Your PTO Contacts

President
Kirsten Wujek
769-7413
norskewujek@tds.net

Vice President
Chris Squier
769-4424
csquier@indy.rr.com

Secretary
Jennifer Pratt
733-8470
jenjpratt@yahoo.com

Treasurer
Molly Griffin
873-1616
mgriffin3@indy.rr.com

Student Services
Kristy Parker
769-3187
kristy.parker@tds.net

Staff Services
Lesley Hargrave
873-4336
lhargrave@indy.rr.com
Debbi Kuller
733-1777
dkuller@indy.rr.com

Fundraising
Tracy Pappas
769-4094
tracypappas@earthlink.net
Jen Kennedy
873-6332
jenkennedy@indy.rr.com

Newsletter
Ginger Lenig
769-5819
gingerlenig@indy.rr.com

Publicity
Andrea Stevens
733-1320
mom@stevensfamily.net

Enrichment
Sharon Gall
769-3999
sgall@indy.rr.com

Principal Points - Chad Smith

I hope this February note finds you and your family enjoying the days of winter. February is a busy, short month with many events coming up.

Our big day this month will be the February 26th, Kokomo Beach Day. This fun-in-the-make-believe sun day will be flowered shirts and the beach fun! Bring your towels to use for the picnic lunch on the "beach" in the cafeteria. We will have music to get in the mood. Shorts, T-shirts, sunglasses, etc. are fine for inside wear this day, but you will need to have additional warm clothes for outside recess. (No swimsuits, please)

Also in February, we will have shark dissection for third grade. This fun event will take place in the afternoon on February 26th.

As a reminder, we have no school on February 15th (Presidents' Day).

In February, we also looked to celebrate past President Abraham Lincoln. Lincoln's 200th birthday, was on February 12th of last year. We had many activities to celebrate this event. This year, we have a storyteller sharing with our third and fourth students (she portrays a childhood friend of Lincoln). For our K-2 students, she offers parallel life skill traits that we teach through the story of The Traveling Hat Salesman. February will also see awareness for many areas. Mrs. Drake has helped lead a heart awareness program, "Go Red for Women." She shares this movement with PVE to support the goal of living a healthy lifestyle. Each day, facts about heart health are shared with our students on the morning announcements. The students and staff have brought awareness to heart disease by wearing red on Friday, February 5th. With both Walk Across America and Go Red for Women, we are encouraging our students, staff, and parents to live a heart healthy lifestyle. We want to encourage the PVE family to be a fit, active, healthy one. "

Pleasant View Elementary was honored by the Zionsville Times Sentinel, People's Choice Awards. Mrs. Beth Smith was selected as best teacher! PVE is very proud of Mrs. Smith! In addition, she was also selected last year! Also honored was our very own BAC program. It was voted one of the top 3 after school programs. Great Job Mrs. Smith and BAC!!!!

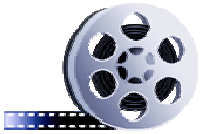
Help Keep Your School Healthy

Just a reminder of ways to help keep our students and school personnel healthy:

- If your child has been ill with a temperature of 100 degrees or above, he/she needs to be fever free for 24 hours before returning to school.
- Students must be on antibiotics for 24 hours before returning to school when the child has pink eye or strep throat.
- If your child has been up during the night vomiting or with diarrhea, keep them home for the day.

If you have suspicion of pink eye, or strep throat, keep them home and check with your doctor. Please remind everyone to use **good hygiene**, washing hands, covering coughs and sneezes can help keep everyone healthy.

PVE PTO Thanks Movie Night Volunteers



PVE PTO would like to thank the following volunteers
for their assistance with the January Movie Night event:

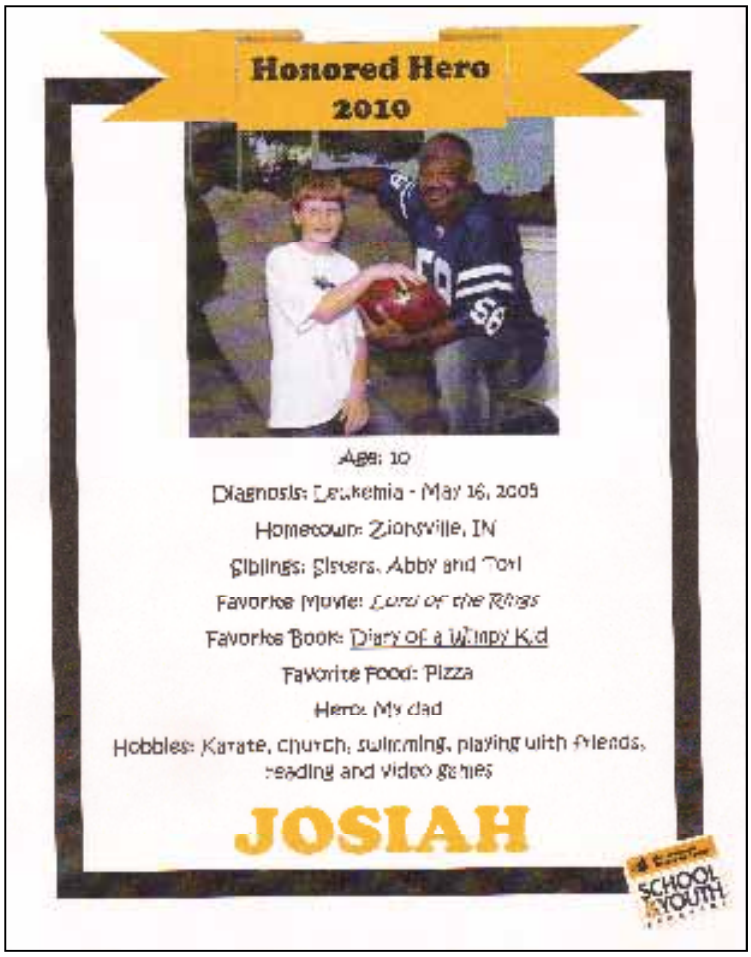
Christine Phifer, Heather Magnussen, Ellen Wehrle, Vikki Soliday,
Mike Gillespie, Betsy Corridan, Cindy Strachan, Susan Wenban, Lisa Donoho,
Caleb Donoho, Andrea Stevens, Zach Stevens, Kristi Jackson, and Kristy Parker.

Many Thanks To You, Our PVE Families!

We had a wonderful turnout for the PVE Arts Fair. The school was full of families enjoying the Peter Pan performance, stacking cups, jumping rope, dancing and cake walking. Thanks for coming out. Teachers are thankful for the new book bins PTO has purchased for their classroom libraries. It is always a pleasure for me when a teacher comes up and says "Thank you, thank you for all the work PTO does for us. We love the new bins!". Book bins were purchased for all teachers at the school with monies from the PTO. Your fundraising efforts and donations help us help our teachers which then helps our students.

WAY TO GO PVE FAMILIES!
Kirsten Wujek, PVE PTO President

PVE Students Can "Make A Difference"



PVE students have an amazing opportunity to **Make a Difference"** in the lives of children battling blood cancers. Monday, February 8th kicks off the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's **"Pennies for Patients"** fund drive.

Our school has a very special connection to this cause as 4th grader, Josiah Nelson (diagnosed with leukemia in May 2005) is a **2010 Honored Hero** (see attached). After a brave and courageous 3 ½ year battle, Josiah will be considered fully cured this May!

So, let's all "**Make a Difference" …** send in to your classroom's collection box all your loose change/ dollar bills and help us break our school goal of **$1,000.**

Please contact school counselor,
Diane Radivan (dradivan@zcs.k12.in.us,
phone: (317) 873-2376, ext. 17991)
for additional information.

Fund drive ends Friday, February 26th.

Cafeteria News

This article is to serve as a reminder of information that perhaps many of you have seen in the past. The ZCS Food Service Department operates on a self funded basis, receiving revenues from several sources, one of which is government reimbursement for student lunches served. One additional revenue source is income received from the sale of extras, or a la carte items. While we do product evaluations to verify nutritional contributions of these items, we understand that some parents may prefer to restrict the sale of these extra items to their children. Please note that should you desire to do this, there is a form on our website which can be printed, signed, and sent to the food service manager at your child's building. Please visit www.zcs.k12.in.us/cafe/index.htm and select General Information where you will see an option to select which is entitled "Purchasing Extras".

While on the food service website, you are encouraged to further explore in order to discover additional information which may prove useful in the understanding of our program. Applications for meal assistance are available on the site, as are menus, nutritional information, informative newsletters, recipes, staff contacts, etc.

Looking towards the completion of this school year and into the next year, we remain committed to ensure a professional approach to our food service operations. Some of the methods used to achieve this are ongoing meetings and training opportunities. The ZCS Food Service and Z'Care Departments have recently made plans to participate in a *Professional Development Series,* provided by the St. Vincent Employee Assistance Program. Topics included will be: Improving Communication Skills, Conflict Management, Office Courtesy/Etiquette, and Maintaining a Peaceful Workplace.

In addition, we have recently sent two department staff members to a food safety class, bringing to a total 22 of 58 staff members who have completed this type of course. The training, which is actually required by the Board of Health for only nine individual positions in our department, ensures greater assurance of food safety related practices.

Beyond these training opportunities, ZCS Food Service will obtain training in civil rights and nonviolent crisis intervention in the next few months. Each of these training sessions reinforces the concept that, regardless of the position a person holds, professionalism and an ongoing commitment to quality need to exist. It is hoped that within the ZCS Food Service Department, our customers find assurance of these concepts.

Jan Swander, ZCS Food Service Director

Box Top and Tyson Label Competition For February

Feb. 1-Feb. 25th. Bring in as many labels as possible in baggies, envelopes or sheets. See our commercials on the PVE morning news at the school on Tues. and Thurs. mornings in Feb. Box tops are worth 10 cents each, Tyson labels are worth 24 cents each. All the money goes to the school. Counting times for Feb. If parents want to help are as follows:

Counting dates for box tops and Tyson labels in February, 2010

Tuesday, February 9 9-11am in a room at PVE (office staff will direct you)

Thursday, February 18 from 6-8 pm at Rebecca's house, 525 Wren Way

Wednesday, February 24 from 9-11 am in a room at PVE

Children are welcome to attend with parent. Come and go as needed. Snacks will be provided. Call Rebecca at 769-0125 with any questions.

Thanks for volunteering to count box tops and Tyson labels for the competition.

Remember to check out www.pvepto.org for the latest newsletter and minutes from recent meetings and fundraising links.

Zionsville Education Foundation Awards Grants

With funding from the Zionsville Education Foundation (ZEF), local students will learn about building schools in far away lands, will practice the ancient art of stained class, will use the latest technology to collect and report scientific findings and will become published authors and illustrators. These projects represent just a few of the twenty innovative educational ideas that received funding from ZEF on Monday, December 14.

In all, ZEF awarded more than $37,000 in educational grants to teachers in Zionsville's schools during its fall grant cycle.

"The generosity of the Zionsville community allows us to continue to provide wonderful and unique educational opportunities to our students even in these challenging times," said ZEF Board President Julie Redman.

A committee comprised of ZEF Board members, community members and educators gives careful review to each grant proposal received. The grant committee makes its recommendations to the ZEF Board which awards grants based on the available funds. ZEF grants provide funding for academic excellence and innovation; community and school partnerships; and leveraging external grants.

"We are proud and excited to award these additional funds to teachers who continue to find new ways to help our children learn and grow," grant committee chairperson Peggy Edwards said.

Funding for each grant cycle is based directly on the level of financial support that ZEF receives from donors throughout the year. ZEF is currently accepting donations in honor of any ZCS employee through the "Eagle Honors" program. Recipients of an Eagle Honor receive notification of the donation made on their behalf and are listed in the ZEF annual report. For more information on the fall grant recipients or any other ZEF program, please contact Executive Director Lynn Kissel at 733-4805 or lkissel@zcs.k12.in.us. Form more information on ZEF or the grant process, please visit www.zionsvilleeducationfoundation.org.

SUMMARY OF THE FALL 2009 GRANTS

Carving Careers. (Anthony Abrams, ZWMS; $2,627.50) Purchasing a Craftsman CNC will be a great addition to the Industrial Technology course. It will also help establish an engineering club. Club members will be involved with a mock company, designing and producing products for consumers. The mill will generate products for other clubs to use for fundraising.

iCan with an iPod. (Jill McCune, PVE; $916.00) The iPods allow special education students to learn how to email, blog, research on the Internet, listen to music or view pictures as a way to calm themselves down, use pictures on the iPod as visual cues to remind them how to appropriately act in social situations, and use pictures to express themselves.

Beautiful Books for 4th Grade Authors. (Deborah Milam, Stonegate; $920.00) Utilizing artists, Bonnie Maurer and Bonnie Stahlecker from Young Audiences of Indiana, 4th grade students will compose poems, construct books, and publish poems.

Stained Glass Masterpiece. (Sarah Daniels, Stonegate; $2,828.00) Local artist, Rita Wrighton, will work with 120 students to create a stained glass window while educating them on the art of stained glass. The completed windows will be installed surrounding the doorway of the Stonegate Library.

Seeing Through New Eyes, Flip Video in the Science Classroom. (Stephanie Compton, PVE; $3,449.30) The purchase of fifteen flip videos will allow all science/technology students at PVE to take data through video and pictures. The cameras will also give the students a new tool in presenting information and sharing their thinking.

"If Goldilocks Can, Then Why Can't We?" (Amanda Livengood, Stonegate; $549.00) A first grade classroom will purchase a nonfiction leveled classroom library, as well as a leveled library mobile storage cart and additional fiction leveled readers. This will allow students an opportunity to independently select texts based on their interests, as well as their independent reading level.

Building Literacy Immersion. (Amber Witherbee and Kim Riley, Stonegate; $1,300.00) This project will allow a more literacy-rich environment by providing more non-fiction literature, resource materials, audio books, comfortable seating, and magazines in an organized way that invites students to become involved in their own literacy development.

Reading is Fun. (Vicki Watson, Stonegate; $568.52) This grant will be used to purchase additional popular books needed to update this classroom's current library. The special education students and other students who are not reading at grade level will use these books in hopes of facilitating improvement in their reading skills.

Increasing Non-Fiction Literacy in the Classroom. (Deb Brooks, Eagle; $642.05) This grant enhances classroom library by purchasing non-fiction reading materials, including biographies, autobiographies, reference, and informational books.

Math in the Garden. (Natalie Hines, PVE; $603.08) Fourth grade students who struggle with math will learn the academic and practical skills needed to create their own garden. They will be active in the process of planning, constructing and maintaining the garden with their math skills.

Stained Glass Artist in Residence. (Scott Miller, PVE; $2,225.00) Artist, Rita Wrighton, will work with students to create mosaic patterns that would be transferred to concrete stepping stones and large stained glass windows.

Summary Of The Fall 2009 Grants Continued . . .

One Book…Two Schools…Three Cups of Tea: Uniting A Community Through Reading
(Carrie Sanders, ZWMS and Sarah Seligman, ZMS; $7,670.00) The media centers of both schools will purchase several classroom sets of The Young Reader's Edition of Three Cups of Tea, an inspirational true story about Greg Mortenson's decision to help impoverished children learn to read and write, forever changing their lives, his own, and countless others in the world who have been moved by Mortenson's work. The students and staff at both schools will read and discuss the book, engaging in cross-curricular activities that will bring the events and lessons they read into their everyday lives here in Zionsville.

Living in Colonial Times Through Literature. (Jane Green, ZWMS; $920.00) This grant will fund novels that will complement the 5th grade social studies program. While studying colonization of the United States, students will use leveled novels and link the fictional accounts with the facts which they will be studying in their textbooks.

Mimio Pad Magic. (Mellissa Stringham, ZWMS; $1745.00) The Mimio Pad is a piece of technology that works in collaboration with the current Mimio software. With this new technology, the teacher can write on the white board from anywhere in the room. This allows the teacher to walk around the classroom while demonstrating new skills to help give more individualized attention to struggling students.

SHARBADE. (Holly Hook, ZWMS; $1,430.00) This grant requests equipment needed to play SHARBADE, a fast-paced team sport. This will help develop students' physically and socially. It will help develop muscular strength and endurance which are two components of fitness.

Chinese Program: Together We Will Get Higher Achievement (Wendy Yuan, ZCHS, ZMS, ZWMS; $695.00) This grant funds guest speakers, purchases classroom dictionaries, Chinese club art crafts, holiday celebration decorations, Asian shuttlecocks, and some Chinese games and a moon cake mold from Chinatown to supplement the Chinese language program in ZCS.

Hoosier Knowledge Cart. (Amber Witherbee, Stonegate; $1,210.00) This grant funds materials for the 4th grade class to be able to access information about famous Hoosiers, including books, maps, pamphlets, newspapers, and articles.

Probing Our Physical World. (Andy Seward, ZMS; $2,932.00) This project allows science students to use Passport probes and sensors to measure and collect their own authentic data. They will analyze their data, make inferences, draw conclusions and better understand physical laws of the universe.

Listen Up! (Deb Krupowicz, PVE; $3,750.00) Listen Up! provides equipment that will allow children to listen to a variety of materials being read, to write their own books, to create audio to accompany their books, and to simultaneously practice their own reading aloud and their speaking skills while recording teacher-selected read-aloud selections for younger students and their peers.

Get Up and Move It! (Kathleen Swayze, ZMS; $304.00) This grant will fund workshops taught by Laurie Cutsinger, a Young Audiences dance teacher, to the General Music classes and the Life Skills students. Through listening and observing, all students will be able to demonstrate a form of dance, and they will experience and learn about new types of music.

TOTAL for 2009 Fall Grants: $37,284.45

Be an active participant in your child's education - Volunteer for PTO.

If you are interested in working with kids, organizing events, being a helper, baking at home or cheering each other on… PTO is the place for you.

Contact Chris Squier at 769-4424
or csquier@indy.rr.com.

PTO is getting volunteers in place to guide events and programming at school and your name needs to be on that list.

Please contact us today with your support.