



PTO Newsletter January 2010 Edition

Events

Next PTO Meeting: Tuesday, February 16, 2010 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. Childcare will be 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. Remaining meeting dates for the 2009/2010 school year are: April 20, 2010 and May 18, 2010. Please mark your calendars now!

Foothill Talent Show

The Foothill Fox Follies **Talent Show 2010** will take place on January 22, 2010. The K-2 matinee will be at 1:00pm, with the 3-5 evening show at 6:00pm. Please note that the talent show is not accepting any additional acts at this time, as auditions and rehearsals are already underway. However, we invite the entire Foothill community to come out and enjoy the show!

S-P-E-L-L-I-N-G B-E-E

All Foothill 4th and 5th graders are invited to participate in this year's Spelling Bee. We will have two practice sessions during lunch and recess on Wednesday, January 26th and Thursday, January 28th, with the Spelling Bee on February 2. I will come by your classes with more information in the next week. In the meantime, start practicing and watch "Spellbound" with your family to get inspired! This year's coordinator is Millicent Kang – please contact via email with any questions: millicentkang@comcast.net.

Bingo Night – Friday, January 29, 2010!

Please join us for another fun-filled family night! The third BINGO of the school year – benefiting Foothill's 1st GRADE CLASSROOMS - will be held on **Friday, January 29th, 2010** in the cafeteria. Admission is \$2/person; bingo cards are \$1/each, with all proceeds going directly to the grade classrooms. Mark your calendars now, and 1st grade families, please see the VOLUNTEER sign-up sheet at the end of the newsletter with information on donating your time or bottled water or juice! For general questions about BINGO or to volunteer, please contact Cristina McGarr at 303-440-7273 or via email at: cristina@mcgarrfamily.com. See you at BINGO!
5:30-6:00 PIZZA, DRINKS, POPCORN & TREATS
6:00-7:30 BINGO

Science Fair

Celebrate Science at Foothill's annual Science Fair, to be held on Wednesday,

February 24th and open to all students in grades 1-5. This will be a non-judged event, with the children presenting the findings from their experiments to interviewers from the school and community. We will also have an Open House the evening of February 24th, for families to see the fantastic projects that our students have put together. On-line registration packets are available at our school's website, accessed at: <http://bvvsd.org/schools/foothill/parents/Documents/SF%202010%20packet%20english%20for%20website.pdf>. Packets need to be turned in to your child's teacher by February 4th.

In order for the Science Fair to happen, we need lots of volunteers. Opportunities include interviewing students the morning of the 24th, organizing breakfast donations for our interviewers, supervising the gym during the Open House, set up/break down in the gym, and the list goes on! Please contact Kristi Winseck at kristi.winseck@bvvsd.org, Gwen Mossman at gwenmossman@comcast.net, or leave a note in the office if you'd like to help. Thank you.

Updates

Feed the Fox

As part of Feed the Fox, we conducted a Classroom Participation Competition with many classes participating at over 55%, qualifying them for CU Basketball tickets. **12 classes were winners and will receive tickets to the following CU Basketball Games as part of Chauncey's Kids Roundup:**

Winning Classes: Lawton (AM and PM), Bogner (PM), Soell, Van Scotter, Grace
Game: CU Men vs. Kansas State
Date of Game: **Saturday, January 16, 2010**
Tip-off Time: 2:00 PM
Tickets: 2 per student in the winning classes (1 child and one guardian)

Winning Classes: Naber, Freeman, Martin, Hoskins, Kennedy, Kleinman
Game: CU Women vs. Oklahoma State
Date of Game: **Sunday, January 24, 2010**
Tip-off Time: 2:00 PM
Tickets: 2 per student in the winning classes (1 child and one guardian)

If you are part of a winning classroom, you can pick up your tickets at Chauncey's Kids Roundup located at the **Southwest Entrance** of the Coors Events Center. Check-in is where you will receive your tickets, and is 1 hour before and 30 minutes after tip-off. After you check in, you can head to your seats. Once you are at your seats, we ask that guardians please keep an eye on kids and make sure that they are respectful of the other ticket holders in your section. If you are driving, there are many lots on campus where you can park for free. For directions and policies about the Coors Events Center, visit CUBuffs.com and click on Fan Zone, then Facility Information, and then on Coors Events Conference Center.

Tickets also include a coupon for a hot dog, a drink and a CU souvenir. Please make sure to thank CU Athletics Department personnel for sponsoring this Foothill Event.

Note: THANK YOU again to all the families that were able to contribute to our annual fundraising campaign. This year's program was our most successful ever raising over **\$54,000**. Funds 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. *For families that didn't contribute this time, please attend the basketball event anyway in support of your winning class, and consider contributing to next year's Feed the Fox program.*

Kris Pederson, Feed the Fox Co-Chair

Fox Tracks

I wonder where we will go as we start calculating our miles this month! Freiker students at Almond Elementary in Los Altos, CA arrived in Siberia having burned half-a-million kid calories and saving 6 tons of CO2 emissions!

We are putting up commuters of the month again. Check the Fox Tracks bulletin board for this month's recipient! We are also accepting nominations!

We will be counting car free days through February 5th for this round. Please make sure your rides on Freiker.org are up to date and that the tags are ringing in. Bus riders should send your bus ride information to foxtracks.bus@gmail.com by February 5th.

Complete information is on the school website at this link:

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

Thanks!

Blair Norman

Fox Tracks Chair

blairnorman@mac.com

Garden to Table Program

Outdoor Classroom Design is Underway! The Design Committee for Garden to Table has been hard at work over the past few weeks creating plans for the garden and adjoining outdoor classroom. Keep your eyes open for a rendition of the plans to be posted near the front door. It's going to be a beautiful and productive space, thanks to the careful planning and creativity of this committee. Please contact me if you are interested in contributing services or materials, recycled if possible.

The time has now come to ask for parent liaisons to connect the garden to the classrooms. We are hoping for 2-4 parents per grade, and it would be terrific if current class parents would take on this role. It involves helping us get parent volunteers in place for specific garden projects, such as classroom lessons, planting and harvesting. Parent liaisons would contact the Garden Lead (me) with specific classroom requests, such as seedling set-ups or worm bins for that particular classroom, based on the garden related projects the teachers wish to pursue.

We also have several other available positions that need filling. Keep in mind that these roles are designed to be manageable, first and foremost. Ideally, we'll have lots of participants so we can distribute the various tasks efficiently. For a detailed list with brief descriptions, and/or if you are interested in taking on one of these roles, please contact me as soon as possible. We will appreciate any time, services or materials you have to contribute!

Positions include:

- Communications Coordinators (2 people)
- Healthy Food Lead
- Garden Curriculum Coordinator
- Wellness Lead
- Environmental Sustainability Lead

Thanks again!

Kathy Tucker

tuckerk7@gmail.com

K-Kids Club

The K-Kids group thanks to all who donated to Share-a-Gift this year! The items collected at Foothill became part of the inventory when on December 19, 2009, 675 Boulder families shopped for their 1,710 children at the Share-a-Gift toy distribution center.

The Share-A-Gift www.shareagift.org address is PO Box 17595, Boulder, CO 80308 and is a non-profit organization with Federal tax ID # is 84-1237251, should you wish to claim a deduction on your tax return for items donated.

The next K-Kids project will focus on fundraising for mosquito nets to prevent malaria via www.nothingbutnets.net and micro-lending in developing countries via www.kiva.com. A combination car wash and bake sale is planned for the springtime - be on the lookout for more information soon.

The 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 - parents are invited to participate as well. Meetings are held in the conference room of the school library - where it is okay to bring in lunch. Depending 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/foothillkids/> will be used to post information about projects. You can contact the group via email at foothill.k.kids@gmail.com. Students can also be members and participate in projects without attending planning meetings.

PTO Board Positions Open for Fall

The PTO is currently seeking interested individuals for the following board positions. Nominations/elections will be held at the final PTO meeting of this school year, May 18th. Board positions are a two year commitment.

President of Fundraising and Services – will help run monthly PTO meetings, attend monthly board meetings, work with/manage chair-people and volunteers on all fundraising and service activities/events, coordinate PTO calendar and work closely with the PTO President of Events, Sue Fagan, Foothill principal and staff. For more information please contact our current PTO President of Fundraising, Susie Wyman at swymanpto@gmail.com

Vice President/Volunteer Coordinator - assists the presidents, helps to recruit volunteers as committee chairs, provides support to committee chairs throughout the year, and attends monthly PTO and board meetings. For more information please contact our current PTO Vice President/Volunteer Coordinator, Heather Bush at heather.bush@comcast.net.

Public Relations Secretary – acts as liaison between PTO and school community, responsible for gathering and editing newsletter articles, working with school staff for approval, translation and distribution of PTO information, and generally supporting communication between the PTO and Foothill staff and families. For more information please contact our current PR Secretary, Annie Weber at annie.weber@yahoo.com.

Each of these positions requires a commitment to attend all PTO and board meetings throughout the 2010/2011 and 2011/2012 school years. We encourage anyone

interested to attend next week's (and upcoming) PTO meetings. Thank you!

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, February 3, 2010**

Green Star Schools – Valentine's Day Party Tips

Happy Valentine's Day! We are proud to be a Green Star School – so let's keep doing our part with classroom parties by reducing, reusing and recycling.

- Decorations: Make hearts from eco-friendly felt, make paper heart garlands and scatter individual hearts on the tables!
- Provide finger foods that require no utensils and can be served on napkins or paper towels, which are compostable.
- Promote homemade goodies and snacks purchased in bulk, without individual wrappers. Remember, almost all packaging around individual servings of purchased snacks is trash. Use heart cookie cutters to make sandwiches or other snacks!
- Use washable, reusable plates and cups. Every classroom at Foothill has its own set.
- 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. Remove any cellophane or plastic tape before composting.
- Choose simple games such as pin the arrow on the heart or guess how many hearts are in the jar.
- Use paper bags as canvases for art work. Make sure that the crafts are recyclable or compostable.
- Compost and recycle food scraps and leftover party items.

All of our classrooms at Foothill have been outfitted with reusable plates and cups. Additional reusable plates, cups, bowls and flatware are available for class and school events. Please contact Machal Gillach at mayoshihara@yahoo.com for further information about this information.

BINGO VOLUNTEERS

Dear 1st grade Parents,

The 1st Grade is hosting the next Bingo Fundraiser of the year on Friday, January 29, 2010 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 1st grade - but this cannot be done without your help!

If you are willing to help in any way, please contact Cristina McGarr by e-mail at cristina@mcgarrfamily.com or by phone at 303-440-7273 as soon as possible (but no later than Wednesday, January 20, 2010).

This BINGO event will be a fun *and* fund-raising opportunity for our FIRST 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 drinks or prizes) or volunteer your time during Bingo? Please e-mail Cristina 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 ***bottled water or natural fruit juice***. We are pleased to announce that refreshment options at this Bingo Night will include natural sodas generously donated by Oogavε, and will feature delicious fresh-baked cookies from Ice Box Bakery – and pizza, of course!

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

* Make a monetary donation – we will apply it towards grand prize purchases, supplies and/or the 1st grade fund.

****Donated prizes and drinks should be dropped off in 1st grade classrooms by Friday, January 22, 2010.**

Please contact Cristina McGarr at 303-440-7273 or via email at: cristina@mcgarrfamily.com with any questions, or to volunteer!
Thank you!