



PTA TIMES Takoma Park Elementary School

Temporary Location: 5701 Grosvenor Lane,
Bethesda, MD 20814 **School phone:** 301.571.6920
Regular address: 7511 Holly Avenue, Takoma Park,
MD 20912 **Phone:** 301.650.6414
School Hours: 8:45 am - 3:30 pm
School website: [http://montgomeryschoolsmd.org/
schools/takomaparkes/](http://montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/takomaparkes/)
PTA website: <http://www.tpespta.org>
Join the PTA listserv: Send an email to TPES-
subscribe@yahoogroups.com

School Principal: Zadia T. Gadsden, Zadia_T_Gadsden@mcpsmd.org
PTA President: Shruti Bhatnagar, shruti_bhatnagar@yahoo.com, 301.949.8006

August 31, 2009



Message from PTA President Shruti Bhatnagar

Welcome to the start of a new school year. I welcome the new families to our community. Parent volunteers have been involved all summer in planning for this new school year and the PTA is off to a great start.

Here are a couple of important reminders:

- We have a great new PTA web site. Please take the time to visit our web site at www.tpespta.org. It has a lot of useful information that is updated frequently.
- We are still looking for some volunteers. Please volunteer your help for committees that are of interest to you. It is a great way to get involved with your child's school. Please write to me with your volunteer interests.
- I encourage everyone to join the PTA list serve, if you have access to the Internet. It is a great way to connect and communicate with parents of the school community, share ideas, ask questions and get information. You will find the link to join the list serve on our PTA web site.
- Please send in your \$10 annual PTA membership dues and become a member. Your participation helps to make a strong PTA and gives you the right to vote on important issues at PTA meetings. You can find the PTA form on our Web site under the forms section. Please send it in your child's Dolphin folder or mail it to the school address.
- To make sure we have great communication with the community we will have a weekly newsletter that will go home every Monday in your child's Dolphin Folder. Stay tuned and well informed.

I welcome your comments and suggestions anytime during the school year. Feel free to contact me via e-mail, phone or mail, with your thoughts. Together we will make our PTA stronger and better.

Thank You
Shruti Bhatnagar, PTA President



Grade Level "Mixers Nights" at TPES

Socialize with other parents from your child's class. Ice cream will be served, and there will be fun table top activities for children.

All grade level mixers will be held at Piney Branch Elementary School in the All Purpose Room from 7 pm to 8 pm. Please note the dates for the mixers:
Kindergarten Mixer- September 17
1st Grade Mixer - September 15
2nd Grade Mixer - September 22

Volunteers needed to help. Please contact Mixers Committee Co-Chairs Terri Scott-Dwarica & Cherry Marhawa for details.
E-mail us at scott.terri@gmail.com and cherryharsh@hotmail.com
Tel: 301-434-6769 and/or 240-631-0315



First PTA Meeting of the Year: September 1st!

All PTA meetings will be held at **Piney Branch Elementary School** this year in the **All Purpose Room**. Piney Branch is located at 7510 Maple Ave. in Takoma Park. Join us at **7:00 p.m. tomorrow** to hear welcome back messages from the PTA President and the Principal, as well as teacher breakout sessions with 1st and 2nd grade teachers and a presentation of this year's PTA budget. Child care and refreshments provided.



Volunteers Requested for following committees:

1. Newsletter Committee: We need volunteers to make copies of the weekly newsletter and place it in teachers' mailboxes. If you can travel to Grosvenor on Friday afternoons or Monday mornings once a month to copy the newsletter and would like to help, please contact Frances Cook at cookf@gao.gov.

2. Book Fair Committee: Event in 4th week of February 2010. We need a committee Co-Chair and additional members. Contact Ally Zevin at azevin@rcn.com.

3. Field Trip Support: Work with the school and help plan additional field trips for all grades. Co-Chair and additional committee members needed. Contact Christina Speranza at cspera02@earthlink.net.

4. Diversity Committee: Events spread throughout the year. We need a Co-chair and additional members. Please contact Alisa Smedley at alisasmedley@hotmail.com.



School Directory:

PTA volunteers have been working all summer to put the school directory together. Our goal is to get it to you by the end of September. If you have not submitted contact information for your family for the school directory please send it as soon as possible. We need the name & grade of your child, teacher's name, parents' name(s), home address, telephone number and e-mail. Please e-mail it to the PTA president or inform the school office administrators.



Snack before school dismissal:

There will be a short snack time for children before school dismissal. **Please send a snack for your child.** It should be packed separately from their lunch so that it can be kept aside for snack time. No drinks please.



Car Riders:

Please remember that if you are dropping your child off at school by car, please drive into Dickinson Lane, off of Grosvenor Lane, on the side of the school building and park your car there. You can walk your child to school from there to the front entrance. Please do NOT drive into the school parking lot. That will come in the way of the school buses coming and going and may not be safe for the children.



Dolphin Folder:

Each child will be given a Dolphin folder that will be sent home in backpacks on the first day of school. All important information, fliers, forms, etc. will be sent home in the Dolphin folder. Please use that to send communication to your child's class teacher or to the PTA.

Remember to check for health forms, permission slips, waiver forms and other important information that will be sent home in the beginning of the school year. It is very important to send these back with all requested information as early as possible.