



PTA TIMES Takoma Park Elementary School

School 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/>
PTA website <http://www.tpespta.org>
Join the PTA listserv Send an email to TPES-subscribe@yahoogroups.com
Join the PTA Visit our web site, mail the form to school address, send it in the Dolphin folder

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

September 17, 2010



Message from PTA President, Shruti Bhatnagar

Dear TPES Families,

The PTA is launching another great year of After School Programs and Clubs. Please review the sign up information attached to this newsletter. Our popular **After School Clubs** are lead by parent volunteers and offered at no cost to parents. But we need more volunteers to make them a success! Our **After School Programs** are lead by experienced private teachers or instructors from other organizations. There is a fee associated with these programs and the PTA helps to pay for low-income families.

The MCCPTA Curriculum Committee has been asked to identify 15-20 elementary school parents to participate in a focus group about the new Elementary Integrated Curriculum that MCPS is developing. The focus group will take place in Rockville the evening of Thursday, Sept. 23. If you are interested, and currently have students in grades K-4 or will have students in those grades next year, please contact

Ted Willard twillard@aaas.org
Kathy Boehlert skboehlert@msn.org

MCCPTA is pleased to announce a partnership with the League of Women Voters and Friends of the Library-Rockville to hold a Board of Education Candidates Forum. The Forum will be held on Monday, Sept. 20 from 6-8 pm at Rockville Memorial Library, 21 Maryland Ave, Rockville, MD 20850.

Thanks.



Upcoming events

Please mark your calendars for upcoming events!

Sept. 24	7 pm	1 st Grade Ice Cream Social
Sept. 28	7 pm	Kindergarten Ice Cream Social
Oct. 1	1 pm	Early Release



Ice Cream Socials

Cool down and meet other TPES families from your child's grade, at our annual Ice Cream Socials this month!

Join us in the TPES All Purpose Room at 7 pm on:
Sept. 24 (1st Grade) and Sept. 28 (Kindergarten)

Enjoy ice cream and cake, as well as some table activities to keep the kids busy! **You are welcome to bring your own favorite topping to share with other families!**

Childcare is not provided. Parents are responsible for their own children. If you are able to volunteer your help with set up, serve ice cream and/or clean up, please contact

Lichelle Lawson LLawson@cbmove.com
Lisa Gianokos lkellar@comcast.net

We look forward to meeting you at this event!



PTA Lemonade Stand Returns on Fridays!

The PTA will offer a refreshment (and mingling!) stand each Friday after school (weather permitting) by the flagpole in front of the main entrance to TPES.

We will sell snacks and lemonade—all proceeds go directly to your PTA! The stand opens as walkers are dismissed at 3:30 and will close around 4 pm.

To volunteer an hour or two of your time any Friday, please contact the committee chair

Jennifer Alexander Jennifer.p.alexander@gmail.com



TPES Dolphin Products:

TPES T-Shirts, car magnets and bumper stickers will be available for purchase next to the Lemonade stand.

Please buy a T-shirt for your child! Children love them and can wear them to special school events, on field trips, to spirit day or to make any day special.

An order form is attached. You can also send the form in your child's Dolphin Folder, in an envelope marked for the PTA. Make checks payable to TPES PTA. T-shirts will be delivered to your child's homeroom teacher. If you have any questions, please contact the committee chair
Christina Speranza cspera02@earthlink.net

such as pasta or soup, please remember to pack utensils. The lunchroom only has enough forks and spoons for children buying lunch.



Fundraising Corner

It's Fundraising time! The Fall Fundraiser package was sent home this week. The theme for our Fall Fundraiser is "**Celebrate Life.**"

This year we have partnered with a company called Lavender to bring you top quality products with eco-friendly options.

Please take time to review our Fall Fundraising package and choose something that is of interest to you. Our goal this year is to have 100% parent participation, though we respect your decision if you are unable to participate.

Orders may also be placed online at www.shoplavenders.com. Related information is also available at the TPES PTA website, www.tpespta.org

The TPES school code is 120090. You will need the "Student ID" from your order form (this was sent home) to place an order. Please share this information with your friends and family—you can even post the information on your Facebook page!—so they can also support our school.

The deadline for all orders is Oct. 4, 2010. Please return your order forms in your child's Dolphin Folder. All checks must be made to TPES PTA.

State Tax – 6%

The State of Maryland requires that all school fundraising efforts collect tax on items sold. Tax must be calculated and collected for each Fall Fundraiser customer. The tax rate for Maryland is 6%.

If you have any questions about the Fall Fundraiser, please contact
Shruti Bhatnagar Shruti_bhatnagar@yahoo.com

Newsletter attachments

1. TPES T-Shirt Order form
2. After School Programs and Clubs information
3. Minutes from the September PTA Meeting
4. B.O.E. Candidates Forum Flyer



Volunteer Update and Request:

Thanks to all parent volunteers who have stepped up to help the PTA! We still have two vacancies:

Blair Cluster Rep: The Blair Cluster representative speaks for our PTA on educational and budget priorities in front of other cluster schools, the Board of Education, and the County Council.

The representative is expected to attend monthly meetings of the PTAs of the Blair Cluster (nine elementary schools, three middle schools, and Blair High School), to learn the other schools' priorities, and to share the interests, needs, and priorities of TPES.

The cluster works to create common ground to represent all of our students in front of the elected officials who determine school budgets. The TPES Blair Cluster representative is responsible for working with the PTA president to prepare testimony on the expected impacts of the MCPS operating budget and capital improvement budget on TPES.

Fall Fundraising Coordinator: This volunteer will be responsible for the following tasks:

- Checking all incoming orders for accuracy, including check amounts and that Maryland tax has been included
- Liaise with the PTA treasurer to ensure accurate records of received checks
- Mail all orders collectively to vendor
- Coordinate distribution

Interested parents should contact
Shruti Bhatnagar Shruti_bhatnagar@yahoo.com



Reminders

* Silverware for Lunch time

If you are sending your child to school with a lunch that requires the use of a fork or spoon,