

# Shark Report



SCHNECKSVILLE ELEMENTARY

NOVEMBER 2011

## MR. BOWEN'S MESSAGE

It is so hard to believe that the first marking period is ending. That means conference time. Conferences are scheduled for November 17<sup>th</sup> through the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Please use conferences as a way to discuss your child's progress with his or her teacher. Being informed about their schoolwork is very important and will help them be successful. It is also a time to ask questions about the curriculum, your child's behavior, or anything else that might be on your mind. I am also available during this time to discuss any concerns you feel need my attention.

### Absentee Hotline

If your child is absent, please remember to call the absentee hotline before 9:30. We ask that you **NOT** call the Schnecksville office.

610-351-5900 extension 24711

### Volunteers

We value our volunteers very much. We are able to operate many different programs here because of your hard work. If you volunteer, please remember to record your hours on your index card, which is located in the green box on the office counter. It is very important that we keep track of the hours you volunteer.

### Parent Pick-up

The end of the school day is very hectic. While we understand that emergencies do come up, I need to stress to you how important it is for parents to send in a note and not call in when a child is parent pick-up. Sending in a note will insure that your child does not get on the bus and helps us with dismissal procedures.

### Weather

As the cool weather approach, please make sure your child is dressed appropriately for outside recess. We will go outside for recess unless it is raining or the temperature is extremely low. We do not allow the children to play in the snow.

- Mr. Bowen

### NOTE FROM NICOLE

Last month the PTO distributed its Annual Student Directory. This is a very time consuming and tedious task. I would like to thank Wendy Wright for her time and all her hard work in creating this document. You may have noticed some changes this year, we have included class lists for all grade levels as well as the teacher and room parent contact information. The directory itself also changed, everyone is listed in alphabetical order by last name. We hope that this makes it more user-friendly and any feedback would be appreciated.

Another huge back-to-school project is compiling our PTO Volunteer List. Our volunteers are the backbone of the PTO and we wouldn't be able to do the things we do without these dedicated people. I'd like to thank Tonya Bowers for taking the time to go through all 175 two page surveys and create a cohesive spread sheet that we can easily use. Thank you both for volunteering your time, it is greatly appreciated!

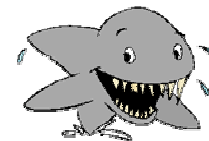
I would also like to thank all those families that clip and save Box Tops for Education. These coupons add up to real money for our school and your efforts are greatly appreciated!

May you all have a safe and Happy Thanksgiving!

- Nicole Barker  
PTO President

## NOVEMBER AT A GLANCE

- 1 - Poinsettia sale begins
- 1 - Joe Corbi fundraiser pick up
- 8 - School store Gr. 1&2
- 9 - PTO Board Mtg
- 10 - School Store Gr. 3-5
- 11 - Movie Night in the Gym
- 15 - Market Day Order Pick Up
- 17 & 18 Early Dismissal/Parent Conferences
- 18 - General PTO Mtg 9:30 am Cafeteria
- 18 - Poinsettia sale ends
- 19 - Applebee's Pancake Breakfast
- 21-23 - Early Dismissal/Parent Conferences
- 23 - Spirit Day - PJ day
- 24, 25 & 28 - School Closed - Thanksgiving
- 30 - Picture retake day



## SPIRIT DAY 11/23 Get Up & Go Day (PJ Day)

Come to school in whatever and however you got out of bed.

### SCHOOL STORE



8 - School store  
Gr. 1&2

10 - School Store  
Gr. 3-5

Contact Louella Joyner to help! 610-769-0374

email: [schnecksvilleschoolstore@yahoo.com](mailto:schnecksvilleschoolstore@yahoo.com)

## INTERNAL AFFAIRS



Thank you to the October Birthday Table volunteers - Cindy Daniels, Allison Donohoe and Amy Long.

We will be contacting volunteers to provide snacks for our teachers during conferences 11/17 - 11/22. We would like to do a mix of healthy snacks and sweet snacks. Volunteers are also needed to help set up and clean up. If you would like to donate, please contact Brie Carpenetti at [briebutterfly4@yahoo.com](mailto:briebutterfly4@yahoo.com) or 484-764-5503. Thank you in advance!



## TURKEY TROT

6<sup>th</sup> annual Turkey Trot will be **Thursday, November 10** starting with 4<sup>th</sup> grade girls at 1:00, 4<sup>th</sup> grade boys at 1:30, 5<sup>th</sup> grade girls at 2 and 5<sup>th</sup> grade boys at 2:30. It is a mile walk, jog or run cross country event around the SV property. Parents are welcome to attend and even participate with their sons or daughters. Please dress your Shark for the weather and have them wear appropriate footwear. Contact Mr. O'Brien with questions or to help. [obrienj2@parklandsd.org](mailto:obrienj2@parklandsd.org)



You're invited to an Applebee's Flapjack Fundraiser Breakfast on **Saturday, November 19, 2011** from 8:00 am - 10:00 am to support Schnecksville Elementary! **\$5.00** per person includes unlimited pancakes, sausage and breakfast beverages. **Served by: The teachers of Schnecksville Elementary School!**

The event will take place at Applebee's Neighborhood Grill & Bar, 7150 Hamilton Boulevard, Trexlertown, PA 18087

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Community Outreach will be collecting new hats, gloves and scarves at movie night on 11/11/11. If you donate an item you will receive 1 raffle ticket to win the movie. Limit one per family please.

The PTO will also collect these items from 11/7 through 11/11. If you cannot make it to movie night but would still like to donate. There will be collection bins in the bus and lobby entrance. For more information on this please contact Amy McCoy at (610) 769-5585.

We will be doing the Adopt-a-Soldier Drive again in conjunction with North Whitehall Township from 11/21 - 12/7. Please contact Amy McCoy for more information or to help with this project.

## FROM THE GUIDANCE OFFICE

5<sup>th</sup> Grade Peer Mediation Applications have been accepted as of Oct 28. Students will be selected by Thanksgiving break and training will begin when we return.

Guidance lessons are taking place in grades K, 1, 2 and 4 throughout November while 3<sup>rd</sup> grade classes are receiving a special 6-8 week program run through the CARON foundation.

Holiday gift program will begin soon. Families will receive notification if they have been chosen to receive a donated gift item and when to pick them up at the school.

Guidance website is currently under construction and should be posted soon along with Winter Edition newsletter. Stay tuned for more information or check the school or district website!



**Shop Giant. Earn money for your school!** Just register your BonusCard at [www.giantfoodstores.com/aplus](http://www.giantfoodstores.com/aplus) and along with your rewards Schnecksville Elementary will earn cash, too! Use School ID #05918.



## MOVIE NIGHT IN THE GYM



Please join us on **Friday, November 11<sup>th</sup>** for Movie Night in the Gym featuring *Gnomeo & Juliet*. Admission is **\$2** per person and all tickets will be sold at the door. No outside chairs are permitted but you may bring your pillows & blankets. Folding chairs will be available along the sides for those individuals who need to sit. Popcorn and water will be served at intermission. Movie seating will begin at 6:30 pm and the movie will begin promptly at 7 pm. *All children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian for the entire evening.* Donations for the winter apparel drive (hats, scarves, mittens/gloves) will also be accepted. Each family that donates an item will receive a raffle ticket for a chance to win the movie (one per person). If you have any questions please contact Kim Bonner at (610) 428-9140. With each paid admission, receive a Raffle Ticket to win the DVD of *Gnomeo & Juliet*.

## SCHNECKSVILLE STUDENT COUNCIL

Thirteen students have been elected by their fourth and fifth grade peers to represent them as Classroom Representatives on the 2011 – 2012 Schnecksville Student Council. In addition, six fifth grade students are returning as Classroom Representatives, having been elected by their peers last year. The Student Council is advised by Mrs. Cathy Sweeney, Reading Specialist, and Mrs. Andrea Marzano, Response to Instruction and Intervention Teacher, with the support of Mr. Bowen and the PTO. The following students are Schnecksville Student Council Representatives:

Mrs. Lesser's Class: Kayla Kinney & Nathaniel Kunz

Mrs. Mandry's Class: Celia Metzger & Evan Naradko

Mrs. Wilder's Class: Kyleigh O'Neill & Nathan Reimer

Mrs. Andreoli's/Mrs. Lapp's Class: Julianna Bilski, Giavanna Litz, Colin Bowers & Brandon Eustice

Mrs. Hausman's Class: Louise Gottwald, Madison Kinsley, Colby Carlson & James Grimm

Mrs. Marshaleck's Class: Cecelia Edwards, Madison Galucy, Hallie Madeira, Tyler Knappenberger & Justin Querio

### Congratulations to all the Student Council Representatives!



#### Are you ready for Thanksgiving?

Order the pies, roasts, and sides you need. The next Market Day pickup is **Tuesday, November 15<sup>th</sup>**. Please place all orders by Tuesday, November 9<sup>th</sup>. If you have questions or are able to help with the sale between 3:30 and 5:30 pm, please contact Nina Weiss at [nweiss@ptd.net](mailto:nweiss@ptd.net) or 610-769-5898. Our school number is **13925**.

### ANNUAL POINSETTIA SALE



The annual poinsettia sale has begun! Look for order forms online and print one from

[www.schnecksvillepto.com](http://www.schnecksvillepto.com). Like last year, we will be using Dan Schantz as our vendor who supplies us with beautiful, healthy plants just in time for the holidays. Pick up of all plants will be on Friday, December 9<sup>th</sup> during the 5<sup>th</sup> grade concert. Order yours today!

### SPIRIT WEAR

Our latest addition to the **Spirit Wear** family has arrived! Shark logo baseball caps are here and make great Christmas gifts for your little Sharks! Check out [www.schnecksvillepto.com](http://www.schnecksvillepto.com) for more info. Our next Spirit Wear order will be due by November 23<sup>rd</sup> and orders received at that time, will arrive before Christmas. Samples can be seen at [schnecksvillePTO.com/spiritwear.html](http://schnecksvillePTO.com/spiritwear.html). If you have any questions, please contact Vicky Conte at 484-951-9665 or [candv1@ptd.net](mailto:candv1@ptd.net).

### LABELS FOR EDUCATION

**Labels for Education** rewards us with free merchandise like playground equipment, school supplies and electronics just for sending in the UPC labels from many different products (Campbell's Pepperidge Farm, People Magazine). It's easy to do - just clip the Points from the labels and/or collect the caps and send them in to school. There is a collection bin at the main entrance. If you have questions or would like to help count and trim labels, please contact Vicky Conte at [candv1@ptd.net](mailto:candv1@ptd.net) or 484-951-9665.



### MY COKE REWARDS

**MyCokeRewards** also rewards us with free merchandise just for sending in the codes from participating Coke



products. It's easy to do - just save the codes from Coke product 12-pks or Coke product bottle caps and send them in to school. There is a collection bin at the main entrance. Or, if you already have a MyCokeRewards account, you can login to your account and donate points to Schnecksville Elementary today! If you have questions, please contact Vicky Conte at [candv1@ptd.net](mailto:candv1@ptd.net) or 484-951-9665.

### JOE CORBI PIZZA SALE

Thanks to everyone who ordered from our Joe Corbi Pizza sale. We made a profit of \$2,494!! Special thanks to everyone who turned out to help sort and deliver orders.

### ENJOY THE CITY/KIDSTUFF BOOK SALE

Our Enjoy the City and KidStuff Book sale was a great success. We sold 254 KidStuff books giving us a profit of \$3,175.00. Way to go! Our Enjoy the City sale was also successful with about 228 books sold for a profit of \$2,280!! Thanks so much to Brie Carpenetti and Vicky Conte for chairing these events.

### TARGET VISA CARD

 Do you shop at Target? Do you use a Target Visa Card? If you've answered yes, please consider registering your card at [www.Target.com/tcoe](http://www.Target.com/tcoe) to support our school. 1% of all your Target purchases and 1/2% of all other purchases is donated to our school at no additional cost to you. **And now, just by using the RedCard, you save 5% off of your total order!** We have earned over \$4000 from participating in this program. And, it's absolutely **FREE!** Please sign up today!

## GIFT CARDS

Our gift card fundraiser runs all year long. We have many cards available for places you visit on a regular basis. We have Weis Markets, Giant Foods, Target, restaurants, department stores and more. Have a birthday party coming up? How about a Toys R Us gift card! Consider purchasing a gift card for all your shopping and gift giving needs. These cards are easy to use and you can purchase them at no additional cost to you. Simply fill out an order form, enclose a check made out to "Schnecksville PTO" and put it in an envelope with "Gift Cards" written on it. Your gift cards will be delivered to you in about a week. If you have any questions, or need an additional order form, contact Jeanine Snyder at [morgdylcam@ptd.net](mailto:morgdylcam@ptd.net) or 610-799-5266. The most up-to-date order form is also available at [www.SchnecksvillePTO.com](http://www.SchnecksvillePTO.com).

## PRINTER CARTRIDGE RECYCLING

Our school earns **FREE** money and we help the environment by recycling used printer cartridges. Simply drop them in the collection box by the Main Entrance.



## BOXTOPS FOR EDUCATION



And the winner is.....Miss Shiffer's class with 2721 boxtops collected! It was a really close race! Miss Shiffer's class will be celebrating with a trip to an Iron Pigs game! Due to your outstanding work, we will be receiving a check from BoxTops in December for \$2765.00. Way to go!!!! Keep an eye out for our next contest....snowball fight anyone?

Dietrich AM	323
Dietrich PM	509
Brown AM	106
Brown PM	511
Kilmer	1217
Stettler	498
Piston	1945
Andress	1352
Misera	1080
Rizzo	1853
Hahn	558
Weaber	1226
Shiffer	2721 *
Leibensperger	2621
Lesser	1934
Wilder	1065
Mandry	1048
Hausman	1362
Andreoli	312
Marshaleck	1027



## THE GREAT SCHNECKSVILLE SNOWBALL FIGHT IS BACK !

Starting November 14<sup>th</sup>, for every 10 BoxTops a class turns in, they will receive a Snowball of Kindness to "throw" at another class of their choice. The classroom throwing the most snowballs and the class receiving the most by December 9<sup>th</sup>, will meet for The Great Schnecksville Snowball Fight in the Gym. The Snowball Fight will actually be a friendly game of Dodgeball using soft, squishy Phys Ed class gym balls and it should be great fun for the kids. For this event, a special collection sheet can be found on our website. Additional sheets can be obtained outside the main office. All BoxTops collected during this event will be counted towards the ongoing 1000 Box Tops-Philly Pretzel Party incentive and the soon-to-be-announced February BoxTops Contest.



## NEXT PTO MEETING:

**NOV 18<sup>TH</sup> AT 9:30 AM IN THE CAFETERIA**



**President:** Nicole Barker  
**VPs:** Kim Bonner, Brie Carpenetti, Vicki Conte, Amy McCoy  
**Secretary:** Lorraine Snyder  
**Treasurer:** Michelle Curch

[schnecksvillepto.com/contact.html](http://schnecksvillepto.com/contact.html)  
for more details!

**Next Edition: Wed Dec 7<sup>th</sup>**

## **Superintendent's Message**

### ***Closing or Delaying School for Inclement Weather- A Most Challenging Decision***

Among my most challenging responsibilities as Superintendent of Schools is making the decision regarding school delays or cancellations. And yet, given the geographical location of our school district, inclement, wintry weather will always be a seasonal challenge.

Because it is getting to be that time of year again, I want to share a few thoughts about the process that is utilized in making inclement weather decisions in Parkland. Hopefully, this information will demystify the process and minimize the frustration associated with not knowing how decisions are made.

In much the same manner as everyone else, we learn about approaching weather conditions from television, radio and computer reports. Once the weather alert occurs, our Transportation and School Services Departments begin to make preparations.

If the weather front is occurring in the evening or overnight, Transportation will have a couple of drivers out at about 4:00 a.m. First they will check those roads that are typically most problematic. From north to south, our school district spans 75 square miles and varies greatly in road and weather conditions. At the same time, we will be speaking with the municipalities and Penn Dot about plowing/cindering/salting schedules. We also speak to key personnel in surrounding school districts to ascertain any information that may be helpful.

Typically, by 5:00 a.m., we will have gathered all of the most current information that is available. This information is coupled with our knowledge of Parkland School District demographics:

- Weather conditions vary greatly across the district
- We have in excess of 1,000 bus stops
- Our buses will travel in excess of 1,000 miles during a school day
- We transport approximately 10,000 students per day
- Our buses will be operating within the typical traffic flow
- Many of our bus stops may be affected by snow plowing
- Our Grounds Department will need time to plow parking lots and clear walkways

Based upon all the data and knowledge we have about our weather conditions and demographics, I typically will make a decision by 5:30 a.m. Once I make the decision regarding a delay or cancellation, I start to make the necessary contacts. The message is posted to our web site home page at [www.parklandsd.org](http://www.parklandsd.org). The radio and television stations are notified and key personnel are called. This year will be the fourth season that we will also be utilizing our emergency phone system so staff and parents will receive a phone call to the number designated for this purpose. If your phone contact information has changed, please notify the school office as soon as possible.

On most of these occasions we will make ONE decision early in the morning- to close or delay- and that will be final for the day. We believe this is easier for most parents as you make plans for the day. Once in a great while the timing of a weather event is such that buying a little extra time with a delay MIGHT allow us to safely open school. In these rare events, the message will state that we will provide an update by a certain time. The same means of communication will be used to provide an update when necessary.

***Please remember- it is the responsibility of parents / guardians to make arrangements for the care of your children in the event that we need to close or delay our schools for weather or any other potential emergency situation.***

This information is being shared to provide you with some insight into what happens behind the scenes during bad weather events in Parkland. Please know that student safety is the central focus of this exercise. Entrusted with the safety of approximately 9,400 students, we will always err on the side of caution in making weather-related decisions. No decision is more important.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION AND UNDERSTANDING! Let's hope for a mild winter and an early spring!

Richard T. Sniscak  
Superintendent of Schools