

Shark Report



SCHNECKSVILLE ELEMENTARY

DECEMBER 2011

MR. BOWEN'S MESSAGE



The winter months are upon us and this brings up an issue about recess and the weather. It is my responsibility to make the decision if the weather is suitable for outdoor recess. The students will go outside on most days even if it is cold. Elementary schools cancel recess when the real feel temperature reaches 20 degrees. Please make sure your child(ren) is dressed appropriately. Recently, I have seen students wear only a sweatshirt – and even shorts in a couple of cases – to school. This will not be sufficient when the cold winds blow across the field around the school. In addition, the walk to and from the bus stop can be a cold adventure. I recommend that children have gloves, hats, and heavy coats, as we get further into winter.

In addition, we have come across a situation where parents either forget to send in a pick-up note or call at the last minute in an attempt to have a child meet them at parent pick-up. *Please send in a note if your child will be parent pick-up.*

Thank you and Happy Holidays.

- Mr. Bowen

NOTE FROM NICOLE

It's hard to believe its December already. With less than 3 weeks before the Holiday Break, the PTO has a lot to accomplish this month.

We will be hosting a Reception after the 5th Grade Chorus and Band Concert on the 9th, along with the

Poinsettia Sale Order Pick Up that evening.

Once again the PTO has arranged for Christmas City Studios to photograph our 5th Grade Band and Chorus members in school on the day of the concert. Last year, parents appreciated the opportunity to order commemorative photos and also send a message to the students that this event, and the work they put into it, is a "picture worthy" accomplishment.

Wednesday the 14th is the Staff Appreciation Breakfast. This is a highly anticipated annual event that all Staff, District Administrators, retired staff and School Board members are invited to. The Decorating Committee transforms our Cafeteria into an elegant winter wonderland and a hot breakfast buffet is served.

In January, we will be sending home a Student Directory Update form via the Wednesday e-folder. If your contact information has changed or if there was an error in the Directory published in October, this is your opportunity to have the correct information distributed. This form will also be available on our website, schnecksvillepto.com.

I would like to send a huge thank you to all the staff and parent volunteers that helped make our pancake breakfast at Applebee's a success. We greatly appreciate you donating your time and services, we could not have done it without you!

Finally, I would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year!

- Nicole Barker

DECEMBER AT A GLANCE

- 6 - School store Gr. 1&2
- 9 - 5th Grade Band & Chorus Concert & Reception
- 9 - Poinsettia Sale Order Pick Up
- 13 - Market Day Order Pick Up
- 14 - PTO Board Meeting
- 15 - School Store Gr. 3-5
- 23 - Early Dismissal/Spirit Day - red & green
- 26 - 30 - School closed



What's for lunch on December 8th?
Oven Baked Mozzarella Sticks, Green Beans, Scooby Grahams, Mixed Fruit, Choice of Milk. Alternate: Oven Baked Chicken Tenders

POINSETTIA PICK UP

Poinsettia pick up will be on Friday, December 9th from 5-6pm and 7:30-8:30pm, by the cafeteria, before and after the 5th grade concert. Thank you for your orders!



WINTER CONCERT



Friday, December 9th @ 7 PM



On Saturday, November 19, 2011 we held our first annual Applebee's Fundraiser – and what a success it was! Thanks to the support of the Schnecksville Elementary teachers and parents, we raised over \$700! Mark your calendars for 11/17/2012! That's when our 2nd annual Applebee's Fundraiser will take place next year!

SCRIPS GIFT CARDS

Our gift card fundraiser runs all year long. We have many cards available for places you visit on a regular basis. With the holidays upon us, gift cards are a very popular gift this time of year. 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 or 610-799-5266. The most up-to-date order form is also available at <http://schnecksvillepto.com/forms/giftcardorderform2011.pdf>

THE GREAT SCHNECKSVILLE SNOWBALL FIGHT



For every 10 BoxTops a class turns in by Friday, December 9th, 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 9th, will meet for The Great Schnecksville Snowball Fight in the Gym on December 13th. 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.

DAILY NUMBER CALENDAR

Once again, this year we are offering the January Daily Number Calendar. This is a fun fundraiser and a great stocking stuffer, too! Pick your 3-digit number(s), submit your form and \$10 per 3-digit number and check the daily number each day in January, to find out if you are a winner! Details can be found on our home page www.SchnecksvillePTO.com.



BIRTHDAY TABLE



Jodi Smith.

Thank you to the November Birthday Table volunteers- Melody Terrano, Monica Kunz, Connie Gatch and



SCHOOL STORE

Dec 6: Gr 1&2
Dec 15: Gr 3-5

[School Store](#) is located in the Cafeteria and is open from 8:35 to 8:50 am

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

Another big thank you to everyone who donated food for teacher conferences. We had a great variety

of snacks for our wonderful teachers and it was greatly appreciated!

Donations of cookies are needed for the 5th grade band and choir concert on Friday, December 9th. Cookies do not have to be homemade. Please send your cookie donation into school the morning of December 9th. Your help is greatly appreciated during the busy holiday season!

COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE



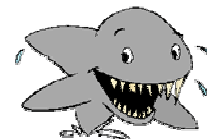
The **Adopt-a-Soldier** Drive is in full swing until 12/7. Bins are located at both entrances to drop your donations into. Please contact Jen McCary at **484-550-2795** or jenmccary00@gmail.com with questions. More info at schnecksvillePTO.com.

We collected 4 big boxes of hats, gloves/mittens and scarves at movie night. Your generous donations will help people in our school district stay warm this winter. Thank you for your generosity!

FAMILY BINGO NIGHT!



Come join the Schnecksville PTO for a fun night of **FAMILY BINGO** on Friday January 13th, 2012 at 7pm in the Cafeteria. Snow date (if needed) is scheduled for Friday January 20th.



SPIRIT DAY 12/23

Red & Green Day

BOXTOPS FOR EDUCATION

Way to go Sharks! Due to your outstanding work, we will be receiving a check from BoxTops in



December for over \$2790.00 Way to go!!!! **Check out**

www.boxtops4education.com for even more ways to earn BoxTops. You can earn e-BoxTops for online shopping, checking out recipes on their website and even for buying a car!



Shop Giant. Earn money for your school! We've got just 24 people signed up. The more people that sign up, the more rewards our school earns. Just register your BonusCard at www.giantfoodstores.com/aplus and along with your own rewards, Schnecksville Elementary will earn cash, too! Use School ID #05918.



LABELS FOR EDUCATION

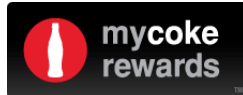
Labels for Education rewards us with free merchandise like playground equipment, school supplies and electronics just for sending in the UPC labels from many different products (Campbell's Pepperidge Farm,



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. Stay tuned, we are

working on a fun Labels contest in the coming months! If you have questions or would like to help count and trim labels, please contact Vicky Conte at candv1@ptd.net or 484-951-9665.

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-packs 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 or 484-951-9665.

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 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!

NOTE FROM THE GUIDANCE OFFICE

Winter guidance newsletter has been posted on the school website http://www.parklandsd.org/sv/wp-content/uploads/guidance_newsletter.pdf

Also, Schnecksville does have donated gently used or occasionally new clothing items and accessories. If there is a specific item you or families you know are in need of please contact your child's teacher or myself to determine if any of these items are available to you.

- Miss Gilmore

YEARBOOK

Leads: Class photos are still due the 8th. Next meeting date TBD. Watch the web site and your email!

PARKLAND FOUNDATION

Hello Parkland Parents,

I am writing to you today to let you know about a new organization, the Parkland School District Education Foundation, a 501 (c) (3) non-profit charged with raising funds to promote and enhance the educational and co-curricular programs for students and staff in the Parkland School District. The Foundation hopes to preserve Parkland's tradition of excellence and help build the dreams of children in our community.

As a holiday gift option, we are offering the opportunity for you to make a tax deductible donation to the Foundation in honor of a teacher, bus driver, cafeteria worker or principal to signify appreciation for the dedication and commitment that is shown to your student(s) on a daily basis at

<http://www.parklandsd.org/foundation/>. In return for your donation, you will receive a beautiful student-designed holiday card that can be personalized with a note and then delivered to a Parkland staff person (people) on behalf of your family. (Gifts may also be made by mail with checks mailed and made out to: The Parkland School District Education

Foundation, 1210 Springhouse Rd., Allentown, PA 18104.)

At the start of the school year, Superintendent Richard Sniscak introduced the Foundation to Parkland staff and, in response, we are proud to announce that the staff pledged to give \$19,000 in donations through payroll deduction over the course of the 2011-12 school year in support of the initiative.

Your gift will help support the Foundation's "Celebrate Innovation" grant program that will be launched in January. All Parkland staff members will have the ability to apply for grants that will enhance instruction or improve our community in some way. In spite of a challenging economy, we are grateful to be able to support innovative ideas thanks to the generosity of so many staff, parents, and community members.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration,
Nicole Mehta McGalla
Director, Community Relations & Development
District Liaison, Parkland School District Education Foundation

COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL

October

The Council met on October 20, 2011. Mr. Rob Thornburg, Director of School Services, and his staff presented on the topic of "Signs and Symptoms of At-Risk Behaviors." The team identified at-risk student behaviors and discussed the positive approaches the district takes in engaging these students. At the elementary level, Schnecksville and Parkway Manor have completed training in the School wide Positive Behavior Support approach and are now in the implementation phase. This program provides developmental guidance for each grade level and is designed to focus on a student's self-management of behavior. At the middle level,

programs such as Project Alert and Career Cruising support academic programs like DRP (District Remediation Program) and TOPS. All seventh graders enroll in a guidance course while the department, as a whole, focuses on building relationships. The high school level continues with the referral process offered in both elementary and middle levels and provides more than 17 support groups for students including Peer Helpers and mentoring.

November

Curriculum updates and School District Ranking were discussed at the monthly CAC meeting held on November 17, 2011. The Curriculum Team, led by L. Randy Claroni, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Professional Development, presented the results of traditional and non-traditional measurements of student performance. Traditional methods, including grade point average, college admission, advanced placement testing, and standardized testing, reflected above state average performance. Above national average was reported for SAT and AP testing. PSSA results reflected similar performance with a note that the difference above state average increased as students age from 3rd to 11th grade. Non-traditional measurements of student performance include participation in student clubs, sports teams, and art and music organizations. Parkland's performance in non-traditional assessments is as equally impressive as the traditional assessments.

The next meeting of the CAC is scheduled for December 15, 2011. It will begin with the Holiday Reception at 6:15 and continue with the Holiday Band and Chorus Concert at 7:00PM.



Market Day Pick Up

Tuesday Dec. 13 4:30 PM

Last Day to order online Wed 12/7 11 PM

New Customers - SAVE \$5 when you spend \$25!

Enter Promo Code: NEWFIVE at checkout at marketday.com.

Have an hour to help once a month? Help sort orders from 3:15-4:15. Or help with pick up from 4:30-5:30.

[Email Nina](mailto:nina@marketday.com) or call 769.5898



Next Meeting:

January 19th @ 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 for more details!

Next Edition: Wed Jan 4th



Happy Holidays!