

October 2009

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www.freedompta.org



PTA Freedom Elementary® Communique

Fall into Fun with the PTA Message from the Board

Now that the frenzy of September is over and we are starting to settle into our routines, we at the PTA have one small request. We know we have an outstanding team of parent volunteers. Every time you come to school and log in, your volunteer hours are automatically calculated and collected. But, did you know the hours you spend volunteering for school and the PTA outside of the building count as well? Planning meetings, making phone calls, assembling projects for your child's teacher. All these things count.

The PTA and Administration of FES have no way of accounting for outside hours without help from you, and we're trying to make that easier. If you are computer capable, you can go to our website and electronically log your hours. Do you have friends on Facebook? Become a fan of our new page there and find a link to the Volunteer Tracking Log. Prefer good ole' paper and pen? We have printed logs you can fill out. Regardless of the

method you choose, it helps us, which in turn helps you, when we have an accurate count of volunteer hours.

Keeping track of the hours helps us measure the success of our Volunteer Program. Volunteer hours play an important part in applying for grants and in gaining recognition for our school. Additionally, No Child Left Behind legislation has called for increased levels of parent involvement and volunteer participation in schools. And, last but not least, schools with outstanding levels of volunteerism have a greater voice when advocating for their children.

Please take just a few moments to capture those hours for us. And, if you haven't yet joined the PTA this year, it's never too late. For additional information about volunteer hours or PTA Membership, contact Mary Ellen Wagner mellen617@verizon.net.

Thank you and keep tallying,

~ Your Freedom PTA

Accelerated Reader

Accelerated Reader Store Is OPEN!

Students who have taken AR quizzes in September, they can spend their points on cool new merchandise in the cafeteria on Monday mornings. Thank you to all the volunteers that have agreed to give their time to help the students take these quizzes. The "AR Team" will start working with students this month, so please encourage your children to READ, READ, READ!! You can find a list of AR books on the Freedom website. If you have any questions regarding this program please contact Nikki Rauser at nrauser@gmail.com
Freedom Elementary participates in the

Box Tops for Education

national Box Tops for Education Program www.boxtops4education.com. Last year the school earned \$2,000 by clipping, sorting, and submitting box tops. The next submission is due October 20th. If you have box tops at home, please send them into school with your child. The collection box is on the left as you enter the cafeteria. Our goal this year is another \$2000. Thank you for making this program a success!

Market Day Update

Market Day is in full swing again at Freedom. Please take a moment to visit the website, www.marketday.com, to see all the different selections available. When you register your email address you will be eligible to receive periodic money saving coupons for Market Day products, new product announcements and order and pick-up reminders. Currently, Market Day is offering a \$25.00 Online Shopping Pass. The cost of the pass is only \$20.00. Once the pass is activated, you enter your order online (minimum \$25.00 order

before tax), put in the Promo Code shown on the pass and a \$25.00 deduction is made from your total. You save \$5.00 on all your Market Day favorites! Contact Sue Trageser, Chairperson, at 410-552-0336 to purchase an Online Shopping Pass or if you have any questions about Market Day products, your order, pick-up, or general comments. Remember, when you purchase Market Day products you're feeding your family and helping the students at Freedom Elementary

Freedom Elementary PTA

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Sykesville, MD 21784
Phone: 410-751-3525

Upcoming PTA Events

October 28th – Fall
Fundraiser Pickup

November 11th
7:00 p.m.
PTA Meeting
FES Media Center

November 23rd
12:00
Teacher/Staff Luncheon

Membership Goal
320
Current Total
242
We need you!

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.freedompta.org

Updates & Miscellaneous...

We're on **Facebook!** Thank you to Hae-Lem Pak for establishing a page for Freedom Elementary PTA. We will use this site as an additional way to post updates and reach our parents. Check us out and become a fan.

The **PTA Teacher and Staff Appreciation Luncheon** is Monday, November 23, noon. If you are able to donate a food or drink item (main dishes, side items, desserts, bottled water or cans of soda), please contact Stacey Baker: ravensgirl503@yahoo.com or 410-549-7625.

PTA Objectives

- ~To promote the welfare of children and youth in home, school, community, and place of worship,
- ~To raise the standards of home life,
- ~To secure adequate laws for the care and protection of children and youth,
- ~To bring into closer relation the home and the school, that parents and teacher may cooperate intelligently in the education of children and youth,
- ~To develop between educators and the general public such united efforts as will secure for all children and youth the highest advantages in physical, mental, social and spiritual education.

Instructional Leadership Team

It is the mission of FES to provide an environment where all students become lifelong learners and productive citizens. We believe we must all share in the responsibility for students learning and behavior.

Your Parent Representatives are:

Luann Reichenbaugh

lmreichenbaugh@comcast.net

Sue Hall

susanannhall@yahoo.com

PTA Mission

The mission of the PTA is threefold:

1. To support and speak on behalf of children and youth in the schools, in the community, and before governmental bodies and other organizations that make decisions affecting children;
2. To assist parents in developing the skills they need to raise and protect their children;
3. To encourage parent and public involvement in the public schools of this nation.