



Greetings to all Moorsbridge families, both returning and new to the school ...

I hope that everyone is having a relaxing and enjoyable summer. The 2010-11 school year is upon us and it will be underway much too soon!

As parents and guardians of Moorsbridge students, we each determine how we can best assist our children in becoming healthy and productive individuals as they grow into young adults. Our choices on how we can best guide them along this journey may be as a parent, team coach, church leader, civil servant, scout leader, school volunteer or some cross-section of these roles. As a school volunteer, there are several types of volunteer opportunities available:

1. "in-classroom" opportunities which are coordinated by teachers and other school staff;
2. extracurricular/after-school opportunities (i.e., scout leader, team coach, etc.) which are coordinated through sponsoring organizations; and
3. PTO (Parent Teacher Organization) volunteer opportunities which support our school and are available on a regular schedule, intermittent schedule or for a specific event or activity.

PTO organizations may vary from school to school and state to state, but the following is the mission statement for the Moorsbridge PTO:

The Moorsbridge PTO is a nonprofit parent teacher organization whose membership includes all parents, legal guardians and school staff at Moorsbridge Elementary School.

The mission of the PTO is to provide assistance and resources (financial and human) which will serve to, but are not limited to:

1. improve and enhance our school facilities and the learning environment;
2. supplement educational programs and materials;
3. create stimulating learning experiences both in and out of the classroom;
4. foster closer relationships between home and school; and
5. encourage community-wide participation in school activities and events.

It is our belief that through the collaborative team efforts of this organization, that any sponsored event or activity and any goods or services provided or purchased, will be made in the best interests of the school and the students. Annually, the organization will look to the school staff to provide direction in the form of needs and priorities.

As the incoming PTO President, I want to provide each of you the opportunity to learn about our PTO organization and the resources (human and financial) that we provide to our school. To learn more about our PTO organization and the volunteer opportunities, put the following dates on your calendar:

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| <i>PTO Kick-off Meeting</i> | September 1, 2010 (Wed.) 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. Moorsbridge (room TBD) |
| <i>New Family School Tours</i> | September 1, 2010 (Wed.) 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. Moorsbridge (room TBD) |
| <i>Welcome Back Coffee</i> | September 7, 2010 (Tue.) 8:45 – 10:00 a.m. Moorsbridge (room TBD) |

We are an organization fueled by volunteers and it is due to our volunteers that we are able to have the following activities at our school: Junior Achievement, Accelerated Reader, Road Rally, Movie Nights, Harvest Festival, Spring Carnival, Donuts with Dad, Muffins with Mom, Media Center Support and much more including field trip, classroom/teacher and enrichment program assistance. Over the years, there are activities/events that have ceased to exist due the lack of a volunteer coordinator (e.g., Geography Club, Imagination Destination, etc.). We are open to new ideas and programs with the appropriate volunteer leadership.

Finally, I realize that many parents/guardians have work schedules, other volunteer opportunities, service involvements that may limit your availability to volunteer; but if you have an interest or the time please come to a PTO meeting or contact myself (mellor67@yahoo.com) to learn more. I realize that PTO meeting times may be a limitation for some interested parents/guardians (I have been there!), but we do annually revisit the schedule and attempt to schedule the PTO meetings for dates and times to maximize attendance based on input from our families. Over the course of time, we have tried many different scenarios – daytime meetings, evening meetings, after school meetings and a mixed medley during the year. With each scenario, there are pros and cons and we have yet to find a meeting time that works well for everyone. Please watch for a PTO calendar of events and meeting times that will be sent home at the beginning of school.

Thank you for your input, suggestions, enthusiasm and time!

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