



Countryside Wildcats

Countryside Courier

Inspiring all learners to achieve excellence

August/September 2007

From Countryside's Principal, Christy Newhouse

Welcome to the 2007-2008 School Year at Countryside!

The building is ready, the staff is prepared, and everyone has been eagerly awaiting the return of our students. We are welcoming forty new families to our school community. Besides holding a new family orientation on August 14, teachers have assigned "buddies" to our new students to help them feel at home in their new school.

Here are some of the additional "new" things you will note at Countryside this fall.

First, there are a few staff changes that I am sure families will want to know. In **Kindergarten**, we welcome **Mrs. Eileen Schroeder** as the morning teacher. In our **First grade dual language** classes we welcome back **Mrs. Colleen Wapole**, who moved from kindergarten to First grade, and introduce **Mrs. Leadia Dzurisin** as a new faculty member. We also have added some additional part-time staff at Countryside. They are:

Music— Ms. Alison Rohrbach

Art — Ms. Bryn Watson

P.E. — Ms. Courtney Shemroske

LD/Diagnostician — Ms. Amanda McGuire

Physical Therapist — Ms. Kathy Spinabella

Special Services Assistants — Ms. Carol Schmidt, Ms. Amanda Peppia, Ms. Lisa Cooper

Some faculty members have changed spaces, as well. If you need assistance in locating a staff member, please ask in the office. Also, in an effort to upgrade our security and keep our children safe, the District has installed a new visitor screening system called "**The Raptor**." When adults who are not employed in the District visit, they will continue to sign in at the office. In addition, each person will be asked to provide a driver's license which will be scanned into the Raptor system. A quick background check will be done electronically and a photo name tag will be created for each "cleared" visitor to wear in the building. All visitors, including parents and volunteers, must go through this screening and nametags must be worn while in the building during the school day. Teachers have been

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August/September Calendar of Events



Following are events that all Countryside families are invited to participate in and attend. These events are a way to promote your child's educational experience, foster a strong Countryside community and enhance your family life.

August 24, 6-8 pm @ Countryside

Back to School Barbeque

August 31, Institute Day, No School

September 3, Labor Day, No School

September 5, 10am, Multipurpose Room

Monthly PTO Meeting

September 11, 7 pm @ BHS

CUSD 220 School Board Meeting

September 25, 7 pm @ BHS

CUSD 220 School Board Meeting

2007-08 Countryside PTO Meeting Schedule

Wednesday, September 5, 2007 @ 10am in the Multi-Purpose Room

Wednesday, October 10, 2007 @ 7pm in the Multi-purpose Room **

Wednesday, November 14, 2007 @ 10am in the Multi-purpose Room

Wednesday, January 9, 2008 @ 10am in Multi-purpose Room

Wednesday, February 13, 2008 @ 10am in Multi-purpose Room

Wednesday, March 12, 2008 @ 10am in Multi-purpose Room

Wednesday, April 9, 2008 @ 10am in Multi-purpose Room

Wednesday, May 14, 2008 @ 10am in Multi-purpose Room

** We are test piloting an evening session to include working parents. Depending on the attendance, we will consider offering future PTO meetings at night.



PTO President's Letter



Dear Countryside Families,

Just like you, I can't believe how fast the summer has flown by! Now it's time to put away the swimsuits and sharpen the pencils. We've got some great things in store for your children to enhance their already exceptional learning experience at Countryside.

For starters, we are excited about our Back to School BBQ this Friday, August

24 at Countryside. It's a good way to meet new friends and get caught up with old friends. Then, our fifth graders will head to Timber Lee the following week. We wish them all a safe and adventurous few days away from home.

You will notice a few changes at Countryside, proudly brought to you by the PTO. You will see Smart Boards showcased in a few classrooms as we pilot the latest in technology. You will also see (and hopefully get a chance to use) our Walking Path in the back of the school by the playground. The path has exercise stations and students will get a chance to use the path during recess and gym class.

Your PTO Executive Board, **Kelly Henry—Secretary, Annamaria Iacullo—Treasurer, Renee Kelsch—VP Special Committees, Stacey Lidbury—VP Fundraising and Christine Trzaska—VP Standing Committees**

are dedicated to making all our events a big success. We appreciate all the people who have volunteered to chair these events and those who volunteered to help on their committees. As a collective group with the main goal to serve the students, we will do great things. I look forward to working, laughing and learning right along side our volunteers and students. Speaking on behalf of the Executive Board, it's an honor and privilege to volunteer at Countryside.

All the best as we embark on another year at Countryside! While the students unravel new mysteries and discover talents in the classrooms, the Parent Teacher Organization will be right behind our students and teachers giving them the tools and opportunities to help them along.

Mary Jo Kunzmann

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instructed to ask any adults not wearing nametags to return to the office to check in. This new system will make our school an even safer place for our children.

Another change will be to the science curriculum in Grades 2, 3, and 4. The new science curriculum is being phased in over a two-year period. Changes to the Kindergarten and grades 1 and 5 curriculum will begin fall 2008. You will be hearing more about science in the weeks and months to come.

I am excited about meeting and greeting each family, from the newest to the most established, and hope to see many of you at our Back to School Barbecue on Friday, August 24. We are off to a great start and I am looking forward to a year filled with learning and growing at Countryside!

Christy Newhouse



As our district rolls out a new Wellness Policy, we are dedicating a monthly column to educate our parents about pertinent health and wellness issues. Our nurse, Mary Anne Wesoloski, RN, ILCSN, NCSN will be authoring this column each month. If you have questions about this column, please call Mrs. Wesoloski at (847) 756-2825.

Dear Parents,

Welcome to another great year at Countryside School! I wish you and your families a safe and healthy year.

I will be communicating timely health information to you through this column. Countryside School is very excited about changes that are taking place that encourage healthier lifestyle choices. Last year, these changes included healthier

school lunch food options, the fruit and vegetable bar, and an increase in physical activity minutes. In May, the School Health Council helped establish healthy snack and treat policies, and healthy environmental changes such as the pet and animal policy. District #220 is also placing "green clean" products in all buildings.

Plans for the new walking path are in their final stage and installation is expected any day. This path will include activity stations which work different muscle groups for an all-body work out. The site for the path was chosen with recess use in mind so children and staff may utilize it during the lunch/recess break.

Our School Health Council will meet soon to discuss future plans. **We are in need of two parent volunteers to serve on this Health Council. If you are interested, please contact me at the Health Office at (847) 756-2825.**

KUDOS KORNER



The Countryside PTO could not serve the students and families of our school without the many contributions of its volunteers. In this feature, we would like to thank some of our great volunteers!

Much thanks to **Nancy Kholamian** and **Susan Cascino** for a wonderful evening at the Young Artists Show last spring. Having every child's artwork displayed throughout the school was a monumental task and we greatly appreciate the effort it took to make the school hallways look so pretty!

Stan Arledge did it again! Everyone had a great time at Field Day last spring! What an effort and what a wonderful day.

Fifth Grade Recognition was a special way to say farewell to our 5th Grade students. Thanks to **Rose Larson**, **Stacey Lidbury** and **Susan Ranstead** for making the evening so memorable.

Once again, our thanks go to **Vickie Huff** and **Sonja Ippolito** for organizing and distributing the School Packs. Everyone's off to a great start with all his/her supplies! It's a great convenience for our busy families.

The Countryside Courier is here to serve YOU!

This newsletter is distributed each month in your child's backpack and also on the Internet. To access a copy online, simply go to www.countrysidepto.com and click on the "Newsletter" link. You'll find the current issue and all previous issues from this school year available with just a click of your mouse.

If you would like to submit articles for the Countryside PTO Newsletter, the deadline is the 20th of each month.

EMAIL OR CALL Purnima Bhogaraju
pub8@hotmail.com or (847) 428-5230



What's an easy way to support Countryside School and Barrington-area businesses?

Shop at these local businesses who are proud supporters of Countryside students! Simply mention that you are a member of the Countryside family and each business will donate a part of your purchase to the Countryside PTO.



The Canterbury Shoppe

200 Applebee Street (in the Ice House Mall)

Kaleidoscoops Ice Cream Parlor

106 West Main Street

(valid October 1, 2007 through May 31, 2008)



Meeske's Meat Market

124 West Northwest Highway

Mikey's Pizza

117 South Hough Street



Target Stores (please see back page for details)

Please visit these businesses often and don't forget to mention that you are a member of the Countryside family!



PTO Meeting Minutes ~ May 11, 2007

President's Report

Mary Jo Kunzmann opened the meeting at 10:05 a.m. with 19 people in attendance.

Volunteer Appreciation Party: Invitations sent out for May 18 at 7 p.m. at the Onion Pub.

Hand-Off Forms: Current Committee Chairs should provide these forms to the new chairs as soon as possible.

Traffic Control: Thanks to the families who wrote to the Barrington Hills Police Department requesting assistance before and after school with the traffic in front of Countryside.

Secretary's Report

April 2007 Minutes approved by Nicole Jacobsen and seconded by Kelly Henry.

Thank you notes to PTO were passed around from staff and students.

Treasurer's Report

Budget and Teacher Requests were presented. Approved by Liz Molli and seconded by Annette Gravesen.

VP Fundraising

Book Fair: Thank you to Amy, Dianne, and Donna! The Book Fair went well and was a huge success!

Ms. Fitz Rummage Sale: Thank you, Nicole! Great job! We made \$12,000 for a one day event!

Standing Committees

School Board Update: The School Board hired Tom Leonard as our new Superintendent.

Early Childhood and BHS Stadium Referendum: Early Childhood referendum did not pass but the BHS Stadium Referendum did.

School Board Election Results: Voters elected Brian Battle, Jeff Church, Tim Hull, and Cara Richardson to the District 220 School Board.

Room Parents: We still need Room Parents for the 3rd and 4th grades.

Artist Show and Ice Cream Social: Thanks to Nancy Kholamian and Susan Cascino for a wonderful event!

Special Committees

Reading Incentive Program: Thank you, Helen Sheyka and Annette Gravesen! 335

children completed the program, 303 will get medals (completed both the fall and spring program), 7 classrooms will get ice cream parties for 100% participation.

Field Day, May 31st: Everything is going as planned.

5th Grade Recognition, June 4th: Parent helpers needed.

Principal's Report

Last Day of School, June 5th: 9:00-11:15am.

Summer Workbooks: Mrs. Newhouse will provide recommendations for parents to order on their own.

Yearbooks will be distributed at the Meet the Teacher Day on Aug 20.

New Business: Award Ceremony will be Monday, June 4th.

Motion to adjourn made at 10:51am by Angela Allegretti and seconded by Vickie Huff. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly Henry

Secretary

Countryside PTO Meeting Minutes, Part II – May 11, 2007

President's Report

Mary Jo Kunzmann opened the meeting at 10:52 with 19 people in attendance.

Thank You, Doreen, for your great service to the PTO Executive Board! Doreen is stepping down from the Board for next year.

Welcome, Kelly Henry to the role of Secretary for 2007/2008 school year!

New Business

Summer Budget Planning Meeting, Executive Board, July 10

Motion to adjourn made at 10:55 by Angela Allegretti and seconded by Nicole Jacobsen. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Henry

Secretary

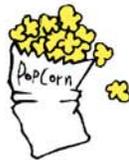


Join Us For Our 5th Annual 'Back To School BBQ!'



DJ FOR MUSIC
&
DANCING

SHOW YOUR
SCHOOL SPIRIT
WEAR RED, WHITE & BLACK!!



Friday

August 24th

6:00 - 8:00 pm

at Countryside School



FOOD!

FUN!



\$10.00 per family IF PRE-PAID BY 8/23

\$15.00 PER FAMILY AT THE DOOR

Parking will be at the Presbyterian Church on Brinker Road with shuttle bus service to the BBQ provided

If you'd like to help with set up, check-in or clean up contact Doreen Thomas at domamma@aol.com

REMEMBER: \$10.00 PER FAMILY BEFORE 8/23!! AVOID LONG LINES AND PRE-PAY!!

**EITHER MAIL TO: BACK TO SCHOOL BBQ /STEFFANIE CARTER
205 BRAEBURN ROAD BARRINGTON HILLS, IL 60010
OR DROP OFF AT SCHOOL DURING SUPPLY PICK UP OR ANY TIME
BEFORE 8/23 MARKED 'BACK TO SCHOOL BBQ!!**

FAMILY NAME: _____ TEACHER(S) NAME: _____

NUMBER OF ATTENDEES: ADULTS ____ CHILDREN ____

AMOUNT PAID: _____

Cash or check made out to "Countryside PTO"



Target Stores throughout the USA are offering a fabulous fundraising opportunity for Countryside school. All you need to do is charge your Target purchase on your Target guest card or your Target Visa card. Target will donate 1% of your purchases to Countryside! 1/2 % of your Target Visa purchases made everywhere else will also be donated to Countryside.



If you **do not have a Target guest card**, you can sign up for one at any Target store and designate Countryside to receive the donation (Countryside #45138). As a thank you for signing up Target will give you 10% off your first charge card purchase.

If you **already have a Target guest card or a Target Visa Card**, either call the Target Educational Hotline at (800)316-6142 to enroll your card, or register on-line at www.target.com. Go to "Store Services", then to "Community Giving" and click on "Take Charge of Education". Note this must be done before charging any items to your card.

If you have grandparents, aunts and uncles, etc. anywhere in the USA, they can also designate Countryside as the beneficiary of their purchases. It is a great way for out of town families to help us raise money for our school, and it's easy to do.

**Questions? Please contact:
Call Purnima Bhogaraju (847) 428-5230**

It's time to start collecting BOX TOPS again!

The Box Tops for Education Program is an easy way to earn money for our school. It's as simple as clipping and turning in Box Tops from many products that you already buy such as Cheerios, Fruit Roll-Ups, and Go-Gurt. Each box top is worth 10 cents to Countryside School. Please send in all collected box tops in an envelope or zip loc bag with your child.

In fact, sending in the box tops on your child's Library
Check-Out Day makes it simple for everyone!

Thanks for your support and keep on saving those box tops!

PLEASE NOTE: THERE IS A NEW BOX TOPS COLLECTION BOX
ON THE LIBRARY COMPUTER TABLE.



YOUR BOX TOPS. YOUR PROGRAM. YOUR CASH.