



THE CORRAL

Presidents' Letter

We are now down to only 3 months of school for the year!!! It is flying by. The Sock Hop was the last major fundraiser for the year. We had a great turn out and were very excited with the funds raised. We hope everyone that came had a great time.

We are now ready to vote in our new executive board for next year. We need to have as many people at the next meeting to be able to vote. Our meeting is going to be on March 7th at 10:00. We also have lots of open positions for next year. If you are interested in a position, please email Claudette Cunnold at claudettec@mindspring.com.

Also, a survey will be going out soon and we really need your feed back. Please take the time to answer and you will be entered into a drawing to win a Target gift card.

Holly Townsend & Ashley Paden

Co-Presidents

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Saint
Patrick's
Day
March
17th
Wear
Green!!

Dates to Remember

March 2	2nd Annual Georgia Walk To School Day 5th Grade Writing Assessment
March 3	Picture Day
March 7-11	School Breakfast Week
March 7	PTA Meeting Brierfield Clubhouse 6:30 PM Executive Meeting 7:00 PM PTA Meeting
March 8	Success Night K, 2nd, 4th 6-7:30 PM
March 10	Success Night 1st, 3rd, 5th 6-7:30 PM
March 11	Make Up Snow Day
March 13	Daylight Savings Time Begins
March 15	Corral Deadline Shane's Rib Shack Give Back Night 2nd Grade 5:30-7:30 PM
March 17	St. Patrick's Day Wear Green
March 21-30	3rd Grade Writing Assessment
March 23	LSAC Meeting 9 AM Media Center
March 25	Box Tops Due
March 26	Colts Cup 1 Mile Fun Run @ CCES



Don't Forget!
Bring in your
Box Tops and Campbell's
Labels
on
Friday, March 25th!

Please turn in items in a ziploc bag
with student's name, grade
and teacher.

The class with the most items
turned in will win prizes!

Congratulations to the
January winner:

Mrs. Maycock's class

Be sure to turn in all Box Tops that
have not expired!!

Campbell's Labels must have the UPC
bar code.

www.boxtops4education.com

www.labelsforeducation.com



WHAT IS LSAC?

The Local School Advisory Council (LSAC) is an entity created and established by state law that is required to function in every public school in Georgia. The intent of councils is to bring communities and schools closer together in a spirit of cooperation to solve difficult educational problems, improve academic achievement, provide support for teachers and administrators, and bring parents into the school-based decision-making process. Councils typically consist of the school principal as well as parent, teacher and business representatives whose purpose is to provide advice and recommendations to the principal.

The CCES LSAC meets on a regular basis during the course of each school year. School community members are encouraged to submit questions, concerns, or comments via a form sent home prior to meetings and available on the school website. The issues that arise are discussed and addressed by the council and when possible, feedback is given directly to the party who submitted the form. In some cases, anonymous forms are submitted. Please take the time to read some of the questions or concerns that were addressed in the last LSAC meeting.

- 1) Boosterthon concerns: Concerns were raised about some of the fundraising aspects of Boosterthon, including the fact that about half of the funds raised go to the company that provides the event. The pros and cons of Boosterthon were discussed at length. Suggestions included letting community members know that the Boosterthon profits compare favorably to profits we have received from other fundraisers, ensuring that parents know what programs (such as cultural arts, technology) the fundraiser profits cover, and surveying parents to see how they feel about a variety of fundraising options. The idea of trying a "direct give" campaign was discussed for next year.
- 2) Concerns about math minutes per day: A concern was raised about how it seems this year's schedule does not allow for as much time in math as last year. Mr. Freiberger stated that we have more time devoted to math instruction than the county requires. We provide one hour and five minutes at CCES per day for math whereas the county only requires 50 minutes. The time allotment for math this year is five minutes less than last year.
- 3) Safety concerns addressed regarding 2nd and 3rd grade playground: A few concerns about the playground were raised by some students. Their problems related to the need to have a clean and safe play area. Sometimes the leaves pile up on the basketball court, there is not much mulch, and there are some roots that are tripping hazards. Mr. Freiberger stated that "blue slips" should be completed by teachers for custodial staff on items such as leaf blowing. He also shared that emails had been sent out to secure free mulch. When secured, mulch will be dumped and volunteers will be requested to spread mulch. It was decided that roots will be examined to see if any can be cut out.
- 4) Computer lab and classroom computers not working effectively: A concern about the need for access to updated computer equipment was shared. This concern was discussed at length. The technology at CCES has come a long way in a short time (three computer labs this year that teachers take students to on a regular basis, promethean boards in more classrooms, etc.). However, there is so much work to be done to provide latest technologies to students and it is very expensive. The LSAC members agree that more updates in computers, etc. are needed. Here is a partial list of some actions taken or in need of taking re: technology:
 - Technology Committee consisting of Marty Nation and teachers are incorporating technology activities into the standards.
 - Improved communication with parents about the needs and priorities of school and how student enrichment fund could be used.
 - Grant writing committee (8 members: teachers, parent, and paraprofessional, as well as Jenny Nover) also working on writing grants to raise funds. These funds could possibly be used to advance technology.
- 5) Teachers not asked for input regarding student placement: A concern was shared that teachers do not have enough input of placement of students for level as well as for TAG testing. Mr. Freiberger and the teachers said that teachers can provide input regarding placement level of students. They fill out placement cards based on test scores and other information from the classroom at the end of the school year. The specific concern about TAG is that too many students get tested for TAG (but do not make it) because a certain score on the CRCT is an instant trigger for testing but many of those children are not going to make it into TAG. There was some agreement that perhaps too many students were tested based on one score on a test of competency. However, Fulton County sets the cutoff scores and decides that TAG testing be made available to all students who achieve those specific scores on the CRCT.
- 6) Not enough vegetarian choices on the menu: A suggestion was made that more vegetarian options, especially Indian, be offered on the lunch menu. Mr. Freiberger said that the menu is generated from the county and a vegetarian choice is given each day. However, the council agreed that it would be nice to have more options. The decision was made to send the concern to Wanza Malcom, who could communicate this concern up the chain of command to see what the possibility is of having more alternatives on the menu. Subsequently, Mr. Freiberger was able to arrange a meeting (held February 9th) between interested parents and appropriate Fulton County food and nutrition personnel. The meeting was both informative and productive. It is clear that Fulton County has to work within the constraints of the USDA requirements as well as the budgetary concerns of "buying groceries" for the entire county so the menu can be an arduous process. However, the Fulton County staff was very open to suggestions that might work within their limitations, and there will be some new vegetarian items piloted at CCES in the Spring based on some of the recommendations of the parents. Please watch the school menu for these items throughout the rest of the school year and come try them out when they are offered.

Please continue to share concerns, questions, ideas, or suggestions with your local school advisory council. It is the job of the council to represent our CCES community. You are welcome to call, email, or complete a form if you have something to ask, share, request, suggest or laud.

Thank you for participating in making CCES a better school!

EMPLOYEE MATCHING CONTRIBUTIONS

Thank you to the following companies that participated in the Employee matching contributions:

AMB Group

Kimberly-Clark

Wells Fargo

Nokia

LEXISNEXIS

Please check with your company's human resources or payroll department to see whether it offers a matching gift program. Companies match 100% for your tax deductible contributions, which doubles your contribution.

For example, if you contributed \$100 to the Student Enrichment Fund which is a tax deductible contribution and your company offered or participated in a matching gift program, they will match and contribute \$100 resulting in the Student Enrichment Fund receiving a total of \$200.

For additional questions or information please contact Mercy Vennel at mercyvennel@yahoo.com.

COLT FIVE & DIME VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Colt Five & Dime needs volunteers!!! The hours are from 6:50 AM to 7:45 AM and volunteers are needed for the following dates: March 30th, April 13th, April 27th, May 11th and May 25th. Please contact Ruby Gabac at rcinder8@yahoo.com if you are available to help.

Crabapple Crossing Elementary



The Crabapple Crossing PTA publishes *The Corral* the last Friday of each month.

George B. Freiburger, Ed.S, Principal

Holly Townsend and Ashley Paden,
PTA Co-Presidents

Meg Gleason, Editor – *The Corral*