



PFA News

September 28, 2009

The 2009-2010 PFA wants to welcome you! We hope that your school year is off to a great start and that your child is feeling comfortable in the routine of school at Rolling Hills this year. Our school's PFA offers an opportunity for parents to help make RHPCS a great success, won't you join us?

Parent-Faculty Association (PFA) – What Is It All About?

The PFA's focus is to create the kind of school community where our teachers, staff, and administrator can do their best work, and so can our children. We work to build the kind of supportive, caring atmosphere that makes school fun.

PFA Mission: Rolling Hills Public Charter School PFA collaborates with parents, teachers and faculty to enhance the learning environment by:

1. Raising funds to support academic and operational needs.
2. Hosting fun activities to bring families together.
3. Supporting teachers with financial support for classroom, academic and professional development needs.

The people in our school community have a vast and various pool of skills and talents. Being an active participant in the PFA is a great way to contribute your time and your unique talents toward the success of our school. It is also a great way to build a network of friends and resources within our school community.

Why Get Involved?

Your child benefits! - When parents get involved in their children's education, it pays off. Research shows that children whose parents are actively involved are more likely to:

- . Earn higher grades and test scores
- . Be promoted and earn credits
- . Attend school regularly
- . Show improved behavior
- . Enroll in higher-level programs
- . Adapt well to school
- . Have better social skills
- . Graduate and go to college
- . And more!

Get Connected to Our School – PFA's goal is to get more parents connected to the school. More than 300 independent research studies show that building parent involvement in education is the number one thing we can do to create a great school. We have many new families at our school this year, but to us there are no "outsiders". We all have a common bond -- we care about creating the best possible education experience for our children. We couldn't be happier to have you join us in working toward this goal.

Get Connected to Other Parents – We are neighbors and peers who share many of the same experiences. Participating in PFA activities and events will give you opportunities to meet and get to know other parents while accomplishing much for our school. Many friendships have developed as a result of PFA connections.

There Is A Lot to Be Done & Your Help Matters – These days, schools are asked to do more with less, and our school is no exception. Parent support is needed more than ever to fill the gaps. We know that people are often reluctant to participate because they are afraid they'll get pulled into a black hole of never-ending time commitment. We pledge to honor your time constraints and won't push you to commit more than you want to or are able. An hour or two really can make a difference!

PFA – What Is Going On Right Now



Sally Foster Fundraiser is underway. **All orders and money are to be turned in to the school by Friday, October 2.**

We hope that your child's Sally Foster sales are going well. Remember, this is a great fundraiser for our school, **50% of every purchase goes to our school.** Sally Foster offers a variety of quality gift wrap, unique gifts, gourmet edibles and more, all value-priced at \$20 or less per item.

Sally Foster makes it easy to sell to out-of-town friends and relatives. Go to the Seller's Section of the Sally Foster website, www.sallyfoster.com to sign up for the fast and easy email program. Our school earns 50% of the generated online orders and students earn prize credit for the online sales. You will need the school's Sally Foster account number 885856 to sign up. Our school continues to earn from online orders that can be placed all year long.

Questions? Please direct any questions about Sally Foster to committee chair Shannon Wardle at 938-5944 or by email at: grumpyc0wgirl@yahoo.com



Boxtop Collection Drive

The PFA is sponsoring a weekly contest through October 30th to promote the collection of BoxTops. Our goal is to collect at least 3000 BoxTops before 10/30/09. We can do this! That works out to an average of 14 BoxTops per student. You can collect BoxTops from your grandparents, friends, neighbors, aunts, uncles or whoever to meet our goal. Each week the classroom that collects the highest average BoxTops per student will win a Otter Pop party. If the whole school collects at least 3000 BoxTops, the entire student body will receive snowcones.

What is a BoxTop you ask? A BoxTop is a small logo/certificate (usually tiny) that looks similar to the logo in this section of the newsletter. The logo's can be found on a wide-range of grocery items like cereal boxes, cake mix, refrigerated cookie dough and many more. The certificates need to be torn or cut off the package in one piece and the expiration date must be in the future. Each certificate is worth ten cents for our school.

Also, during this time the class that has the most people sign up at <http://www.boxtops4education.com/common/Register.aspx> and designate Rolling Hills as the school they support, will win a special prize. Each registration earns us additional BoxTops. Just have the person who registered print out their confirmation page showing their name and the school they support, any other personal information can be blacked out. Send these confirmation pages to school with your child to turn in.

Keep in mind that we do collect BoxTops all year long. Even after the contest ends, just keep those BoxTops in to school with your child. Our school continues to earn money throughout the year.

Questions? Please direct any questions about Boxtops to Nicole Morris at 939-2844.



Fall Carnival

The PFA plans to host a fun-filled fall carnival. This will be a family-friendly event with games, food, and fun for all. We are hoping to have this event at the end of October or the beginning of November, but we need help with the planning and preparations as well as volunteers to man the activities the night of the carnival. Contact Kellie Kohler to offer your time and talents for this fantastic event. Kellie Kohler 938-4769 or by email at: kelliekohler@yahoo.com

PFA – What is Coming Up Next?



Christmas Wreaths

We are excited to once again be teaming with JanLar Wreaths out of Nampa, Idaho to offer for sale affordable, floral-quality wreaths, garland, and centerpieces. This fun and profitable fundraiser is a great way to usher in the holiday spirit. This whole line of holiday decorations are made here locally with beautiful greens from the Northwest and lovely hand-tied bows. You will be proud to display one (or more!) on your house and offer them to friends, family, and neighbors. We will be able to offer, for an additional charge, shipping anywhere in the continental U.S. for all the items except the centerpiece. So, feel free to sell to out-of-town folks as well. All products are 100% guaranteed. Students will be provided full-color brochures and order forms to begin selling October 23. All orders will need to be submitted by Monday, November 9. Wreaths will be delivered to the school Tuesday, December 1. Students will need to get them delivered to those that bought from them as soon as possible following arrival.

But, wait! The way we can make this a HUGE success as a fundraiser for our school is to sell these items to businesses. The holidays are a great time for a business to show its appreciation. These wreaths make a lovely and distinctive holiday-time gift that a business can have shipped anywhere in the continental U.S., or delivered locally. So, if you own or manage a business, or are close to someone who does, now is the time to start thinking about your holiday gift giving. Do you have employees to commend? Do you need to thank someone that regularly refers business your way? Should you thank someone who purchased a big-ticket item from you this year? Do you have a holiday party that needs decorations? Think wreaths as a great at affordable gift, most of the items will retail for \$25.00 and under! You can preview the items we will be offering on the JanLar website, go to: <http://janlar.com/> and click on "Products". Watch for a Christmas Wreath marketing email with color brochure and pricing to be coming your way in the next week or so. Feel free to forward this email to friends, family, colleagues who may be interested in this opportunity. Let us make your holiday gift giving EASY!

Questions? Please contact Teri Friend at 939-2985 or by email: btfriend@hotmail.com



Scrip (Gift Cards) available for purchase throughout the year

Scrip, what is that? Scrip is a fabulous fundraising tool for the school. But here is the best part, you don't have to spend any extra money. Scrip is a Gift Card Program that allows you to buy gift cards at their face value, and the company donates a % of the gift card amount directly to the school. This is a great fundraiser because our school families can generate funds for the school through purchases we already have to make anyway. Groceries, clothing, toys, gifts, even gasoline can be purchased with scrip. Our school with about 150 families easily spends between one and two million dollars per year on food, clothing and other essentials. If our families use scrip for these purchases, we have the potential to raise tens of thousands of dollars every year for their school --without spending an additional penny.

Scrip FAQ's: Do I get the full gift card amount? Yes! If you pay \$25 for a gift card from Home Depot, you have a full \$25 to redeem at Home Depot, and the school just received \$3. Does the gift card expire? NO! There is no expiration date. But you'll want to use them up so you can order more gift cards and raise more money for the school. More information about Scrip can be found at: www.glscrip.com.

The PFA is excited to offer this win-win program again this year. **We are currently looking for a volunteer to be the Scrip coordinator.** The work related to this program is primarily done from home, you choose the time. The work requires great attention to detail. This is a position that will require a commitment to regular volunteer service time throughout the entire school year. It is important that we get the program started as soon as possible so that we can offer gift card purchases for the holiday gift-giving season. If you think this might be the volunteer position for you, please contact Kellie Kohler at 938-4769 or by email at: kelliekohler@yahoo.com

Other PFA News

Watch for updates soon to the PFA page on the school website, www.rhpcs.org. We plan to make the webpage a source of information about all our current and ongoing PFA events, activities, and fundraisers. PFA related documents will also be available on the webpage, including: minutes from the PFA Monthly Meetings, editions of PFA News, the PFA budget, etc.

A special thanks to Meisha Kurtz who had been hard at work making the school's website a valuable source of information.

Upcoming Dates to Remember

- Friday, October 2, 2009 – All Sally Foster orders and money are due.
- October 5-9, 2009 – Fall School Break
- Thursday, October 15, 2009 – PFA Monthly Meeting
- October 23 – November 9, 2009 – Christmas Wreath sales.
- Thursday, November 12, 2009 (Tentative) – Sally Foster order pick up day at the school.
- Thursday, November 19, 2009 – PFA Monthly Meeting
- Tuesday, December 1, 2009 – Christmas wreath pick up day at the school

(Cut off and return to the school)

Yes! I want to participate in the success of Rolling Hills by volunteering with the PFA.

Name

Phone

Email

My Child/Children - Name(s) and grade(s)

I am interested in helping with:

_____ **Fall Carnival**

_____ **Christmas Wreath Sales**

_____ **Scrip**

_____ **Other, call me so we can discuss it.**

_____ **A future event or activity, keep me in mind.**