

To: All Sanborn Families
From: Parent Teacher Organization

Welcome!

A warm welcome to all our new and returning Sanborn families! Whether your crew woke bright and early today or had trouble shaking off the late summer slumber, the first day of school is always memorable, and we have an exciting year ahead of us! A note of gratitude to Taisha Weber, Andrea Mahoney, Mary Sakellarios, Carolyn Kendrigan, Maureen Mullen and Liz Hoar for their leadership and guidance throughout the past year and a tremendous thank you to all who have volunteered their time and talents: committee chairs, room parents, library, cafeteria, literacy and event volunteers and the many others who gave a hand and made our school a special place to be.

New Beginnings...

Sanborn's history of Parents and Teachers working together remains strong this year. In August the PTO hosted a New Family Open House where we welcomed 20 new families to Sanborn. The new families had an opportunity to learn more about Sanborn and enjoyed a tour of the school- the new students were excited to meet fellow classmates and get a sneak peak of their classrooms. Thank you very much to Patty Flowers for organizing this effort and to all of our Mentor families who volunteered to serve as a resource for new families.

A call for Room Parents...

Mom's and Dad's, here is your opportunity to work closely with your child's teacher and classroom parents to make this a fun and memorable year. Complete and return the attached form to be considered for a spot as a Room Parent! **All Room Parents will meet Wednesday Sept 8 @ 9am** for an orientation session.

Join up!

The backbone of the PTO is its members. Becoming a member of the PTO gives you access to information, support and a collective voice to create a positive learning environment for our children. The enrollment process is as simple as last year where updating your directory information and paying dues can be done online at www.sanbornpto.net. Please take a moment to join this month. In October the 2010-2011 edition of the Directory will be distributed to all members- a very useful resource!

Sneak peak...

We are very fortunate through member dues and donations to provide opportunities and resources for our children above and beyond what the school budget affords. The PTO *Enrichment Team* has another robust program planned this year spanning life science, math, engineering, physical science and literature, tailored to meet the specific needs of each grade level.

You missed it? No you didn't! Check out our web site www.sanbornpto.net for a comprehensive summary of all the PTO has to offer! Our new Website Coordinator, Glenn Gnabasik, has devoted many hours this summer to website enhancements. Check it out this year as efficient navigational tools and updated content has been added to make it a one stop shop for all your PTO needs. Add it to your favorites!

The *Gift Card Fundraiser* program (Scrip) has been well received and order forms will be distributed three times this year. Look for your first opportunity to order cards in November... and thank you for your support!

Our first *Yard Sale Fundraiser* was wildly successful last year, benefiting the School and the community... and was *tons* of fun. Make a New Year's resolution to de-clutter because the Yard Sale will be held in March this year.

With the final phase of our *technology initiative* complete our media lab and classrooms have been equipped with LCD projectors that connect to the existing classroom computers, document cameras to replace antiquated overhead projectors and SMARTboards for all 3 wings and every 5th grade classroom. Additionally, the SMARTboards are equipped with a "student response system" which will provide real time feedback regarding student comprehension. Thank you to last year's PTO President Taisha Weber, Principal Patty Barrett and the Technology Task Force for the thoughtful and thorough job of researching, fundraising, organizing and implementing technology enhancements in our classroom.

Over the summer the PTO purchased five magnetic white boards for classrooms that did not have one, as well as helping to purchase three picnic tables for outside learning located near the 5th grade classrooms. In addition, this fall the PTO will provide playground equipment and new basket ball rims as the old ones are "played out"... alley-oop!

Dates to remember...

Mark your calendars to meet up with old friends and make new ones at the **Welcome Back Pizza Night, Thursday September 16th at 6:00pm** on the playground. Good eats!

Please join us for the **first PTO meeting of the school year on Wednesday September 29th @ 9am**. We will begin the meeting with a *parent book swap*! Yes, now parents can have just as much fun as the kids did last spring swapping and chatting up books... donate a couple if you like, as you can take the same number of new books home.

The tradition of **Spooky Fun Fair (Saturday October 23rd)** continues into its *third decade* this year and is always a favorite way for the kids to show off their creative costumes. Your admission fee helps to fund the many programs the PTO offers throughout the year. Spooky will feature games, crafts, prizes, a haunted house built by the 5th graders and a raffle with some very exciting prizes. There are many volunteer opportunities available. Check out the volunteer sign up list that will be sent home next week to see if any appeal to you.

Newish crew...

Transitioning into new roles this year are Amy Smith and Anita Johnson as Co-Presidents, Cynthia Guo leading the Volunteer Coordinator effort and Sue Granger keeping things organized as Secretary. We are fortunate to have Carolyn Kendrigan and Liz Hoar continue to serve as Vice President and Treasurer, respectively.

We look forward to seeing you this year!
Sincerely,

Co-Presidents Amy Smith and Anita Johnson