



News Lynx



Strengthening Our Lynx

www.bonlinmiddleptsa.org

October 2009 - Volume 2, Issue 2

Principal's Corner



Parents, Teachers, and Students:

Thank you for a great start to our school year. I appreciate the effort put forth by all of our stakeholders as we complete the first month of school. It has been a busy few weeks, but I know that we are pulling together as a community and I look forward to a great rest of the year.

In early September I met with the Student Advisory Group, a group of students randomly selected from the Student Government Association, to discuss their views on our school. I listen carefully to this group because they reflect the entire student body. I was pleased to hear the response to our new Positive Behavior Support Initiative and to other items happening in our school. They also share with me things they would like to see changed. Meeting with this group is just another way for me to hear our students and understand them better. I appreciate their candor and am always open to new ideas.

This year I am also launching an opportunity for parents to share with me their thoughts regarding our school. During our lunch and breakfast time meetings, I want to hear the positive things that are occurring, but I am also open to a critiquing of areas that need to be strengthened. This is not a time to discuss individual teachers or employees, but it is a time to address programs, etc. Please review the PTSA or web-based school calendar for times and dates and I look forward to seeing you there!

Sincerely,
Dr. Dyer

From the desk of...

We have had a tremendous start to our new school year. Many of you are finding out that there are so many opportunities to be involved in here at Bon Lin Middle School. Please encourage your student to try different things and watch them grow! We want all students and parents involved in our school. I hope you have found a welcoming atmosphere. Our PTSA theme this year is "Strengthening Our Lynx". As parents I think we should all ask, "What can I do to strengthen my student, the clubs he or she is involved in, and the school." If we all work together we can make a major impact in the lives of our children by demonstrating to them that commitment to school is important. Thank you for your support and volunteering when you can.

Thanks to all students and parents that participated in our fall fundraiser. To date we have sold \$22,508.75. Our goal was \$40,000 so we are behind income projections. On one hand I hate to talk about money, but I must make you aware of our financial situation since the general membership approved our budget. I know we are in tough economic times and I promise you the PTSA board will tighten our belt. However, I still would like to see our budget fully-funded for the benefit of our children. The PTSA can only have two fundraisers per year. We can, however, accept donations. Your family might want to consider making a donation to the PTSA. All students that donate \$50.00 or more will be allowed to attend the "Ten and Your In" party on November 6th along with those students that sold 10 or more items in our fall fundraiser. Many companies will also match your donation since the PTSA is a not-for-profit organization. We are also having Spirit Nights at area restaurants. We received \$90.00 from Chick-Fil-A for our first Spirit Night. Please read in this newsletter how Kroger and Schnucks make donations to our school. Every little bit helps and we appreciate your support!

As always, if you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions please feel free to contact me.

Jamae Zarshenas
President
jzarshenas@aol.com
372-9020



Dates to Remember



- October**
- 2 Safety Poster Contest Ends
- 5 Reflections Contest Begins
- 6 Family Math Night – 6:30-7:30PM
- 9 Report Cards
- 12-13 Columbus Day – FALL BREAK – NO SCHOOL
- 14 Chick-fil-a Spirit Night
- 15 Parent Teacher Conferences 4-7PM
Fundraiser Pickup TODAY
- 16 Reflections Contest Ends
Box Tops Collection
- 18-24 Character Counts Week
Teen Read Week
- 19 Citizenship Essay Contest Begins
- 21 8th Grade Explore Test
- 23 Fall Dance – 7-9:30PM
- 26-31 National Red Ribbon Week
- 30 Citizenship Essay Contest Ends



Stay Connected with Bon Lin Middle School



Follow the PTSA on Twitter or become a friend on
Facebook & MySpace!

Look up **Bon Lin Middle School** on any or all
three and join today!



CDC Advice to Prevent the Flu

The single best way to prevent seasonal flu is to get vaccinated each year!

1. Avoid close contact.

Avoid close contact with people who are sick. When you are sick, keep your distance from others to protect them from getting sick too.

2. Stay home when you are sick.

If possible, stay home from work, school, and errands when you are sick. You will help prevent others from catching your illness.

3. Cover your mouth and nose.

Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing.

It may prevent those around you from getting sick.



4. Clean your hands.

Washing your hands often will help protect you from germs.

5. Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.

Germs are often spread when a person touches something that is contaminated with germs and then touches his or her eyes, nose, or mouth.

6. Practice other good health habits.

Get plenty of sleep, be physically active, manage your stress, drink plenty of fluids, and eat nutritious food.

2009 VESTA Home Show

The Memphis Area Home Builders Association will be holding it's 2009 VESTA Home Show at The Villages at White Oak in beautiful Arlington, TN. This year's show features eight beautiful homes, all built to ANSI/NAHB National Green Building Standards.

As a special benefit to your organization, MAHBA is offering special discount ticket pricing of \$10 each. That's \$2.00 off the regular \$12 price. In addition to the \$2 discount, for every ticket sold using this code, MAHBA (Memphis Area Home Builders Association) will make a donation to the Shelby County PTA of \$1. Just go to www.vestahomeshow.com, enter your unique PROMO CODE and purchase tickets on-line for just \$10 each.



Organization: Shelby County PTA
Special Promo Code: SPTA



Thank You Clinic Volunteers!

Thanks to all clinic volunteers for August and September. Special thanks to Debbie Jones, Linda Beach and Serita Marlin for putting in extra clinic hours. Donations are still needed, especially alcohol wipes and small quart bags for ice. Substitutes are needed in case a parent is unable to volunteer .

If you would like to spend even just a few hours helping out in the clinic each month, please contact our Clinic Coordinator, Tabitha Rogers 438-5606.

Parental Involvement

Attention, please note the new email address for volunteers to send & receive information. blmsvolunteers@comcast.net.



Fall Fundraiser – Strengthening Our Lynx



We've been very busy collecting and counting our Fundraiser money. We made \$22,508.75 Our Fundraiser Pickup Day is Thursday, October 15th from 3:30-7:30p.m. Please come by the Science Lab by the front door of the school to pick up your student's order. All orders MUST be picked up that night, especially if you have ordered cookie dough. Any cookie dough NOT picked up will be donated. A reminder will be sent home the day before Pick Up Day.

Beth Nelson bnelson9601@aol.com or 494-7893

Scholastic Book Fair Update – Mrs. Boren, Library

The Scholastic Book Fair was a great success! Even though we did not reach our sales goal, we raised just above what we did last year! Unfortunately, we won't see Dr. Dyer dress as a die-hard Memphis fan, but this gives us something to strive for next year! We raised \$487 for the One For Books program. Scholastic gives away one book for every dollar raised to three charities, including the National Literacy Foundation, Toys for Tots, and Kids in Distressed Situations.



Book Fair Sales: \$4, 876.00

One For Books: \$478.92

Class Set of Books: Mrs. Fox

Homeroom Participation Pastry Party: Mrs. Mays and Mrs. Ellis

Guessing Jar: 277 Hershey Kisses, Daniel Pope and Eric Duke won both guessing 275 kisses





Lynx Basketball Schedule



- 10/26 vs. Elmore Park – Home – 4:45
- 10/29 vs. Millington – Away – 5:00
- 11/2 vs. Shadowlawn – Home – 4:30
- 11/5 vs. Appling – Away – 4:30
- 11/9 vs. Arlington – Home – 4:45
- 11/16 vs. Mt. Pisgah – Away – 4:45
- 11/19 vs. Woodstock – Home – 5:00
- 11/23 vs. Elmore Park – Away – 4:45
- 12/3 vs. Millington – Home – 4:30
- 12/7 vs. Shadowlawn – Away – 4:45
- 12/10 vs. Appling – Home – 4:30
- 12/14 vs. Arlington – Away – 4:45
- 1/7 vs. Mt. Pisgah – Home – 4:45
- 1/11 vs. Woodstock – Away – 5:00



Box Tops Collection



Please take some time to cut out box tops and send them to your child's homeroom teacher. First Semester's collection ends on October 16th. A treat will be given to the classroom with the most box tops collected.

Amy Wery, Box Tops Coordinator



Race for Education 5K

Building Healthy Minds for a Strong Community

Excitement is running high with the **2009 Race for Education** fast approaching. The ninth annual running the Race for Education will take place **Sunday, November 8 at 2 p.m.** The 5K will begin promptly at 2 p.m., followed by a one-mile Family Fun Walk. As always, the afternoon will include lots of great live entertainment (*Please see the announcement below about how to sign up as an entertainer.*). The race is sanctioned by the Memphis Runners Club, and medals will be given to the overall winners and the top three runners in each age group. ***Registration** -- Early registration is available through October 19 for \$15 (plus \$2.50 for online payment). The fee is \$20 after October 19 (plus \$2.50 for online payment). Mail-in registration forms must be postmarked by November 2. The online registration deadline is November 5. Race day registration starts at noon and will cost \$25. **The Race for Education is presented by the Shelby County Schools Education Foundation.** For more information about the race, visit <http://raceforeducation.racesonline.com/>.

Treats For Troops!

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the Treats for Troops. We received a tremendous amount of items. I am sure the troops will be glad to have these items. Please make plans to attend the next general meeting on November 3 at 7 P.M. Our guest for the evening will be David Picker, Shelby County School Board Chairman. He will be discussing valuable information about single source funding. He will also answer any questions about how this legislation will affect Shelby county Schools and your child's future.

Kroger Cards

Place your order for Kroger cards and BLMS PTSA will receive 5% back! Each card costs \$5 and when you get the card it's loaded with your \$5! See www.bonlinmiddleptsa.org for more information!



Schnucks Cards



Register your Schnucks Customer Card at www.groups.escrip.com and indicate Bon Lin Middle to receive a donation. Our number is 500022665.

Be a Lynx Library Volunteer!

Volunteers are still needed to help maintain the library media center. Volunteers are essential to help keep our library running smoothly. Lynx Library Volunteers assist with processing new books, shelving books, circulating materials, technology, book fairs and more. No experience is necessary, only a willingness to help! If interested, please contact Vanessa Robertson, Library Coordinator, at 388-9301 or writeonthewall@yahoo.com. Morning and afternoon times are available.



PTSA Membership Luau Dance



PTSA Members
Cameryn, Shelby & Keeli

We had approximately 194 students that came to the membership dance on August 28th and about 140 of those new members were generated the week of the dance.

Inaugural Eye Opener 5K & Fun Run Honors Life of Former Houston HS Student

On October 10th, a fun 5k race with a very special purpose will take place at Shelby Farms Park. The inaugural Eye Opener 5K/1-Mile Fun Run is being held in honor of Kyle Kihnl, a former Houston High School student who was tragically killed by a driver who fell asleep at the wheel. Kyle's aunt, Mrs. Kathi Wright (Lakeland Elementary 2nd Grade Teacher), helped organize this race as a way to continue supporting the Kyle Kihnl Memorial Scholarship Fund. The event also aims to raise awareness about the dangers of sleep-deprived driving. The Eye Opener 5K/1-Mile Fun Run will get started at 8 a.m. There will also be a "Coolest PJs?" contest for kids 10 and under after the race at 9:30 a.m. The race fee is \$20 before the race and \$25 the day of the race. The cost for kids 10 and under to participate in the Fun Run is \$10. For complete details about the Inaugural Eye Opener 5K/1-Mile Fun Run, visit www.eyeloper5k.vpweb.com. Runners can register for the race at www.racesonline.com as well.

Band News

The Bon Lin Middle School Band Boosters are sponsoring the Fall Harvest Dance on October 23rd from 7-9:30 pm. Tickets will be sold during lunch from October 19-23rd for \$5.00 with a signed permission form.

Band students are selling delicious Florida Indian River citrus fruit. Please place your order with any band student by October 23rd. Your support will help raise money for sheet music and instruments. Contact Mr. Tucker at btucker@sosk12.org.

Reminders

I have a few date reminders that I wanted to let you all know of. We will be having our 2nd Chick-Fil-A night on Wednesday, October 14th from 4:30-8:00p.m. The school gets 15% of the profits on this night. In November, we have 3 exciting things happening. On Friday, November 6th, is the "10 & You're In" Party from 4:00-6:00p.m. Next will be our BLMS Family Night at Incredible Pizza from 5:00-9:00pm on November 10th. We get 15% of the profits from sales that night. The last one is on Tuesday, November 17th. That is our Limo to Incredible Pizza night for those who sold 35 items or more. I look forward to seeing you all at these events.
Beth Nelson - 494-7893 - Ways & Means

The Outdoors Club sponsored by Dr. Dyer, held its first outing for the 2009-2010 school year on Sunday, September 27th. The group went on an 8.1 mile Mountain Biking Expedition at Herb Parsons Lake!



Pictured Left to Right:

Zach, Daniel, Nathan, Mr. Sohns, Ryan, Trevor, Alex, Kyle, Colin, Jonathan, Davis, Cole, Eric, Dr. Dyer, Daniel & Jessica



Dr. Dyer invited a couple of former BLMS students!
Eric Duke, Dr. Dyer & Daniel Pope

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MIDDLE PTSA



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