

PTO Update...

Thank you to all of the parents and guardians who signed up as PTO volunteers! A special thank you to Chair Amy Powell who created the volunteer database. It is a big job and appreciated by all PTO chairs throughout the year!

The first Family Event will be Bunco Night on Friday, October 9th. This event was very popular last year. It is a casual, fun way for students and their families to get to know each other. No registrations can be accepted after Monday, October 5th, so please send in your forms - or email the Chairs Jen Loyet or Elizabeth Grant (jloyet@yahoo.com or egrant1@gmail.com). Thanks to Jen and Elizabeth for organizing this great family event!

The **Cassens Buzz Book** is being edited as this is written and will be distributed in the next few weeks. Each student will receive one copy of the book. Additional copies are available at a small fee. Thank you to Chair Melissa Reed and her volunteers for their hard work in putting the book together.

School Pictures were taken on September 24th. Thanks to Chair Linda Lawhead and her volunteers, it went very smoothly. Make-up pictures are scheduled for October 28th.

Grammy's Best Gourmet Cookie Fundraiser just kicked off. This year there are ten types of cookie dough and jumbo cinnamon rolls to choose from! Last year the students and families helped raise \$16,000 for the PTO that supported many PTO projects throughout the year. We appreciate your help in the fundraiser. We try very hard to make sure the money raised is used to benefit ALL the students at Cassens Elementary. The deadline for orders is October 14th. Thank you to our Chairs Michelle Boyer, Felicia Crabtree and Karen Johnson for all of their hard work – and the many volunteers who will help throughout the fundraiser.

The **Accelerated Reader** "Reading Roars Store" will be open October 14-15. The students who have Accelerated Reading points will be allowed to "spend" their points in the store. The "Reading Roars Store" will be open three other times throughout the school year. We appreciate the work Chair Tara Hawkins has done – and will continue to do with her volunteers throughout the A/R year.

Room Parent Coordinators are starting to contact parents who signed up to help coordinate classroom parties. Thank you to our coordinators: Angie Henry (3rd); Elizabeth Grant (4th); Karen Troske (5th) – and to all of the parents who have volunteered to help coordinate and donate to the parties.

Cougar Spiritwear has been ordered and will be arriving soon. Items will be sent home with students in their backpacks. Thanks to our Chair Lynn Dean for processing over \$3400 in orders. The halls of Cassens will be full of students decked out in their Cougar Spiritwear!

Media Center Volunteers are needed. Chair Jackie Williford is busy contacting volunteers to schedule assistance in the Media Center. Thank you, Jackie!

Business Partner Programs will continue throughout the school year. Remember that the first **BoxTops** collection deadline is October 15. Mark your calendars for Thursday, October 8th for the next **Papa John's Night**. Coupons for Papa John's will be sent home with students the week before – remember to use the code on the coupon when ordering so Cassens will receive 20%. Thanks again to Chairs Diane VandenHeuval and Karen Johnson for coordinating these programs.

The next PTO meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 18th from 7-8pm in the Media Center. Please join us!

Sara Berkbigler
President

Elizabeth Grant & Kelle Hanson
Co-Vice Presidents

Tammy Perry
Secretary

Janet Huffstutler & Donna Nahlik
Co-Treasurers