

# Newcastle Elementary PTSA

Parent Teacher Student Association

PTA Unit: 2.6.18 • PTSA Presidents: Kim Plowman/Edana Peacock • Newsletter Editor: Elena Thibeault

August 19, 2011  
2011/12 School Year  
Issue 1

## Cub News

### Upcoming Events

August 29<sup>th</sup>  
3:30pm-5:00pm  
Back-to-School Picnic

August 30<sup>th</sup>  
First Day of School  
Grades 1 - 5

August 31<sup>st</sup>  
First Day of School  
Full Kindergarten & AM  
Kindergarten

September 1<sup>st</sup>  
First Day of School  
PM Kindergarten

September 15<sup>th</sup>  
Curriculum Night

August 10<sup>th</sup> - Sept 13<sup>th</sup>  
eScrip Fundraiser  
earn 10% for your school  
at Safeway

Sept 14<sup>th</sup>-October 5<sup>th</sup>  
Innisbrook wrapping  
paper fundraiser

### President's note

Hello to our Students, Parents and Staff and **WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL!** We hope you all had a fantastic summer break and are ready for what is sure to be another great year at Newcastle Elementary. As your PTSA Co-Presidents, we are thrilled to work with a new Executive Committee made up of some really amazing women. If you see any of them walking the halls or out at a sporting event, please thank them for the time and energy they have put into making our PTSA run so smoothly. Your Newcastle Elementary Executive Committee Members for 2011-2012 are:

Meri Hartman & Cindy Buono, *Co-VPs/Ways & Means*  
Rachel Handsman & Georgia Forchuk, *Co-VPs/Programs*  
Lani Pedersen, *VP/Volunteers*  
Allison Flash, *VP/Outreach*  
Molly Hegenderfer, *Secretary*  
Sarah Herr & Taneka Ogden, *Co-Treasurers*

We have been hard at work getting ready for the start of school and we have a bunch of great programs and events scheduled this year. Some of them include: Innisbrook Gift Wrap Fall Fundraiser, eScrip 10% Back-to-school promotion at Safeway, Fall Costume Carnival, Scholastic Book Fair, Science Fair, Family Game Night, 2nd Annual Spring Geography Event, holiday food drive & Polar Express, monthly Mochas with Marla, art docent program, Reflections and many more. We hope you'll join us for these events - and if you are interested in getting involved on any level, please let us know.

Our first event is our **Back-to-School Picnic & Business Day** on Monday, August 29th, 3:30-5PM. The event will follow Meet Your Teacher and be held on the playground (or in the Commons if it rains). This is a great time to join PTSA and help us match last year's over 100% membership! In addition, you can take a look at this year's spiritwear collection and purchase or order your favorite items (additional information will be sent home the second week of school for on-line purchasing of spiritwear).

If you know any families who are new to the Newcastle community, please encourage them to join us at our **New Family Welcome** at the beginning of the Back-to-School Picnic. This will take place in the Commons at 3:30 PM and we will be available to answer any questions and welcome our new friends to the school!

One of the more notable changes we have made this year is to our before and after-school enrichment classes. Although the classes will still be offered, our PTSA will no longer be managing enrollment and payments. Instead, you can contact these vendors directly for more information on scheduling and pricing. These programs include: MaryArt, Chess4Life and Leap4Kidz. We are thrilled to have the opportunity to enrich our kids' lives with these fantastic classes (and there are even classes after school on Wednesdays)!

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## Our new kindies need your help!



Help our kindergartners first week of school be a great success!

We need help with kindergartners getting on and off the bus, or at the drop off/pick up circle and at lunchtime! If you are available to help in the morning at drop off/buses, AM kindie pick up, PM kindie drop off, or pick up/buses in the afternoon please let us know!

Contact Rae Miller at [raemiller3@gmail.com](mailto:raemiller3@gmail.com)

## Jogging Club

Mr. Miller and Jogging Club are back! Please look for details at the back to school picnic if you or your children are interested in participating this year. More information will be sent home in the coming weeks.

## President's note continued...

We are also working to update our PTSA website to make it an even better resource for our families to keep up to date with everything going on at Newcastle. Stay tuned for updates in the next few weeks.

In addition, we are working to streamline the email communication process. Our goal is to limit excessive or redundant information so we can communicate with our members more effectively and not clog your inboxes. Here is what you can expect to receive:

**Weekly PTSA Calendar** - what's happening this week at school (e.g., school photos, grade performances)

**Bi-weekly PTSA Cub News** - PTSA news and articles to fill you in on events, activities, volunteer opportunities, etc.

**Monthly Lions' Page** - this will contain only school & district news (this is not a PTSA publication)

We look forward to an amazing year as we watch all of our children grow and learn! Thank you in advance for all of your support. Please don't hesitate to contact us with any comments, questions or concerns.

See you all at the back-to-school picnic,  
Edana Peacock & Kim Plowman  
PTSA Co-Presidents

[edanatish@aol.com](mailto:edanatish@aol.com) & [kplowman@premieremarket.com](mailto:kplowman@premieremarket.com)

## Back-to-School Picnic

Reconnect with old friends and meet new ones at the Newcastle Elementary School PTSA sponsored Back-to-School Picnic. This event will be held outside the gym from 3:30-5:00 on Monday, August 29th following Meet-your-Teacher. There will be several information booths where parents can learn about different PTSA programs including Art Docents and Reflections fine arts contest. You will also have the opportunity to sign up for PTSA membership, purchase Spirit Wear and create a bank account for your child. Students from the 5th grade will be selling pizza, beverages and cookies to help raise money for their Camp Warm Beach trip. We look forward to seeing you there!

If you have any questions, please contact Rachel Handsman at [jeffreywdiana@aol.com](mailto:jeffreywdiana@aol.com) or Georgia Forchuk at [gforchuk@msn.com](mailto:gforchuk@msn.com).

## \*\*ALERT\*\* - Before & After School Enrichment Programs

In order to reduce the time and resources required to administer the enrichment programs, the PTSA will no longer be sponsoring programs such as Mary Art and Chess. However, there is good news! These programs will still be offered at the school along with two new and exciting programs. The key difference for you is that instead of registering through the PTSA, you will now contact each business directly. For more information about the programs being offered, schedules and registration, please visit the PTSA website. Please contact Rachel Handsman [jeffreywdiana@aol.com](mailto:jeffreywdiana@aol.com) or Georgia Forchuk [gforchuk@msn.com](mailto:gforchuk@msn.com) with any questions.

## 2011-12 PTSA Executive Committee

### Presidents

Kim Plowman/Edana Peacock  
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### VP Volunteers

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### Co-VP Ways & Means

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### Secretary

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### Treasurers

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## 10% Goes Back to Schools now through September 13th!

Newcastle Elementary PTSA can earn 10% of your purchase amounts on thousands of products from **August 10th through September 13, 2011**. Just shop at Safeway and when you buy participating items, 10% of the purchase price will be donated directly to our school. Items with the "school bus" on the shelf tag designate participating items!



Current eScrip members need to renew annually for Newcastle to receive contributions:

- Go to [www.eScrip.com](http://www.eScrip.com)
- Click "YES! RENEW Your Safeway Club Card" at the bottom of the page
- Enter your card ID, email address or phone number to renew your card.

If you aren't an eScrip member follow these steps to participate:

- Go to [www.eScrip.com](http://www.eScrip.com)
- If you're new to eScrip click on "Step 1: SIGN UP"
- Designate our group to receive contributions. Our Group ID is #500004191 - Newcastle Elementary PTSA.
- Register your Safeway (& Whole Foods) club cards. If you wish, you can also register any other cards you have from participating merchants (such as your Macy's, debit and other bank credit cards).

If you miss being an eScrip member during the promotion, but did shop at Safeway during this time, you can still help. After the promotion ends, September 19th - October 13th, send a copy of a Safeway receipts into school via kidmail to the PTSA. We'll take care of the rest!

Thanks for your support!

Questions? Contact Susan Crow at [edsusancrow@msn.com](mailto:edsusancrow@msn.com)

## Get Ready For Our Fabulous Fall Fundraiser!

This fall Newcastle students will become sales SUPER HEROES, as they participate in our Innisbrook wrapping paper fundraiser. Innisbrook provides high quality designer gift wrap printed on recycled paper, as well as delicious Helen Grace chocolates. The fun begins September 14, and "wraps" up October 5. This fundraiser is our largest of the year, allowing the PTSA to continue supporting math, science, reading, geography, and art in the classroom. Look for the Innisbrook display table at the Back to School picnic!

We're on the Web!  
<http://www.newcastleptsa.org>