



MLK Elementary School PTO March 2011 Newsletter

Community Forum on Teacher Notifications Wednesday, March 2 6:00 pm

As a result of the events of last week involving teacher notifications, the MLK PTO is hosting a special Community Forum with the Vartan Gregorian PTO, Nathan Bishop PTO, and Hope High School PTO. The purpose of this forum is to provide an opportunity for community members to learn more about this situation and how to get involved. Please plan to attend this important meeting.



News and Updates from the PTO . . .

MLK Community Partner Mt. Hope Learning Center Featured in *East Side Monthly*

The Mt. Hope Learning Center was featured in the "At School Today" column in this month's *East Side Monthly*. The column is authored by MLK parent and former PTO President Jill Davidson. Jill welcomes your thoughts, ideas, comments, and suggestions. She can be reached via e-mail at whathappenedatschool@gmail.com

MLK Salad Bar has arrived!

The MLK Salad Bar has arrived and will be set up over the next few weeks. Once the set up is complete and the necessary preparations are in place, we will have a grand opening event with Whole Foods.

MLK PTO Monthly Meeting

The monthly general body meeting of the PTO will be held on **Wednesday, March 16** beginning at 6pm in the school cafeteria. We will discuss a number of exciting events and activities for the spring, including our annual Make-A-Plate fundraiser, Parents and Teachers Night Out at Pizzico, Spring Raffle, Talent Show, and Garden Clean-Up and Planting. Come out to learn how you

can volunteer to make these and other events and activities a success.

MLK Elementary Open Houses

Help us let friends and neighbors know about King's upcoming tours/open house on 3/4 at 9:30am and 3/18 at 9:30am. Interested families should call the school office at 456-9398 or email mlkpto@gmail.com to register. To volunteer to lead a tour or to speak to new MLK families contact Jill Davidson at 345-2464.

Volunteers Needed: Make a Plate Fundraiser

The PTO is looking for 3-4 volunteers on 3/16 or 3/17 from 9-11 to help with the annual Make a Plate fundraiser. Volunteers would help students complete art work that will be turned into a keepsake plate. For questions or to volunteer, please contact Lorraine at 383-0019 or mlkpto@gmail.com.

March 7: School is On!

The professional development day scheduled for Monday, March 7 has been cancelled. There will be school on Monday, March 7.

Calendar

March 2 Community Forum, 6 pm
March 16 PTO Meeting, 6 pm





Spotlight: King's Got Talent Get Ready for the Annual MLK Talent Showcase!

Start talking with your kids about performing in or working on the annual MLK Elementary Talent Showcase!

We invite students to prepare a song, dance, athletic demonstration, solo performance, group performance, skit, poetry reading--anything that demonstrates their talent, enthusiasm, and willingness to work hard to share what they love!

You can start to work with your kids to prepare a SHORT performance. We aim to keep performances under three minutes so as many children can participate as possible. Talent Showcase participation is determined by students' commitment to work hard, ability to attend several rehearsals which will take place during the school day, and ability to participate in the performance itself.

We will be announcing MLK Talent Showcase audition, rehearsal, and performance dates soon. Look for fliers and announcements within the coming weeks with more info.



2010 Showcase Performers

Share Your Views on Our Schools: SurveyWorks 2011!

The Department of Education of Elementary and Secondary Education (RIDE) will open *SurveyWorks! 2011*, the online surveys for parents, teachers, and administrators regarding public education in Rhode Island on March 1, 2011. The surveys will remain open through April 15 for all to log in and enter responses to the survey questions. The parent survey helps educators and the public understand what parents think and believe about the education their children receive.

The parent survey asks questions about school discipline and grading policies, access to school programs, and communication with teachers and principals.

The survey asks parents to respond to such statements as:

- I feel welcome at this school.
- I understand my child's report card.

"The *SurveyWorks!* parent survey represents an important opportunity for parents to let RIDE

know how to accelerate our schools toward greatness and to prepare all students for success in college, careers, and life," said Deborah A. Gist, Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education. "I encourage all parents and guardians in Rhode Island to take this opportunity to share their views on public education in our state."

The parent survey is completely anonymous and is available in English, Portuguese, and Spanish. Parents will receive complete instructions and information about access to the survey through communications from principals at each school. If they choose, parents can also fill out and submit a paper form of the survey.

To see results from the *SurveyWorks!* 2010 student survey, visit InfoWorks Live!, at: <http://infoworks.ride.ri.gov/>

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