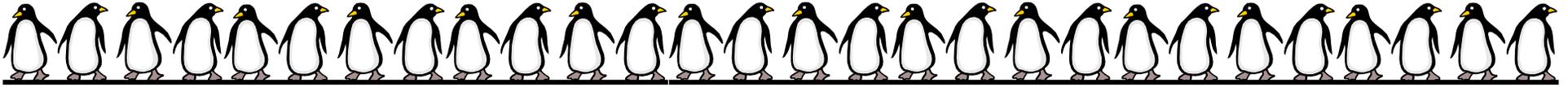


# Burns Park Press



## February 2007 - Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Mark your Calendars:</b> March 5: 1st day back to school after mid-winter break March 12: No School March 20: Family Science Night				1	2	3
4	5 BP Bucks Orders Sent Home	6	7 Note card orders due BP Bucks Orders Due	8	9 Burns Park Players: Oliver	10 Burns Park Players: Oliver
11	12 NAAPID Kindergarten celebrates 100th day of school	13	14 Hearing & Vision Screening (grades 1-5) BP Bucks Orders Sent Home	15 Hearing & Vision Screening (grades 1-5) Burns Park Players: Oliver	16 Hearing & Vision Screening (grades 1-5) Burns Park Players: Oliver	17 Burns Park Players: Oliver
18	19 NO SCHOOL	20	21 7pm: Kindergarten Roundup (parents only)	22 (afternoon): Kindergarten visit 7pm, PTO Meeting, free childcare Burns Park Press Articles Due	23 Mid-Winter break begins at end of day	24
25	26 NO SCHOOL	27 NO SCHOOL	28 NO SCHOOL			

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Parent Online (Lunch Money)  
The Readers and the best

**Burns Park Mission Statement:**  
All of our children will become confident, secure, caring individuals of a diverse community who are lifelong learners and achieve personal success.

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## From our Principal

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Dear Burns Park Families,

Thanks for supporting our efforts to keep students focused on learning. Since I sent the letter home asking that rollerblades, motorized vehicles and cell phones remain at home, students are following the rules and we are back on task. Thanks again for your support as we strive to make school a place for learning, free of unnecessary distractions.

### Lunch Accounts

When students do not have enough money in their accounts, they must either bring a lunch from home or eat the alternative lunch that is served on that day. Although the alternative lunches are nutritionally balanced, these inexpensive alternatives are not popular with our students.

Please remember to always keep extra funds in your child's account. The lunch fund at Burns Park is currently \$700 in arrears. If there is a deficit in this account at the end of the year, it will be deducted from the school's instructional budget.

Attached to this newsletter is a copy of a brochure from our food service department that has been sent home before. It explains how to access your child's food service account online. Accessing this web site allows you to add money to your child's account online with a credit card and to view student activity and payment history. This is a

fast and easy way to keep track of how often your child eats hot lunch at school and to make sure that you always have enough money in their account to cover the costs. You will need your child's ID number in order to work with the account on line. Any report card copy has your child's six-digit ID number at the top. If you cannot find it, please contact the school office, and we will be happy to provide you with that information.

### MEAP Scores

By the time this newsletter reaches you, we should have the results of our MEAP achievement for this school year. The state tells me they are on their way, and we will send them to you as soon as we receive them.

### Parent Involvement Day (NAAPID) is Monday, February 12th

Please come celebrate National African American Parent Involvement Day with us. On this day, all parents, guardians, and significant adults in our students' lives are invited to spend part or all of the day with their children at our school. We will have LaRon Williams entertain us with delightful African American folk tales at 1:00 for the K-2nd classes and 2:00 for the 3rd-5th classes. Teachers will send home copies of their schedules to help you make plans. We hope that you enjoy sitting in on classes to see what a regular day of school looks like

from a student perspective.

We also suggest that parents of incoming kindergartners consider visiting on that day. Parents are welcome to sit in on the kindergarten classes. Incoming kindergartners are welcome to tour the school and attend the folk tale assemblies with you. The building will be particularly visitor friendly, and our prospective kindergartners could enjoy the show while gaining an initial acquaintance with our school.

### Kindergarten Round-Up & Visit

- ◆ **Wednesday, February 21, 7:00 PM (parents only)**
- ◆ **Thursday, February 22 in the afternoon (Children's Visit)**

Kindergarten Parent Orientation is the evening of Wednesday, February 21 at 7:00 PM. During this meeting we'll talk about our kindergarten program and a possible EDO (Extended Day Option) program. We will also answer your questions. You will get a chance to visit the kindergarten classrooms and to see slides of children in action during the regular kindergarten day. We will also distribute all the necessary registration forms. We ask that parents leave their children at home, as this event needs your full attention. We are, however, prepared to provide childcare to parents who need it. Call the office at 994-1919 to reserve a space for your child.

The following afternoon, Thursday February 22, we will have a program for the incoming kindergartners. This is an opportunity for our prospective kindergartners to get an idea of what it is like to come to school at Burns Park. We will divide them into small groups of 12 to 15 students, and they will spend an hour with one of the kindergarten teachers doing kindergarten activities. Parents may sign their children up for the Kindergarten Visit at the Parent Orientation, but parents who are unable to attend the Orientation may sign their children up by phoning the school office at 994-1919.

While your children are visiting the classroom is a **good time to complete the registration process**. If you would like to turn in your registration forms at that time, we ask you to **bring your child's birth certificate, his or her immunization record, and three documents (such as a lease, sales agreement, and/or utility bills) verifying your address**.

[If you know of any families with children to enroll in kindergarten for the fall, please let them know about these two dates for Kindergarten Round-Up.](#)

### February 19: Professional Development for Teachers

There will be no school for students on this day as teachers participate in

## ...from our principal

professional development. Teachers will be learning more about *My Access*, creating classroom websites, Lucy Calkins' *Writers' Workshop*, and how to meet the needs of all math students.

I would like to thank those of you who have stopped by to share with me the many great things your children are experiencing at Burns Park. It is rewarding to hear about your child's successes, as each one is important to me.

Have a safe and restful Mid-Winter Break, beginning at the end of the day on Friday, February 23.

Educationally yours,

*Kathy Morhous*

Principal

### Ann Arbor Public Schools Non-Discrimination Policy

No person shall be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination in any educational program or activity available in any school on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, creed, political belief, age, national origin, linguistic and language differences, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, height, weight, marital status, or disability. The Ann Arbor Public School District will provide reasonable aids and accommodations to individuals who desire information regarding the education of District students.

## From our PTO Presidents

At our January 18th PTO meeting, we discussed a capital project for the school. The PTO has some funds in savings, and we approved using about \$25,000 to improve our school playground.

After meeting with the teachers to determine what needs there are, and hearing from parents and even some kids, what we heard most is that some sort of enhancement to the upper elementary playground is really needed. In addition, we will adding a fence for security reasons, running from the entrance to the park/school grounds off Granger Avenue, along the sidewalk to around the start of the blacktop/ basketball courts.

We formed a committee to meet and come up with a few plans, and then we'll solicit feedback from the students. After that, we plan to vote at the February PTO meeting.

The committee members include PTO Playground Chair Mike Bott ([botmcc@yahoo.com](mailto:botmcc@yahoo.com)), P.E. teacher Judy Stevenson ([stevens@aaaps.k12.mi.us](mailto:stevens@aaaps.k12.mi.us)), and parents Anne Gilbert ([agilbert@surovell.com](mailto:agilbert@surovell.com)), Joel Dalton ([daltonjd@gmail.com](mailto:daltonjd@gmail.com)), and Kelly Bumgarner ([skbum@sbcglobal.net](mailto:skbum@sbcglobal.net)).

If you have thoughts which you have not yet communicated, be sure to get in touch with one or all of these representatives soon. And watch for information about our progress and the upcoming vote so you can have a say in what gets done!

Also, we had an exciting Burn\$ Park Buck\$ bucks update at the meeting. The school has earned \$3,270 so far this year from you simply buying your groceries! This is such a painless fundraiser...if you haven't checked it out yet, please do so at [www.burnsparkpto.org/scrip/index.php](http://www.burnsparkpto.org/scrip/index.php). You can pay with a credit card, but remember, the school makes more money if we don't have to pay processing fees. So if it's all the same to you, pay by check!

*Kelly Bumgarner, President*  
761-5439  
[skbum@sbcglobal.net](mailto:skbum@sbcglobal.net)

*Helen Starman, President-Elect*  
994-8553  
[hstarman@comcast.net](mailto:hstarman@comcast.net)

## Burns Park PTO Welcomes You to NAAPID

National African-American Parent Involvement Day (NAAPID) is Monday, February 12. The Burns Park PTO would like to welcome all parents to school with refreshments in the auditorium throughout the day. Please stop by and help yourself!

## Family Science Night

Please mark your calendars now for our annual Family Science Night to be held **Tuesday March 20 from 6:00-8:00** at Burns Park School. With assistance from the Ann Arbor Hands on Museum staff, we've arranged for multiple stations throughout the school where children may experiment with and learn about various Math and Science concepts.

THIS EVENT IS FREE TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY. PLEASE REMEMBER THAT CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY ADULTS.

We are still in need of volunteer booth attendants, please contact JoLeen Felkey [jafelkey@hotmail.com](mailto:jafelkey@hotmail.com) or Pam Ibrahim [pjkibrahim2@hotmail.com](mailto:pjkibrahim2@hotmail.com) if you would like to contribute a couple of hours of your time to assist students and families during the fun. We hope to see all of you at this wonderful and enriching community event.

## Burns Park Kids Care ... about reminding you to help rebuild New Orleans

It's not too late to donate supplies or money to Ms. Kreger's effort to help rebuild New Orleans. Donations will be happily accepted through the end of the school day on Friday, February 16.

**Supplies** can be placed in the donation box outside the office. Needed supplies include:

- ◆ Pharmacy Items: toilet paper, hand sanitizer, sunscreen, bug spray, aspirin, Tylenol, ibuprofen, Chapstick, saline solution
- ◆ Work Supplies: work gloves, sweat rags, ear plugs, safety glasses, paper masks
- ◆ Clothes: flip flops, sunglasses, baseball hats, bandanas, long sleeved shirts (any clothing items will be thrown out, so old clothes with stains or small holes would be great)
- ◆ Food/Drinks: individual-sized bottled water, easy-to-pack snacks that last in the heat

**Checks** should be made out to AAOCC and put into Ms. Kreger's office mailbox, or mailed, to Ms. Kreger's attention, to the school (1414 Wells St, Ann Arbor, MI 48104). Please attach a note to your check that indicates your home address. Ms. Kreger will supply you with a tax receipt for your donation.

Julie Lawson Timmer

## WESO (Washtenaw Elementary Science Olympiad) Update

General Information:

<http://www.aaps.k12.mi.us/wesowizards.home>

### !!!Volunteers still needed!!!

We still need coaches for many of these events. This is a fun mentoring opportunity for our children, so please consider volunteering to coach an event.

Role	Commitment
Coaches for Events	~2 hours per week from March 5 - May 25
Event day Food Table	~ 2hours total on May 4 or 5
School Banner Construction	~2 hours total

The Sponsored Events have been finalized by the WESO Board (see right).

See the WESO website above for more information about all these events, or contact Stephen C. Brown at 994-9052 or [stephen.brown@pfizer.com](mailto:stephen.brown@pfizer.com)

Our school's score in this competition will be graded partly on participation in all events, so please help!

2007 Sponsored Event	Grades	Team headcount
Barge Building	2,3	2
Boatmania	4,5	2
Circuit Wizardry	4,5	2
Estimania	2,3,4,5	3
Jeopardy	4,5	3
Map Reading	2,3,4,5	2
Mystery Architecture	2,3,4,5	2
Name that Scientist	2,3,4,5	2
No Bones About It	2,3,4,5	3
Pentathlon	2,3,4,5	5
Puff Mobile	2,3	2
Rocks	2,3,4,5	2
Sink and Float	2	2
Straw Tower	2,3,4,5	2
Water Rockets	3,4,5	3
Wright Stuff	4,5	2
Write It Build It	3,4,5	4
What Went By?	2,3	2
Zowie Metrics	2,3,4,5	2

## Create-Your-Own-Note cards and more!

Order forms for Note Cards, Notepads and Labels are due Wednesday, February 7th. (Forms were sent home on January 24)

Kids' colorful designs look great on the professionally printed cards and are perfect for thank you notes, birthday cards and greeting cards to family. Order a set of matching return address labels for a complete personalized stationary set! Notepads are perfect for list making and quick notes. Great gift ideas for grandparents and other letter writers in your family!

Remember, Burns Park PTO earns \$6 for every note card order, \$3 for each notepad and \$2 for every set of address labels. Thanks for your support!

### Questions?

Please contact Victoria Booth (327-0172 or [vbooth@umich.edu](mailto:vbooth@umich.edu)) or Cynthia Sheng (973-1395 or [orcsheng@cisco.com](mailto:orcsheng@cisco.com))

## Burns Park Players Perform 'OLIVER'

Ann Arbor's Burns Park Players will perform the captivating musical OLIVER on Fri. and Sat., Feb. 9-10, Thurs. and Fri., Feb. 15-16 and Sat., Feb 17. Show times are as follows:

- ◆ Friday, 2/9---7:30 PM
- ◆ Saturday, 2/10----4:00 PM
- ◆ Thursday, 2/15----7:30 PM
- ◆ Friday, 2/16---7:30 PM
- ◆ Saturday, 2/17---4:00 PM

Performances will be held at the Tappan Middle School Auditorium.

Based on the novel by Charles Dickens and written by Lionel Bart, OLIVER was first presented in London where it played for 2, 618 performances and has been revived many times since it first premiered on Broadway. It is known for its poignant story and outstanding musical numbers such as Food, Glorious Food, Where is Love? and I'd Do Anything. It is a haunting and moving piece that brings Dickensian England into sharp perspective through the life of a street orphan.

Featuring Jordan McKay as Oliver, Christopher Taylor as Fagin, Zack Pearlman as the Artful Dodger, Lisa Harris as Nancy, Jay Pekala as Mr. Bumble, Janet Taylor as Widow Corney, Jeffrey Post as Bill Sykes, Liz Stern and Frank Worden as Mr. and Mrs. Sowerberry, OLIVER is directed by Michael Lowney and choreographed by Marjorie Failoni, with assistant direction by Jonathan Parkey and Jane Glass. Lowney, Failoni, and Parkey are all students in the Musical Theatre Program at University of Michigan, and Glass is a longtime member of the Players. Eric Lofstrom is the musical director.

For the first time, all seats will be reserved rather than general admission. They will be available beginning Mon., Jan. 29 at Morgan & York, 1928 Packard, Ann Arbor. The price for these tickets is \$12. A very small number of seats will be available at the door one hour prior to each show. A limited number of Patron seats are also available at a cost of \$30, \$20 of which is a tax-deductible donation. These seats are in premium rows and come with reserved parking right in front of the school. To purchase these, call (734) 669-0431.

Formed in 1984 by a small group of parents looking for a way to raise money to send their elementary school students to camp, the Burns Park Players has grown into an active and award-winning community theater company that has maintained its commitment to family-oriented musical productions. Since 1992, the group has donated more than \$200,000 of its proceeds to a variety of school district projects.

According to its bylaws, the Players are a group of parents, teachers and others who live in the Burns Park School community (as defined by the boundaries of the school's attendance area). They produce one musical show each year and donate their proceeds to school or school district needs.

Past performances have included "Annie," "Damn Yankees," "The Music Man," "Carousel," "Bye Bye Birdie," "Brigadoon," and last year's "Fiddler."

For more information, please call (734) 665-2518 or visit our Website at [www.burnsparkplayers.org](http://www.burnsparkplayers.org).

## Thanks a Million

There haven't been a lot of extra events around school lately with the long break and winter setting in, so this seems like a great opportunity to recognize the people who've been regularly attending PTO meetings this year. We really appreciate the time and energy it takes to attend...it is the best way to be sure your voice is heard!

So here goes...our Principal, **Kathy Morhous**, our teacher representatives, **Rachel Erdstein** and **Judy Stevenson**, and parents **Mike Bott**, **Jackie and Joel Dalton**, **Anne Gilbert**, **Emily Hastie**, **Carolynn Hayman**, **Jill Hunsberger**, **Jennifer Kiely**, **Janice Lieberman**, **David Lowenschuss**, **Kim Mass**, **Steve and Lynda Norton**, **Suzanne Ross**, **Raleigh Sadlier**, **Andy Thomas**.

Please feel free to come whenever you can and stay for as long as you can. We have adjourned after just one hour at all but the November meeting, when we went an extra thirty minutes. Our next meeting is Thursday, February 22 at 7:00pm. There is fun, free child-care in the gym, so join us!

**Kelly Bumgarner & Helen Starman**

## Burns Park Press Advertising

### Display Ads

We welcome ads for companies and services of interest to our Burns Park community. The BP Press ad size is a nominal 2.5 x 4.25 vertical or horizontal, roughly 1/8 of a page for \$35/ issue or 3 months for \$100. The ads may be enlarged to fit the available space, at no extra charge.

### Classifieds

Classifieds are meant to be used by the families of the Burns Park area to sell/buy personal items and/or services. Classifieds will be included on a first come, first served basis as space permits. Rates are \$.20/word.

### Electronic Submission, please!

Submit your ad to Anne Gilbert, BP Press Editor ([agilbert@surovell.com](mailto:agilbert@surovell.com)).

### Payment

Please place your check (made out to Burns Park PTO) in an envelope labeled "BP Press Ads, attn: Treasurer" in the PTO box in the school office. (They may also be mailed to the school at 1414 Wells, Ann Arbor, MI 48104.) Both the electronic ad copy and payment must be received by the published deadline for the issue in which the ad is placed.

### Questions?

Contact Anne at 657-7121.

## Burns Park Press Submissions

This newsletter is published monthly by the Burns Park PTO. Contributions from teachers, staff, parents, and students are welcomed. Articles can be sent via email (preferred) or placed in the BP Press box in the office.

Articles for the March 2007 issue are due no later than Thursday, February 22. Late submissions may not be included.

Any questions, comments or suggestions about the Press are welcome!

Anne Gilbert

### PTO Executive Board

#### Principal

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Check out the **PTO websites:**

[www.burnsparkpto.org](http://www.burnsparkpto.org)

and Penguin Talk :

[www.burnsparkpto.org/confer/](http://www.burnsparkpto.org/confer/)

## **ParentOnline**

### **To Register as a User**

1. Click the Register link found on the top left of the web page.
2. Fill in details about yourself on the Register Screen including username and password that you will use to securely login to the system. Please note that this is a multiple page form and required fields are marked with asterisks.
3. Click the "Finish" button to accept the terms and complete the registration.

### **To Login as a Registered User**

1. If you are not on the Home Page, click the Login link on the top menu.
2. Enter your Username and Password and click the "Login" button.

### **To Add Students to this Account**

1. Click on the Add Student link on the left menu.
2. Select the student's School from the dropdown list box.
3. Enter the Student's ID and click "Next" button.
4. Click the "Finish" button.

### **To Make a One Time Payment**

1. Click the Make Payment link on the left menu.
2. Select the Student from the list of students in your account.
3. Enter the amount you want to add to this student account.
4. Select a card from your Card List or enter new card details and click "Continue" Button.
5. Click the "Make Payment" button after you have confirmed the data displayed.

### **To Make Automatic Payments**

(You need to have Credit Cards in My Cards list)

1. Click the Automatic Payment link on the left menu.
2. Select the Student from the list of students in your account.
3. Enter the details required for this student meal account and click "Set" button.
4. Use the "Update" button to make changes or "Remove" button to remove Automatic Payments for that student meal account.

### **To View Student Activity**

1. Click the Account History link on the left menu
2. Select the Student from your list of students.
3. Select the period you want to view activity and click the "Go" button.

### **To View Payment History**

1. Click the Payment History link on the left menu.
2. Select the period of activity you want to view and click the "Go" button.

### **To Add Credit Cards that Can be Used for Payments**

1. Click on the My Cards link on the left menu.
2. Enter card details and click "Add Card" button.

### **To Find Information Regarding this Website**

1. Click on the FAQ link located on the top menu bar
2. Or e-mail us at [customercare@parentonline.net](mailto:customercare@parentonline.net)

# **ParentOnline**

***A new breakfast  
and lunch payment  
program offered  
by the  
Ann Arbor  
Public Schools***

➤ ***Convenient***

➤ ***Safe and Secure***

➤ ***Peace of Mind***



**Ann Arbor Public Schools**

## Convenient

- **Pay for student meals using your credit card from any computer with internet access**
- **Pay-as-you-go or setup automated payments**
- **Combine payments for multiple students**
- **Access student accounts anytime, anywhere**
- **Navigate easily with user-friendly screens**
- **Requires minimal processing/ transaction fee**

*To register, go to  
[www.parentonline.net](http://www.parentonline.net)*

## Safe and Secure

- **Eliminate need for children to carry cash or checks**
- **Password protected account to keep information secure**
- **Receive immediate confirmation via e-mail**
- **Ensure that funds are deposited accurately**
- **Offers printable verification of transaction**

*To register, go to  
[www.parentonline.net](http://www.parentonline.net)*

## Peace of Mind

- **Ensure sufficient funds are in student account**
- **Receive low account balance reminder**
- **View and print student activity and purchases**
- **Access funds posted to cafeteria account within 24 hours**

*To register, go to  
[www.parentonline.net](http://www.parentonline.net)*



# "THE READERS and BEST"

Join us for a panel discussion featuring Coach Lloyd Carr and 3 members of the 2006 University of Michigan Football team: Michael Hart, Chad Henne, and Adam Kraus.

The panel will talk about the importance of reading, why Coach Carr has always had a reading list, and more. Players will also talk about their favorite books.

Moderated by John Bacon, local radio personality and sportscaster.

**Date** Thurs., Feb. 15, 2007

**Time** 7:30 - 9:00 pm

**Place** The Neutral Zone  
310 E. Washington St.

## Tickets

**Individual - \$10**  
**Family - \$30** (up to 5 people)

A limited number of VIP tickets will be available for purchase online at \$100 per person. These tickets allow entrance to a pre-event gathering beginning at 6:45 pm where ticketholders will have an opportunity to meet participants in a one-on-one basis and mingle, and will receive a signed copy of "Team of Rivals" signed by the author, Doris Kearns Goodwin.

General admission tickets can be purchased online at the Festival website [www.aabookfestival.org](http://www.aabookfestival.org) or at the door the night of the event.

DETACH AND RETURN WITH YOUR DONATION

If you are unable to attend this event, but would like to make a donation to the Ann Arbor Book Festival, please include the following information with your donation.

**PLEASE DIRECT  
QUESTIONS REGARDING  
THIS EVENT TO KATHY  
AT 734-369-3366.**

**YES, PLEASE ACCEPT MY DONATION TO THE ANN ARBOR BOOK FESTIVAL.**

MAIL TO: Ann Arbor Book Festival, Inc. • 500 South Main Street • Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Enclosed is my gift of:  \$1,000  \$500  \$100  Other \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

- Please contact me about having my company sponsor an event at the Ann Arbor Book Festival.
- Please contact me about volunteer opportunities with the Ann Arbor Book Festival.