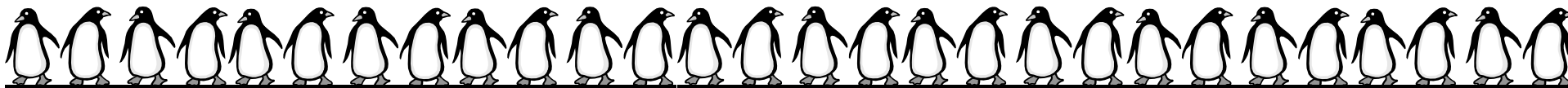


Burns Park Press - September 2007



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Check out the **PTO websites:**

www.burnsparkpto.org

and Penguin Talk :

www.burnsparkpto.org/confer/

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.

Calendar of Events

- Tues, Sept 4: **First Day of School**
- Tues, Sept 11: **Curriculum Night**
- Tues, Sept 18: **Fall Festival**
5:30 - 8:00 pm, Burns Park School Grounds
(Rain Date: September 19)
- Wed, Sept 19: **Sally Foster Packets Go Home**
- Thurs, Sept 20: **PTO Meeting**
7:00 - 8:00 pm, Media Center
Free childcare in gym
- Tues, Sept 25: **Burns Park Players Meeting,**
7:00 pm, Burns Park Auditorium
- Fri, Sept 28: **Picture Day**
- Sun, Sept 30: **Big House, Big Heart 5K**
- Wed, Oct 3: **BP Bucks Orders Due**
- Thurs, Oct 4: **Sally Foster Orders Due**
- Wed, Oct 10: **BP Bucks Orders Delivered**
- Thurs, Oct 18: **PTO Meeting**
- Tues, Oct 23: **Sally Foster Orders Delivered**
- Wed, Oct 31: **BP Bucks Orders Due**

Curriculum Night

Tuesday, September 11

Families of students in grades K-2

6:15 to 7:00 –Meet in classroom with teachers

7:10 to 7:30 –Meet in the Auditorium

Families of students in grades 3-5

6:40 to 7:00 –Meet in the Auditorium

7:05 to 7:45 –Meet in classroom with teachers

Fall Festival

Mark your calendars for the annual Burns Park Fall Festival.

Date: Tuesday, Sept 18 (Rain date: Wed. Sept. 19)

Time: 5:30-8:00 p.m.

Place: Burns Park School grounds

Bring: A picnic dinner, a blanket, and a dessert to share

Buy: Drinks from the 5th graders to help raise funds for their graduation ceremony!

Catch up with old friends after the summer and make some new friends as well! Enjoy live entertainment and dinner under the stars. A great way to kick-start the school year.

Hope to see you there!

Sara Meingast

From our Principal

Dear Families,

The first day of school is exciting for students, parents and staff. Students are excited to begin their new school year, and parents are excited, but also anxious about letting go of these precious hands. The staff understands the nervous feelings and will be there to support and encourage students the first day of school and every day thereafter. We want to make sure your children feel as special at school as they do at home. Please feel free to ask questions any time though out the school year. We look forward to meeting all of our new families and welcoming back all returning families.

Curriculum Night

I hope to see all of you at Curriculum Night on Tuesday, September 11, beginning at 6:15 for grades K, 1, and 2, who will meet their children's teacher in the classroom.

Beginning at 6:40 families of students in grades 3-5 will meet in the auditorium for staff introductions and an explanation of the Annual Report.

At 7:05, 3-5 grade parents will meet their child's teacher in their classrooms. While they meet with teachers, the families of the K-2 students will meet with me in the auditorium.

This evening is designed for parents only. When you have met with your child's teacher, you are encouraged to stop in and introduce yourself to the Art, P.E., Music and Media Center teachers.

Handbook

The Burns Park Handbook is now available on line. If you would like a hard copy, please let the office know. I encourage you to spend a few minutes reviewing its contents. Please make special note of lunch room/ playground and bus rules. I hope this reference will be a convenient source of information about policies and procedures that help our school run smoothly.

PTO Meeting

If you missed the Welcome Back Coffee on the first day of school, you will still be able to sign up to volunteer to help with PTO events at the first PTO meeting which is Thursday, September 19 at 7:30. The PTO meets on the 3rd Thursdays of the month.

Fall Festival

In conjunction with the PTO we invite all families to the Fall Festival on Wednesday, September 18 from 5:30 to 8:00. Plan to bring a picnic lunch and enjoy this beautiful park we are so fortunate to have right next door.

SIT

Burns Park has a very active PTO and we encourage you to get involved. Burns Park also has a School "In search of excellence" Team (SIT). The team's membership includes teachers, parents, staff, and the principal. The charge of this team is to focus on increasing students' achievement and success. The team meets monthly and we are looking for some new members to replace retiring members. If you are interested, please call the office and let us know.

Changes in the Building

We've had some improvements to the building over the summer. The A-wing had new unit ventilators and bookshelves installed. The PTO also enlarged the black top area on the upper el. playground and added security fencing to the lower el. playground. Thanks go to the PTO.

Welcome New Staff

In June, Mrs. Alice Kim retired. We are sorry that you did not know of her plans in enough time to wish her well in her retirement. Please join me in welcoming two new teachers to our building and a familiar teacher with a new assignment.

Ms. Kunghee Kim will join us as a teacher of 2nd grade. She is a graduate of the University of Michigan. She began her career at Wines Elementary teaching 4th grade and last year taught preschool at Thurston Elementary.

Ms. Liz Selimi will join us as a teacher of 1st grade. She began her career at Pittsfield Elementary teaching Title I with K-2 students. She then moved to kindergarten at Lakewood Elementary where she has taught for the past 3 years. She graduated from EMU with a major in Science and is returning to work on her masters in Early Childhood Education.

Mr. Staples is familiar to many of your children, he will teach 3rd grade this year rather than computers. Ms. Erdstein will teach all of our computer classes. Mr. Staples was born and raised in Ann Arbor. He went to Bach, Slauson, Pioneer and Community. He got his undergraduate degree in elementary

.. more from our Principal

education from Eastern Michigan University. He has taught computers at all grade levels in many elementary schools in Ann Arbor for the past 7 years. He has also taught other teachers how to use technology in their classrooms and looks forward to integrating technology in the classroom.

In closing, if there is ever anything we can do to help your child, please do not hesitate to call or come in to visit with us. We strive to make sure that your child loves school and learning. We look forward to working together to make this a rewarding year for your child.

Sincerely,

Kathy Morhous
Principal

Sally Foster Gift Wrap Fundraiser

It is time again for the Sally Foster Gift Wrap fundraiser where over 50% of profits come directly to Burns Park school! This is a major fundraiser with profits in the \$10,000 range and we need your support.

- ◆ Packets go home with students on September 19
- ◆ Orders are due by October 4
- ◆ Delivery will be October 23

Please look for your packets and think about holiday and birthday wrapping! Questions? Contact:

Anne Steinhauer
476-6499, acws1012@hotmail.com

Jennifer Osterwisch
995-9222), josterwi@tds.net

From our PTO Presidents

We hope everyone had a wonderful summer. Welcome back to our returning families and to our new families. We are excited that you are joining the Burns Park community and we look forward to meeting you all.

Our PTO is very active, sponsoring numerous events for students and their families throughout the year and we rely on our parents to volunteer and to participate in our fundraisers to make these events possible. With over 30 committees the PTO has a volunteer job for any level of time commitment and talent. Additionally, classroom and special teachers also rely on parent volunteers.

In your welcome back to school packet you will find descriptions of our committees as well as PTO and classroom volunteer sign up sheets. Please take a few minutes to read through them and consider what you would like to do; completed forms need to be returned to the school by **Friday, September 14.**

One easy way to participate in the PTO is to attend our monthly meetings held the third Thursday of the month (except December & February). Our first meeting is September 20 at 7 PM in the media center; fun, FREE child care will be provided in the gym. We welcome all parents!

In addition to the meeting we hope to see you at the following events:

- ◆ Curriculum Night, Tuesday, September 11 at 6:00 PM – meet your child's teacher and learn about the classroom curriculum
- ◆ Fall Festival, Tuesday, September 18 – bring a blanket, a picnic dinner and a dessert to share

We wanted to share with you all that Mrs. Alice Kim retired this summer. At her request we did not have a retirement party, but we would still like to honor her many years at Burns Park. In the month of September the PTO will be collecting cards and notes for Mrs. Kim; Mrs. Crankshaw has offered to deliver them at the end of the month. There will be box in the office for families to drop off their cards and notes or you can email them to us.

The start of school can be a very busy and hectic time for families, especially if you are new to the school. Please feel free to call or email either of us with any questions or concerns. We're looking forward to a great year!

Helen Starman, President
994-8553 or hstarman@comcast.net

Elizabeth DeRose, President-elect
677-0882 or ederose@comcast.net

Burn\$ Park Buck\$

“Earn money for our school without spending an extra dime!”

The Burns Park PTO's scrip fundraiser, known as Burn\$ Park Buck\$, is starting its fifth year in early October. Burns Park families who participated in this fundraiser over the last few years earned thousands of dollars for our school without spending an extra dime; they simply changed the way they paid for their groceries and other retail items.

How does Burns Park Bucks work? The PTO purchases gift certificates or gift cards at a discount from local grocers and retailers including:

- ◆ Busch's,
- ◆ Kroger,
- ◆ Hiller's,
- ◆ Whole Foods,
- ◆ The Produce Station,
- ◆ Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Borders, LL Bean, Gap, Lands' End, Old Navy, Starbucks, Williams Sonoma and many more.

You buy the gift certificates or gift cards from the PTO at full face value and use them at the store (or on-line, if applicable) where they are worth full face value. The PTO keeps the difference between our cost and the price you pay; the discount we can receive ranges from five to eighteen percent.

Kroger, Busch's and Hiller's sell rechargeable gift cards that allow you to initially purchase one card at the dollar value of your choice (as low as \$5.00; Hiller's starts with a zero balance). The card holds a balance as you use it, and you can refill the card, as needed, at the store—with cash, check or a credit card. (This way, you can still receive

airline miles and other credit card rewards while supporting our school.) Burns Park continues to receive 5% whenever you refill your card.

How do I order my Burns Park Bucks? Once a month you will receive an e-mail reminder to order on-line at www.burnsparkpto.org (you may also print out the order form and drop it off in the Burns Park Bucks box in the office). You will receive your completed order on the following Wednesday.

You may choose one of two methods for paying for your order: by credit card directly on-line, or by check [please send payment for your confirmed total order to school (with your child or placed in the BP Bucks box in the office) or mail it to: Lynda Norton, 1217 Olivia Ave., Ann Arbor, 48104].

You may also choose one of two methods for receiving your order: 1) pick-up at the school Wednesday morning or afternoon or 2) home delivery.

The first email reminder will be sent on October 1 with orders due by Wednesday, October 3.

Any questions? Feel free to contact Lynda Norton at lnorton@okno.com or 761-1478.

**Order On-line and
Pay by Credit Card at
www.burnsparkpto.org**

Anne
≡ Gilbert

Associate Broker

734 657 7121

AGilbert@Surovell.com

Burns Park real estate expert
and parent. Neighborhood
sales information at:

www.AnneGilbert.com

Edward Surovell Realtors
1898 West Stadium Boulevard
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48103

Please Come to The Burns Park Players Fall Meeting

When: Tuesday, September 25, 7:30 p.m.

7:00-7:30: Informal welcome/get acquainted for newcomers to meet BPP Board members and learn about the ways you might be able to participate.

Where: Burns Park School Auditorium

What: To discuss our musical, **Beauty and the Beast**, to be performed the weekends of February 9 and 16, 2008.

Why: If you're interested in meeting new people, having fun and livening up your winter evenings.

Who:

EVERYONE interested in trying out (Auditions for adults will be held in mid-October – specific dates TBA). No theater experience required.

EVERYONE interested in working backstage, on sets, costumes, props, orchestra, child care etc.

You don't have to be a BPS parent to be involved, so please tell your neighbors, too. Specific skills such as sewing, building, painting and playing a musical instrument are especially needed.

If you can't make the meeting, but would like to volunteer, or if you want more information, visit BurnsParkPlayers.org or call Susan Hurwitz (Producer and former BPS parent) at 994-3508, or email SusanH22@aol.com

Crew members are expected to give a minimum of 30 hours effort toward the production, and cast members must adhere to the attendance policy which will be reviewed at the meeting.

Big House, Big Heart 5K

run/walk and kids' fun run

Sunday, September 30

www.bighousebigheart.com

Attention all walkers, runners, kids, parents, and extended friends and family of Burns Park! Run through the U of M tunnel and finish on the 50-yard line in the first annual Big House, Big Heart run/walk! Join 5,000-10,000 other excited runners/walkers in kicking off this inaugural run.

This event promises to be fun for all ages with live music and other entertainment and great finish-line food. A portion of all entry fees will be split between funding research for ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease) and Mott Hospital. Many opportunities are in place to raise more funds for ALS/Mott or the charity of your choice.

There will be a pre-race Expo with a variety of vendors and health-related displays along with face painting, clowns, and music on Saturday, September 29 from 12-6pm at Crisler.

Registration is online and packet pick-up will be at the Expo or race morning. Register early to reserve your spot (race will be capped at 10,000) and avoid late fees.

Questions? Contact Joel or Jackie Dalton at daltonjd@gmail.com or 747-6952. Check backpacks for more info.

Fall Walk & Talk to Begin Soon!

Tie up those tennis shoes and come on over to the park for this fall's season of Walk and Talk. Walk and Talk is an activity where the students gather at the playground to walk or run with each other around a specified loop at Burns Park. The kids earn "toe tags" for a certain number of loops around the park and really are motivated by the fresh air, their friends and the encouragement of the parent volunteers.

We are hoping to start up the week of Sept. 17th if we can get our parent volunteers in place by then. If you can help out on Monday, Wednesday or Friday during lunch time (approximately from 11:15 – 1:10 or any part thereof), please let Marci Ammerman know at 662-7812 or mbammeman@comcast.net.

We would also like to encourage parents to come and walk and talk with the kids – enjoy each other plus the added bonus of modeling/inspiring physical fitness too!

There is a fantastic opportunity for the kids to run in the Big House Big Heart 5k to raise money for Burns Park School, and Walk and Talk will help get them ready.

Volunteer Officers & Chairpersons Burns Park PTO 2007-2008

Executive Board	Officer	Phone	Email
President.....	Helen Starman	994-8553	hstarman@comcast.net
President-Elect.....	Elizabeth DeRose	677-0882	ederose@comcast.net
Treasurer.....	David Lowenschuss	623-9877	david.lowenschuss@pfizer.com
Secretary.....	Raleigh Sadlier.....	327-0534	sadlierfam@yahoo.com
Volunteer Coordinator	Janice Lieberman	761-7431	liebermanjanice@yahoo.com

Committee	Chairperson	Phone	Email
Academic Enrichment.....	Katie Chosid	662-9955	kchosid@yahoo.com
Books on Tape	Julie Halpert	995-0920	jhalpert@comcast.net
Bulletin Boards	Julie Cohen.....	741-7451	jggico@hotmail.com
Burns Park Bucks	Lynda Norton	761-1478	lnorton@okno.com
Burns Park Press	Anne Gilbert.....	657-7121	agilbert@surovell.com
Burns Park Press Production.....	Sue Burke	930-2655	saburke@umich.edu
Burns Park Run.....	Jackie Dalton.....	747-6952	jdalton@cch.org
.....	Joel Dalton	945-8132	daltonjd@gmail.com
.....	Jill Hunsberger	741-4792	jill.hunsberger@emich.edu
Directory	Barbara Peitsch.....	302-7723	bpeitsch@umich.edu
.....	Ginny Rogers	747-7937	vrogers@umich.edu
Fall Festival	Sara Meingast.....	741-1723	herbandsara@sbcglobal.net
Family-to-Family Giving.....	Sara Figueroa	930-1581	sarerfigueroa@yahoo.com
Field Day	Ellen Rambo	741-9640	ellenrambo@comcast.net
Fifth Grade Graduation .....	.....	.....	.....
Friends of Library.....	Elizabeth DeRose.....	677-0882	ederose@comcast.net
Friends of Music	Janice Lieberman	761-7431	liebermanjanice@yahoo.com
Gift Wrap	Anne Steinhauer.....	327-0850	acws1012@hotmail.com
.....	Jennifer Osterwisch.....	995-9222	josterwi@tds.net
Hospitality & Teacher Appreciation	Elizabeth DeRose.....	677-0882	ederose@comcast.net
.....	Leslie Sapp.....	994-6186	lsapp@comcast.net
Ice Cream Social .....	.....	.....	.....

Volunteer Officers & Chairpersons—cont'd

Committee	Chairperson	Phone	Email
Information Technology	Steve Norton.....	761-1478	snorton@okno.com
	..... Ginny Rogers	747-7937	vrogers@umich.edu
Lost & Found	Judy Wier.....	663-3184	edwier@aol.com
Lunches with Love.....	Sara Meingast.....	741-1723	herbandsara@sbcglobal.net
	..... Nancy Upchurch	622-0335	nemupc@comcast.net
Lunchtime Choices.....	Katie Chosid	662-9955	kchosid@yahoo.com
	..... Niki Wardner	973-8039	wardner35@msn.com
Math/Science Night.....	Ed Vielmetti.....	761-4248	edward.vielmetti@gmail.com
Middle School Transition	Kate Korte-Turnbull	996-3688	katekorteturnbull@yahoo.com
	..... Steve Norton.....	761-1478	snorton@okno.com
Multicultural	Violet Souweidane	477-0360	souweidane@aol.com
	..... Luciana Borbely.....	213-1690	lborbely@comcast.net
	..... Ruth Slavin	994-9052	rslavin@umich.edu
New Families.....	Colleen Kollman.....	994-0898	kenncol@aol.com
	..... Kathy Sample	332-1131	kesample@umich.edu
Note Cards	Ellen Janke.....	332-1614	ejanke@med.umich.edu
	..... Meg Wallace.....	332-9621	jwall@umich.edu
Parent Education	Emily Hastie.....	975-6574	emilyhastie@comcast.net
	..... Theresa Reid.....	369-3919	tareid@umich.edu
Penguins Care Club	Joel Dalton	945-8132	daltonjd@gmail.com
	..... Emily Hastie.....	975-6574	emilyhastie@comcast.net
Playground.....	Jim Wallace.....	332-9621	jwall@umich.edu
PTO Council.....	Andy Thomas.....	996-8476	athomas@med.wayne.edu
Read-a-thon.....	Deborah Fisch	761-4248	dfisch@monkey.org
Salvation Army Drive	Mary Hampton	761-6587	lorencjackson@ameritech.net
Science Olympiad.....	Sue Cutler	995-5399	secutler@umich.edu
Special Interest Fair	Kim Mass	213-5255	nkhmass@selectivityinc.com
	..... Patricia Silverman.....	998-1156	boczar@umich.edu
Walk & Talk	Marci Ammerman	662-7812	mbammerman@comcast.net
Yearbook.....	Kristen Freshley	996-0557	kristen@freshley.net

Thanks a Million

Thanks to ALL the volunteers who have worked over the summer and especially in the last few weeks to help our school year get off to a great start! We appreciate your time and effort, we couldn't have done it without you!

Many, many thanks to:

- ♦ **Janice Lieberman**, volunteer coordinator, for working over the summer to find chairs for our committees and to organize our volunteer sign up!
- ♦ **Steve Norton** for updating our website – it looks great! You can check it out at www.burnsparkpto.org.
- ♦ **Steve Norton, Ginny Rogers and the rest of the IT committee** for updating and maintaining our family and volunteer database.
- ♦ **Mike Bott, Jim Wallace and Steve and Jamie Norton** for installing the three new basketball hoops on the upper elementary playground.
- ♦ **Leslie Sapp** for organizing refreshments for the New Family Orientation and the Welcome Back Coffee
- ♦ **Colleen Kollman and Kathy Sample** for assembling folders for new families and for helping to orient new families to our school
- ♦ **Various friends and PTO chairs** who assembled first day packets
- ♦ **Patricia Silverman, Kim Mass, Lynda Norton, Gretchen Spreitzer and Jackie Dalton** for organizing wonderful back-to-school get-togethers for first through fourth grades
- ♦ **Anne Gilbert** for the first Burns Park press of the new school year

Helen Starman & Elizabeth DeRose

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 October 2007 issue are due no later than **Friday, September 21**. Late submissions may not be included. Any questions, comments or suggestions about the Press are welcome!

Anne Gilbert, 657-7121 or AGilbert@Surovell.com

Burns Park Press Advertising

Display Ads: We welcome ads for companies and services of interest to our Burns Park community. The ad size is a nominal 2.5 x 4 vertical or horizontal, roughly 1/8 of a page for \$35/ issue or 3 months for \$100.

Classifieds: Classifieds are 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).

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 or AGilbert@Surovell.com.

PTO Executive Board

Principal

Kathy Morhous 994-1919
morhous@aaps.k12.mi.us

President

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hstarman@comcast.net

President-Elect

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liebermanjanice@yahoo.com

Burns Park Press

Editor

Anne Gilbert 657-7121
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Production

Sue Burke 930-2655
saburke@umich.edu

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.