

# The Hillside Scoop

Hillside Elementary PTO Newsletter

Distributed June 3, 2011

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## Have a Fun and Restful Summer!

Reflecting on my time as president over the past two years, I want to say thank you to all the parents, teachers, and staff who go above and beyond to create a safe, happy, and caring learning environment for our children. I feel truly lucky to be a part of the Hillside Community.

I am also happy to introduce the PTO Executive Board for the 2011 - 2012 School Year:

Co-Presidents – Kristin Becket and Meghan Wilmot  
Vice President Cultural Arts – Juliette Hyson  
Vice President Fund Raising – Darcy McGroarty  
Vice President School Services – Pam Emel  
Vice President Social Functions – Jen Kleppe  
Secretary – Jen Marsala  
Treasurer – Meg Rafter  
Assistant Treasurer – Heather Mariano

**We still need chair people for the following positions** – Author Visit Volunteer, Earth Day Chair Person, Hillside Highlights Assistant Editor, Holiday Shop Chair Person, Kids Night Out Chair Person, and Walk to School Week Coordinator. Please see the help wanted ads for more information.

**This will be the last issue of the Scoop.** Next year the PTO will be sending out bi-monthly email blasts of the *Hillside Highlights*. If you have not been receiving regular email blasts from the PTO this year, please register your email address on the Hillside website under the PTO Section. You can register multiple email addresses. If you do not have a computer or access to internet service, please contact Lauren Scott at 610-240-1504 to make alternate arrangements.

The PTO wishes the fourth graders the best of luck in middle school. We will miss you!

Have a healthy, happy, safe summer!  
Sincerely,

Dawn Morgan, PTO President  
610-407-0323 or [dsmhjmorgan@msn.com](mailto:dsmhjmorgan@msn.com)

Hawky says,  
"Field Day fun is June 8th!"



### Mark your calendar...

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| <b>June 8</b>  | Field Day<br>(rain date June 9th)                         |
| <b>June 10</b> | 4th Grade Chorus Surrey<br>Services Trip                  |
| <b>June 10</b> | 4th Grade Bowling Party 6:30 - 8:30                       |
| <b>June 13</b> | Music Picnic  |
| <b>June 15</b> | Grade 4 Award Assembly<br>1:45 pm                         |
| <b>June 16</b> | Staff Appreciation Lunch                                  |
| <b>June 16</b> | Last Day of School<br>Half Day for Student                |
| June 22        | Kindergarten Playground Playdate<br>HES Playground - 1:00 |



is June 8th!  
(raindate is June 9th)

# News from the Classroom...

## Kindergarten

Wow, what a year! The children have grown so much this year, both physically and academically. We are very proud of them. We know that they will do very well in first grade!

We've complete our Incredible Insects theme. Our caterpillars have arrived, and we are watching them grow and change. We will finish the year with our Splash! theme, learning about the ocean and other summer-time topics. In math, we will continue to practice addition and subtraction, and in science we will experiment with water to see what materials will absorb water and which will mix with water.

We will be ending the year with several fun activities for the kids. We had a great time at the Teddy Bear Picnic today. Next week, we will play with our schoolmates on Field Day. We will enjoy learning new games and playing games together on Game Day. Extra Day means extra fun activities, extra recess, and an extra special ice cream sundae bar. Be sure to check your child's weekly newsletter and folder for reminders of upcoming events.

As we approach summer and the temperatures increase, it is important to keep hydrated. We will be sure that the children drink water after recess and gym. You may want to send a water bottle with your child to quickly rehydrate. If you do, please be sure that he or she can independently open and completely close the water bottle to avoid spills.

The last day for AM and PM kindergarten is Wednesday, June 15. Your child will bring home many things, including his or her report card, writing folder, and any tools that are at school. You may find it helpful to send a plastic bag in your child's backpack to hold his or her crayons, markers, glue sticks, etc.

It's hard to believe that the school year is almost over. Many thanks again to the kindergarten parents for all that you have done to make your children's first year at Hillside such a success. It has been a year full of fun, friendships and learning. We wish everyone a safe and happy summer. We'll see you next year!

*Thank you, The Kindergarten Teachers*

## First Grade

What a wonderful year it has been! The children have worked **very hard** throughout the year, and the First Grade teachers are very proud of their achievements.

The Kid's Press, Hillside's publishing center, will recognize the children's writing achievement on **Monday, June 6**. The children will share their newly published books with each other, and share some juice and cookies as a class. A special thanks to Mrs. Tucker for running the Hillside Press and organizing the special day!! The students have worked so

hard since September developing their writing skills. Their growth can truly be seen in the writing pieces they have done throughout this year. They are very proud of their books! Their writing portfolios will be coming home shortly as well!!! We hope you enjoy them!!!

We will be having a few fun days for First Graders at the end of the school. We will be having Comfy Cozy Day on **June 14th**. The children are asked to dress comfy and bring a favorite stuffed animal, a favorite book and a blanket to enjoy reading for the day! We will be having Game Day on **June 15th**. The students should bring a favorite board or card game from home to teach to their classmates. Please no electronic games. Letters with more information will be coming home with your child soon!!! The most anticipated day of the year **Field Day will be on June 8th** weather permitting! We hope the children leave for summer with fond memories!!!!

Many thanks for all of your continued support throughout the school year! Please continue to read each day and practice addition and subtraction facts to 18! We hope you are enjoying the beautiful weather!

*The First Grade Teachers*

## Second Grade

It has been an eventful few weeks in Second Grade! On Monday, May 22, students participated in Jump Rope for Heart. The children were even featured in a news segment on Action News! We would like to congratulate the children, as they worked very hard raising money and jumping rope for the American Heart Association. We are proud to say that this year, students raised over \$5,900.00 for this great cause. We would also like to thank all of our parent volunteers. Way to go!!!!

Second graders became third graders for a short time on May 26th during "Move-Up Day." They met with all of the third grade teachers and learned quite a bit about what to expect in September. They came back to second grade with lots of enthusiasm and information about supplies, special projects, field trips, and instrument choices. It was a very enjoyable event!

Our field trip to the Philadelphia Zoo was an exciting day for all! We were lucky enough to have a beautiful day, and the students were treated to a lesson about animal habitats and adaptations from staff members at the zoo. The students also had time to explore the exhibits at the zoo with their group members and chaperones. A special thank you to all those who volunteered to chaperone for the trip.

Theme week was a blast! We saw some great dance programs and learned some new dance moves. Second graders participated in the final assembly by performing to the song they refer to as "5-6-7-8." Ask your child to show you this dance, as well as the "Cotton-eyed Joe, Macarena, and the Cha-Cha Slide."

Students are finishing up their "Soils" unit in Science and are in the process of raising butterflies. The students are studying the life cycle of the Painted Lady butterfly from its beginning as a tiny caterpillar. Once the butterflies emerge from their chrysalises, we will release them out into the wild.

Please encourage your child to continue to read and write this summer. The library and bookstores are great places to hang out! Also, be sure to spend time practicing the math skills learned this year.

It is hard to believe that this is the last Scoop this school year. It seems like September was just a short time ago, and it's already now June! Our school year has been filled with many experiences and events...academic, cultural, and creative. For our part, it has been both exciting and rewarding to have shared these experiences with your children. Thank you for all of the support and cooperation that you have given us throughout the year. We wish you all a wonderful and relaxing summer!

*Mrs. Bruce, Miss Garner, Miss Little, Mrs. Paster*

## Third Grade

We hope that you enjoyed watching our performance, ***I Need a Vacation***, as the students enthusiastically delivered their lines and creatively interpreted their character's mannerisms. Know that throughout our practices your children were extremely patient and cooperative for our theatrical production!

Our ***Plant Growth and Development Science*** unit will be yielding a substantial amount of plant seeds this year. The new seeds, which will continue the plant's cycle for next year's class, will be harvested soon. *We would like to extend our appreciation to Don Martin for his continued support and assistance throughout our Science lessons.*

***Practice makes perfect!*** Please encourage your child to practice their mathematical skills throughout the summer months. Sharpening Math skills will benefit students in the fall by providing a solid foundation for more challenging and complex problems in fourth grade. A ***Math*** packet will be going home at the end of the year for you to strengthen these skills with your child. ***Reading*** skills are just as crucial as Math skills so please encourage summer reading!

*Most importantly, we are deeply grateful for all your support throughout the school year. It has truly been a pleasure to teach your children! May you have a safe and peaceful summer vacation!*

**THANK YOU!**  
*The Third Grade Team*

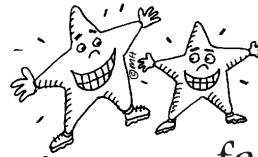
## Fourth Grade

What a wonderful year for our fourth grade students!! A big thank you to all parents for your consistent support throughout your child's year(s) at Hillside. We, the teachers, cannot do it without you, the parents!! We are so lucky to have had the opportunity to work with your child in fourth grade because it is the culminating year at H.E.S.!!

Many more thrilling years of education are on the horizon at TEMS and VFMS! We wish you success in 5th grade!

Thank you for all of your help. We appreciate your support!

*The Fourth Grade Teachers*



### Hillside says farewell to two stars!

**Mrs. Peggy Braun** is retiring at the end of the school year. She was hired by the Tredyfrin Easttown School District in the summer of 1987. Her 24 years of service have all been done at Hillside Elementary School where she taught kindergarten. Mrs. Braun is the perfect kindergarten teacher. She just gets it! She really knows 5 year olds, what they need, and how to teach them. With her gentle, positive nature, Mrs. Braun makes all her students know that they are important and can succeed. I will miss Peggy and her wonderful kindergarten stories about her children. I know that she has enjoyed each and every student that she has taught. I wish her the best in her retirement.

**Mrs. Barbara Powell**, Hillside's reading specialist, will be retiring at the end of this school year. Mrs. Powell has been the reading specialist at Hillside Elementary School for 15 years. In this position, she has helped many struggling readers learn to read. She has also assisted her peers in ideas for teaching language arts. Her colleagues describe her as conscientious, efficient, and always willing to help. Mrs. Powell excels in organizational skills and attention to detail. She will be missed in the halls and classrooms at Hillside. We all wish her the best in her retirement.

*Submitted by Diane Cohle*

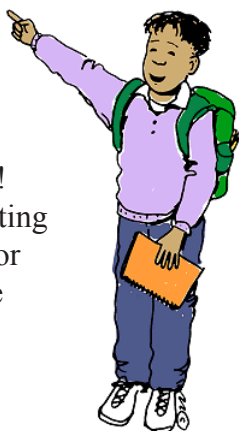
# Hillside PTO News...

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## Help Wanted for New Family Tours!

Attention Incoming 4th Graders! Would you be interested conducting Tours of our wonderful school for families new to Hillside? We are hosting New Family Tours on Thursday August 25th, and are in need of 6-10 Tour Guides to help show off Hillside.



Guides will be working in conjunction with their parent, the tours will begin at 9am and should conclude by 10:30. I am also looking for a parent to help man the snack table. If you are interested, please contact Pam Emel, 610.695.8469 or pamlemel@comcast.net for more information.

*Submitted by Pam Emel*

## NEXT YEAR Save the dates...

- Aug. 25 New Family Tours
- Aug. 25-30 Opening Day Packet Pick-Up
- Aug. 30 Kindergarten Curriculum Night 6:30pm
- Aug. 31 First Full Day for Grades 1-4, No Kindergarten
- Sept. 5 No School Labor Day
- Sept. 6 PTO meeting 9:10am
- Sept. 7 Kindergarten First Day
- Sept. 8 Open House 5:00 – 7:00pm
- Sept. 14 Hillside Handel’s Spirit Day
- Sept. 15 Grade 1 Curriculum Night 7:00pm
- Sept. 16 Pride Day
- Sept. 22 Grade 2 Curriculum Night 7:00 pm
- Sept. 27 Grades 3 & 4 Curriculum Night 7:00 pm
- Sept. 29 No School

## For parents with students in grades K through 3:

You will be receiving a letter from me in August giving you information that you may need for your child’s upcoming school year. I try to include work that has been completed in the summer, new initiatives, and changes that may have occurred. This letter will include the name of your child’s core teacher. This year, the District has decided not to include a class list in this correspondence. This will ensure the confidentiality of our students and allow us to place late arrivals.

*Submitted by Diane Cohle, Principal*





The PTO needs your help to fill the following positions. If the positions are not filled, the event or activity will not take place.

### **Author Visit Volunteer**

The cultural arts committee is looking for an individual to assist with the author visit in November 2011 who then would become the Author Visit Chair for 2012-13. The main responsibility of the Chair is to research and select an author for a school visit (resources are available to help with this), serve as liaison between the visiting author and Hillside, and organize the author's schedule for the day (including lunch). In some years, the Chair has coordinated a special sale of the author's book(s) and an author signing. Please contact Juliette Hyson at [jjhyson@verizon.net](mailto:jjhyson@verizon.net) if interested.

### **Earth Day Chairperson**

A chairperson is needed to help develop and coordinate Earth Day Activities. Please contact Dawn Morgan at [dsmhjmorgan@msn.com](mailto:dsmhjmorgan@msn.com).

### **FLITE Representative**

Hillside is seeking a FLITE Representative who can serve as a liaison between FLITE and Hillside. FLITE (Residents Form Education Foundation in Tredyffrin/Easttown) works in partnership with the Tredyffrin/Easttown School District to help all district students reach their potential. FLITE promotes academic achievement with programs from preschool tuition assistance to college preparation. Please contact Dawn Morgan at [dsmhjmorgan@msn.com](mailto:dsmhjmorgan@msn.com) if interested.

### **Hillside Highlights Assistant Editor**

Duties include collecting and editing articles for the Hillside Highlights (email blast) using Constant Contact (software program). Email blasts are sent bimonthly. Please contact Dawn Morgan at [dsmhjmorgan@msn.com](mailto:dsmhjmorgan@msn.com) if interested.

### **Holiday Shop and Ice Cream Social Chairperson**

The holiday shop offers the children and their families a chance to purchase gifts for family and friends and time to socialize while enjoying ice cream. This event takes place in December. If you are interested in organizing this event, please contact Kelly Webster at [4girlsplus1@comcast.net](mailto:4girlsplus1@comcast.net) if interested.

### **Kids Night Out Chairperson**

This is a special evening event for the children held at Hillside in January, February or March. A chairperson is needed to book the entertainment and coordinate chaperones for the event. Please contact Kelly Webster at [4girlsplus1@comcast.net](mailto:4girlsplus1@comcast.net) if interested.

### **Walk to School Week Coordinator**

Hillside is in need of someone who can organize Walk to School Week in October. (A second walk to school week could also occur in the spring if desired.) Tasks involve scheduling the week with Mrs. Cohle and advertising the event to school families. More information can be found at [www.walktoschoolweek.org](http://www.walktoschoolweek.org). Contact Molly Duffy at [mfduffy1@gmail.com](mailto:mfduffy1@gmail.com) if interested.

# Hillside's Kindergartners and Third Graders Collaborate on Award Winning Project



In what has become a springtime tradition at Hillside Elementary School, kindergarten and third grade students worked together to create a life-size diorama of a Pennsylvania ecosystem. Their project was entered in the Lower Merion Conservancy's Children's Earth Day Forest competition on April 26th and was on public display at Waverly Heights in Gladwyne throughout the following weekend. This year's focus was the 24-hour life cycle in the backyard ecosystem, emphasizing the relationships among diurnal, nocturnal, and crepuscular organisms.

Kindergartners worked with Hillside's art teacher, Christine Braun, and with their teachers, Peggy Braun and Chrys Halde- man, to learn about and create tree canopies and small wild creatures that might be found in southeastern Pennsylvania. Third graders worked with Hillside's librarian, Patricia Lucy, to research the various wild creatures that pass through backyard habitats and to analyze their food web relationships. The students' findings were expressed in nature journals that combined drawing and note taking to tell the story of the myriad ecological relationships unfolding in these suburban spaces. They also used their newfound knowledge to inform the creation of full size papier-mâché animals in art class.

All aspects of the project were carried out within the framework of the Pennsylvania science standards, supported by an educational assembly presented by the Conservancy's environmental educator, Lindsay Smith.

This year's award recognized the students' resounding success in working together: the "Best Collaboration Between Grades Award, Presented to the entry that best demonstrates how the forest can encourage creative and intellectual collaboration across and within grade levels and disciplines."

*Submitted by Ms. Lucy*



## THE YEARBOOKS ARE READY!

If you have ordered a yearbook, the yearbooks will be distributed to the students on Monday, June 13th.

There are a few extra copies available for sale for \$15.00. Please contact Sheila Reckmeyer if you are interested in purchasing a book. My number is (610) 725-0304.

Many thanks to all who sent in their wonderful photographs. Special thanks to Juliette Hyson and Joe Calabi for their extra help, both this year, and in previous years, and also my sincerest gratitude to Rosemary Schnorr for managing yearbook sales this year. The book would not be possible without their help, and the help of all who submitted photographs.

*Sheila Reckmeyer, Yearbook Editor*

## Hillside Musicians, Pack Your Lunch Box!



For the First Annual Hillside Music Picnic!

**When:** Monday, June 13 2011

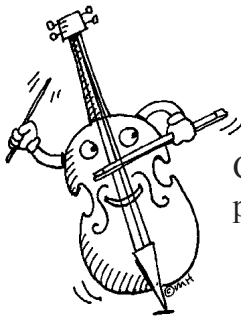
**Time:** 12:00pm – 1:00pm

**Where:** Students will be dismissed to come to the playground for the picnic. Rain Location will be in the music room.

**What to bring:** Your packed lunch.

Ice Pops will be provided. (the Ice Pop Brand) Please let Mr. Haines know if your child is not permitted to have an Ice Pop.

*Thank you! Mr. Haines & Ms. Gonsman*



Congratulations to all of the FANTASTIC Band, Chorus, and Orchestra students who put on an AMAZING Spring Concert. We are all INCREDIBLY proud of you!!

Happy Summer! Mr. Haines & Ms. Gonsman

## Boxtops Update...Keep clippin' this Summer!

Thank you to all of the students and families who helped make this school year the highest grossing ever for Hillside's Box Top collection program!!! A special THANK YOU to Hillside teachers and staff who not only collected Box Tops in their own homes, but promoted the classroom contests and dealt with all the collection sheets that were sent to school! Some highlights from this year:

- \* Hillside collected over \$700 in Box Tops (\$655 in checks received; the remainder will be received in next year's checks)
- \* The Box Top program donated over \$59 MILLION to schools across the country in 2010-2011 alone!



Please continue to collect Box Tops over the summer! Our goal for next year will be \$1000. All students who submit a completed Box Top Summer Collection Sheet in September will receive a prize. Plus, any Box Tops collected over the summer will count for the first classroom contest next year. Come August there will be lots of Back to School Box Top promotions in the grocery stores.

New for next year: Coke Rewards. Starting now, you can enter online the codes found on bottle caps and 12-packs/cases (of any Coca-Cola product) and donate them to Hillside Elementary. Very easy. Check out [www.mycokerewards.com](http://www.mycokerewards.com).

Enjoy the summer! (and keep clipping!)

*Submitted by Colleen Barth*

## PTO Thanks

**Many thanks to the following people for dedicating their time, talent, and energy to the following events and activities** – Danielle Francis for coordinating Kindergarten Orientation, Sharon McFadden for organizing the tasty treats at the Spring Concert; Meghan Wilmot and her committee for a fantastic Spring Fair; Sean Moir, Debbie Weger, and Julie Singer for running mileage club.; Juliette Hyson for a fantastic dance theme week; Kristin Becket for a great Family Dance Night; Mr. Pechin, the Hillside staff, and all the parent volunteers for an amazing Field Day; Joni King and Jen Mayoock for organizing the 4th grade Bowling Party and Graduation; Christa Amos for producing the *Scoop* every month; and Alix Mayoock for coordinating the Staff Appreciation Lunch. And to all the many volunteers who work behind the scenes to make Hillside an amazing place.

*Submitted By Dawn Morgan*

**Thank you to all the children who joined Junior Great Books.** We had a great time reading stories and discussing our point of view. What creative minds you all have. I hope to see everyone again next year for another exciting adventure of Junior Great Books! Keep reading!

*Submitted by Dana Dienno*



## Cultural Arts Thank You

Thank you to all the parents who helped with this year's cultural arts programs, author visit, and Theme Week. Whether you provided food, time, organizational skill, science prowess, offers to drive, or sewing talents, our Hillside kids would not have enjoyed these programs that enrich and expand on their classroom curricula without your help.

I also want to thank the Hillside PTO for its generous and enthusiastic support of Cultural Arts at Hillside.

Finally, I want to express my personal thanks to Diane Harnish, Barb Comyns and Carla Ojha for their tireless assistance and support this year. Your help was invaluable to me.

Have a great summer.

*Juliette Hyson, Cultural Arts Chair*

## School Store Hours and Helpers:



The PTO would like to send out a sincere thank you to all of our School Store Volunteers! You did a great job this year!



## The Last InterSchool Council Meeting: Another Successful School Year

The last InterSchool Council of the school year was held on April 13, 2011. Changes to the 5th and 6th grade program were addressed. Since the implementation of an "Advisory" period was so successful in the 7th and 8th grades, an Advisory period will be added to the 5th and 6th grade program two times per cycle. In the Advisory period, students can obtain individualized help, complete class work, make up missed tests, or work on lessons that revolve around Strategic Plan Initiatives. The 5th and 6th grade team structure will remain the same. Applied Tech will be integrated as part of core teaching, and Technical Education and Family Consumer Science will not be offered until 7th grade.

Another topic that was discussed was the change in the structure of the Guidance Program. In the Middle School, the number of counselors will be decreased by one, so there will be three total counselors in both Middle Schools in the District. At Conestoga High School, the Guidance Counselors will be assigned by alphabetical order instead of by class.

Thank you to everyone who attended and participated in our sessions. As always, all meetings are open to the public. Beginning in September, the ISC holds seven meetings at 7:00pm in the Tredyffrin/East-town Administration Building. Please consult the School District Website, [www.tesd.net](http://www.tesd.net), under the "Our District" tab, for next year's information.

If you have any suggestions for topics for next year, please contact us so that we may pass along your ideas. Thank you! Andrea Rountree ([ARRCounseling@gmail.com](mailto:ARRCounseling@gmail.com)) Kristen Mayock ([kkmayock@verizon.net](mailto:kkmayock@verizon.net)).

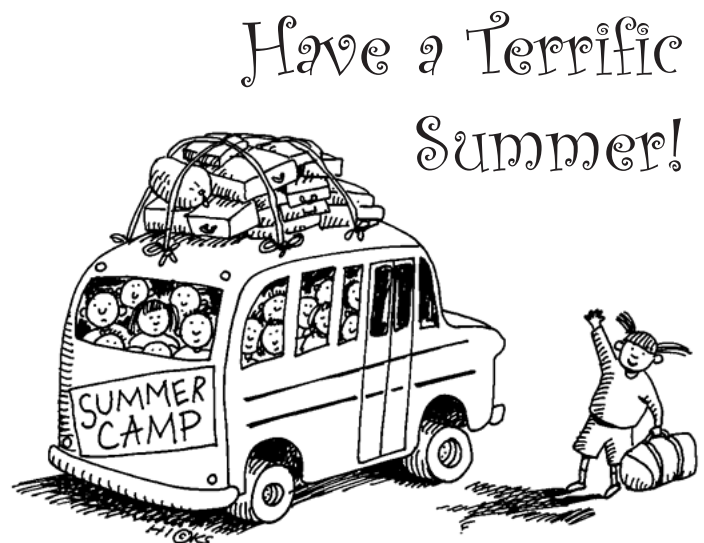
*Submitted by Andrea Rountree and Kristen Mayock*

### Halloween costumes are coming to Hillside in early September!

We are asking for families to donate gently used costumes and we will sell every costume for a fixed price to Hillside families (and guests) all proceeds will go to the PTO in order to continue these great programs for our school and benefit our children. Watch for these future dates!

Dana Dienno [dienno36@comcast.net](mailto:dienno36@comcast.net)

*Submitted by Dana Dienno*





# HELP US HELP OUR SCHOOL.

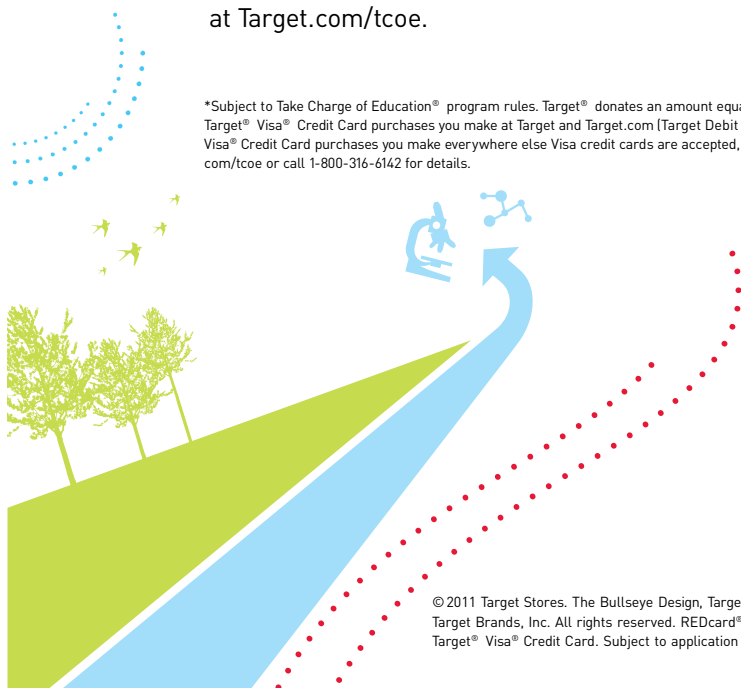
Did you know there's an easy way to help us raise money for our school — for books, band uniforms, reading programs and anything else that can use extra funding? It's called Take Charge of Education®, and it's helping our school right now.

Here's how it works: Visit [Target.com/tcoe](http://Target.com/tcoe) or call 1-800-316-6142 to designate our school, then use your REDcard whenever you shop. When you use your REDcard® (Target Credit Card®, Target Debit Card® or Target® Visa® Credit Card), Target® will donate up to 1% of your purchases to the eligible K-12 school of your choice.\*

Learn more at [Target.com/redcard](http://Target.com/redcard) or stop in a Target store to apply.

Grandparents, alumni, friends and neighbors are all welcome to participate in the program. The more people we involve, the harder the program works for our school. If you're already participating, thank you! Check out our school's progress anytime at [Target.com/tcoe](http://Target.com/tcoe).

\*Subject to Take Charge of Education® program rules. Target® donates an amount equal to 1% of Target Credit Card®, Target Debit Card® and Target® Visa® Credit Card purchases you make at Target and Target.com (Target Debit Card cannot be used at Target.com), and ½% of Target® Visa® Credit Card purchases you make everywhere else Visa credit cards are accepted, to the eligible K-12 school of your choice. See [Target.com/tcoe](http://Target.com/tcoe) or call 1-800-316-6142 for details.



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# DENTAL HEALTH NEWSLETTER

Spring 2011

## SAVE THAT SMILE

Why take a chance for mouth injuries when playing sports or when participating in a recreational activity that puts you at risk for a mouth injury?

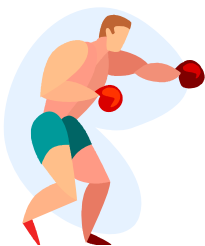
Preserve ~ Protect ~ Save that Smile

**The list of sports below has the potential to seriously harm the head, face or mouth because of:**

- Head to head contact
- Hazardous falls
- Teeth clenching
- Blows to the mouth
- Flying pieces of equipment



**The American Dental Association recommends wearing a CUSTOM mouthguard for the following sports:**



- |              |               |               |               |
|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Acrobatics   | Handball      | Rugby         | Squash        |
| Basketball   | Ice Hockey    | Shot putting  | Surfing       |
| Boxing       | Lacrosse      | Skateboarding | Volleyball    |
| Field Hockey | Martial Arts  | Skiing        | Water Polo    |
| Football     | Racquetball   | Skydiving     | Weightlifting |
| Gymnastics   | Roller Hockey | Soccer        | Wrestling     |

**\*Fact:** An athlete is at risk 60 times more for injury to teeth when not wearing a mouthguard.

**A properly fitted mouthguard helps:**

- To protect teeth from crown and root fractures, dislocation, avulsed teeth
- To provide protection to jaw, temporomandibular joint (TMJ), neck, eyes
- To reduce the potential of brain injuries and chin hit concussion
- To cushion a blow to the face, distributing the force of the blow over a generalized area



**Features of an Effective Mouthguard:**

- Protective
- Good retention and fit
- Comfortable
- Tear resistant
- Ease of speech and breathing
- Sufficient thickness

Attention parents of 4<sup>th</sup> grade students

## Welcome to Middle School!

The end of your child's time at Elementary School is filled with excitement as you look to the summer and think about preparing your incoming 5<sup>th</sup> grader for the middle school experience. While getting a locker is often viewed as one of the "cooler" aspects of moving to Middle School, it can also be a source of anxiety. The schools are open throughout the summer and you and your student are welcome (and encouraged) to visit as often as you like. Each of the middle schools set-up a couple "practice" lockers. Past 4<sup>th</sup> graders have purchased combination locks to practice. Fifth graders (only) receive **locker assignments** and combinations with their schedule in August. After receiving locker assignments and schedules, be sure to try the locker (as many times as you like) and walk through the class schedule.



**PTO and School information should start to land in your mail box in August.**



**The PTO communicates important school information via e-mail...** it is extremely important that the school have your current email address. The database is district-wide, so if your elementary school has your current email in your 4<sup>th</sup> grader's file – it will follow you to the middle school. **Each of the school websites has a link to "Add or Update Your Email Address."** That is the best and easiest way to send your email (or multiple email addresses) to the school.

As the Middle School administrators, teachers, counselors, students, PTOs and ARCH make the rounds at the 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Transition events throughout the district this spring, one of the clear messages is that as your family moves in/through the middle school... **it is as important as ever to stay connected to your kids' school, their friends and their friends' parents.** Link to this article: [10 Tips for Middle School Parents](#) for more details on the importance of staying involved in your child's day-to-day activity.

**Immediate ideas that will help YOU stay connected in Middle School...**

- Attend Curriculum Night.** Curriculum Night is just as important in Middle School as it was in Elementary School. The evening provides a wonderful opportunity to walk in your child's shoes, meet the teachers and get a sense of the school. *The online District Calendar is already beginning to show Sept/Oct 2011 dates. That and the schools' Weekly Bulletins are good to check frequently!*
- Volunteer.** The PTO has many **opportunities to volunteer.** In particular, there are a handful of immediate *Back-to-School events* that provide an easy way for you be at the school. Those events include: Health Screenings, Picture Day, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Field Trip to Paradise Farms, Ice Cream Socials and August Back to School Sale @TEMS. Take advantage of volunteering at these events.  
*Link to the [TEMS Volunteer Form](#); Link to the [VFMS Volunteer Form](#).*

*Submitted by middle school PTOs & ARCH*

### **New! 2011/12 Webinars from ARCH** - Parents issues specific to K-7 Grade

1-hr programs air LIVE from 8-9pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month (beginning in Oct 2011).

Look for registration info (it's free!) in September – [www.archcares.org](http://www.archcares.org).

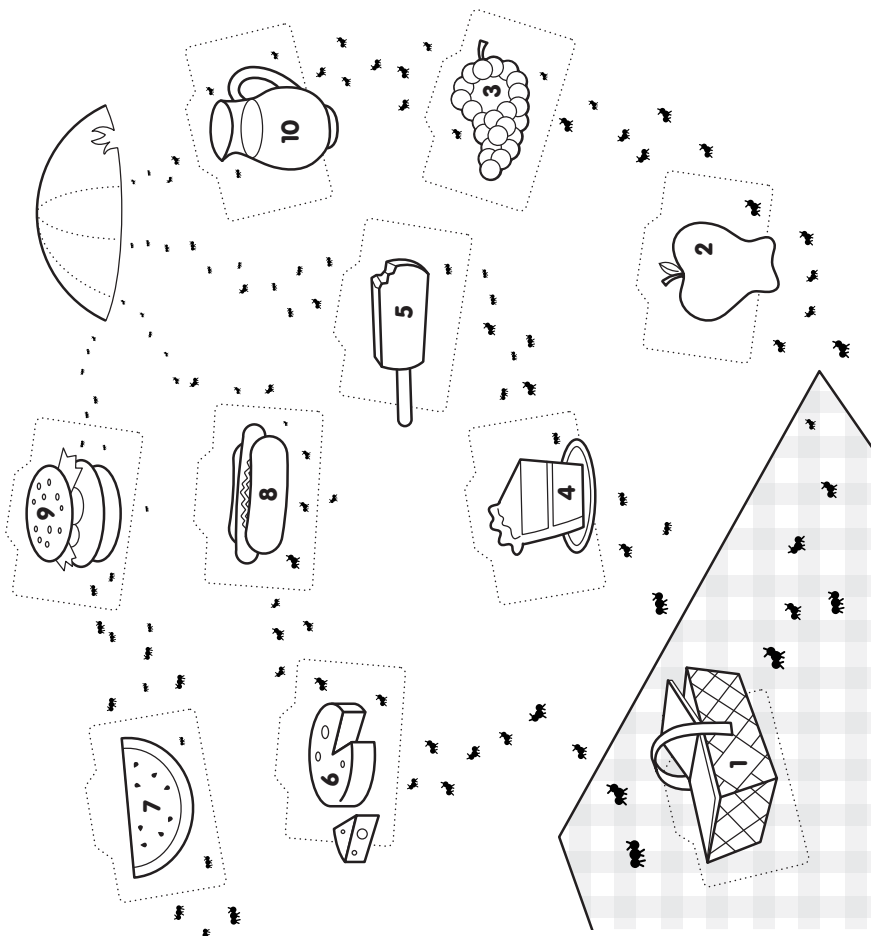
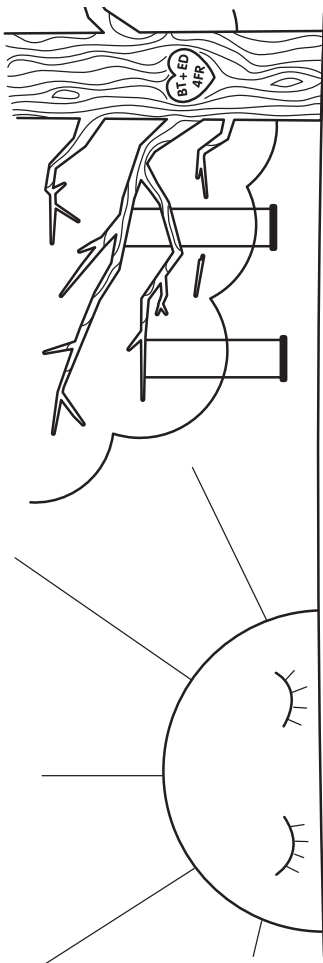
Oct	Starting Off on Solid Footing toward "Just Say No" Strategies
Nov	How Boys and Girls Learn Differently
Dec	First Time Cell Phones, Smart Parenting Strategies
Jan	Cyber-Bullying; How, Who, Where & What You Can Do
Feb	"My Child's a Natural" Finding Balance, Being Your Best, & no Burnout for ages 6-12
Mar	The Brain from Ages 6 to 12
Apr	Your Child's Friends Building Positive Relationships
May	Anxiety, Stress and Over-Scheduling







Cover this picnic lunch with Box Tops before the ants can eat it up!



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for helping! Every Box Top you collect is worth 10¢ for your school. For more collection worksheets and projects, go to [www.boxtops4education.com/activitycenter](http://www.boxtops4education.com/activitycenter)



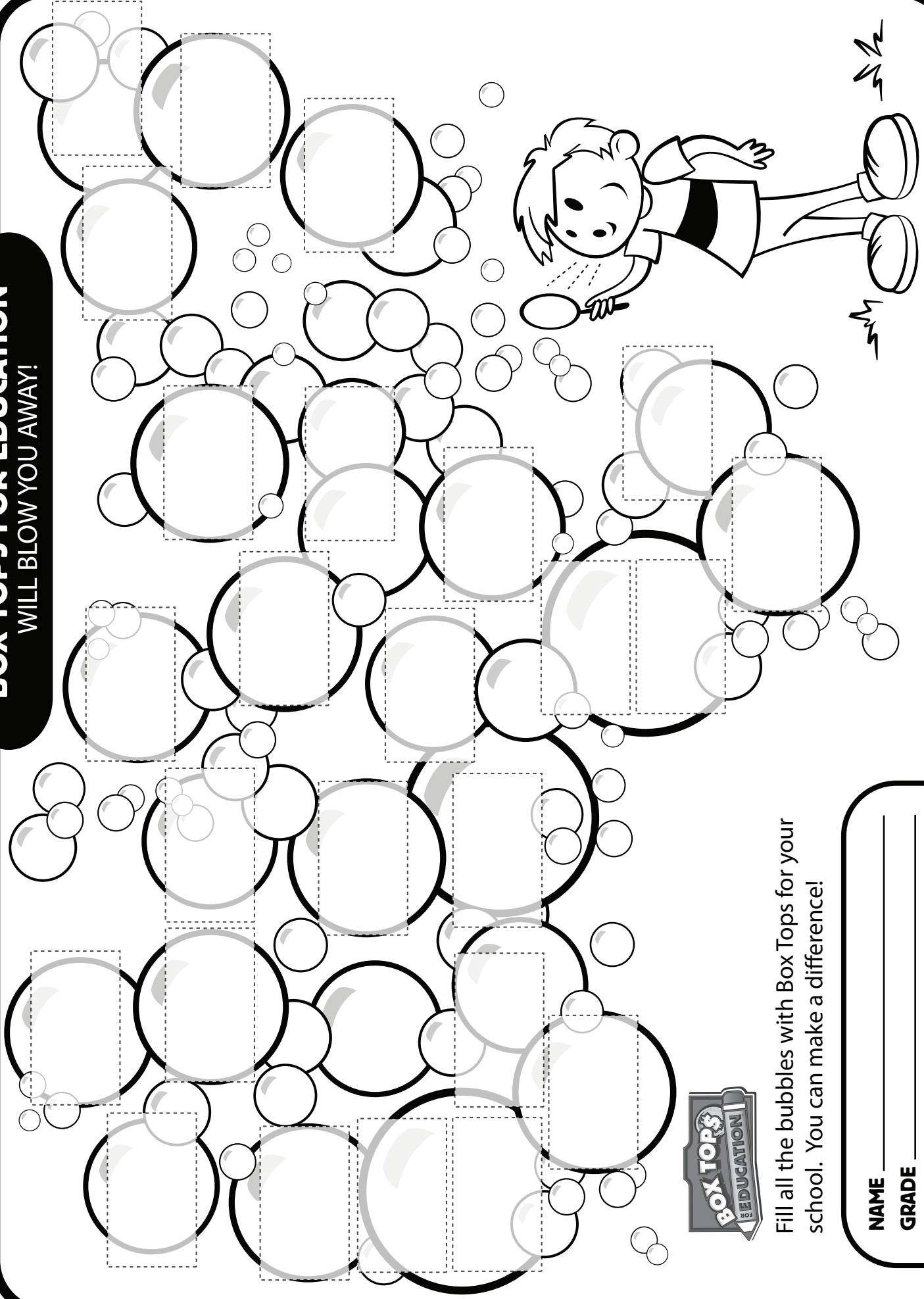
**Earn cash for your school, all summer long!**

As you prepare for summer picnics, reunions and celebrations, think Box Tops, and the many products that will help you earn cash for your school. You'll find a complete listing of participating products at [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com).

Each month, help your child color, decorate and attach 10 Box Tops to that month's collection sheet.

In the fall, bring them back to class to earn much-needed cash for your school!

**BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION**  
WILL BLOW YOU AWAY!



Fill all the bubbles with Box Tops for your school. You can make a difference!

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
GRADE \_\_\_\_\_  
TEACHER'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_



## Camp Hillside



The Hillside Special Area teachers in cooperation with the Hillside PTO are conducting a camp this summer for any child currently enrolled at Hillside.

This year's camp day will run from 9:00am to 12 noon.

During each day the children will go to every Special Area subject. The following subjects will be taught.

### Physical Education:

The children will play a variety of games during the camp. These games will be the favorites from this year. Weather permitting; the outside session will consist of water games that the children have played during field day.

### Art:

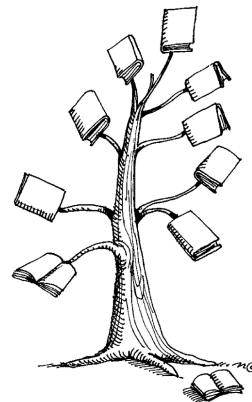
Children will be creating with a variety of art media. They will weave, paint, and draw! Some art activities will take place in the classroom, others will be outdoors!

### Applied Technology:

Students will use a variety of programs and websites including games and productivity software.

### Library:

Come cool off in the library! We will be having story time for each group once a day.



We would ask that all children bring a snack, as there will be a modified recess in the schedule.

**Please check all that apply: If you can not attend the entire session, please circle the days in which you wish to attend.**

Session 1: June 27<sup>th</sup>, June 28<sup>th</sup>, June 29<sup>th</sup>, June 30<sup>th</sup>: (\$100) **OR**  Session 1: Mon. Tues. Wed, Thurs (\$30/day)

Session 2: July 5<sup>th</sup>, July 6<sup>th</sup>, July 7<sup>th</sup>, July 8<sup>th</sup> (\$100) **OR**  Session 2: Tues. Wed. Thurs, Friday (\$30/day)

Total Full Sessions Cost = \$ _____ (cost per student for full week sessions)	Total Days _____ @ <b>\$30 per day</b> = \$ _____ (cost per student if <b>NOT</b> attending the full week sessions)
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**\*\*Checks payable to the Hillside PTO\*\***

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade as per 2010-2011 school year: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please return by May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011. A minimum of thirty children per session is required. More information will follow after the May 30<sup>th</sup> deadline. If you have any questions, please call Mr. Pechin at 610-240-2507.*

**Waiver:**  
*I wish to have my child participate in Camp Hillside. I recognize that risk of accident and/or injury are possible consequences of participation in any activity. I also understand that severe injuries are possible. I appreciate the character of the risks involved and I voluntarily assume all risk of injury. In accepting this risk, I expressly and explicitly release, discharge and waive any and all responsibility of employees of, Tredyffrin-Easttown School District, and Hillside PTO of any and all of the foregoing, pertaining or related to, or arising from, in any manner, injuries to my child as a result of participation in this activity.*

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

All emergency and medical information (including emergency contacts) will be taken from the Emergency Medical Card that is on file in the office. If you have any additional information or changes please submit to Mr. Pechin.

**Please return permission slip and payment to Mr. Kevin Pechin by May 30<sup>th</sup> 2011.**







# School Board Update



Summaries of School Board Committee Meetings for **May 2011**

Visit [www.tesd.net](http://www.tesd.net) and click on 'School Board' for meeting dates, agendas and minutes.  
The public is warmly invited to all Committee meetings.

## **Education Committee, Chair: Betsy Fadem**

Prepared by: Committee Chair

The May Education Committee meeting began with a follow-up discussion concerning the staffing configuration for the reduced counselor staff at each Middle School. The Middle School principals joined the Committee and led the discussion. The principals recommended that each of the three counselors would be assigned to one full grade of students and the remaining grade would be divided among the three counselors. Each year, the counselors would retain the students from each grade to minimize the likelihood of students changing to a different counselor during their middle school years. The Committee accepted this recommendation and this plan will be implemented in the 2011-2012 school year.

The next item of business for the Committee was to receive a report from the administration on T/E's e-Strategic Plan. It was noted that the Academic Standards and Assessment Report Mid-point Review reflects revisions to the District curricula and graduation requirements. Overall it was reported that all goals and strategies remain the same and that the revisions do not represent "substantive changes to the e-Strategic Plan. Next, the administration presented a new Professional Education Report. Both reports were approved by the Committee and will be recommended for approval to the full Board as part of the consent agenda at the June 13<sup>th</sup> School Board meeting.

For information purposes, the administration presented the Curricular Review process that is used in the T/E School District.

## **Facilities Committee, Chair: Pete Motel**

Prepared by: Administrative Liaison

The Facilities Committee met on May 20, 2011. The Committee opened the meeting with a public comments section and heard from a citizen concerning the District's landscaping contractor. The Committee also heard comments from the Conestoga High School Baseball and Football Coach concerning the proposed bio-retention swale scheduled for this summer at CHA. The Committee supported the purchase a temporary fence to be used on the baseball field as a barrier between the field and proposed bio-retention swale.

The Committee heard a report on the status of the District's construction projects. The Committee was informed that the

property on First Avenue will need to be reseeded due to heavy rainfall washing the initial seeding away. The Committee was also updated on the status of the lead water and radon testing that is routinely performed in the school buildings. The Committee then reviewed and approved this summer's NEES roofing project and a portion of the Architect fees for the development of the District's maintenance and storage facilities. The Committee discussed and agreed to the first phase of a multi-year replacement lighting project for the gyms and parking lots throughout the District. The fixtures will be more energy efficient and are projected to save the District about \$15,000 for the upcoming budget year.

The Committee agreed to continue the vehicle replacement plan for a variety of District vehicles at the level comparable to last years purchases from the capital funds.

Finally the Committee reviewed and discussed possible changes to the District's use of facility policy. The Committee did not take any action on the proposed changes and will continue the discussion at future meetings.

## **Finance Committee, Chair: Kevin Mahoney**

Prepared by: Administrative Liaison

The Finance Committee met on Monday May 2, 2011 in the Conestoga High School Cafeteria at 7:30 p.m. The administration started the meeting by presenting a review of the budget development process to date. The Committee reviewed all of the budget reduction strategies approved to date, the current budget shortfall including all approved strategies to date, and the remaining strategies to close a projected budget shortfall.

The administration presented a budget reduction strategy to charge students a sports and activity participation fee. The Committee asked clarifying questions however no decision was made.

The Committee discussed four different budget scenarios and their respective five year projection models. The Committee selected the budget scenario with expenditures in the amount of \$110,250,644 to be used for the proposed final budget presented at the May 9, 2011 meeting for the Board's approval.

Finally the Committee had a short discussion on the development of an earned income tax study group and timeline.

## **Policy Committee, Chair: Kevin Buraks**

Prepared by: Administrative Liaison

The Policy Committee began the April 6 meeting by continuing its review of a **possible new advertising policy**. The District has been examining the feasibility of advertising as a strategy to increase revenues to close projected budget gaps for 2011-12 and beyond. The Committee charged the administration with doing a Request for Proposals (RFP) to allow for broader outreach to and response from vendors and to emphasize that vendor selection will be competitive should the District decide to implement advertising as a revenue strategy. The Committee will receive an update at its June 8<sup>th</sup> meeting.

The Policy Committee continued its discussion of **Policy 3100: Budget Development Process**. The Committee reviewed the revisions made to Policy 3100: Budget Development since its April 6<sup>th</sup> meeting. Following detailed discussion, the Committee asked the District Solicitor to make modifications. Committee discussion will continue at its June 8<sup>th</sup> meeting.

The Committee turned its attention to **Policy 6111: School Calendar**. Committee members reviewed changes made to Policy 6111: School Calendar following the April 6<sup>th</sup> meeting. The policy was recommended for a first reading before the Board at the May 9, 2011 meeting.

**Policy 4200: Absences and Leaves Due to Illness, Injury and Disability prompted** extensive discussion. The Committee asked Ken Roos to craft a policy that differentiates among employee classes. Committee members will receive an update at its June 8<sup>th</sup> meeting.

With a focus on **Policy 9330: Formation of New and Revision of Existing Board Policies**, the Committee discussed the current practice of first and second readings. The Committee recommended the policy for a first reading before the Board at the May 9, 2011 meeting.

The next item of business was the Committee's consideration of whether to develop a **new policy concerning Board resolutions and public advocacy**. The Committee discussed whether the Board, as a deliberative body, should task itself with writing and adopting motions or crafting statements that contribute to state or federal education policy debate. The discussion will continue at the June 8<sup>th</sup> Policy Committee meeting and at the June 14<sup>th</sup> Public Information Committee.

The Committee also considered whether there is a need for a **new policy on communication to parents of school violations**. The administration discussed the importance of protecting students and families by restricting access to sensitive, personal information. The Committee concluded that there is no need for a policy that informs parents or the general school district community of school violations.

The Committee then turned its attention to **Policy and Regulation 3185: Fund Balances Management**. After brief discussion, the Committee asked the District Solicitor

to install new language to reflect additional guidelines and standards for a fund balance. The Committee recommended the policy for a second reading at the May Board meeting.

In the 2600 policy series, the Committee recommended the **Repeal of Policy 2621: First-Level Supervisors, Repeal of Policy 2631: Right to Appeal, and Repeal of Policy 2632: Salaries of Administrative Staff** for a second reading before the Board at their meeting on May 9, 2011.

Finally, the Committee reviewed revisions made to **Regulation 5001: Verification of Residence**, which now aligns with revised Policy and Regulation 5116: Nonresident Students, as well as approved job descriptions for T/E School District education professionals.

## **Public Information Committee, Chair: Debbie Bookstaber**

Prepared by: Administrative Liaison

The Public Information Committee met on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. The Committee reviewed the District's legislative action plan and made suggestions for change. The Committee recommended that a subgroup of Board members and staff members to review legislative issues, develop draft legislative resolutions as needed and then present the resolutions for a full Board vote. The subgroup will meet to discuss possible Board resolutions on economic furloughing and general school funding issues.

The Committee requested that the administration post the District's e-newsletter, *t/e news*, on the District's Facebook pages. The Committee recommended that, at this time, the e-newsletter be the only information posted on the District's Facebook pages.

The Committee recommended that the summer *TE Board Talk* program feature the 2011-2012 budget, personnel change in the Student Services Office and a student-focused item. The program will air at the end of June and continue throughout the summer.

The administration presented topics for the summer *T/E Insight* community newsletter. Topics include a budget overview, National Merit Scholars, personnel changes and other student items.

The Committee discussed the development of a Tax Study Group to study the effect that an Earned Income Tax (EIT) would have on the T/E School District and its residents. The charge of the Tax Study Group will be to present the pros and cons of an EIT to the School Board and community members at public meetings in the fall of 2011. A postcard regarding the Tax Study Group will be mailed to all tax payers on May 16, 2011. Interested community members may submit an application on-line at [www.tesd.net](http://www.tesd.net) or pick up a paper application from the Business Office at the TESD Administration Offices. All applications must be submitted by June 15, 2011. Community members selected for the Tax Study Group will be notified after June 20, 2011.

The Committee requested that the proposed final budget be posted on the TESD web site once it is finalized.