

Folger McKinsey PTO Newsletter

www.folgerpto.org

September 2009

*This year's theme...Change is in the Air!
The start of something big!!*

A Note from the PTO President

In an age of budget cuts and belt-tightening, I want to offer another theme...*Change is in the Air!* Our school's revitalization has been approved! The PTO has a new, more straight-forward approach to fundraising and we will challenge our children with new and engaging educational programs and activities! Change is inevitable and even hopeful. It's what keeps us pushing forward. By creating and adapting to new ways of doing things, your PTO team will do all we can to support our community.

Thanks so much- to all of you who helped make our class list celebration a success! We had numerous volunteers in both adults and children working to ensure that the needs of our community were met. Though the weather sent us packing, we hope that your child felt comfortable seeing their classmates and getting back into the routine of the new school year. My thanks go out to many, but this time, I wish to acknowledge Jill Newbill and Nicki Mizer. They were tireless and jumped in with both hands when needed! Another dynamic duo that deserves mentioning is our Volunteer Coordinator team. All last spring and over the summer, Lynda Gregg and Sue Wright worked hard to ensure that everyone who wanted a volunteer position had the opportunity. Be on the lookout for a Volunteer packet that will be sent home in backpacks. *And, thanks to all of you- for always helping out!*

With so much enthusiasm from our parents and children, I am confident that this will be a wonderful year at Folger! The new PTO Board has worked all summer to ensure that we support the students and teachers. We have a budget of \$25,000 to meet through direct donations, grants, advertising, and community fundraisers. **WE CAN DO IT!!** That money will allow us to purchase everything from transferable technology, to cultural arts programs and everything in between! Change is exciting, and the new school year brings only wonderful anticipation for unlimited achievements by our children. That's why we're here. That's what is important. That's the PTO purpose: To support the educational needs and well being of the students at Folger McKinsey Elementary.

I look forward to an amazing year!
Karen Reynolds

PTO Board of Directors 2009-2010

President: Karen Reynolds
VP Finance: Wendi Greim
VP Administration: Kelly Cornacchia
VP Programs: Anna O'Connor
Secretary: Kristie Chisolm
Treasurer: Karen Muessig



September 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 No School Labor Day	8 9-11a PTO Meeting	9	10 7:00 Back to School Night	11	12
13	14	15 8:00 Community Sponsored Breakfast	16 Cult. Arts Assembly "Character Counts"	17 Media Book Fair Starts	18 PTO Membership deadline to appear in the directory -----	19
20	21 Book Fair newsletter deadline	22 -----	23 10:00 Room Parent & Volunteer Orientation (Courtyard) -----	24 Picture Day -----	25 Interims -----→	26
27	28 No School Yom Kippur	29	30			

"Press Release" from the PTO Board

Welcome Back!! This year is full of fresh and exciting changes for Folger, with new ways of doing things. We have highlighted some main points that you need to know...

New Principal...Mrs. Bachmann, our new leader!

- A technology authority! She will blend instruction fundamentals with technology tools and educational software to provide the best educational experience for our children.
- She will lead us through our revitalization. Her experience with school construction and depth of knowledge is so exciting.
- FASST Math – a software initiative for the entire school! A comprehensive, computer-based program designed to help students develop fluency with basic math facts. This supplemental program automatically differentiates instruction and practice based on each student's individual fluency gaps. The computer assesses each student and provides adaptive instruction to reinforce conceptual understanding and memory connections of basic math facts with daily 10 minute sessions. We love this program, and wish to support it. To purchase this for the entire school, the cost is \$8,500. (That's where you come in!) The good news is that it can continue to be used at Folger long after its revitalization. Basic math facts don't change. But the way they are presented to our children should change with the times.

Speaking of Fundraising... We listened- and we have a new plan! This year, we are taking a page out of Oak Hill's PTO success and asking our families for a direct donation to the PTO in addition to the dues that are collected at the beginning of the year. If each family donated during our Direct Donation Campaign, we would be well on our way to making our \$25,000 budget. You can help the PTO purchase those math and reading programs that help your children succeed! That's money well-spent!

Direct Donations.... What is it?

- No more wrapping paper, door-to-door sale solicitations from our students or nickel and diming!!
- You can donate all at once or even monthly!
- Your donation is confidential and your business. You give what is right for your family.
- Without traditional fundraising, the responsibility of our funding relies solely on your contributions. MORE GOOD NEWS is that 100% of your donation goes directly to the PTO. No more split donations with a fundraising company!
- ***Your Direct Donation contribution is 100% tax deductible!!*** (Your canceled check is your receipt)

What does the PTO exactly do for my child/children?

- Provides funding for Cultural Arts programs
- Offers assistance to needy children
- Maintains school grounds and environmental programs
- Hosts several Family Nights, which strengthen the school community through fun and educational programs.
- Gives the teachers supplemental tools which enable them to be better educators. Items as small as electric pencil sharpeners to United Streaming technology programs and reading programs for Special Ed.
- Invests in extensive school-wide educational programs that would otherwise not be purchased to give our students an educational advantage!

All of this information is provided so that you can know what we hope to achieve for the year. Among other things, we want to get computer technology that is transferable and workable right now. Though we are not selling gift wraps and doing fundraising that requires competitive participation or student prizes- we still need each Folger Family to raise funds to support our school. For those of you who are no longer paying tuition to preschool- here's your chance to help! We hope to achieve our goal of \$20,000 by December 2009 during this campaign to support our annual budget. (*Remember, that's a tax deduction!!*) If we don't reach our goal, we will have to go with "Plan B". We do have many ideas from energetic parents who are willing to lead a fundraising effort. The only other event that we are planning to keep is our Folger 5K in the spring. That is a community-based fundraiser which is geared to the entire Severna Park community- not just to Folger Families. Anyone who wants to participate is welcomed and encouraged through a web site registration promoting a healthy, active lifestyle. That kind of event can only serve to strengthen the bond between Folger and the community it serves. We invite you to help our children learn and succeed with programs and items that help teachers help our kids! Thank you- for giving this program your best effort!!

Top Ten Ways to Support Folger McKinsey Elementary School through the PTO

1. Volunteer to help within FMES
2. Become a Folger Hero, Golden Owl, Osprey, Hawk or Folger Friend by donating to FMES
3. Set up On-line searches at www.Goodsearch.com which earn money when you designate FMES
4. Use your Giant Savings Card and/or Safeway Club Card and designate FMES
5. Shop Target and Office Depot and designate FMES
6. Dine at Ledo Pizza on the first Wednesday of each month and mention FMES
7. Send in your inkjet cartridges and cell phones
8. Work on the Folger 5K Fun Run. Volunteer, advertise or donate prizes
9. Cut out Box tops for Education and FMES gets 10 cents each!

10. Join the PTO!

BOX TOPS are Back!

Another school year is here and again we are collecting box tops to earn money for our school. All proceeds from this program go to incentives and supplies for our students. This is a relatively easy way to contribute to our school and enhance our children's education. For each box top received Folgers earns 10 cents. Last year our school earned \$2,961.00. I would like to break that record this year!



Directions for sending in your box tops:

1. cut the box tops around the dotted line.
2. Collect ten or more box tops and place them in a bag with your child's name, teacher's name, and number of box tops.
3. Place the bag in the collection box in the lobby of the school.

The classroom that collects the most box tops during September and October will win a special treat for their classroom. Also, if you go to the official Box Tops website at boxtops4education.com and register - this will earn more money for our school!

Remember we are able to earn a lot of money for our school!

Mad Science

Welcome Back to School! We want to make sure to "Charge up your brains" after a long summer!! Join the Mad Science Group of kids that experiment with Heat, Lights, Sound, and even SLIME! Registration form attached for students to turn in to their teachers. This 8 week Program starts October 12! All Grades Welcome! Call Lynn Koutras 443-570-7220 with questions.

Hilltop School Supplies

There is still time to donate to our Hilltop Elementary school friends. A red box is located in the lobby for children to donate school supplies for the less fortunate. Items that are needed include:

- Pocket Folders
- Marble Composition books
- Crayons
- Glue and Glue Sticks
- Colored Pencils
- Dividers
- 2" Binders



Spiritwear

The school store carries Spiritwear each day so the kids can show off their school spirit! Red and White tops and bottoms, tote bags, binders and travel coffee mugs for parents. Parents will receive an envelope home with requests for Spiritwear clothing from their children when making their selections. Place your money in the envelope for the item and your child can exchange it for their Spiritwear item! We use the envelope for inventory control, so we know what is sold each time and what sizes are requested. We will be sending out order forms via email within the 2nd week of school. We will also have order forms available at Folger's Back to School Night on Sept. 10th. The deadline for all orders is **Sept. 11th**.
Krystine Milewski
krysqmile@cablespeed.com





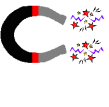

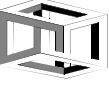





Mad Science of Washington
(301) 593-4777
www.madscience.org/dc

Sensational Science System 2 Registration

8-week Program*

	HARNESSING HEAT: Explore the properties of heat. Watch as sugar transforms into cotton candy before your eyes! You get to eat it too!!		SLIME: Play with polymers and explore chemical reactions. Transform two liquids into an oozing batch of your very own slime!!
	LIGHTS...COLOR...ACTION: Quiet on the set! Become en-light-ened and learn about light. Create Newton's color wheel on your own spinning top!!		SONIC SOUNDS: Stop, look and listen... to all our cool special effects. Change your voice as you use our Multi Effects Sound Machine!!
	MAGNETIC MAGIC: Discover the magic of magnets. Explore magnetic fields and make your own "magnetic magic"!!		TANTALIZING TASTE: Say AHH! Test your senses of taste and smell. Make your own soda pop and yummy gummy drops!!
	OPTICAL ILLUSIONS: Is seeing believing? Explore optics, reflection and sight. Then it's "Up Periscope!" Make your very own cool periscope!!		WATTS UP: Watts up Doc!! Generate electricity, lightning and conduct hair-raising experiments with our Van De Graff Generator!!

*substitutions may occur

POLICIES

- Classes may be cancelled due to low enrollment. If class is canceled due to exigent circumstances (e.g. inclement weather), we will try to reschedule, but cannot guarantee a make up class.
- A full refund (less a \$10 processing fee) will be given if requested in writing and received by Mad Science within 5 business days after the first class.
- MS is not responsible for your child prior to and after the scheduled class. Please make sure you pick up your child on time. A \$10 fee will be imposed for the first 15 mins late, \$25 thereafter.

Day: Monday **Time:** 5:00-6:00 **Start Date:** 10/12/2009 **End Date:** 12/7/2009 **No Class:** 11/23

(Please cut along dotted line and return the bottom portion with your check)

Please return this form & check to the school in an envelope marked "Mad Science"

✂-----✂-----✂-----✂-----✂ **COURSE REGISTRATION FORM** ✂-----✂-----✂-----✂-----✂

Contact/Phone: Lynn Koutras 443-570-7220

Registration Deadline: Wednesday, September 30, 2009

School Folger McKinsey ES

Child's Name _____

Child's Age _____ Birthday ____/____/____ Grade _____ Teacher _____

Address _____

Email Address _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____ Cell/Other Phone _____

Emergency Contact _____ Emergency Contact's Phone _____

Monday 5:00-6:00 8 wk / \$104

Make checks payable to: Folger McKinsey PTO

Return form/check to: School

☐ My child will be picked up by _____ ☐ My child will attend daycare

Health concerns _____

Parent's Name _____ Signature: _____ Date _____ ☐ Please contact me about being a PARENT VOLUNTEER

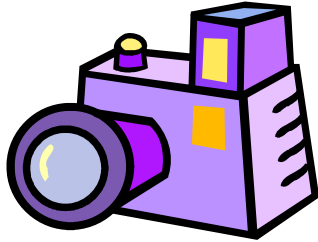
Yearbook

Hi Everyone...

My name is Sandy Savani. I am the coordinator for this year's yearbook. I'm trying to be organized early so we have plenty of time to put together a wonderful keepsake for our kids. I think I enjoy the yearbook even more than the kids! I can't wait for its delivery at the end of each year.

I'm looking for a coordinator from each grade to take pictures in the various classrooms for each party, event or celebration. I especially need pictures from the 5th grade Arlington Echo trip (that's a great time!) ... and we don't want to forget all the other field trips throughout the year. If you are interested in helping out, please email me at FolgerYearbook2010@gmail.com or you may call me at 410-544-1779.

In addition... if there are any great shots that you got of the first day... or do get as the year goes on... please email them to me as well.
Enjoy the year!
Sandy Savani



From the Sponsorship and Advertising Committee

The Sponsorship and Advertising Committee is putting together its plan for the year's corporate partnerships. At this time, we are selling ads for the famous Folger Family directory. These ads are a great bargain because they provide year round exposure to several hundred families, and you know that we're always pulling out the directory for something. If you are interested in purchasing an ad for your business, or have suggestions for businesses that we might contact, please let me know via email at khorrell@mail.com. In future months, we will be looking for sponsors for our evening events, such as story night, and for the 5K run. Newsletter sponsorship opportunities may be changing so we are not actively selling those ads at this time. Thank you for your help with this important source of revenue.

Business Recycling Program

Folger recycles used items such as ink jet cartridges and cell phones. These items can be placed in the collection box in the front lobby. All proceeds will go directly to our school

Weekly Folger Updates

Weekly Folger Updates will be emailed over the weekend. If you would like your announcement included, please email Karen Reynolds at teamreyn@verizon.net by Thursday of each week. If you are not receiving Folger Updates by e-mail, please send an e-mail to Kathie Hamlett at sons4me2@yahoo.com to be added, or you can join the group by going to FolgerMcKinseyE-mail-subscribe@yahoo.com

Greeter Desk

Welcome new families and welcome back to those returning to Folger. The greeter desk is in need of several smiling faces! For those of you new to our school, the school remains locked during school hours.

Greeters are responsible for welcoming people into the school, signing in those who are staying, and collecting forgotten items such as lunch boxes and books. It's a great way to volunteer. You have an opportunity to meet many new parents and say hello to those you already know. If you schedule your time when your child eats lunch or has gym class, you have an opportunity to see him or her in action. There are 3 two hour shifts each day – 8:45-10:45, 10:45-12:45, and 12:45- 2:45. You are free to sign up to do 1 shift a week, 1 shift a month or a 1 time trial shift with no commitments. Training will be provided for all new greeters. If interested please contact me at chestertaylorpllusfour@yahoo.com or 410-544-2803.

Thanks and have a great school year!
Laura Chester

Cub Scouts

The Cub Scouts will have their Back to School Night on **Thursday, Sept. 3rd, from 7-9 in the Folger McKinsey Multi Purpose Room.** If you are interested in joining scouts and/or learning more about our pack, please plan to join us. There will be several leaders available to answer any questions you may have.

DID YOU KNOW?.....



Last year, with all of your help, Folger McKinsey was able to earn **6,459** points towards free merchandise such as computers, audio/visual equipment, physical education equipment, reference books, musical instruments or even a mini-van? The *Labels for Education*SM program is a great way to get FREE merchandise for our school and it's even better this year. To meet our goals, we need to collect 6,500 points.

It's easy to pitch in. Simply save product proofs of purchase (just the UPC codes except for V8 drinks which are the caps) from any of the following eligible Campbell products and send them to school:

- Campbell's® soups
- SpaghettiOs® Pasta
- Campbell's® beans, gravies, and canned pasta
- Prego® Italian sauces
- Swanson® broths and canned poultry
- Campbell's® tomato juice
- Pepperidge Farm® breads, cookies, crackers, and frozen products
- Campbell's Foodservice products

The following products are worth **5** points for the 2009-2010 program year!:

- 26 varieties of condensed soup in specially marked cans
- All Campbell's® Microwavable Soups
- All V8® Soups
- All Campbell's® Select Harvest™ Soups
- SpaghettiOs® Pasta (Original and Meatball)

Visit labelsforeducation.com for a complete list of eligible products and point values.

Please help multiply our efforts by asking your friends and family to collect proofs of purchase on behalf of our school. The 2009-2010 program runs until June 1, 2010

If you have any questions, or would like to help with our *Labels for Education* collection drive, please contact our program coordinator Nodia Gilbert at 410-544-5357.



Folger McKinsey PTO Fundraising

2009-2010

Welcome to the Folger McKinsey Elementary school year 2009/ 10! The PTO is a very active and enthusiastic group of parents and teachers. Through fundraising, we strive to support our students and teachers with whatever is needed to allow them to achieve their goals—from the simplest requests to the most updated technology, including:

- *SOFTWARE PROGRAMS*
- *CULTURAL ARTS PROGRAMS*
- *COMMUNITY SERVICE*
- *TEACHER TRAINING*
- *FAMILY NIGHTS*
- *LANDSCAPING*

This year, in lieu of multiple fundraisers, we are asking you for a direct charitable donation (optional, of course!) whereby 100% of your funds will go to the Folger McKinsey PTO without having to buy products or solicit the help of family and friends. We hope that with your confidential contribution, we can together reach our goal of \$20,000 to fund those programs and items that support the education and well-being of our Folger students. Be on the lookout for a thermometer in the lobby which will help map our progress! Any amount that you can give is very much appreciated.

DID YOU KNOW? 100% of your donation is tax-deductible!!

Fundraising Donation: Please check the appropriate box

I don't want to sell gift wrap! Put me down for:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Folger Hero	Over \$100 _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Golden Owl	\$100
<input type="checkbox"/>	Osprey	\$75
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hawk	\$50
<input type="checkbox"/>	Folger Friend	Any amount _____



**Please make your tax-deductible checks payable to: "Folger McKinsey PTO".*

Thank you so much for your support!