

January 2009



# Myron J. Francis Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization

Rumford · Rhode Island

## From the PTO President

By Leslie Tente

Happy New Year to all! I hope that you enjoyed your holidays and vacation from school! The month of December went by so quickly, and I know many of you share my sentiment that it is hard to believe that we are already back to school!

While the month of January can sometimes be a letdown after the hustle and bustle of the holiday season, we here at Francis School returned to school with **Food Bank Bingo** to look forward to! On Friday night, January 9<sup>th</sup>, the school came together for an evening of family fun for a special cause.

As always, a wonderful time was had by all, and an impressive \$1170 was raised for East Bay Community Action Program!

The PTO would like to thank **Sonda Pimental and Andi White** for once again chairing this beloved event. Their efforts as well as the efforts of the many volunteers who baked and donated raffles, made this yet another night to be treasured by all.

Francis Families will have the opportunity to gather together again on January 19<sup>th</sup> for the PTO sponsored "Restaurant Night" at **Papa Gino's** on Newport Avenue in East Providence. During the hours of 4pm and 8pm, Francis families can enjoy delicious food (either at the restaurant or as a take-out), and proceeds from the sales will go to the MJF PTO. Can anyone think of a more perfect excuse not to cook?

The PTO will be sponsoring "Restaurant Nights" during the month of February at Gregg's Restaurant. Keep an eye out for further details in the weeks to come!

Also in February, the **Sweetheart Dance** will take place on Friday, February 6<sup>th</sup> in the school's gymnasium. **Erin Tewksbury** will be chairing this very special evening for the girls of Francis school.

As the PTO board prepares for our **next meeting on February 4 at 7:00 in the school library**, our treasurers have been busy tabulating final numbers for the Fall Fundraiser (see Treasurers' Corner).

The PTO would like to thank our school community for their participation in the Fall Fundraiser, and a special thank you goes out to our fundraising chairs: Angela Kondon, Erin Tewksbury, and Cheryl Sheehy, for all of their hard work and effort in organizing this important fundraiser.

The PTO is grateful for the continuous support and generosity shown by the MJF school community!

## A Note from Our Principal

Dear Myron J. Francis Families,

This month we will witness American History when President-Elect Barack Obama is sworn in as the 44<sup>th</sup> President of the United States. How fitting that Inauguration Day is the day after the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday. I imagine that Martin Luther King, Jr. would be extremely pleased.

Best wishes for a New Year filled with hope, peace, health, and happiness.

Sincerely,

Lloydanne Leddy, Principal  
laleddy@epschoolsri.com

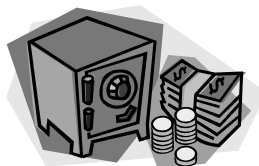
## Box Tops Update

Once again, Francis families continue to show their generosity! Through the collection of 98 Box tops sheets by Francis students, 98 cans of food was donated to the East Providence food bank through the sponsorship of Stop & Shop. Be on the look out for a special Box Tops collection sheet to go home in the upcoming weeks with individual prizes awarded for all participants!



## Treasurers' Corner

Our final numbers are in for the Fall Fundraiser. The total amount raised from the Ideal/Otis Spunkmeyer portion of the fundraiser was \$5849. An additional \$1554 was raised at the holiday shopping night. Combined with the funds raised through the sale of the Entertainment Books (\$1530), the net amount raised totals \$8932. In addition, \$796 has been brought in through the gift card program to date.



Expenses for the past two months totaled \$271. We purchased paper and library supplies, as well as popcorn and Box Tops incentives.

· We're online at <http://francispto.com> ·

## Introducing a New Program ...

Dear Parents and Families,

The teacher and staff here at Francis school are excited and eager to tell you about the SWPBIS program being introduced this year. SWPBIS stands for "School-Wide Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports." This is a program that all of the elementary schools in East Providence will be instituting or have instituted in their school. The Meadowcrest preschool has also started with PBIS this year.

SWPBIS is a systems approach to enhancing the capacity of schools to support and educate all students. SWPBIS encompasses a proactive approach to school-wide discipline with three levels of prevention/intervention to address the needs of students. It is a process for individualized and sustained decision making, planning and problem solving. It is not a curriculum but rather a program designed to help teachers and staff implement strategies for school-wide success for all students. We will continue to inform families as the SWPBIS process continues to develop and grow here at Francis.

Kristin Branco  
Speech Therapist

## MJF Yearbook

We're looking for your great photos from school events this year to include in the MJF Yearbook. If you would like to contribute your pictures, please e-mail digital copies to **MJFyearbook@gmail.com** or submit prints directly to the school office in an envelope marked **YEARBOOK**.

If you have any questions, please call Michelle Rogers at 438-2397.



## Invitation to an Investment Seminar

During this time of financial uncertainty, many people are looking for ways to invest their money wisely in order to ensure their financial future.

Therefore, the PTO is sponsoring an **Investment Seminar** for the MJF school community on Thursday, February 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 in the school library.

The seminar will be conducted by Mr. Jeff Gagnon, Financial Service Representative for Members Financial Services (which has an affiliation with Navigant Credit Union).

Mr. Gagnon will outline the following information:

1. Market Overview
2. General savings and investment vehicles
3. Bear market reactions - What Not to Do
4. Vehicles for college savings and the implications of these vehicles
5. Is your child's future protected?

We encourage the MJF community to take advantage of this free seminar. Navigant is new to the Rumford area, and has already been a generous sponsor to our organization. Refreshments will be provided. We hope that you will find this evening to be not only informative, but fun and relaxing as

