

February 2009



Myron J. Francis Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization

Rumford · Rhode Island

From the PTO President

By Leslie Tente

During the months of January and February we New Englanders have had to endure some very cold temperatures and very snowy days! However, all of this cold and snow has not stopped MJF from experiencing a "flurry" of activities inside our school as well.

Love was in the air on Friday night, February 6th, as the young ladies of MJF shared a special evening with the special men in their lives at the **Sweetheart Dance**. Great food, terrific raffles (even an American Girl Doll – thank you to the generous family who donated her!) and music made for a most magical evening. The MJF PTO would like to thank Erin Tewksbury and Angela Kondon for chairing this event. Further, a big thank you goes out to all of the volunteers that baked, donated raffles and helped out during the dance helping make it an incredible success.

Wonderful events like the Sweetheart Dance are only possible because of the tireless efforts of our volunteers!

When we all return from Winter Break, March will be right around the corner, and so starts the beginning of the **After School Program** (March 3rd–26th). Once again, Michelle Rogers and Sheila Vandal have lined up a diverse array of class offerings that will serve to educate and enrich the students of MJF. Thank you to Sheila and Michelle!

Mark your calendar... on March 13th from 6:00 to 8:30, the boys and the special women in their lives will have the opportunity to share an evening of great food and entertainment at the **Boys' Mad Science Event**. Leslie Tente and Leslie Hey will be co-chairing this fun-filled evening. The boys and their escorts will be entertained and mesmerized by Mad Science of Southeastern Massachusetts. A delicious dinner buffet from Uncle Tony's of East Providence will be served along with delicious desserts from Gregg's Restaurant and Scialo's County Bakery! More information will be forthcoming so stayed tuned. If anyone is interested in donating a raffle prize or helping out that evening, please contact Leslie Tente at 438-4388 or at TentLD@aol.com, or Leslie Hey at 434-4184.

I wish you all an enjoyable and relaxing Winter Break!

A Note from Our Principal

Dear Francis Families,

The Fall 2008 NECAP (New England Common Assessment Program) scores have been released by the Rhode Island Department of Education. The students at Myron Francis School had excellent results:

1. 84% of Francis students were proficient in Reading
2. 84% of Francis students were proficient in Math
3. 82% of Francis students were proficient in Writing

There are many factors such as best teaching practices, a strong home-school connection, and student motivation that contribute to this success.

As Principal, I am extremely proud of the Francis School community and our accomplishments.

Have a great February Winter Vacation!

Sincerely,

Lloydanne Leddy, Principal
laleddy@epschoolsri.com



Lights! Action!! Book Fair!!!

Let reading make you a Star!

The next Scholastic Book Fair will be held Tuesday-Thursday, March 24th-26th. Book Fair at Night will take place on Wednesday, March 25th.

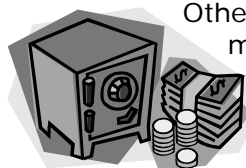
Crazy for Cookbooks

Is there a cookbook gathering dust in your kitchen? Donate it to Crazy for Cookbooks! Do you yearn for a new cookbook? Come visit the school foyer for Crazy for Cookbooks!

We are selling donated cookbooks to raise money for the March Scholastic Book Fair. Simply select a book and donate whatever amount you wish to! The office will be glad to collect your money. Any books not purchased will be donated to the Johnson & Wales Cookbook Library.

Treasurers' Corner

We were very fortunate to receive a Senate Legislative Grant this past month for \$2500. We send a special thank you to Senator Moura and Leslie Tente for making this possible. Mrs. Leddy was also successful in receiving a grant from Target for \$800. This will be used to help defray the costs of the third graders' upcoming field trip to Biomes. We also received a grant of \$375 from Navigant to help with the costs of the upcoming boys' event. Thank you to Mrs. Tente for her efforts in making this possible and to the good folks at Navigant for their continued support of Francis School.



Other income received this past month includes \$1187 from Box Tops (chaired by Patricia Buteau), \$125 from the Roller Skating Party (chaired by Leslie Hey), a record-setting \$2185 raised at the Sweetheart Dance (chaired by Erin Tewksbury and Angela Kondon), and \$225 raised through a new fundraising mechanism, the 50/50 Raffle. The fundraising committee (Erin Tewksbury, Angela Kondon, and Cheryl Sheehy) tried the raffle for the first time at our general membership meeting earlier this month. They raised \$35 for the PTO and Alison Drainville went home \$30 richer! The raffle was then done again at the Sweetheart Dance. The proud winner was Holly Tente (2nd grade, Mrs. Macnie's class). She took home \$190, and so did the PTO!

Expenses for the past month totaled \$187. We purchased supplies for the art room (\$47) and restocked our laminating film supply (\$140).

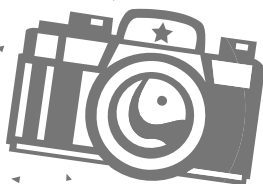
MJF Yearbook

Last call for photos!

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.

Also, please note that yearbooks are now on sale. They are \$10 each and will be distributed to the students the first week of June. Please send in your orders by the end of February.



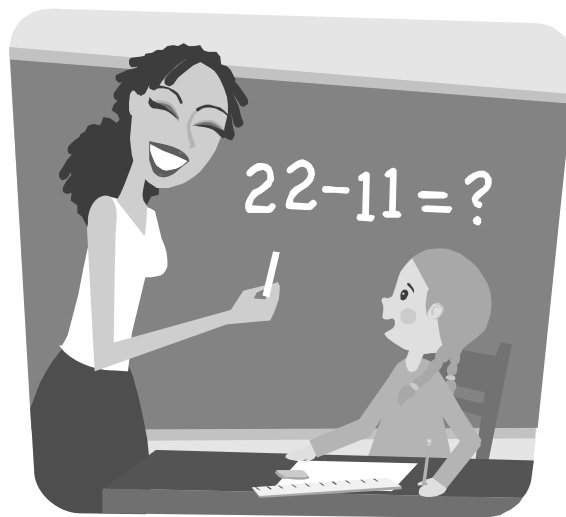
In Appreciation of Our Teachers

The following letter was signed by many parents attending our last PTO meeting and was presented to the teachers of Myron J. Francis. Regardless of politics at this difficult time, we do hope that our teachers know how very much we appreciate everything they do in service of our children.

We, the parents of the PTO, wish to share with the teachers of Francis our respect and admiration. We honor your commitment to your chosen profession. We value your talent and the gift of teaching you share with our children. And yes, we wonder with thankful disbelief at your continued dedication to our children in the face of less than kind sentiments that are being bandied about.

We are your parent volunteers. We have been in your classroom. We know how hard you work. We know the joy teaching gives you. We know how much you give to our children each day.

And we thank you.



Thank You