

PTA® ROCKS!

A Publication for the Parents of Ben Bowen Early Childhood Center



Join PTA and support
YOUR children
YOUR teachers
YOUR school...
Be a Star!

End of Year Update • June 2009

2008-2009... A Year in Review

If you wonder what PTA does for Ben Bowen ECC and are curious as to where your fundraising dollars go, just check out this list of activities and events PTA sponsored or assisted with this school year!

August • Meet Your PTA Dessert Event for Teachers & Staff. Classroom supply boxes were given to each classroom filled with "extras" for the year including hand sanitizer, paper towels, playdough, glitter, dry erase markers, cardstock and more from PTA! "PTA Rocks" Newsletter & website were created and launched.

September • Meet the Teacher Night Membership Drive. Parent Orientation Membership Drive. (For the year, BBECC PTA had close to 200 members.) Room Mom orientation meeting. Custom designed "Ben Bowen Rocks!" Spirit Shirts and Grade Level shirts sold.

October • Battery/Pretzel Fundraiser (This fundraiser brought in over \$1500). Organized Bank Day Savings Program volunteers and ran program each week. (Thank you Terri McCloskey for organizing volunteers and running this program!) Fall Book Fair - provided volunteers to prepare and run week long event (PTA benefitted \$1000 plus gave \$2000 worth of books back to classrooms). Donuts with Dad event showed great parent involvement! Kicked off Label Program which brought over \$1400! (Keep those labels coming!)

November • Fall Crafts were provided to all students by PTA and Room Moms worked with their classes to complete.

December • PTA offered a reimbursement program to Room Moms each up to \$40 for Christmas parties to alleviate any out-of-pocket expenses. (However, some room moms did not

request a reimbursement and left their part in the PTA fund as a donation.)

All students enjoyed the Nana Puddin' Show that included puppetry, magic and ventriloquists! PTA volunteers assisted with Rodeo Art Show preparation and working with students on their artwork. PTA teamed up with Nurse Oliphant for National Handwashing Awareness Week with a week long program that included a skit for all students and daily giveaways such as coloring books, book marks, handouts, and stickers. Pictures with Santa was a treat for students.

January • Write A Check Fundraiser kicks off. Total raised was \$2640! PTA began monthly label drawing giveaway which included WebKinz and Build A Bear Gift Cards as prizes!

February • Reimbursed Room Moms each up to \$40 for Valentine parties to alleviate out-of-pocket expenses. Spring Book Fair - provided volunteers to prepare and run week long event for benefitting BBECC library. Morning with Moms showed super parent involvement. Kicked off School Mall program. This raised \$750 and provided cool Scooby Doo t-shirts to many participants who made their goals! PTA sponsored the Pre K Cowboy Breakfast Event as their grade level event. Monthly label drawing giveaway

March • Spring Membership Drive. Founder's Day Event honored five community members with Texas PTA Lifetime membership and celebrated those current Lifetime members.

Yearbook committee designed this year's book after having taken photos of students, teachers and staff throughout the year. Monthly label drawing giveaway.

April • Volunteer Appreciation Day. PTA sponsored Kindergarten Field Trip to Old MacDonald's Farm as their grade level event. Pizza Lunch w/Principal, Jay the Juggler Performance, and Dunking Booth Event took place (incentive prizes from Write A Check fundraiser).

May • Yearbook sales! (Not many left, get yours at the front office today!) For Field Day, PTA provided three inflatables, popsicles for students, free drinks for parents/staff plus volunteers to assist at posts throughout. PTA sponsored First Grade Performance of Winnie the Pooh by Main Street Theater as their gradelevel event. Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week - PTA coordinated with volunteers to provide two great lunches for 50+ teachers/staff and provided other daily items/events to appreciate them. All students enjoyed The Ned Show performance - Never give up, Encourage others and Do your best as it's message. PTA sold Ned products for one week in order to bring in the show at no cost to school. Tape the Principal to the Wall event was hilarious (prize from Write A Check fundraiser)...see picture and more at PTA website! Speaking of website, www.PTArocks.org has had over 2000 visitors. We'll be there during the summer and again next year! Stay tuned...

PTA®
everychild.onevoice.®

PTA comprises nearly 6 million parents and other concerned adults devoted to the educational success of children and the promotion of parent involvement in schools. PTA is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that prides itself on being a powerful voice for all children, a relevant resource for families and communities, and a strong advocate for public education. Membership in PTA is open to anyone who is concerned with the education, health, and welfare of children and youth.



"Whatever it takes, our kids are worth it!"

Volunteers make PTA Honor Roll

Volunteers, YOU Rock!

The PTA Board would like to thank all the wonderful volunteer Parents, Grandparents and Friends who gave their time in helping with the many events and programs throughout this school year. We also thank those who supported fundraisers so we could provide special programs, activities and events for our students. Thanks for being someone who makes a difference!

Special thanks goes out to all the Room Moms who worked so hard throughout the year organizing class parties and classroom crafts, coordinating with teachers and parents, and lending their teachers an extra large hand. You've done a great job!

If you're curious, we had about 70 regular volunteers this year. We counted up over 260 hours that were logged in on the Volunteer Sign-in sheets but we know many were missed in the count due to not signing in or out. We estimate that 500+ hours of time were volunteered... that's an amazing job by all!

Reminders!

Shopping at www.SchoolMall.com brings in money for our school through January of 2010. Be sure to select BBECC to receive this percentage of sales when you shop!

BoxTops! BoxTops! BoxTops! Bring them Back-to-School for prizes. Watch for Summer Sheets to be sent home soon.



Three for Me

To those of you who committed **Three Hours or more of your time volunteering in the "Three for Me" program, we say "Thanks!"**

This school year, about 40 parents and grandparents signed up for this program. That's about 120 volunteer hours that were signed in for and we know from volunteer sign in sheets that *many of these volunteers exceeded their three-hour commitment way above and beyond!* This additional volunteer time is a tremendous help to our teachers, our school, and a great benefit for our children.

To those of you who have children returning next school year, we hope you'll join this program and commit Three Hours of your time to your child's school...together, everyone achieves more!

Congratulations to '09-10 New Officers

Congratulations to the new officers for the 2009-2010 school year: Cassandra McGregor, President; Jennifer Parr, Vice President; Anna Garcia, Secretary; Stephanie Nappier, Treasurer.

There are several appointed Chairperson positions available including Parliamentarian, Historian, Label Program Coordinator, Yearbook Chair, Membership Chair, Room Parent Representative, and Volunteer Coordinator. If you have any questions regarding these positions or are interested in serving, please contact Cassandra McGregor at cfish@catfishdesigns.com or 713-628-9380.

Watch for more information regarding available Officer and Chair positions and ways you can help at...

Sponsors Rock! Thank you for your contributions to PTA!

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If you would like to be a sponsor through monetary or in kind donations for next school year, please contact Cassandra McGregor at 713-628-9380 or cfish@catfishdesigns.com

Thank you to '08-09 Board Members!

Cassandra McGregor, President

Carrie Unroe, Vice President

Stephanie Nappier, Treasurer

Millie Boudreaux, Secretary

Jack Fillbrandt, Principal

Mellinda Parris, Membership Chair

Laurie Mensik, Programs Chair

Kim Frasier, Room Mom Representative

Misty Manzi, Yearbook Chair

Jennifer Parr, Label Program Chair

Jana Beal, Fall Book Fair Chair

Jesse McIntosh, Spring Book Fair Chair

Racquel Davis, Historian

Anna Garcia, Parliamentarian

Ben Bowen ECC PTA

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Visit the Ben Bowen ECC PTA website at the address below:

www.PTArocks.org