

# Claypit Hill School

## PTO Newsletter

October 14, 2008

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It is hard to believe that our children have been in school for more than a month! The PTO is up and running with the help of many parent volunteers. We had our first meeting of the year on Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to Debbie Bearse and the specialists for making this meeting a success. It has certainly been busy with school pictures, curriculum night, a PTO meeting, the room parent meeting, a new family coffee, and the launching of Greenraising. All of this would not be possible without the help of our dedicated board, committee heads and volunteers. I would also like to thank everyone for sending in their volunteer sheets and dues. We continue to solicit parents that are looking for an opportunity to give back to the community. Even if you have just a small amount of time to volunteer, please contact me at (508) 358-2991 or via email at jbm723@comcast.net. I look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes for a fun and safe Halloween,  
Jen Murray

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### PTO NEWS and EVENTS:

**School Council:** Election Results: Our new School Council Member is Marco Seidman. Thank you to Marco and to the many parents who participated in the election process.

#### **The Book Fair is Coming!**

The Fall Book Fair will be held on **Monday, October 20th, and Tuesday, October 21st**. This Fall it will be in a **new location -- on the stage in the Gymnasium**. The book fair will open at 8 a.m. both days. The book fair will also once again feature the popular **Teacher Wish List**, which enables teachers to get much-needed books for their classrooms. You can buy for your children, and for their classroom, too!

**Family Event!** The book fair will also be open for a **Family Book Fair on Monday night, from 5 - 7:30 p.m.** Everyone attending the Family Event will automatically be entered in a **Raffle** to receive \$25 of free books! There will be several winners, so stop by to participate!!

**Want to volunteer?** We need you! Flyers will be coming home in back packs during the first week of October to enable parents to sign up and help with Set Up, Order Filling and the Family Event. Head Room Parents will be in touch to give you the opportunity to help with classroom visits to the book fair. All parents are encouraged to come when their child's class visits the book fair.

REMEMBER, a significant amount of the proceeds from the Book Fair goes directly to our teachers and is used to buy books and resource materials for the classrooms. Buying books is not only great for your child, but also for our school! If you have any questions, contact Marie Durant (508-358-7511), Deb Gilmore (508-358-1187), Cindy Jacobs (508-358-3480), or Andrea O'Neill (508-358-8158).

**PTO MEETING, Wednesday October 15<sup>th</sup> 7:00 pm:**

"Shaping the Long-term Health of our Children" lead by Nutritionist and Happy Hollow Mom, Suzanne Rostler, MS, RD, LDN. Suzanne will discuss the potential long-term health consequences of overweight children as well as the emotional issues of low self-esteem and depression.

This informative, parent-only meeting will launch the **Claypit Hill Nutrition Challenge**. This initiative will encourage kids and their families to "challenge" themselves to increase and track their nutritional intake over two weeks (similar to last spring's Fitness Challenge). The program starts October 20th and culminates on Halloween with raffle prize drawings of submitted Nutrition Challenge sheets. Thank you to the Wayland Parents Health and Wellness Committee for helping us with this program.

**PTO AUCTION - HELP NEEDED:**

We are looking for volunteers to organize the solicitation of all live and silent Auction items via letters and phone calls. This group will have the opportunity to work with wonderful volunteers from throughout our Elementary district. If you are willing to volunteer your time to help make this wonderful fun-filled event a big success, please contact Jen Murray (508-358-2991) or [jbm723@comcast.net](mailto:jbm723@comcast.net).

**Greenraising: Please send in your order today...Deadline is October 16!**

- Greenraising products help the environment while raising money for our school. What better way to raise money than to use environmentally safe products? Not only will you help the PTO by purchasing useful products but you will also make a lasting contribution for the future of our planet.
- The catalog sale ends October 16.
- If you can help please call Andrea Armstrong (508) 358-2992 or Kris Normandin (508)358-3034.

**Lice Check: Our first Lice Check is Friday, October 17th at 8:30 AM, starting in the cafeteria.**

The 2008-2009 Lice Checks will be 10/17/08, 1/16/09, 3/6/09 and 5/1/09. Please contact Jill Freedberg, 508-358-7869 or [jillfreedberg@aol.com](mailto:jillfreedberg@aol.com) if you are able to help out on any of the dates. No experience necessary. Thank you in advance for your help.

**Community Outreach:** *Community Outreach is a PTO committee at Claypit Hill and its mission is to support less fortunate families in Wayland and the Metrowest area. In October we will be collecting **CANNED FRUIT** for the Parmenter Food Pantry. This Food Pantry supplies Wayland residents in need with basic meals and necessities. The **CANNED FRUIT** can be placed in the Community Outreach box outside the school office and a different item will be collected each month. Contact Heidi Strauss 508 358-6621, [hgstrauss@gmail.com](mailto:hgstrauss@gmail.com) with questions or if you want to help. Many thanks to all those who donated cereal in September.*

**Just Like Me Volunteers NEEDED! No experience necessary!**

The Just Like Me program teaches students in the 4th grade, awareness and acceptance of people with many different types of disabilities. This program is entirely run by parent volunteers. Parents of all grades are welcome and needed for this program to be successful. Our first unit starts in only a week or so and volunteers are still needed. With your convenience in mind, you are now able to sign-up on-line. Please go to <http://www.claypithillpto.org/jlmvolunteer.htm> to sign up today. Thanks in advance for your help with this important program. Contact Mary Kay Peacock at [peacockmk@gmail.com](mailto:peacockmk@gmail.com) or at (508) 358-8187 with any questions.

**Get A Green Light:** Join other Wayland households in saving energy (and money) by replacing your incandescent lights with compact fluorescents (CFL's). In November, we will be offering you the chance to buy deeply discounted lights through a program funded by NStar. Best of all, Claypit keeps 100% of the proceeds! Look for information coming home with your child in late October or early November. Anyone interested in helping can contact Anne Harris at [arharris29@yahoo.com](mailto:arharris29@yahoo.com) or 358-5506.

**SCHOOLPOP: SHOP ONLINE AND SUPPORT CLAYPIT HILL AT THE SAME TIME.**

School Pop is an online shopping portal that donates a percentage of purchase proceeds to the PTO. If you shop online, you can choose from many merchants (Gap, Banana Republic, Barnes and Noble, Best Buy, Discovery Store, Amazon, Expedia, American Airlines Vacations, Priceline, Ebay, Eddie Bauer, Garnet Hill, KB Toys, Pottery Barn, Netflix, and many more) and support Claypit Hill School.

**SCHOOL POP: It is easy to get started:**

1. Go to [www.schoolpop.com/register](http://www.schoolpop.com/register) to register.
2. Claypit Hill School (ID#122585).
3. Once you have selected Claypit, each time you shop through Schoolpop, Claypit will earn a percentage-based rebate. It's easy and every purchase will benefit our teachers and children.

**ALL School Calendars/Directory:** There are a few left. If you would like to purchase one please contact Jen Murray at 508-358-2991 or [jbm723@comcast.net](mailto:jbm723@comcast.net). The cost is \$15 and checks should be made payable to Wayland PTO.

**PTO Dues:** It's not too late if you would like to support the PTO by paying your dues. The voluntary dues are \$10 per family and provide the PTO with resources to support our school. Checks should be payable to Wayland PTO and be sent to school with your child.

**SAVE THESE DATES:**

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<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>PLACE</u>
October 15	7:00 PM	PTO Meeting & Nutrition Challenge Kickoff	Cafeteria
October 16	3:00 PM	Greenraising Order Deadline	Box in school office
October 17 <sup>th</sup>	8:30AM	First Lice check	Cafeteria
October 20 <sup>th</sup> -21 <sup>st</sup>	8:00 am	Fall Book Fair	Gym - Stage
October 20 <sup>th</sup>	5:00-7:30pm	Book Fair Family Night	Gym - Stage
October 27 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 PM	Joint PTO Meeting in Boston	Boston Police Department

***THANK YOU TO: Every month we will attempt to acknowledge everyone who have volunteered their time in so many of our efforts. If we accidentally missed you please accept our apologies and special thanks.***

- **Sarah Greenaway** for helping at the September PTO Meeting.
- **Beth Junkin** for coordinating school picture day and Dana Davies, Cindi Jacobs, Elina Glazer, Sharon Litchfield, Shelagh Murphy and Josie Guerin for helping that day.
- **The Specialists, the BASE staff** and the custodians for helping make our first PTO meeting so successful.
- **Andrea Armstrong and Kris Normandian** for organizing the Greenraising fundraiser.
- **Deb Vogt** for compiling all the volunteer survey data.
- **Bonnie Jurist and Marie Campbell** for coordinating dinner for the staff on curriculum night. Many thanks to all the volunteers who provided food and drink for the staff dinner prior to curriculum night. There were many wonderful comments from the staff about the delicious meal.
- **Bonnie Jurist** for creating the Claypit Hill School Directory
- **Maura McInerney** for coordinating the School Council election.
- **Dana Miller** for all her help in assigning the Room parents for this year and running the first meeting.

- **Linda Hanifin, Sue Cahaly, Janet Schwartz and Missy Davis** for the recent weeding and pruning of the gardens around the school.
- **Lana Ames, Liza Knapp and Deb Stubeda** for selling All School Directory and Calendars at Curriculum Night.

## OTHER COMMUNITY EVENTS AND NEWS:

### WAYLAND YOUTH LACROSSE

REGISTER ONLINE FOR SPRING 2009

[www.waylandlacrosse.com](http://www.waylandlacrosse.com)

Girls and Boys Grades 1-8

REGISTRATION OPENS OCTOBER 15, 2008

Boys & Girls U-9 (grades 1&2) \$85

Boys & Girls (grades 3-8) \$130 prior to Dec 1.

After Dec 1, Registration Fee \$175

**Registration closes January 15<sup>th</sup> 2009**

Register and get all the equipment, uniform and practice info at the Website.

***Free New Player Clinic Sunday November 2nd***

***Girls grades 3-8, 1-2 pm, Boys grades 3-8 2:30-3:30***

***More info at [www.waylandlacrosse.com](http://www.waylandlacrosse.com)***

#### **Join Cub Scouts!**

As a parent and caring adult, you want your son to grow up to be self-reliant and dependable, worthy and caring. Scouting is a fun way to help your son develop self-assurance as he builds respect for other people. The purpose of the Boy Scouts of America is to provide an educational program for boys and young adults to build desirable qualities of character, to train in the responsibilities of participating citizenship, and to develop personal fitness. Personal fitness includes physical, mental, and emotional fitness.

Cub Scouts learn while working with others and it's fun, too! There's a whole list of activities for you, your son(s) and the whole family to do! Join the fun...there are camping trips, building your own car to race in the Pinewood Derby, a sleepover on the USS Massachusetts at Battleship Cove, an evening out for the whole family at the Cub Scouts' Blue & Gold dinner, a Boston Red Sox game, and an end of year family camping trip in June! Contact Anne Bachman (email: [pbcdi@verizon.net](mailto:pbcdi@verizon.net) or phone: 358-9112) if you want to join Pack 88 or if you have any questions. Hope to hear from you soon!

**"Make a Difference Day" celebration: Saturday, October 25<sup>th</sup> 2008:** Please join Spread the Bread and our Wayland community for the 8th annual "Make a Difference Day" celebration. In addition to our community-wide bread spreading efforts to honor our community heroes and help those in need, residents young and old can participate in a very special event: **Light the Spirit with Jack-O-Lanterns**, Saturday evening, October 25<sup>th</sup>, 7pm, Wayland Safety Building Lawn. That's right. This year our Safety Building, home to Wayland's finest, will play host to Wayland's first-ever Light the Spirit Jack-O-Lantern display, showing off our community spirit and pride with lit lanterns carved by residents and covering the front lawn. Think about it, hundreds of spirited pumpkins. It should be quite a sight to behold!

BUT we can't do this without YOU. So...we are asking neighbors, friends, families, churches, schools, sports teams and youth organization to take time to carve a pumpkin. While you're carving away, think about all of the people in our town who make a difference for us each and everyday. Your pumpkin can be reflective of your spirit--totally original and FUN!

Pumpkins can be dropped off Thursday afternoon, October 24th and Friday, October 25th, all day and into the evening, at the Light the Spirit outdoor registration table at the Safety Building. We ask for a suggested donation of \$10.00 to help underwrite the project and support Spread the Bread organization and the Wayland Charitable Committee.

Thanks to Wayland's Paragon Electric and lots of volunteers, the pumpkins will be displayed and lit with glowing lights. On that Saturday evening at 7pm, October 25th, National "Make a Difference Day," we will gather as a community at the Safety Building to light the switch and "light the spirit" of our community. There will be refreshments and treats and a chance to gaze and mingle. The top 10 "spirited" pumpkins will receive prizes, too!

The "Light the Spirit" celebration will be on display through Halloween. Should you have any questions, please e-mail Spread the Bread at [info@spreadthebread.org](mailto:info@spreadthebread.org)

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## **Wayland High School Field House Upgrade Project**

Last year, a small group began to explore an upgrade of our well-used but tired Field House. The idea was to improve it for a broad range of uses – first and foremost, Wayland High School athletics, student activities and concerts, but also Town Meeting and other community activities such as youth sports. We are very excited about the design that emerged from this work. The project will greatly improve the usability and safety of the space.

A key challenge was how to finish the project while minimizing the impact on the winter sports season. To make this tight deadline, the project began this summer with a commitment from a small group of donors, and the belief that further support would come from a broad-based fundraising effort.

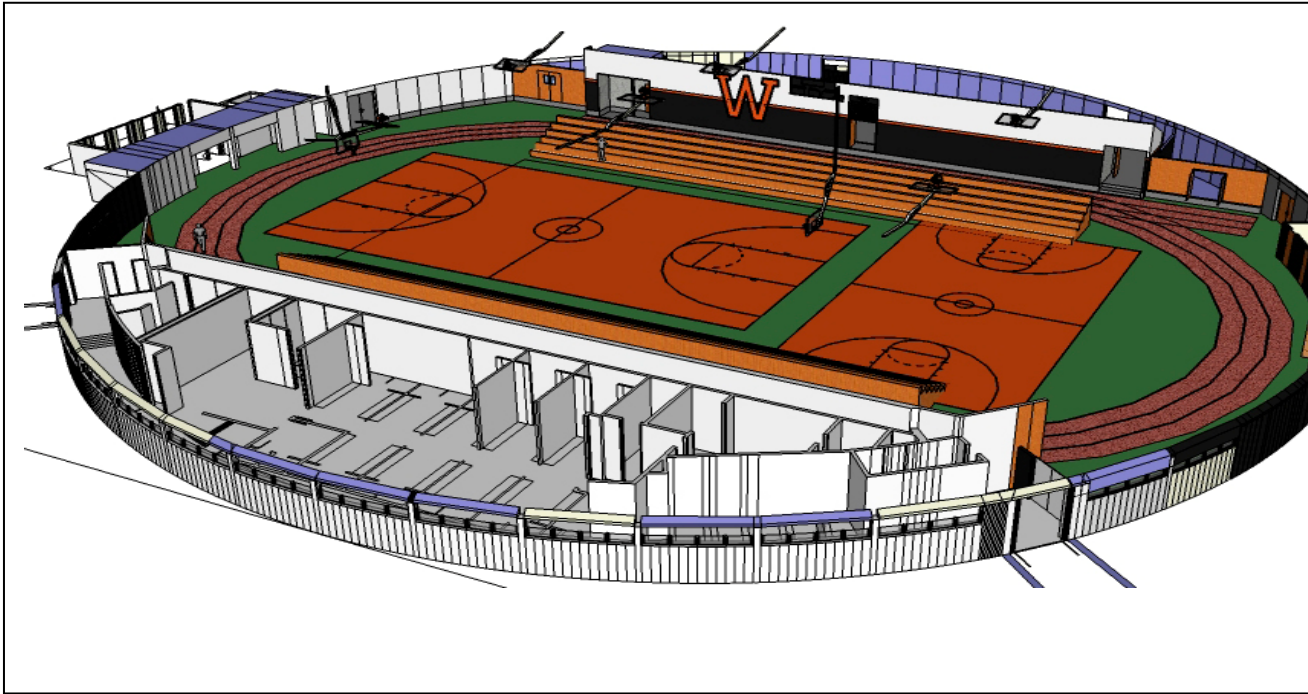
We are happy to report that the project is now well underway, though with some scheduling delays, and a planned completion in December. Fundraising efforts have been successful, with over 80% of the goal achieved. To complete the project and add some nice-to-have features, we need to raise an additional \$150,000.

With public funding under so much pressure these days, projects like this are increasingly difficult to finance without private support. The Field House is a key facility for Wayland High school athletics, concerts, assemblies, Town Meeting and community sports, and is visited by other towns for sports events. **We ask for your help and support** so we can take pride in our newly refreshed Field House.

We are grateful for all donations. They may be sent to the Wayland PTO, c/o Dianne Bladon, 4 Winthrop Place. Donations are tax-deductible. Questions? Contact Stan Shelton at 508-358-3508. Thanks for your support! Details of the project follow below.

### **The Field House Project Committee**

Dianne Bladon, Craig Foreman, Steve Lesser, Kim Keefer, Doug Sacra, Stan Shelton, Mike Simches, Karen Vachon



### Scope of Work:

- Open layout with new, multi-purpose flooring for entire space. No need to cover.
- New, motorized bleachers for quick, less costly changeovers between events.
- New, fold-up basketball backboards mounted from the ceiling

The reconfigured space can be used in the following arrangements:

- Competition basketball with 50'x92' NBA regulation court
- Practice basketball with 50'x92' court plus a 43'x70' court
- Three basketball courts separated by screening for youth basketball, pick-up games or general play.
- Competition Volleyball with two regulation 30'x60' courts with in-ground poles
- Single open indoor lacrosse or soccer field 70'x136'
- Town Meeting, concert, or school meeting - single space to hold up to 1,825

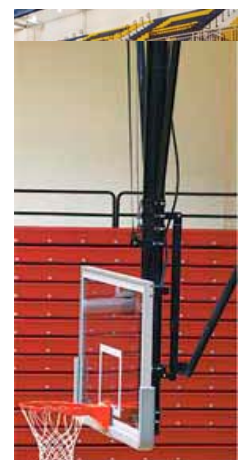
### Frequently asked questions:

Q: Who is paying for this project?

A: It is being fully funded through private donations. No tax-payer funds will be used.

Q: Will this project change the amount of funding Wayland will receive from the Massachusetts State Building Authority (MSBA) for any future WHS project?

A: No, it should not reduce state funding, nor could we have obtained state funding to complete this work.



Q: What are the benefits of this project?

A: Both Physical Education and after-school sports will have two safe practice courts plus more flexible spaces for large scale athletics. Asphalt flooring will be replaced with rubber flooring that has a shock absorption of more than 53%. Town Meeting or other large-scale concerts or lectures will now have a single space that can hold over 1,800 people who will all be able to see the same performances or speakers without separate screens or sound systems as are used at the current Town Meeting. Community programs for summer, weekend and evening uses will also have better, safer facilities for a greater variety of activities due to the flexibility of the space.