DOVER PTO OCTOBER 2019 NEWSLETTER

UPCOMING EVENTS

Principals' Coffee
Tuesday, October 8

Parents Night Out
Thursday, October 10

Open Board Meeting
Friday, October 11

Family Bingo Night
Friday, October 25

International Night
Friday, November 15

SAVE THE DATE!

Auction
Friday, April 3

CLICK HERE FOR MORE EVENTS

Chickering Book Fair: Volunteers Needed!

October 16 & 23

Love books? Come lend a hand at the Chickering Book Fair on October 16 & 23 to help students explore books and get excited about reading. Funds raised will benefit the Chickering School library.

Responsibilities include running the cash register*, restocking shelves, and helping students find books. Click here to sign up. *Watch this video to see how the registers work.

Questions? Contact volunteers@doverpto.org or wintersa@doversherborn.org.

[CLICK HERE FOR COMMUNITY INFO AND LINKS]

Parents Night Out

Join Chickering parents for Thursday Night Football on October 10 at 8pm upstairs at the American Legion. Meet new friends, catch up with old, and watch the Pats take on the Giants. Cash bar. We'll provide pizzas. Please RSVP at http://evite.me/Jd39mPQ9AF. Hope to see you there!

Family BINGO Night

This year's movie night has been changed to a Family Bingo Night. Join us on Friday, October 25 from 6:30-8pm in the cafeteria for an evening full of friends, fun, and prizes!

International Night: A Family Favorite!

The passports are back! Chickering's Seventh Annual International Cultural Night is Friday, November 15 at 6:00PM. We've moved International Cultural Night to the fall as a kick off to the holiday season. Don't miss one of the most popular community events in which we get to experience how holidays throughout the year are celebrated all over the world, including cultural regions of the United States!

Sample cuisines - a huge highlight! But the festivities won't stop with your stomach. Your eyes will feast on performances of international traditional dances performed by members of our own community.

This event is a community effort, so we're looking for volunteers. Do you have a particular

heritage, nation, region or culture that you would like to showcase? Then perhaps you would be interested in setting up a table displaying your holidays and traditions through representative food, clothing, artifacts and/or activities.

If you are interested in hosting a table, please use the SignUpGenius link below:

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080f4caaaa29a3fc1-international2

Fundraising

Chickering ROCKS thanks to the wonderful family support in our community of Dover! With incredible Parent Support through Volunteering and Monetary Contributions the PTO is able to provide Chickering with:

- Curriculum Enrichment Programs - these programs bring authors, poets, artists, naturalists, musicians, historians and scientists into each classroom.
- Teacher Discretionary Funds - $250 is given to each classroom teacher at Chickering, to use at his/her discretion to enhance their classroom.
- Teacher Grants - The PTO provides funds for larger scale, specific teacher grants. This allows our school to adapt to advances in curriculum and technologies such as interactive white boards and iPads.
- New Family Night
- Back to School Picnic
- International Night
- Chickering School Directory
- Metco Events
- Parenting Lectures
- The Outdoor Classroom
- Teacher Hospitality Events
- Books From The Heart
- Museum of Fine Arts Trip

- SEPAC

We hope that you will join in our fundraising efforts and ensure that Chickering School will continue to ROCK!

The Dover PTO is excited to announce that this year we will have our Biennial Auction. Please look out for details to come soon!

In addition to the auction we will have a couple different ways to contribute this fall including Box Tops and Amazon Smile.

Collect Box Tops for Chickering

Each Box Top = 10₵ for Chickering. This is EASY money for our school!! There are currently TWO ways to contribute:

1. DIGITALLY*: Download the Box Tops App and simply scan your receipt after shopping. NO cutting required! Money is automatically directed to Chickering!

2. TRADITIONALLY: Cut NON-EXPIRED Box Tops from participating products and send in to school. Each classroom has a collection box. These can contributed for our FALL BOX TOPS CONTEST! Send Box Tops in by FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25th to be counted toward your classroom's total! Prizes will be awarded to the top three classrooms!

Visit boxtops4edcation.com for more information.

**Eventually all physical Box Tops will be phased out of circulation and only the new digital program will be used. If you have any questions, please contact Lindsay Kobuszewski (lindsayparkhurst@yahoo.com), Maria Marakas (maria.marakas@yahoo.com) or Heather Coldebella (hfcoldebella@gmail.com).

Amazon Smile – Amazon will donate 0.5% of all your purchases to Chickering!

Using Amazon Smile is easy!

Computer Instructions:

1. Go to "smile.amazon.com"
2. Log in to your Amazon account (using your normal username and password) if needed.
3. Choose Dover Elementary PTO
    1. If you've never used Amazon Smile, you'll get a window asking you to select a charity.
    2. If you've used Amazon Smile before, you may change your charity right below the search box.

4. Amazon Smile will automatically benefit Dover PTO with every purchase you make at smile.amazon.com!

Mobile Device Instructions:

1. In your web browser app go to smile.amazon.com.
2. Follow the same instructions above.
3. Add the link to amazon smile to your home screen and then you may use it like the app.
4. The app will not work for smile!

Curriculum Enrichment

Curriculum Enrichment is off to a great start for the 2019-2020 year! We are thrilled to have so many parent volunteers giving so much of their time to plan and attend these wonderful programs!

We look forward the following programs taking place in October:

- Author Suzy Kline (of the popular Horrible Harry series) will deliver a grade-wide presentation to 3rd Grade where she will utilize teachers as thespians to act out different roles in a play. Afterward, Suzy will conduct a hands-on writers workshop in each classroom.
- Audubon naturalist from Broadmoor will lead science and nature programs in Kindergarten, 1st Grade and 3rd Grade.
- Museum of Science educator will present the interactive States of Matter program to our 2nd Graders.
- Plimoth Plantation educator (a speaker of Native American descent) will visit our 3rd Graders (in advance of their field trip there later this fall) with a special Wampanoag program to help them understand what life was like for the Wampanoags in the 17th century.

These programs are all made possible by the generous funding provided by you and the Dover PTO!

To learn more about CE at Chickering, please visit:
http://www.doverpto.org/curriculum-enrichment

- Ellie Beasley and Peggy Gemelli
Curriculum Enrichment Chairs

METCO Family Friend Program

For the first elementary-only early release day of the school year, the PTO's METCO office sponsored a fall apple picking adventure for Chickering's METCO students and their Family Friends.

During the apple picking activity we saw parents, students and siblings getting to know one another, having a great time on the train, helping each other and playing in the bounce houses. We are grateful to the Boston Chickering families, Family Friends and to the PTO and Chickering administration for supporting this important program!

As the Family Friend program gets off the ground, students who live in Boston and a few of their good friends from Dover are getting a little extra time together. Family Friends are responsible for planning playdates on three elementary-only early release days for their Boston buddies and bringing them to the bus at Dover Sherborn High School at 3pm. In addition to that, Family Friends have the opportunity to join us for a fall and spring group playdate with Pine Hill METCO and their Family Friends. We aim to have a Family Friend family and a back-up family for each child. If you are interested in learning more about the program, please reach out to Mila Clark at METCO@doverpto.org.

Look out for news of gatherings for the whole Chickering community in Boston, organized by Chickering's METCO PTO liaisons. We plan to have one in the winter and another in the spring.

Proposed PTO Bylaws Amendment

The Dover PTO Executive Board has prepared a set of proposed amendments to its Bylaws that will be voted on at the October 11 open meeting. Highlights of the proposed amendments include: the addition of the new METCO Chair position to the Board, a refreshed description of the role and responsibilities of all Board positions so as to reflect the current structure and operation of the Board, and an updated description of the responsibilities of the Audit Committee so as to reflect current practice. The proposed amendments to the Bylaws are available in their entirety here.

Please feel free to address any questions or comments concerning the Bylaws or the proposed amendment to secretary@doverpto.org.

Make a Difference Club (MAD)

Make A Difference Club (Grade 5):

If you have a **5th grader** that would like to participate in this year's Make a Difference Club, please contact Club Leader Peter Hoffmann at [community@doverpto.org]. Kick off meeting will be held in mid-October. Date and location TBD.

What is the Make a Difference Club (MAD)?

MAD is an after school community service club that aims to develop philanthropic leadership skills in our 4th and 5th grade students. MAD helps to educate and create awareness around the needs in our local communities by discovering simple ways to make a difference. Kids will participate in fun projects and local field trips, all of which will foster kindness, generosity and understanding of those around us. Meetings are typically held once a month and are parent participatory. In addition to the leaders of the club, parents and care takers of club members are asked to attend meetings, assist with transportation and take part in the projects with the kids.

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Make A Difference Club (Grade 4):

If you are a **4th grade** parent that would be interested in leading the 4th grade Make a Difference Club, please email Community Outreach Chair Peter Hoffmann at [community@doverpto.org]. We are still looking for someone to take on this important role. Details below.

What are the responsibilities of the MAD club leader(s)?

Club leader(s) are tasked with developing a community service focused curriculum that will include hands on projects and field trips to local organizations in need of assistance. Past projects have included organizing a Food Drive for A Place to Turn, creating a Buddy Bench for the Chickering playground, building birthday boxes for less fortunate children whose families can not afford birthday parties, visiting with seniors from Dover's Council on Aging and many more. Club leaders are responsible for recruiting club members, planning all projects, communicating and scheduling with the organizations they are planning to serve and keeping club members and Chickering staff informed on project logistics. It is a wonderful opportunity to meet new friends and get more involved in our community while instilling important, long lasting values in our children. The 4th grade club from last year will be continuing their work in 5th grade and will serve as mentors to the new 4th grade group.

Thank you!

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