



LAKESHORE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

SAN FRANCISCO

The Paw Print Press

IMPORTANT DATES

Thursday, September 12

Back-To-School Night, 1st - 5th grades

6:30-8:00pm, Lakeshore School

At least one parent/guardian per family is recommended to attend. Childcare and light snacks will be provided (\$5 donation per child).

Wednesday, October 2

PTA Meeting

6:30-8:00pm, Community Room

Friday, October 4, 2013

Walk-a-Thon!

Our big Fall fundraiser. Students walk towards school-wide prizes. The money raised will go directly towards supporting Lakeshore's enrichment programs, such as gardening, art, and motor perception. Please pledge generously and then come to the school to cheer on our students while they walk their laps. Check your Wednesday folder for more information.

Saturday, October 5

Community Picnic and Gardening Day

10:30am - 2:00pm Lakeshore School

Bring some delicious food to share and bring your children to enjoy the sunshine at a garden work party during our San Francisco Summer! Children can water. Parents can help with gardening chores (please bring gloves). No experience necessary. Bring your family, enjoy food and make a huge difference in our campus!

Everyday Magic Fundraiser

The catalog sale has begun and will continue until Friday, September 20. All proceeds go to Everyday Magic Child Development Center. Questions? Call 415-681-9168.

September 11, 2013

Principal's Corner

Dear Lakeshore Families,

Back to School Night for students in 1st grade - 5th grade is this Thursday, September 12th from 6:30-8pm. Please make every effort to attend! Come to make new connections to the school and hopefully you will leave feeling closer to other parents, your child's teacher and the community in general. It is also my hope that you will take advantage of volunteer opportunities, as we need everyone to make this the best Lakeshore ever! We cannot do this without you.

We will welcome you in the Community Room to tell you about a few things you will need to know school-wide then release you to the classrooms to hear from your child's teacher. You will hear about all the fantastic things you can expect in your child's classroom. We will provide childcare and ask that children not go in the classrooms as space will get tight and the classroom presentations are geared for the adults. While you can expect a detailed explanation about the learning in each classroom, you will have limited one-on-one time with the teacher. If you have individual concerns or questions beyond what benefits the whole group, please make a point to bring them up with your child's teacher when these things arise. While I am always available to discuss your experience at Lakeshore, the teacher / family relationship is primary, so let's start there.

If you have multiple students at Lakeshore, please know that we will announce when you should switch to the sibling classrooms so you can touch base with each of your child's teacher. I am looking forward to seeing you and hope you don't mind a bit of time sitting in the little chairs. See you then!

Sincerely,

Matthew Hartford

Spotlight on: The School Site Council (SSC)

Lakeshore will be holding elections for its School Site Council (SSC) later this month so we asked SSC member Francis Graves to provide a glimpse into what it means to be part of this important part of Lakeshore.

How did you decide to join the SSC? I enjoy volunteering at the school, supporting the academic plan and promoting safety. Being elected to SSC was another way to serve.

Can you explain what kinds of things you do in meetings? A typical School Site Council (SSC) meeting includes the principal, teachers, community members and parents. During the meeting, we review the budgetary concerns of the school as well as the academic plan.

How much time does it consume (meetings and at home)? Typically, the time commitment would be five to seven hours a month.

What makes a good SSC representative?

- Reviews the meeting agenda and related materials ahead of meeting time
- Attends every meeting on time
- Maintains a positive attitude and commitment to restorative practice
- Commitment to all school children, not just one's own child(ren)

What do you hope for this year's SSC? I look forward to working together creatively to meet the needs of all Lakeshore students, families, and staff.

Can you be involved in the SSC and the PTA?

Yes, they are separate entities. Ideally, all school volunteer committees work together for the best interests of the whole school community. This includes collective achievement, safety and helping to build camaraderie among all community members.

If you're interested in becoming an SSC member (or know somebody who you'd like to nominate), please submit names to ssc@lakeshoreelementary.org or drop a note with the names and contact information in the office. Nominees will be contacted and included on the ballot, which will be sent home later this month. The deadline for submitting nominees is September 20th.

PTA 2013-14: Meeting Review

The mission of the Lakeshore PTA is to positively impact the lives of our children and families through community building, academic enrichment, and advocacy.

At the general meeting on September 3, we confirmed the mission and the following priorities:

Community Building

- Build internal community to:
 - Foster family engagement
 - Celebrate and support our diverse community
 - Support the school for key areas of need
 - Develop a strong sense of responsibility, pride and community with our children
- Establish an external network to help us achieve our goals
- Drive interest in Lakeshore for incoming students and retain upper grade students

Fundraising

- Supporting enrichment programs
- Community building activities
- School marketing / communications
- Others based on membership input

Advocacy

- Support District, State, and National initiatives as appropriate

Our goals are to increase membership by 10%, increase net fundraising by 10% and increase engagement (as measured by increases to the listerv membership, survey results and volunteer hours.)

At the meeting we also:

- Introduced this year's Executive Board
- Heard a personal story from Principal Hartford to illustrate the importance of feeling a sense of responsibility and pride for your school
- Reviewed this year's PTA budget (the budget is posted on the PTA bulletin board by the office or the PTA Listserv) and we will vote to approve it in the October 2 meeting
- Received a membership report from VP of Membership Beth Rittenhouse-Dhesi
- Covered volunteer needs and upcoming events

Please join us at the next PTA meeting on October 2.

Want to include something in the next edition? Please email newsletter@lakeshoreelementary.org no later than Friday evening with final content and your contact information.

