



THE DRAGONS' FLAME

The PTA Newsletter for Dillard Drive Middle School

5200 Dillard Drive, Raleigh, NC 27606-4118

(919)233-4228

<http://dillarddrivems.wcpss.net/>

Fall 2006

PTA President's Message

The PTA has had a terrific start this year! I would like to pass along my sincere thanks to every parent, teacher, and staff member for the many contributions you have already made. Your support of time, talent, or monetary contributions has been greatly appreciated. It was good to see all the new and returning families at "Meet the Teacher Day" as well as "Open House."

We have many exciting things planned for this year to help enhance your child's experience here at Dillard. Book Fairs; Honor Roll Recognitions; Cultural Arts Programs; Grade Level Socials; PTA Newsletters; Student Directory; School/Community Outreach; Reflections Competition; PTA Website; Dillard E-Group; Landscaping; Staff Appreciations; and most importantly NEW COMPUTERS!!

To help us accomplish all that we have planned, don't forget to contribute to our annual Dragon Fund Drive! 100% of the contributions donated go directly into our PTA budget which in turn benefits ALL students and teachers! Deadline to be entered into the Raffle Drawing is October 6th so act quickly and send in your contribution soon!!

I would also like to thank all of the many PTA Committees that have already been hard at work. There is a complete listing of all PTA Committees and committee chairs in this issue. It's not too late to volunteer. Just contact the committee chair to express your interest.

I also encourage you to become a member of the PTA if you haven't already done so. Thank you if you have already joined! Please add our upcoming meeting dates to your calendar. Everyone is welcome to attend the meetings. You don't have to be a PTA member...you just have to be an involved parent, guardian, or teacher. Our meetings are a way you can be part of the decision-making as well as have a direct impact on the programs, activities, and school resources that complement your child's educational experience here at Dillard Drive Middle School.

Come be a part of the PTA!

Debbie Petersburg

PTA President

"When parents get involved in their children's education, everyone benefits" -National PTA

Dates To Remember

OCTOBER 2006

- 2 NO SCHOOL: Teacher Workday
- 6 Dragon Fund Drive ends; Raffle Drawing Deadline
- 6 School Dance
- 9 PTA Meeting 6:30pm Media Center
- 20 7th Grade Cultural Arts Program
- 24 Fall Teacher Luncheon
- 26 Triangle Town Center Career Fair
- 30 NO SCHOOL: Teacher Workday

NOVEMBER 2006

- 6 PTA Meeting 12 noon Media Center
- 6 School Photo Make-up Day
- 8 Career Day- 8th Grade
- 9 Early Release Day
- 10 NO SCHOOL: Veteran's Day
- 14 Honor Roll Recognition
- 22-24 Thanksgiving Break

DECEMBER 2006

- 4 PTA Meeting 6:30pm Media Center
- 8 Reflections Competition Deadline
- 14 Piano Recitals - Piano Lab
- 14 Choir Concert at 7:00pm
- 15 Choir Matinees during elective periods
- 19 Winter Band Concert: 6th Grade @ 6:30pm,
8th Grade @ 8:00pm
- 20 Winter Band Concert: 7th Grade and Jazz Band
@ 7:00pm
- 22- Jan 1 Winter Break

From the Principal's Desk...

Dillard Drive Middle School, an Honor School of Excellence



Our 2006-2007 school year has successfully started. I would like to welcome all of our new students, and express a warm greeting to our returning students.

This school year promises to be an exciting year filled with well-planned educational opportunities and learning experiences for all students. All of our dragons and dragonets are well into their routines and the teachers are providing the best in instruction.

We are very fortunate to have an excellent teaching staff and a supportive group of parents to help mold our students' futures. A special thank you to the staff and the parents for all you have done so far this school year.

We look forward to another dynamic year with PTA. I am impressed with the planning that has been done. Your continued involvement will strengthen our school and help us move ahead productively.

We welcome parental involvement. The larger the team the more we realize our goals. It takes all of us working together to ensure the success of our students. I hope you will always let us know your thoughts, questions, and concerns about your child's education. We will listen. Your child is why we are here.

I personally offer you my pledge to maintain a quality program; a safe and pleasant environment and an open door through which I hope you will always feel invited to walk. I am committed to making every student's school experience a positive and productive one.

Thank you parents, for sending us your "best."

Together, we will make a difference in the lives of each and every child we touch. Leaving no child behind.

Best wishes for a very successful school year.

Teresa E. Abron

Come to Our Next PTA Meeting!

Monday, October 9th at 6:30pm in the School Media Center

Special Program: WCPSS Guest Speaker " School Bond Referendum Information" - On November 7th, citizens of Wake County will be asked to vote on a \$970 million school bond referendum that is proposed to pay for a three year capital improvement plan for our schools. It is critical that parents learn the facts about this bond referendum so they can cast an effective vote in November. Please plan to attend this informative session about the Bond Referendum. You can access the "Wake County PTA Council Guidelines for PTA Activities in Support of a School Construction Bond" on our *PTA* link at www.dillarddrivems.wcpss.net.

We will also hold the Dragon Fund Drive Raffle Drawings (fundraiser dates: Sept 18 – Oct 6)

Future PTA Meeting Dates:

2006

Nov 6 12 noon : PTA Meeting

Dec 4 6:30pm : PTA Meeting

2007

Jan 8 12 noon: PTA Meeting

Feb 5 6:30pm: PTA Meeting

Mar 5 12 noon: PTA Meeting

Apr 16 PTA General Meeting with student performance (TBA)

May 7 12 noon: PTA Meeting

Jun 4 6:30pm: PTA Meeting



Reflections Now Includes Dance and Film!

"Reflections" is the PTA sponsored theme-based cultural arts competition. Children are encouraged to participate by submitting an original piece/work in one or more of the following categories: 1) literature, 2) music, 3) visual arts, 4) photography, 5) dance choreography, and 6) and film/video Production.

This year's theme for the contest is "MY FAVORITE PLACE." Students are encouraged to write a piece of literature, compose a musical piece, draw/paint a picture, or create a photograph, dance or film related to this theme. All pieces must be original and there are specifics with regards to length/size that must be followed. Dillard will have an opportunity to send its top 8 entries on to the county level. Winners at county compete at state and national levels. Last year, Dillard had two entries placing at the county level. It was a very good showing. If you are interested in having your child participate in this contest, please contact Wanda O'Neal (woneal@med.unc.edu or phone 919-859-1848) so that she can be sure to get you the forms, paperwork and instructions when they arrive from the county office. **The entries are due to the school December 8th.**

2006-07 PTA Board

Exec. Board Officers

President	Debbie Petersburg	859-3213	Petersburg@nc.rr.com
Vice President	Karen Muse	233-8319	karen.muse@christthekingcary.org
Secretary	Felicia Washington	233-9007	fwashington@wcpss.net
Treasurer	Genia Herbert	854-9591	genia@camkaye.com

Committee Chairs

Academic Boosters	Kelly Slider	859-4025	ksii@mindspring.com
Agenda Sales	Laura Bottomley	851-7207	Bottomley@nc.rr.com
Awards/Grants	OPEN		
Book Fair	Jodi Snyder	363-4720	rsnyder245@aol.com
	MaryAnn Mahn	233-8671	parents@mahn.com
Booster Club Liason	OPEN		
Business Alliance*	Michael Washington	233-1218	wcg1@bellsouth.net
Community Outreach	Suzanne Thorpe	851-2402	srthorpe@earthlink.net
Cultural Arts	Jennifer Medlin	233-0512	jfmedlin@mindspring.com
District 5 Advisory Council*	Gyan Gupta	851-5959	ggupta@bbandt.com
Fundraising-Dragon Fund	Anna Ponte	233-0333	bjamdinnc@excite.com
Painless Fundraisers	Lori Stewart	859-6933	fishstew@nc.rr.com
	Sharon Schaale	363-2760	sharon3806@aol.com
Grade 6 Rep	Kelly Heater	773-9788	dkheat@yahoo.com
Grade 7 Rep	Diane Donnelly	854-2689	ddonnelly1@nc.rr.com
Grade 8 Rep	Sheila Nedoma	362-6920	Mnedoma@aol.com
Health & Safety	OPEN		
Historian/ Scrapbook	Danielle Hayes		
Hospitality	Stella Templin	303-4949	templin275@yahoo.com
Landscaping	Delyn Metcalfe	362-9528	delynm@earthlink.net
Legislative	Kathie Cochran	773-8360	kmcochran@nc.rr.com
Media Center Vol Coord	Sheila Nedoma	362-6920	Mnedoma@aol.com
Membership	Susan Fletcher	816-8538	fletchers@nc.rr.com
Newsletter	Sandy Mueller	387-2075	sfmueller@mindspring.com
Parent Involvement	OPEN		
Publicity/E-Group Mod.	Maria Stone	319-8818	mstone1234@aol.com
Reflections	Wanda O'Neal	859-1848	woneal@med.unc.edu
School Directory	Lynn Jenkins	233-1858	lynnjenkins@bellsouth.net
	Clara Ruth	779-4405	cruth12@bellsouth.net
School Improvmnt Team	Marti Crane	846-9537	marticrx@aol.com
School Photos	Marilyn Terrill	859-6905	terrills4@nc.rr.com
Teacher Liason*	OPEN		
Test Proctor Coordinator	Clara Ruth	779-4405	cruth12@bellsouth.net
Tutoring Coordinator	OPEN		
Volunteer Coordinator	Lisa Marshall	387-4651	kwmlwm@earthlink.net
Wake Ed Partnership	OPEN		
Website Update	George Cox	302-4301	geocox1@nc.rr.com

* Appointed positions

PTA Board Contacts

At left is the contact list for our PTA committees and officers. If you would like to get involved in any of these areas or have questions relating to them, please feel free to contact anyone on this list. Please notice that we still have vacancies and could use your help, so consider whether you could play an active role in our PTA. If interested in filling one of the open positions, or finding out more about it, please contact Debbie Petersburg.



**Remember to Vote
on the Bond Issue
November 7th!**

**Remember
Car Pool
Safety!**



The safety of our students is the responsibility of everyone in our Dillard Drive community. Please remember when dropping off or picking up a student, to use only the right lane. The left lane is for drive through ONLY. The safety of the children should be the priority for everyone.



**Check Out
SchoolNotes.com**

Many of our Dillard Drive teachers are using schoolnotes.com to pass along assignments and class activities to both students and parents. If you'd like to see what your child is doing in school, or what homework they should be doing, check out schoolnotes.com and see if your teacher is listed. You can find Dillard Drive Middle through our zip code: 27606.

Business Alliance

The Dillard Drive Business Alliance, as part of the Wake County School-to-Career Initiative, partners businesses and business professionals with the school to provide students with that link between education and future careers. The Business Alliance organizes events at DDMS such as:

- Career Day for 8th graders scheduled Nov. 8th
- National Engineers Week speakers (tentatively scheduled for Feb. 2007)
- Workshops and classroom speakers
- NEW!!!! Tutoring for 8th graders (Math and Language Arts)

There are three ways to participate:

1. DDMS Business Alliance Leadership Team – participates in the monthly event planning meetings. Meetings are normally held on the first Wednesday of each month at 8:15am (10/4, 11/1, 1/3, 2/7, 3/7, 4/11, 5/2, 6/13)
2. DDMS Business Alliance member– participates in one or more events
3. DDMS Business Alliance Business Partner – businesses that provide resources in support of our middle school students and teachers or the Business Alliance events that are being planned.

We always welcome new members! If you are a business owner or a business professional, and are willing to help, please contact one of the following individuals.

Dr. Betty Wooten, CDC, Dillard Drive Middle School,
bwooten@wcpss.net (919) 854-1613
Michael Washington, Business Alliance Chairman,
wcg1@bellsouth.net (919) 247-2752

3 Ways to Stay Informed

• Join the Dillard Info E-Group!

Join the DDMS E-group to receive timely emails about Dillard events. To subscribe send an e-mail to

dillardinfo_subscribe@yahoo.com

For more info or to read previously posted messages, go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/dillardinfo>

• New PTA Link on DDMS Website

Check out the new “PTA Link” (a work in progress) on Dillard Drive’s website <http://dillarddrivems.wcpss.net>. Many thanks to our new PTA webmaster George Cox!

• WCPSS E-mail Newsletters

To receive newsletters published by the Wake County School System, go to www.wcpss.net/online_newsletters/. You can subscribe to receive “The School Connection” and “WCPSS Good News”- two very informative publications.



Painless Fundraisers: Easy Ways to Earn \$\$\$ for School Programs



Get grandparents, friends, *even out-of-state* friends and relatives to collect box-tops, Labels for Education, and link their cards to DDMS! Help us continue to earn thousands of \$\$\$ for the DDMS PTA!

Link Your Cards:

Harris Teeter: Together in Education - Link your VIC card online at www.harristeeter.com, or the cashier can link it for you. You must re-link your card every school year.
School Code: 3529

Food Lion: Lion Shop and Share - Link MVP card online at www.foodlion.com, or call 704-633-8250, ext. 3810. You must re-link your card every year.

Target Visa/Guest Card: Take Charge of Education - Link your Target Visa/Guest Card online at www.target.com, or call Target Community Giving at 1-800-316-6142.
School Code: 113295

Kroger: Kroger Plus Card for Education - Go to customer service to link your card. You must re-link your card every year.
School Code: 80195

Label and Cap Collections:

Please continue to collect and send in the following which our school can redeem for cash or equipment! They can be dropped off in the classroom’s BoxTops for Education container.

- **Harris Teeter Milk Caps** - from HT brand or Hunter Farms brand 1/2 gallon and gallon milk containers
- General Mills “**BoxTops for Education**” coupons
- **Campbell labels** from the family of Campbell products.

DDMS Make-Up Picture Day



If your child missed School Photo Day, September 19th, or did not like the pictures which were taken, we will have a Make-Up Day on November 6th.

This newsletter is sponsored by the Dillard Drive Middle School PTA. It is prepared by Sandy Mueller using Microsoft Publisher.

*Items may be submitted through e-mail,
sfmuller@mindspring.com*

Do You Know Your Online Lingo?

Many of our children are spending part of their leisure time online. Do you know what they are saying? Here are some online acronyms you might or might not know.

A/S/L?	age, sex, location
B4N	bye for now
CUL or CUL8ER	see you later
EMA	what is your E-mail address
F2F	face to face
FOFL	falling on floor laughing
GTR	got to run

IDK	I don't know
KEWL	cool
MOOS	member of the opposite sex
NAZ	name, address, zip
P911	my parents are coming!
PA	parent alert



For more information go to <http://www.missingkids.com/adCouncil/pdf/lingo/onlineLingo.pdf>. Provided by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

Sports Page

Football Schedule

Sept 20	Daniels @ Dillard
Sept 27	Martin @ Dillard
Oct 4	Dillard @ N. Garner
Oct 11	Carnage @ Dillard (7pm game at Athens Drive)
Oct 18	Dillard @ Ligon
Oct 25	E. Garner @ Dillard
Nov 1	Dillard @ Carroll



Girl's Soccer Schedule

Sep 21	Dillard @ Daniels
Sep 28	Martin @ Dillard
Oct 5	N. Garner @ Dillard
Oct 12	Dillard @ Carnage
Oct 19	Ligon @ Dillard
Oct 26	Dillard @ E. Garner
Nov. 2	Carroll @ Dillard



Volleyball Schedule

Sep 21	Dillard @ Daniels
Sep 28	Martin @ Dillard
Oct 5	N. Garner @ Dillard
Oct 12	Dillard @ Carnage
Oct 19	Ligon @ Dillard
Oct 26	Dillard @ E. Garner
Nov. 2	Carroll @ Dillard



Need a P.E. Shirt? Or an Agenda?

P.E. T-Shirts (\$7) can still be purchased thru the PE Department. Agendas (\$7) can still be purchased in the Main Office. Send exact cash or check made out to "DDMS PTA."



DDMS Family Sports Passes Available

Planning on attending some of our upcoming football games? Soccer? Volleyball? Basketball? Admission to those games can add up. Consider purchasing a DDMS Family Sports Pass which covers admission for the immediate family for all sporting events at DDMS for the academic year. With the Sports Pass you just show it at the gate and get in with no charge. Available for \$35, from either Mr. Jones, at the front office, or purchased at the first home game you attend. Checks can be made out to Dillard Drive Booster Club.



Girl's and Boy's Basketball

Dec 6	Daniels @ Dillard
Dec 11	Martin @ Dillard
Dec 14	Dillard @ N. Garner
Dec 18	Carnage @ Dillard
Dec 20	Dillard @ Ligon
Jan 4	E. Garner @ Dillard
Jan 8	Carroll @ Dillard
Jan 11	Dillard @ Daniels
Jan 18	Dillard @ Martin
Jan 25	N. Garner @ Dillard
Jan 29	Dillard @ Carnage
Feb 1	Ligon @ Dillard
Feb 5	Dillard @ E. Garner
Feb 8	Dillard @ Carroll



* Fall Sports Pictures will take place November 6th

Greetings From Your Dillard Drive Hospitality Committee!

The Hospitality Committee's happy responsibility is to **provide support and cheer to the entire staff of Dillard Drive Middle School!** We are privileged to have about 20 enthusiastic members remaining from last year and a whole new group of volunteers to add this year! Thanks to all of you for volunteering your time, talents and attitude-of-appreciation toward all of our amazing administrators, teachers and staff! Our teachers face the challenge of pointing our children toward their potential and success in life... with courage, energy, creativity and a spirit of determination... and we do need to support them in tangible ways! The Hospitality Committee is a place to serve within our PTA, where you can use your creative ideas to do just that!

On August 21, to begin the 2006-07 school year, the Hospitality Committee provided breakfast for Principal Teresa Abron's welcome meeting for the teachers & staff of Dillard Drive Middle, entitled, **Road Trip to Continuous Success.** We provided 12 breakfast casseroles, fruit salad, biscuits, Danish, croissants, orange juice & coffee. We decorated our tables as a **Diner** on the Road Trip using toy cars on the serving table and various accents from the kids' movie "Cars." Everyone seemed to enjoy this opener for the productive meeting which followed throughout the morning. **A very big applause goes out to these 11 volunteers who made the breakfast happen: Tricia Glance, Julie Liptak, Lynn Jenkins, Delyn Metcalf, Jennifer Miller, Karen Muse, Debbie Petersburg (who also spoke at the meeting), Loretta Powell, Clara Ruth, Marlene Sanchez and Stella Templin.**

Please be on the look-out for Dillard emails with details requesting your help with goodies for our teachers and staff from time to time:

We will need your delicious soups and salads again for our Fall Teacher Luncheon on Tuesday, October 24, and

We will need your favorite Holiday Baked Goodies during the last week before our December break.

Hospitality events planned for 2006-07 are:

- **Custodial Appreciation Week** - Sept 25 thru 29
OUR CUSTODIANS RECEIVED A PERFECT SCORE OF 100! A big THANK YOU goes to Ms. Sara Horton (Head Custodian), Mr. Walter Brooks, Ms. Elnora Hinton, Ms. Virginia Stewart, Ms. Hong Hoa Thi Trinh, Mr. Doug Williams, Ms. Odder Williams, and Ms. Annie Young!
- **Fall Soup & Salad Appreciation Luncheon** - Tues., October 24
- **Dillard Drive 8th Grade Career Day** – Wed., Nov 8
- **Holiday Baked Treats** – Dec.18 thru 21
- **Valentine's Day Remembrances** – Wed., Feb. 14
- **National Junior Honor Society Reception** - March
- **Teacher, Staff and Bus Driver Appreciation Week** – May
- **Spring Appreciation Luncheon** – May
- **Eighth Grade Award and Graduation Luncheon** – June



If you would like to join our committee, please do! Please call with any ideas or questions.

Stella Templin,
Hospitality Chair 2006-07
303-4949 or 368-1545 cell
templin275@yahoo.com



PTA Memberships Still Available

Joining the PTA is a great way to support your child's school. Your membership money helps the school and our children through the programs run by our valuable volunteers. PTA Memberships are \$6 each, which can be sent to the school in an envelope marked "PTA" with the Parent/Guardian Name(s), Student's Name(s), Grade, and Homeroom Teacher. Checks can be made out to DDMS PTA. Thank You.

Something Missing? Check Lost and Found

Many items find their way to the LOST and FOUND closet located in Student Support. The number of items grows daily. So, if any of your student's belongings are missing in action, encourage her/him to stop by and check it out. HINT: Making sure students put their names in jackets, gym clothes, hats, lunch bags, backpacks, books, etc., increases the chances that misplaced items will find their way home.



DRAGON FUND DRIVE

Dillard Drive Middle School PTA has ONE fundraiser a year and THIS IS IT! It's not too late to contribute to our Dragon Fund Drive! We invite everyone to participate by making a (tax-deductible) family donation and/or collecting donations from relatives and friends. Nothing to sell! Contribute what you can! Don't forget to check if your employer will offer a matching contribution.

Simply fill out the form below and return the form along with your donation to school in an envelope labeled "Dragon Fund Drive".

EXCITING RAFFLE PRIZES:

Raffle Drawing Deadline: Friday October 6th, 3:00pm.

Donate \$10 +:

You will be entered into the raffle for:

- a GIANT BEAN BAG CHAIR

Donate \$40 +:

You will be entered into the raffles for:

- a \$50 CARY TOWNE CTR GIFT CERTIFICATE
- and the GIANT BEAN BAG CHAIR

Donate \$60 +:

You will be entered into the raffles for:

- a PORTABLE DVD PLAYER
- and the \$50 CARY TOWNE CTR GIFT CERTIFICATE
- and the GIANT BEAN BAG CHAIR

Donate \$100 +:

You will be entered into the raffles for:

- 4 TICKETS TO CAROWINDS OR KING'S DOMINION (your choice!)
- and the PORTABLE DVD PLAYER
- and the \$50 CARY TOWNE CTR GIFT CERTIFICATE
- and the GIANT BEAN BAG CHAIR

CONTRIBUTION FORM

Parent/Guardian Name: _____ Phone number _____

Student(s) Name(s) _____ Grade _____ Team _____

_____ Grade _____ Team _____

Contribution Amount: (Circle One) : \$100 \$60 \$40 Other: _____

Name of employer that will offer a matching contribution (please include forms if applicable) _____

Return this form along with cash or check made out to **DDMS PTA** in an envelope either to your child's homeroom teacher; the front office; or by mail to DDMS PTA, 5200 Dillard Drive, Raleigh, NC 27606.

DEADLINE to be entered in the Raffle Drawings is Friday October 6th

Thank You for supporting the PTA!

**Dillard Drive Middle School PTA
5200 Dillard Drive
Raleigh, NC 27606-4118**

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