

OMS-PTSO News

Volume 52

December 2007



Stoughton O'Donnell Middle School



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A Message from the OMS PTSO

The next PTSO meeting will be on Wednesday, January 9th from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm at the OMS Media center.

| January 9 th | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | |

No December meeting

The guest speaker at our November PTSO meeting was Lt. Devine of the Stoughton Police Department. Lt. Devine had a discussion on internet safety in regards to students, and what parents need to know.

Here are some highlights of this topic:

- Prevent sexual predators from becoming your child's friend
- Signs that your child may be at risk
- When to contact the police
- Identification theft
- Cyber bullying

For more details, check out the [article](#) on Internet safety in this newsletter.

Washington D.C. Trip For Grade 8

The trip is scheduled for June 6 – 9, 2008 (which is a Friday to Monday).

Registration must be completed and mailed no later than December 1, 2007.

The following forms need to be filled and are due at later dates:

- Academic & Behavior Contract
- Trip Contract
- Medical History Form
- Prescription / Medication Form

[Forms](#) are available at the Middle School Website.

Stoughton Preferred Customer Cards

The Stoughton Chamber of Commerce has put together a great fundraiser for the Stoughton Schools. Preferred customer cards are available in the OMS front office through out the month of December. The card is only \$15 and \$10 goes directly to the OMS PTSO. These cards offer discounts at many local businesses and are good from January 1, 2008 – December 31, 2008.

Please help support our PTSO while you put savings directly into your pocket through out the year.

For more information contact: Lynne Mitchell at lynnekmitcell@yahoo.com

WANTED

Copy Committee Chair

Volunteer needed to organize the copy machines for OMS teachers.

Contact Lynne Mitchell if you are interested:

lynnekmitcell@yahoo.com

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NOTICES

Stoughton Special Education Parent Advisory Committee

The Stoughton Special Education Parent Advisory Committee serves families of any Stoughton student with special education needs. We provide information on programs offered in Stoughton, best practices in special education, and information regarding special education regulations and the law.

SSEPAC Presents

Mr. Bob Louzan on “Stoughton Special Education Programs”

Wednesday, December 5, 2007

7:00 – 9:00

O'Donnell Middle School Media Center

Mr. Bob Louzan is the Stoughton Special Education Director.

For further information contact:

Pat Passi, President pasqualepassijr@yahoo.com

Lynne Mitchell, Secretary
lynnekmitchell@yahoo.com

John D'Addieco, Treasurer jdaddieco@comcast.net

Next SSEPAC Meeting Feb. 6, 2008

Joani Geltman:

“Adolescent Psychology: The Parent Version”

Spirit Wear for the Holidays

New items

| | |
|---------------------------------------|------|
| Black Sweat Shirts | \$25 |
| Black Sweat Pants | \$20 |
| Fleece Blankets <Large & Embroidered> | \$25 |
| Back Packs with the Stoughton Logo | \$10 |
| Baseball Hats | \$12 |
| Black T-shirts | \$10 |
| Black long sleeve T-shirts | \$15 |

These latest items will be first available at the Holiday Day of Shopping Fundraiser.

To purchase any of these items please contact Noralee Curtis at noralee@norwoodlight.com or call 781-341-4232

HOMEWORK HELP

The Stoughton Public Library has been running a Monday Night Homework Center at the Library from 6-8 pm on Mondays, and has about twenty 8th and 9th grade students receiving homework help from about 15-20 volunteer tutors from the Stoughton High School Honor Society.



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Topic – Internet Safety

Notes taken from Lieutenant Robert C. Devine of the Stoughton Police Department, Community Policing Unit

Internet is wonderful, but opens up a world of things you don't want your kids to see.

Sexual Predators

- Gradually seduce targets via attention, affection, kindness, gifts
- Devote considerable amounts of time, money, energy
- Aware of latest music, hobbies, interests of children
- Attempt to gradually lower the child's inhibitions and slowly introduce sexual content

Signs that your child may be at risk online

- Child spends large amounts of time on line, especially at night
- Pornography on computer
- Child receives phone calls from people you don't know or calls are made to people you don't know
- Child receives mail, gifts, or packages from a stranger
- Child turns computer monitor off or quickly changes screen when you walk into the room --- you need to act on it
- Child becomes withdrawn from family
- Child is using an online account of someone else

It is important to talk to your children on Internet safety, whether it be in the home or else where (such as a friend's house).

When to contact Police:

- Child or anyone else in household has received child pornography
- Child has been sexually solicited by someone who knows he/she is under 18
- Child has received sexual images from someone that knows he/she is under 18

How to Minimize the Chances of Your child becoming a Victim

- Communication
- Keep the computer in a common room
- Spend time with your child online
- Utilize Parental controls
- Maintain access to child's online account
- Find out what safeguards are used by their friends
- Randomly check email
- Teach responsible use of online resources
- Make sure your child follows these Instructions:
 - Never arrange face to face meetings with someone they meet online
 - Never post pictures of themselves on the net
 - Never give out: Name, address, school name, phone number
 - Never respond to messages that are suggestive, obscene, belligerent, or harassing
 - Whatever they are told may not be true

Misuse of the internet can lead to identity fraud. All a perpetrator needs is a name, date of birth, and Social Security number to take out loans, obtain credit cards, or commit other crimes. "Never give someone online your personal information". If you have been victimized, contact the local police department to get a time stamp report. You are no longer liable for anything after that point. Then contact the Federal Trade Commission at <http://FTC.gov>.

Other crimes may involve online conversations based on information your child may give to the person they are communicating with (going on vacation, etc. Your house can get cleaned out!).

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EVENTS

December, 2007

| DAY | DATE | EVENT/ACTIVITY |
|------------|------------|--|
| Sat | 1 | Holiday Day of Shopping at the OMS Cafeteria |
| Thurs | 6 | Early Release |
| Fri | 14 | Term 2 Warnings |
| Mon - Tues | 24 – Jan 1 | Winter Vacation – No School |

January, 2008

| DAY | DATE | EVENT/ACTIVITY |
|-------|------|--|
| Wed | 2 | School reopens after Winter Vacation |
| Wed | 9 | OMS PTSO meeting 7:00 pm in the Media Center |
| Mon | 21 | Martin Luther King Day – no school |
| Fri | 25 | Term 2 ends |
| Thurs | 31 | Early Release |

| December 2007 | | | | | | | |
|---------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---|
| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT | |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 1 | W |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | <u>6</u> | <u>7</u> | 8 | W |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | <u>14</u> | 15 | W |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | <u>21</u> | 22 | W |
| 23 | <u>24</u> | <u>25</u> | <u>26</u> | <u>27</u> | <u>28</u> | <u>29</u> | W |
| <u>30</u> | <u>31</u> | <u>1</u> | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | W |



| January 2008 | | | | | | | |
|--------------|-----------|----------|-----|-----------|-----------|-----|---|
| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT | |
| <u>30</u> | <u>31</u> | <u>1</u> | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | W |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | W |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | W |
| 20 | <u>21</u> | 22 | 23 | 24 | <u>25</u> | 26 | W |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | <u>31</u> | 1 | 2 | W |

OMS-PTSO News

ONGOING FUNDRAISERS

Help raise funds for the PTSO and our school without spending any money!

You can by saving Box Tops, Campbell Soup labels and toner/ink cartridges....things you probably already have in your house.

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

For a complete list of all Box Tops products, go to the Box Tops website at boxtops4education.com.



There is a Box Tops box in the office so please collect 'em and send 'em in!

Chris Hay, Box Tops Coordinator
cmhay@yahoo.com

Campbell's Soup Labels

Take the Campbell Soup label and send it in with homeroom number - and we get points which can be used to purchase all kinds of things like balls, books, games and many other items!



View all the participating products.

Please remember to send in the entire label.

Toner/Ink Cartridges

Save the landfill and raise money at the same time, a definite win-win for all!

When your toner/ink cartridge is used up, just send it in to the office in a ziploc bag. The OMS PTSO gets money for each one turned in!

OMS-PTSO News

LINKS YOU CAN USE !

[Membership Form](#)

[Click to see 2007-2008 printable membership form.](#)

Visit the [Stoughton Youth Commission](#) Calendar, at
<http://www.stoughtonoasis.com/SYC/>



Lunch Online

The Food Service online payment web site is now “MealPayPlus”, and is available at

www.mealpayplus.com



<https://www.mealpayplus.com>

The School Lunch Menu is at

<http://www.stoughtonschools.org/Stoughton/ODMS/pages/lunch.html>

For more information, Keep an eye on channel 6 for OMS announcements and visit the school's website at www.stoughtonschools.org

The PTSO website contains the latest dates, events, agenda's, subcommittee information and much more.

<http://www.baseclasstech.com>

For a list of teachers, go to the OMS website's Staff List Page at:

<http://www.stoughtonschools.org/Stoughton/ODMS/pages/staff.htm>

Class room sites are at :

http://www.stoughtonschools.org/Stoughton/ODMS/pages/class_sites.htm