



# O'Donnell Middle School, Stoughton



VOLUME 60

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## Message from OMS PTSO:

Our next PTSO meeting is  
November 12<sup>th</sup> 7-8pm  
OMS Media Center

A representative from the Stoughton Police Dept. will be there. Come learn about Internet Safety and Cyber Bullyingō a presentation no parent should miss. Please join us.

--OMS PTSO Executive Board

## DANCE DANCE DANCE

### OMS FALL DANCE

November 7<sup>th</sup>

at the O'Donnell Middle School Cafeteria!

Don't like to dance? We'll have open-gym activities in the gym!

GRADE 6: 4:30-6:30pm

GRADE 7&8: 7-9pm

Tickets are \$5 and will be sold Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> through 7<sup>th</sup> during lunch. Tickets **must** be purchased in **advance**. **NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR**. No non-students will be allowed.

Pizza and drinks will be sold for \$1each. **AND** they'll be door prizes and give-aways!



**SAFETY TIP:** Please pick your children up promptly at the end of their dance!

## Our Big Fall Fundraiser

Thank you to everyone who participated in our **Annual Magazine Drive!** Thank you Debbie Zorn for doing such a great job at running the fundraiser!

There were 122 students who participated and brought in more than \$12,000 in orders

**Prize Day/Cash Pull will be during lunches sometime late December or early January.**

## Kids Vote USA

"Kids Voting USA® (KVUSA) gets students involved and ready to be educated, engaged citizens." The kids polls will be open on Election Day-**November 4<sup>th</sup>** from 2pm to 8pm. When you head out to the polls to cast your vote, bring your child with you.



## Stoughton Holiday Parade

Stoughton will have a Holiday Parade this year! The date is set for December 13<sup>th</sup>. If you want to be part of the planning for the OMS float, please let us know and we will connect you to the right person.

# OMS PTSO News

## Holiday Shopping Fundraiser



### OMS PTSO 3<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR

The PTSO will be having its 3<sup>rd</sup> annual holiday shopping event on December 6, 2008 from 9:00 a.m. . 2: 00 p.m. This is an event where adults and children can do their holiday shopping. Babysitting will also be available. We plan on having 30 vendors and crafters selling their products. If you are or know of a vendor who is interested, please contact Noralee Curtis. Cost of a table is \$30.



We are looking for **volunteers** and **donations** for the Craft Fair December 6<sup>th</sup>:

**Publicity:** We are looking for help hanging signs around town. If you work at a place where we can hang one or if you will go to local stores and hang some, please contact Noralee Curtis at 781-341-4232 or [Noralee@norwoodlight.com](mailto:Noralee@norwoodlight.com).

The **kitchen** will be open for breakfast and lunch. We are looking for donated items like paper plates, bowls, spoons, napkins, hot dog rolls, sub rolls, nacho chips, potato chips (small bags), soda, water, juice boxes.

Please contact Julia Dubovy if you are able to donate items for the kitchen.

[Julia@baynorthcapital.com](mailto:Julia@baynorthcapital.com)

781-341-8323

There'll be a **bakeshop** at the craft fair too!

If you have a specialty baked good item that you make, we would love to sell it! We are looking for donations of baked goods ... cookies, brownies, pies, cakes, cupcakes and breads for the Bake Shop at the OMS PTSO 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Holiday Craft Fair. Our shop will be open all day, so breakfast items and snack items will be sold. We are also looking for some candy items, such as fudge and peanut brittle. If you cannot bake, but still want to help out, we have some store-bought items in mind that would love to sell. If you can help, please contact Carol Petitpas at [CPetitpa@sovereignbank.com](mailto:CPetitpa@sovereignbank.com)

If you can help us out in any way or would like further information, please contact Noralee Curtis at 781-341-4232 . [Noralee@norwoodlight.com](mailto:Noralee@norwoodlight.com) or Rose Eckler at 781-344-5846 . [j.eckler@comcast.net](mailto:j.eckler@comcast.net).

# OMS PTSO News

## A Word From Mrs. Hart

I am collecting cd's and floppy discs to save our landfills. It takes years and years for a disc to dissolve into our earth. There are locations that will recycle them so we are collecting them for recycling. We will also use them in the classroom for demonstration purposes and to "make" things out of.

Thanks,

*Diana Hart, Computers  
Rm.101 OMS*

## On-Going Fundraisers:



### BoxTops For Education

If you've never shopped through the Box Tops Marketplace, now's the time to check it out! All new Marketplace shoppers who make a purchase at the Box Tops Marketplace between now and November 2 will earn 5 Bonus Box Tops for the OMS and that's in addition to the normal percentage we always earn when you shop at the Marketplace! If you're doing online shopping anyway, why not earn money for OMS at the same time? Visit [www.btfe.com](http://www.btfe.com) for details. Keep sending in those boxtops too!

**Hey Kids!** If we can collect 10,000 boxtops this year (that's like 12 per student) Mr. Hester will do something silly for the day! **AND if we reach this goal, the grade level that brings in the most boxtops will have a DAY OF FUN in June!**

## Campbell's Soup Labels



Send in your Campbell's labels and earn FREE STUFF for our school! See [www.labelsforeducation.com](http://www.labelsforeducation.com) for details about this program.

## Spirit Wear For Sale

Stoughton Lounge Pants	\$20
Stoughton Girl's Gym Shorts	\$10
Stoughton Baseball Hats (light gray and black)	\$12
Stoughton Baseball Hats	\$12
Hooded Sweatshirts (gray and black)	\$25
Long Sleeve T-Shirts (black and gray)	\$15
T-Shirts (black and gray)	\$10
Stoughton Black Sweat Pants	\$20
Stoughton Stadium Blankets	\$25

**For \$5, you can have your Spirit Wear embroidered/monogrammed!**  
**To order, call or email 781-341-4232**  
[noralee@norwoodlights.com](mailto:noralee@norwoodlights.com)

## OMS PTSO School Store Attention Students!



Need a last minute school supply? A pencil? A pen? Check out the OMS PTSO School Store.

The store is open every Monday during all lunches.

This is not a for-profit service. The PTSO simply wants our students as prepared as they can be. The items we offer are at very minimal cost.

# OMS PTSO News

## Mrs. DeNapoli's Health Tips

### A Note About the Flu Season:

From Mrs. DeNapoli,  
School Nurse

As the winter quickly approaches, the weather will continue to turn colder, and the germs will continue to multiply. Some helpful hints for the upcoming flu season include encouraging your child (and yourself) to try and eat a nutritious diet, get plenty of rest, and try and get some form of exercise daily. Frequent hand washing is essential in the prevention of the spread of germs, and everyone should be mindful to cover their mouths when coughing and sneezing, and to wash their hands after doing so!



This year, the Department of Public Health is recommending that all children receive the flu shot. Contact your pediatrician for more information! We are hoping to use hand sanitizer in the classrooms again this year to help prevent the spread of germs at school!

Also, it is very important that children stay home when they are ill. Sending a child to school with a fever is not a good plan, as a child with a fever needs rest that they cannot get at school, and it is unfairly exposing others to the virus. Often times, a good day of rest is just what the body needs to fight off a virus quicker and more completely. The mind/body connection is huge, and a body worn down and sick cannot perform well at school or even think clearly!

As always, feel free to call me anytime with questions/concerns pertaining to the health and well being of your child. Also, in the event your child has an extended illness or injury, please keep me informed so that I can best care for your child.

## News you choose

If you have any news you'd like to share with OMS families, please let us know! We can include it in our monthly newsletters. Contact [johndanlaura5@juno.com](mailto:johndanlaura5@juno.com) with an article you'd like to see published. **Our news deadline is the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month.**

## Cafeteria Flags

Did you ever notice the flags that hang in the cafeteria? They are there to represent the various countries in which our students were born. The PTSO purchases a flag anytime we have a student who was born in a country that is not yet represented in the cafeteria. We have been doing this for the last eight years.



Some students think that since they have lived in another country, that flag should be hung in the cafeteria. That's only true if the student was born in that country. Right now we proudly display the US flag plus the flags from twenty-seven other countries! We also display the Texas flag not that it is its own country but to honor the birthplace of our principal, Mr. Hester. The most recent flag added to our collection represents Peru and it was just purchased this year!

Mr. O'Donohue, who is from Ireland, made sure that when the flags were washed this summer his flag ended up next to the US flag, which stands highest on the wall.

The students take notice of the flags. The next time you're in the cafeteria, take a look at them and appreciate the diversity we live among.

# OMS PTSO News

## October's Special Guest

### The Stoughton Youth Commission

If you missed October's meeting then you missed a great presentation from Dawn Fontaine of the Stoughton Youth Commission. She talked about all the cool programs that are happening to keep Stoughton's youth busy and therefore leaving no time to get into mischief. On early Thursdays the Youth Commission sponsors afternoon programs right here at the OMS gym. So far, they have had a hugely popular kick-ball tournament and most recently a Guitar Hero Tournament. She also told us about Operation Horizons, Strengthening Families, Youth Advisory Council, Preteen Esteem, Anger Management, Babysitter training, OASIS (**O**rganizing **A**gainst **S**ubstances In **S**taughton), AND MORE! Find out about these programs on their website:

[www.stoughtonyouthcommission.org](http://www.stoughtonyouthcommission.org) you'll be glad you checked it out! An interesting fact Dawn brought to our attention is that "across the nation, the majority of teens who abuse prescription drugs get them easily and for free, primarily from friends and relatives." They believe that these are "safe" drugs and can be easily found in medicine cabinets--so reduce access to drugs in your home and let your children know that no drugs are safe. Thanks for an informative presentation from Dawn ã and she even got us home in time for the Sox game!

The Stoughton Youth Commission is located at 294 Pleasant St.  
Their phone number is 781-341-2252.

# OMS PTSO News

## Stoughton Special Education Parent Advisory Committee

### Presents

**Sally Fogel, M.Ed.**

**Wednesday, November 5, 2008**

**7:00 – 9:00**

**O'Donnell Middle School Media Center**

### *Sexuality Concerns and Your Child: Talking About Sensitive Issues*

Learn more about. . .

- Development of Sexual Identity
- Common Sexual Landmarks in Children
- Helping to identify my child's sexuality and social skills education needs
- Looking at areas of comfort and discomfort in discussing sexuality concerns, on the part of both parent and child
- Making the best use of 'teachable moments'
- Addressing difficult issues

**Sally Fogel** is an AASECT (American Association of Sexuality Educators, Counselors and Therapists) certified sexuality educator and have been working in this field for 28 years. She has been on the faculty at Wheelock College, Boston University School of Social Work, and Boston College School of Education, where she taught Human Sexuality. She teaches sexuality and social skills classes to both public and private school students, at various grade levels, throughout New England. She also conducts trainings on sexuality issues for teachers, counselors, and other human service providers. A field of great interest and focus for her is sexuality and individuals with physical, developmental and emotional disabilities. She has an M. Ed. in counseling; and provides counseling on sexual issues to individuals, couples and groups.

The Stoughton Special Education Parent Advisory Committee (SSEPAC) 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.

Monthly workshops presented by experts in their fields are free to Stoughton parents.

For further information contact:

Pat Passi, President

John DøAddieco, Vice President

Lynne Mitchell, Secretary

Leslie Tamarkin, Treasurer

pasqualepassijr@yahoo.com

jdaddieco@comcast.net

lynnekmitchell@yahoo.com

ltamark@comcast.net

# OMS PTSO News

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### November

- 04 No School Staff Development/ Election Day -- Please VOTE!
- 07 Fall School Dance
- 11 No School Veterans' Day
- 12 Term 1 Ends/PTSO meeting 7pm
- 20 Term 1 Report cards issued
- 26 Early Dismissal for Thanksgiving 11am
- 27 No School Thanksgiving
- 28 No School Thanksgiving



### December

- 04 Early Release, dismissal at 11:32am
  - 17 Term 2 Mid-term Reports Issued
  - 23 School Closes at end of day ( regular full day)
- Dec. 24-Jan. 4 Winter Break**

### 2008 – 2009 PTSO Meetings:

The PTSO meets once a month on Wednesday from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm in the OMS Media Center.

**ALL ARE WELCOME! Please come and share your ideas**

\*The meetings for the balance of the school year are:

Nov. 12	Dec -- NO MEETING	Jan. 7	Feb. 11
Mar. 4	Apr. 8	May 6	Jun. 3

\*meetings are subject to change.