

Merriam PTO N2K (Need to Know)

From the PTO Board: Tina Hamilton, Alycen Nigro, Lisa Sippy, Kavitha Hegde

WEEK OF 9/23/13

This newsletter is brought to you by the Communications Team and is meant to give you the latest and greatest news and information from around the organization.

CONTENTS

Calendar of Events	
Direct Appeal Update	
Volunteer Opportunities	
Fall Fair – Saturday, October 19	
In the Community – Oktoberfest Run	

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 9/25 Wednesday – School Pictures
- 10/4 Friday – Community Day (Rain Date – October 18)
- 10/14 Monday – No School (Columbus Day)
- 10/19 Saturday – Fall Fair 4-7 pm
- 10/23 Wednesday – (Rescheduled) School Pictures

DIRECT APPEAL UPDATE

Thanks to all who have already donated - we're off to a great start! Please check your child's backpack for the Direct Appeal letter that went home in Friday mail. There is an important FAQ on the back of the letter which should answer any questions you may have and explain in more detail why the PTO decided to hold the appeal this year.

To donate online, go to www.merriampto.org/donate.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

We are in need of the following volunteers:

Room Parent Volunteers - We are looking for volunteers to serve as room parents for most of the kindergarten, first, third and fifth grade classes. Room parents act as the liaisons between the teachers, the parents and the PTO for a particular class. Duties can include organizing volunteer schedules for in-class assistance, classroom events and Merriam community events. Being a room parent is an excellent way to meet the parents of your child's classmates and to help make parent involvement in the classroom an effective tool for the teachers. If you are interested in becoming a Room Parent for your child's class, please

contact Anne Corkery at acorkery@hotmail.com for more information.

Front Office Volunteers - We are in need of additional volunteers for the Merriam School front office. The commitment is a few hours in the morning for one day every other week for about ½ hour. The front office volunteers coordinate the attendance of all students to ensure safe arrival, and prepare reports for changes to students' dismissal routines. If you are interested in volunteering or would like more information on this opportunity, email Joanne Mills at jmills@abschools.org.

Library Volunteers – We are looking for volunteers to help in the library during your child's class, help with shelving books and organizing bookshelves, help with book repair, covering and processing and help with special projects such as the gift book program.

If you can spare an hour or more either every week or every other week we would love to have your help! Email Joan in the library (jhilton@abschools.org) to volunteer or for more information.

ABRSD Superintendent Search Committee - Our School Superintendent, Dr. Mills, recently announced his retirement at the end of this school year. The School Committee has begun the process to find a new Superintendent and is looking for a few volunteers for the Search Committee. The Transitional School Committee has decided that the make up of the **ABRSD Superintendent Search Committee** will include:

- 1 Central Office member
- 3 School Committee members
- 1 Elementary Principal
- 1 Regional Principal
- 3 Teachers: 1 Region, 1 Blanchard, 1 Acton Public
- 3 Parents: 1 Region, 1 Blanchard, 1 Acton Public
- 2 Community members (one from each town)

If you are interested in serving on this Committee, please email a **brief statement** describing your background and why you would like to participate to one of the following:

- Maria Neyland, AB Regional School Committee Chair at mneyland@abschools.org
- Dennis Bruce, Acton Public School Committee Chair at dbruce@abschools.org
- Brigid Bieber, Boxborough School Committee Chair at bbieber@abschools.org

This important commitment will require a significant number of late afternoon/evening meetings from late October through February. **Emails must be received by noon on October 1st.**

FALL FAIR – SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19

The Third Annual Merriam Fall Fair will be held October 19 from 4-7pm in the Parker Damon building.

Last year's event was so much fun and such a success, we can't wait to do it again! Celebrate fall with a fair that will include dancing, a cake walk, and game booths set up by each class. Feast on BBQ, hot dogs, caramel apples, cotton candy and popcorn! Stay tuned for more from the Fall Fair committee and your class room parents.

IN THE COMMUNITY – OKTOBERFEST RUN

The Oktoberfest 5k Road race will take place on Saturday, October 5 at 10 am. In addition, there will be the 4th Annual Kids Fun Run at 9:00 a.m. Races start at Gates School. A portion of the entrance fee will be donated directly to Merriam (just make sure you pick Merriam as your charity).

Come and run for a good cause!

<http://mwcoc.com/>