



HORIZON PTO NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2014

www.horizonpto.com
www.U-46.org
horizonpto@yahoo.com

The PTO mission is to provide all students at Horizon the opportunity to excel in academics and in life by providing committed volunteers and supplemental funding for supplies and programs that will enhance the learning environment at Horizon Elementary

YOUR CHILD'S DREAM

It is likely that if you ask your child, "What do you dream about doing when you grow up?", they will have a ready answer. Perhaps they say a veterinarian, an actress, a chef, a scientist that cures cancer, a Major League Baseball player. These aspirations are not just words; they are powerful possibilities. As a parent or caregiver, you have to ask yourself, "Am I a *Dream Crusher* or a *Dream Builder*?" Dream Crushers focus on the obstacles any dreamer faces such as, there aren't many professional ballplayers, too many years of education are required to be a scientist, or it costs too much money. Dream Builders listen, encourage, and say "I believe in you". They also know of the obstacles but recognize there will be a time and place for taking them on.

Let's help to encourage someone else's not-so-impossible dream!

(Paraphrased from handsfreemama.com, Rachel Macy Stafford 2014)

NOV PTO MEETING

THURS
11/20/14
6:30PM

HORIZON
LEARNING CTR
Guests:
Kindergarten
Teacher



PROJECTOR VS. CAMERA, WHO WILL WIN?

The PTO is once again running a **CA\$H RAFFLE** fundraiser this school year. At each month's PTO meeting, \$250 worth of prizes will be drawn. The monies raised from the raffle are earmarked for buying new Document Cameras for each classroom. The Horizon staff needs them. They want them! A flyer recently came home explaining all the details for the raffle.

Document Cameras replace outdated overhead projectors. Teachers and students can place anything – color and black & white images, hand written notes on a piece of paper, a student's hand drawn picture or diagram, a student presentation, practically anything, under the camera and it is projected onto a wall, white or black board. The cameras can even interface with computers so making presentations is easy with software like PowerPoint and Prezi.

See the PTO newsletter throughout the year to see who wins & how many cameras are purchased.

- \$250 worth of **CA\$H** prizes will be drawn during each monthly PTO Meeting.
- Sell all 10 tickets and a free ticket will be entered in your child's name!
- **Any student selling 3 tickets gets a coupon for a free Sonic Ice Cream.**
- All raffle tickets stay in the drawing for the entire school year or until you win!
- Please return the large portion of the sold tickets and any unsold tickets in an envelope labeled with your child's name and teacher.

Horizon Families ROCK!

This year **92%** of all Horizon students participated in a parent teacher conference. Keep up the fabulous communication over the next two trimesters.



U-46 BOUNDARY CHANGES

The Enrollment & Facilities Committee of the CAC is currently working with U-46 Administration to recommend boundary changes to the Superintendent and Board of Education. Boundary changes would take effect in the 2016/17 School Year. U-46 has adopted criteria to be used when developing, reviewing, and modifying boundary scenarios (including potential school closings). The 14 criteria are to be used by all parties: district administration, E&F committee, Board of Education, and Superintendent.

- Physical capacity & program capacity at a school, excluding mobile classrooms
- Current & projected enrollment demographics in an attendance boundary, including total enrollment, race/ethnicity, special education, English Language Learners, and students eligible for free/reduced meals.
- Distance and travel time of students from a school
- Traffic congestion and traffic patterns in a particular area
- Feeder school alignment
- Natural boundaries, such as wetlands, railroad tracks, forest preserves, and main thoroughfares
- Projected growth in area and future school facilities
- Proximity of schools to where students live
- Stability of an attendance boundary with the goal that a school attendance boundary would not be changed for at least two consecutive years, unless new school construction requires a change
- Capacity at all elementary schools to offer all day Kindergarten
- Capacity at schools for programs, such as high school academies
- Age, size and condition of the school building
- Cost to operate each building
- Other economic and facility factors that impact operations and costs

U-46 COMMUNICATION

Did you know that you can subscribe to two U-46 email newsletters? One is called the Superintendent’s Monthly Plus Newsletter for Parents. The other is called The Things You Should Know from the School and Community Relations Dept. Both can be found at http://www.u-46.org/pages/SDU46/News_at_U-46/Newsletters



NURSE NEEDS KNICKERS!

Did you know Horizon has a new nurse this year?

Nurse Lee Ann Hartnett is our new nurse and a local mom. She has a very small supply of pants. Not her own pants, silly! Rather, she has very few pairs of used kids pants in the nurse’s office. She hands out these donated pants when students have soiled their own pants during the school day—which happens more often than you might think! If you have any stretchy, sweat pant, legging type of pants that you are getting rid of, please consider sending them into the nurse so she can stock up. Any kid sizes are welcome and they need not be in perfect condition.

Also, the nurse helps kids out when they forget their snow boots. So, if you have any outgrown snow boots, please consider sending those in too! Thank You!



QUICK FACT

Horizon enrollment as of 9/30 is 556 students.

| Grade | # Students |
|--------------|------------|
| Kindergarten | 50 |
| 1st Grade | 65 |
| 2nd Grade | 80 |
| 3rd Grade | 50 |
| 4th Grade | 81 |
| 5th Grade | 115 |
| 6th Grade | 90 |
| Spec. Ed. | 25 |