



Oak Street School PTO

Parent Teacher Organization
70 West Oak Street
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

August 22, 2011

Dear Oak Street School Families,

On behalf of the PTO Board, we hope you are enjoying your summer and are excited about returning to school! We are writing to outline our fundraising plans for the 2011-12 school year and to ask for your support.

Last year, the PTO introduced a membership pledge drive in response to many parents' requests to "write a check," rather than participate in smaller fundraisers. In addition to the pledge drive, the PTO sponsored two book fairs and Comedy Night. The successful pledge drive, together with the other fundraisers, met all of our fundraising goals.

This year, we intend to take a similar approach. We are conducting the membership pledge drive; in lieu of the fall book fair, offering Kid Stuff Coupon Books for sale just in time for holiday shopping; and running the spring book fair. We also plan to hold a family-oriented event, such as the Harlem Wizards, over the winter. To kick-off our efforts, we hope to raise at least \$25,000 through the membership pledge drive to support the PTO's operating budget and the following programs:

- Cultural Arts Assemblies (5)
- Curriculum Enhancement Programs (12)
- 501c registration and operating expenses
- Mini-Grants
- Roald Dahl, Colonial, and Immigration Days
- Science and Art Expo
- Staff Appreciation Luncheon
- Student Directory and PTO Calendar
- Teacher Conference Lunches
- Wizards of Words.

Accordingly, we are asking our OSS families to consider making a tax-deductible donation to the PTO to support the programs listed above. While any amount is appreciated, we are requesting \$50 minimum per student. Please note that \$20 of each family's total pledge includes PTO membership dues, 1 student directory, and 1 PTO calendar and \$10 of that amount is tax deductible. The primary advantages of this approach are that 100% of your donation goes to the PTO, and many volunteer hours will be saved.

There is still the option to pay the \$20 annual PTO membership but without the pledges we will not be able to meet our goal. If less than \$25,000 is collected, additional fundraisers, other than those listed above, will be needed in order to pay for the programs.

Please complete and return the attached Membership and Pledge form no later than Friday, September 16, 2011. Please make all checks payable to Oak Street School PTO and mail to Lisa Richter, PTO Membership Coordinator, 63 Juniper Way, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920. Once school begins, you may return the pledge form to school with your child in an envelope addressed to Lisa Richter and marked PTO Pledge Drive.

Thank you for your support of the OSS PTO. Please contact us or any other PTO Board member with any questions. We look forward to a great year with fabulous programs for our children.

Sincerely,

Donna Giordano, Co-President (donnagio22@yahoo.com)

Mary Schiffer, Co-President (marykaylbi@gmail.com)

Christine Corrigan, Vice President – Fundraising (cpcorrigan@optonline.net)

Tina Mattiola, Treasurer (temattiola@yahoo.com)