

# Paw Prints



Frederick Carder Elementary School

Oct.-Nov. 2009

Vol. IX No. 2

## About the Carder PTA

The Carder PTA is a partnership of teachers and parents working to provide students with the best possible learning environment. PTA meetings are held monthly to plan activities and programs that support and enhance the Carder experience. We rely on volunteers to organize and staff our activities to make them successful. Paw Prints, which is published by the PTA, is your link to all of our news and events. Everyone is encouraged to join the PTA at an annual membership fee of only \$4.00 per person. This is a great way to support your child and our school!

## 2009-10 PTA Officers

**President:** Amber Felker  
**Vice President:** Candice Hill  
**Treasurer:** Marybeth Greene  
**Secretary:** Kim Newton

## Paw Prints Editor:

Erin Edger  
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**Carder Elementary School**  
289 State Street  
Corning, NY 14830-3099  
962-2454

**Principal:** Dan Davis  
**Secretary:** Marge Bosket  
**Typist:** TBA

**Office Hours:**  
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**PTA Websites:**  
www.carderpta.com  
www.pta.org  
www.nyspta.org

**C-PP District Website:**  
www.corningareaschools.com

## Facilities Presentation at Carder

Please join us for the school district's Facilities Presentation on Tuesday, November 10 at 6:30 p.m. in the Carder auditorium. C-PP Superintendent Mike Ginalski and School Board President Tom Tammaro will present the plan details and answer questions about the plan.

In order to accommodate this meeting, the regularly scheduled PTA meeting will be held from 6:00 to 6:15 p.m. in the school library. Additionally, we will extend the child watch hours for children ages 3 and up from 6:00 to 9:30 p.m. so that everyone interested has the opportunity to attend both the PTA meeting and the facilities presentation.

It is a critical time in our school district and our community. This meeting is a great opportunity to get informed and have questions or concerns addressed so that residents are able to make an informed decision when they vote on December 15.

This presentation is open to the public and we encourage you to attend. Please feel free to invite your neighbors and friends.

If you are unable to make this meeting, there are other presentations scheduled in many locations throughout the district. You also can find additional informa-

tion regarding the proposed facilities plan on the district's website at [www.corningareaschools.com](http://www.corningareaschools.com).

## Carder PTA Officers

### Additional Presentation Dates:

- 11/3 West High School, 6:30 p.m.
- 11/12 Caton Fire Dept. Hall, 6:00 p.m.
- 11/17 Severn School, 6:30 p.m.



## Carder Calendar

|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| November 4     | School Board meeting<br>- Admin. offices   |
| November 5     | Half day of school   |
| November 10    | PTA Council meeting<br>Carder PTA meeting<br>Facilities presentation at<br>Carder, 6:30 p.m. |
| November 11    | Veterans Day, no school  |
| November 13    | Box Tops collection  |
| November 17    | Math Family Fun Night  |
| November 18    | School Board meeting<br>- Admin. offices   |
| November 23    | Report Cards issued  |
| November 25-29 | Thanksgiving Break   |
| November 30    | Reflections entries due  |



## Comments from Amber and Candice

We would like to thank everyone for attending our last PTA meeting. Mr. P gave a wonderful presentation on at-home access of the Accelerated Reader program.

The annual Scholastic Book Fair did a great job at getting books into the hands of many of our Carder students. It is the purpose of our PTA to promote literacy and assist in encouraging the students to find a passion for reading.

Thank you to all our Carder families and staff who helped us have another successful Fall Fundraiser. Together, we raised \$16,302.12! Wow – great job, Carder! We will distribute all Fall Fundraiser orders on October 30.

The officers would like to encourage everyone to join us at our next PTA meeting on November 10 at 6:00 p.m. in library. Immediately following will be a Corning-Painted Post district facilities meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the auditorium. We ask that you invite your friends, family and neighbors to join us at this time. We also will offer childcare during both the PTA meeting and the facilities presentation for children ages 3 and up.

We hope to see you on November 10.

### **Amber Felker & Candice Hill**

Carder PTA President and Vice-President

## Nurse Notes from Mrs. Scagliola

Lost and found items will be taken to Salvation Army on Tuesday, November 24.

Please make sure students dress appropriately for snowy weather – coats, hats, gloves and boots – so they can play on the playground at recess.



## A Note from Carder Principal Dan Davis

I have been very impressed with the excellent behavior I have observed throughout our building this year. One major factor in the excellent behavior is how we are approaching our character education program. As you may already know, character education plays a huge role in our school. Each year we try to improve on the existing program. This year, kids are earning tickets to fill in a SHOW 5 (always do the right thing) handprint in each classroom. When the class fills a SHOW 5 handprint, we will make a donation to the Finger Lakes SPCA.

It has been very encouraging to see how well our kids behave. The character program is just one of the many examples of how we are creating respectful, responsible, caring and honest kids. If you would like to know more about the character program, ask your son or daughter.

### Quick reminders...

1. Flu season is here early. Please help us out by doing the following:

- Talk to your child about washing hands with soap and water, using hand sanitizer and respiratory etiquette.
- Contact the school when your child is sick.
- Keep children home if they are sick. They may return to school when they are fever-free for 24 hours and/or when the symptoms no longer exist.

2. We are seeing an increase in the number of students who are late for school. Please make sure your child is at school by 8:45 a.m. The tardy bell rings at 8:55. This will give them plenty of time to get to class on time and be prepared for the day.

Thank you for your continued support, and as always, please contact me if you have questions or concerns.





# Hot Topics

## Bring in Your Box Tops

Box Tops collections are under way. Please send in Box Tops for Education coupons to your child's classroom any time. So far, we've collected \$619 toward our goal of \$1,750. Mrs. DiGiulio's class collected the most Box Tops in October and won \$25 to spend how they like. The next collection will be November 16.

*Chair: Jane Trice*

## Donate to the Coat Bank

Thanks to everyone for the many coat bank donations. The coat bank bin is located in the main lobby and collection is ongoing.

If you are in need of winter items for children (siblings and adults too) contact Mrs. Slavin, our school social worker. Coats, hats, gloves and boots in all sizes are accepted. *Chair: Julie Judd*

## Student Council update

Student Council elections were held in grades three through five during the first two weeks of October. The new reps met to brainstorm ideas for spirit days and community service projects for the entire school year.

*Student Council Advisors: Lee Friedrich and Jennifer Powers*

# It's not too late to join the PTA

Once again this year, 100 percent of our Carder teachers have joined Carder PTA. The PTA sponsors enrichment and educational events, programs and activities throughout the year to enhance the experience of every Carder student. This year our goal is 177 members. We currently have 144 Carder PTA members registered. If you haven't already renewed, use the form below to join today!



## MEMBERSHIP FORM

The Carder Elementary School Parent Teacher Association (PTA) coordinates and funds a variety of social and enrichment opportunities for Carder students and their families. Spouses, grandparents and others are encouraged to join! PTA membership shows your children they are part of a supportive community working together in their best interest. Plus, the PTA helps you stay informed about and involved in your child's education.

PTA Membership is just **\$4 per person. Join TODAY!**

Member Name 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Member Name 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Member 1: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Member 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Child(ren)'s Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

*The regional PTA gives awards based on certain membership demographics. For purposes of reporting our membership diversity, please check all that apply.*

Non-parent/Non-teacher  Teacher  Male

\_\_\_\_\_ Memberships @ \$4 per person      **Total Enclosed: \$** \_\_\_\_\_

Please enclose cash or checks payable to Carder PTA in an envelope and return with your child by **September 30**. Your membership card(s) will be sent home with your child.

We will send PTA & Carder updates and correspondence periodically by email to members, parents, teachers and others. Please check to **OPT OUT** of these mailings.

Occasionally, we may recognize our members in our PawPrints newsletter. Please check if you do **NOT** want to be included.

**Look for volunteer forms for opportunities to get involved!**



# PTA Minutes in Brief

Highlights of the October 2009 meeting minutes:

- 23 members attended.
- The September 2009 minutes were approved.
- Treasurer's Report: Marybeth Greene reported the balance of the savings account as \$23,132.15 and the checking balance as \$823.12.
- *Principal's Report:*
  - Thank you: Volunteers who helped K-1 students in the cafeteria at the beginning of the year; Book Fair volunteers; playground volunteers and the Playground Committee for the new fence, landscaping and black-top painting.
  - Accelerated Reader: The program has been expanded school-wide and everyone is doing a great job.
  - Character Education: Tickets are being handed out to staff and students demonstrating character. These are being redeemed for "hands" that earn donations to the SPCA. Students are excited and motivated.
  - Facilities: Superintendent Mike Ginalski will present at Carder on Nov. 10 at 6:30 p.m. in the auditorium. Mr. Davis has a copy of the plan for anyone to review and can forward questions or concerns to Mr. Ginalski.
  - Math Night: Scheduled for Nov. 17. More information to follow.
- *Committee Reports:*
  - PTA Council: A new Athletic Code of Conduct is in place. It will be discussed further at the next meeting. The West High Blood Drive will be held on Nov. 9. PTA membership fees are due in Nov. Safety audits are being conducted throughout the district.  
**School calendar changes:** Feb. 1 and March 22 are no longer days off. May 3 will be a day off for all students and May 14 will be a day off for grades PreK-8.
  - Membership/Volunteers: To date we have 144 members. Our goal is 175 members. Thanks to Mrs. O'Hare for coordinating teacher and staff membership, which reached 100 percent.
  - Fall Fundraiser: Final total earned is \$16,302.12. Sales are down from previous years; we need to reset future goal.
  - Book Fair: 312 vouchers were redeemed. PTA gave Mrs. Chester \$511 Scholastic credits to be used for Carder students. Thanks to all volunteers.
  - Box Tops and Scrips: Last year we collected 1,625 Box Tops. The goal for this year is 1,750. Carder is ranked 208 out of 6,579 schools in Box Top collection. Earn Carder more money by using the [www.btf.com](http://www.btf.com) website to access more than 70 online retailers. Scrips orders will be placed periodically. Information can be found on the Carder PTA website. A motion was made and passed to add \$20 for Scrips to the PTA budget and to donate profits to the playground project.
  - Spooktacular: Oct. 30. Volunteers needed.
  - Student Directory: Have been distributed to families who turned in the forms.

- Spirit Wear: Items should be delivered the first or second week of November. Fifth grade shirt and field day shirt orders will be combined.
- Coat Closet: Open and accepting adult and children coats, pants, boots, hats and gloves as well as hangers. Donation bin in foyer.
- Reflections: Theme is "Beauty is..." A letter will go home in early November. Entries due on Nov. 30 with judging on December 2.
- *New Business:*
  - Carder is entitled to a second seat on the PTA Council. If you are interested, please contact Jodi Kohli for more information.
  - Mrs. O'Hare introduced and thanked Mrs. Haischer, Mrs. Cowulich, Mrs. Tanneberger and Mr. Prochazka for attending the meeting.
  - Mrs. LoVette has taken a new position at CFA. A search for a replacement is underway.
- Meeting was adjourned at 7:06 p.m. A presentation by Mr. Prochazka on the Accelerated Reading Program followed.

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## Reading accelerates at Carder

Moreland the Magician came to Carder in September to get students excited about reading and participating in the school-wide reading programs, Accelerated Reader and AR Junior. Fred the Koala also came to introduce the Carder Kids Read banner that now hangs in the lobby.

Each grade level is participating in this reading program. Each child has a goal to meet and a contract to sign. Our classrooms and the library contain books with the AR designation, which means the book has an accompanying test that can be taken on any computer in the school. Once the student passes the test, credit is given for the book.

There will be an AR celebratory party each semester for students who meet the goal. Although each child has a goal to meet, teachers are encouraging all students to read as far above that goal as they can go.

AR Junior is for kindergarten and first grade students. It uses a book counting system and not a point system. Students in AR Junior can read non-designated books and re-read these books to someone at school to reach their goal. Kindergarten students will begin AR Junior in the second semester.

Parents can get involved by going online to check their child's test scores, see what books their child has read or find out if books they have in their home library qualify as AR books. Check out the Home Connect AR website at <https://hosted230.renlearn.com/829168/HomeConnect/Login.aspx>.

**Total points earned by Carder kids so far: 4,696.4**  
**Total words read by Carder Kids so far: 27,527,021**