

# Paw Prints



Frederick Carder Elementary School

Sept.-Oct. 2009

Vol. IX No. 1

## 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:

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**Principal:** Dan Davis  
**Secretary:** Marge Bosket  
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**Office Hours:**  
 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**PTA Websites:**  
[www.carderpta.com](http://www.carderpta.com)  
[www.pta.org](http://www.pta.org)  
[www.nyspta.org](http://www.nyspta.org)

**C-PP District Website:**  
[www.corningareaschools.com](http://www.corningareaschools.com)

## Join the Fun at Spooktacular

A fun-filled, family festival will take place from 6:30-8:30 p.m. on Friday, October 30 at Carder School's Spooktacular. This seasonal occasion is intended for the whole family, and all students MUST be accompanied by an adult. (Drop-offs are not permitted.) Costumes are optional, and everyone is encouraged to come with their children to enjoy the following activities:

- Spooky Storytelling
- Costume Contest with prizes donated by Imagine That!
- Music & Dancing in the gym
- Seasonal Arts & Crafts
- Cookie Decorating & Food Concessions in the cafeteria
- Souvenir Photographs
- Halloween Bingo and Cauldron Toss
- Baked Goods Sale.

Admission for the Spooktacular is \$1.00 per child, free for adults. Some activities will require an additional fee.

## Volunteers Are Needed!

Many helpers are needed to make the Spooktacular a success. Please contact Lori Chisarik or Kym Perino if you are willing to work a shift from 6:15-7:30 p.m. or 7:30-8:30 p.m. or would like to donate a baked good



item. Older siblings and Carder "alumni" are welcome to help out as well. To volunteer or for more information on the event, please contact event co-chairs Lori Chisarik (Chisarik@earthlink.net; 973-2721) or Kym Perino (kym-perino@stny.rr.com; 377-5159).



## Carder Calendar

October 6	Facilities presentation - CFA, 7:00 p.m.
October 7	School Board meeting - Admin. offices
October 12	Columbus Day, no school
October 13	Picture Day PTA meeting (presentation on AR following)
October 21	School Board meeting - Admin. offices
October 30	Spooktacular
November 10	Facilities presentation - Carder, 6:30 p.m.



## Comments from Amber and Candice

We would like to thank all the parents and teachers who attended our first PTA meeting. Attending our monthly meetings is a great way to learn about the wonderful activities at Carder and to meet the principal, Mr. Davis, and our teachers. It's also a good time to share ideas and voice questions or concerns. We value your time and appreciate you joining us.

Our fall fundraiser is wrapping up. This is a major source of funding for the PTA. We will purchase SENTEOS this year, which are great accessories to go along with our Smart Boards. We greatly appreciate your generous support of this effort.

Carder's membership drive has begun. Membership forms have been sent home with your child. Please encourage other members of your family to join our PTA. Membership dues are only \$4.00 per person. Volunteer forms also have been sent home. We are always seeking volunteers and encourage parents to get involved in our special events. We hope you will consider joining the PTA; your dues benefit our school directly as well as the national PTA, a child advocacy group.

We know everyone's lives are very busy and we appreciate all the time you give getting involved at Carder. We would like to thank all the committee chairs who continuously work hard at making our events a huge success.

Our next PTA meeting is October 13 at 6:30 p.m. in the library. Our librarian, Mr. P., will present on our new Accelerated Reader program. Don't forget – we provide child care for your children aged three and older.

**Amber Felker & Candice Hill**  
Carder PTA President and Vice-President



## A Note from Carder Principal Dan Davis

Welcome back, Carder families! We've had a great start to the new school year and I am expecting another successful year at Carder!

Over the summer, our teachers worked very hard at creating a new reading initiative called CARder Kids Read. This is very exciting because they've created something unique to our building to encourage the excitement of reading. Students in grades 2-5 will participate in Accelerated Reader (AR) and will work on individual reading goals. Teachers also created AR Junior, which will accommodate the needs of our kindergarten and first-grade readers to meet their reading goals. Another great part of CARder Kids Read will be the inclusion of celebrations and assemblies to recognize our students' accomplishments. We will send more information about CARder Kids Read, so please be sure to check your child's backpack.

Flu season is approaching and the nurse and I have been working diligently to raise awareness at Carder. We've communicated the importance of regular hand washing and to use hand sanitizer when soap and water is not available. Like all buildings in our district, we also will follow the guidelines established by NYS Department of Health, NYS and US Education Departments and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. If your child is sick, please keep him home until he feels better and is fever-free. We also want you to contact the school to let us know why your child is absent. It's important that we maintain constant communication and if you have questions or concerns about the flu or other illness, please contact Diane Scagliola, our school nurse.

I am looking forward to successful school year and encourage you to contact me at any time if you have questions or concerns about your child's education.



# New Character Program at Carder



At Carder School, one of our goals is to promote positive character throughout our day. If children think, picture and practice respect, responsibility, honesty and caring regularly, they'll develop habits that help them not only "do the right thing," but also become stronger learners.

This year, we've established a school-wide character program, SHOW 5, that assists The Finger Lakes SPCA. We feel it's important for children to realize the choices they make are important enough to have an impact on someone or something else.

Here's how the program works:

- When an adult or student sees or hears a student exhibiting a character behavior, a character ticket is given to him/her. When a character ticket is received by a student, it is placed on a SHOW 5 handprint that is displayed in the classroom.
- When a classroom SHOW 5 handprint is filled with tickets, it is recorded by the counselor and a small SHOW 5 hand is placed on a goal chart located by the cafeteria.
- Several goal charts will be displayed throughout the school year. Each chart will focus on a different item (toys, food, gift certificates) to be earned and donated to The Finger Lakes SPCA.
- Periodically, volunteers from the SPCA will visit Carder School to collect the items the children have earned for them.

The SHOW 5 Character Program gives students an opportunity to see that taking pride in their individual behaviors is necessary for their school to help an organization that is so appreciative of their efforts!

## Nurse Notes from Mrs. Scagliola

Please send your student to school in proper footwear (socks and sneakers) to ensure comfort and safety.

With the change of weather, please make sure students are dressed appropriately (long pants, sweaters, jackets, etc.).



## Hot Topics

### Start Bringing in Your Box Tops

Box Tops collections are under way. Please bring in Box Tops for Education coupons to your child's classroom at any time. They will be collected near the 15th of each month from October through February. The classroom that collects the most Box Tops for the month will win \$25 to spend how they like!

You also can visit [www.btfe.com](http://www.btfe.com) to win up to \$50,000 for our school. Select the "earn" tab, then chose Bonus Box Tops. Also under the "earn" tab is Marketplace where you can go to more than 100 retailers' websites to begin your on-line shopping. Retailers will give our school money just for entering their website through Box Tops.

*Chair: Jane Trice*

### Donate to the Coat Bank

The coat bank is open. Coats, hats, gloves and boots in all sizes are accepted. Items can be dropped off in the bin in the main lobby.

Anyone in need of warm winter items can contact School Social Worker Mrs. Slavin. All information is confidential.

Thanks for your donations to help keep our children warm this winter!

*Chair: Julie Judd*

### Spirit Wear

Spirit Wear orders MUST be in by Thursday, October 8 – NO late orders will be accepted.

Items include: tye-die t-shirt (\$11), Crusader jacket (\$40), sweatshirts (\$22), fleece blanket (\$18), knit beanie (\$8), drawstring backpack (\$8) and Carder paw print car magnet (\$4).

Items should be delivered by the end of October. Fifth-grade shirts will be sold separately at a later time.

*Chair: Karen Nevins*



# PTA Minutes in Brief

Highlights of the September 2009 meeting minutes:

- Approximately 20 members attended.
- The June 2009 minutes were approved.
- Treasurer's Report: Marybeth Greene reported the balance of the savings account as \$8,289.37 and the checking balance as \$605.63.
- *Principal's Report:*
  - Accelerated Reader: Moreland the Magician assembly kicked off the program. AR has been expanded school-wide.
  - Character Education: tickets will be handed out to staff and students demonstrating character. These will be redeemed for "hands" that earn donations to the SPCA.
  - Playground: fence plans were sent to the Board of Education for approval. Installation planned for Oct. 3-4.
  - Attendance Policy: tardies and absences will be monitored. Calls to be placed home if tardy or absent three times. Mr. Davis will call after five times.
  - Facilities: Mike Ginalski will present at Carder on Nov. 10. Mr. Davis can forward your concerns or questions to Mr. Ginalski.
  - Swine Flu: hand washing emphasized, with soap and water or alcohol-based sanitizer. Children with fevers should be kept home for 24 hours after temperature is normal without use of fever-reducing medication.
  - Enrollment: 473 students enrolled, down from last year.
  - Testing: Results are excellent. ELA, math, science and social studies all increased.
- *Committee Reports:*
  - PTA Council: Food drive will be held in March. ELA testing dates changed to April 26-28. East/West Blood Drive will be held in the spring. Facilities presentation schedule on district website.
  - Membership/Volunteers: Membership fee is still \$4.00. Forms sent home. Membership table to be at Open House.
  - Fall Fundraiser: Sales end Sept. 25; delivery set for Spooktacular (tentative).
  - Book Fair: Sept. 21-22. Vouchers sent home; may be donated back to PTA. Volunteers needed.
  - Box Tops and Scrips: \$70 raised from collection box at Market Street Coffee and Tea. Collections on 15th of each month, Oct.-Feb. Winning classes given \$25 toward class party or project. Online registration at [www.btfe.com](http://www.btfe.com) earns more money. Scrips removed from PTA budget, will be run periodically to benefit playground.
  - Spooktacular: Oct. 30. Signup sheets available at next meeting.

- Assemblies: Moreland Magician kicked off AR. Hill Brothers scheduled for Jan. 29.
- Student Directory: Forms due by Sept. 25. Directories will only be distributed to families that submit information. Not all fields on form need to be completed. Distributed mid-October.
- Spirit Wear: Forms distributed week of Sept. 28.
- School Portraits: Oct. 13. Make-up date is Dec. 8.
- 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..." Entries due before Thanksgiving break.
- *New Business:*
  - Laura Tolbert shared information about Senteos, interactive remotes used with Smart Boards. Purchased in sets of 24 or 30. Requested \$1,500, passed as part of amended budget.
  - The 2009-10 budget was approved with amendments for Senteos and membership expenses.
- Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

## Become a PTA member



Each school year, parents and teachers of the Carder community renew their membership in Carder's PTA. The PTA sponsors enrichment and educational events, programs and activities designed to enhance the experience of every Carder student. In addition, affiliation with our C-PP District PTA council, along with regional, state and national PTA, means we are able to harness the power of volunteers and advocates across the country on behalf of our kids. More than 85 research studies conducted during the past 30 years prove that kids do better when parents are involved. Grades are higher. Test scores improve. Attendance increases.

Our goal for memberships this year is 177, and we currently have 115 Carder PTA members registered. Membership is \$4/person, and forms are available on the Carder PTA Web site at [www.carderpta.com](http://www.carderpta.com). Join today!

