

Thoughts from the PTO President

Parents,

It's great that we are back to enjoy another year at South Boulevard fully immersed in French and Spanish. It's because of your efforts to make the School Board aware of the unique needs of an immersion program that we are here again. You showed what it means to be an active PTO, but we can't stop now. Our Future Focus Committee is hard at work pushing to get a temporary facility where this program can grow to double the size we are now. Stay tuned to hear more from the Future Focus Committee.

Last year, most of the PTO's time and energy was spent on the Transition process. We did not focus on the fund raising and rightly so. But this year is a different story. We need to resume our efforts to raise funds. I ask each one of you to commit to help with 1 or 2 PTO fund raising activities. If we all do a little something, then no one person will get burned out.

I would like to extend a huge THANK YOU to Larry Broussard for organizing the work day to spruce up the windows in the front of school. This is a great example of one person utilizing his/her talents for the betterment of the school.

I look forward to a very productive year with you in 2009-2010.

Charlotte Brent

From the Vice President

This year we started out with a Book Drop-off event the Monday before school started. Many families choose to take advantage of the convenience of dropping off their child's supplies before the first day. This really helps to make the first day go so much smoother.

This year we're adding a Room Parent Coordinator to our PTO. This person will be responsible for engaging each of the Room Parents to work with their class to supply volunteers for PTO events. Thanks to Junita Meier, (Shannon Scott -1st grade ELA and Vicky Bergeron -5th grade ELA) for developing the Room Parent responsibilities.

Parents – we need you to sign up for the PTO Yahoo group. This is the most effective way for us to com-

municate with you about what the PTO is doing. If you are not on the Yahoo group, send your email to Summerpto@cox.net.

We have TWO big activities in **October**.

Magnet Mania is on **October 17** and we need parent volunteers to work one-hour shifts. Magnet Mania is sponsored by the EBR School System and is our opportunity to let potential parents who are interested in magnet programs know all about FLAIM. We will also need parents to help follow-up on Magnet Mania by being available to speak with parents who come to visit the school on **October 20th**. The other big PTO activity in October is the Fall Carnival on **October 23**. The PTO sponsors several activities during the Carnival

and it takes the support of many to make the event successful. Please mark your calendars now and plan to help with these events.

We also **need a coordinator** for the Secret Santa Shopping event in December. The children absolutely LOVE this event and as parents you should, too! The children have the opportunity to buy gifts for their loved ones without you needing to leave the house. But this event needs a coordinator and MANY parents to make it successful. Send Summer an email if you can help coordinate this event Summerpto@cox.net or sign-up on the form.

Please see the final page of the newsletter for a parent sign-up sheet for these upcoming activities.

Summer Steib

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

- South Boulevard PTO on the News
- South Boulevard Scores—Up Again!
- Welcome New Parents!
- Any Ideas, Let Us Know



Stay informed...

<http://www.sbpto.org>

**South Boulevard
Foreign Language
Academic Immersion
Magnet
Parent Teacher
Organization**

PTO Membership

All parents and guardians of FLAIM students are members of the PTO.

There are no membership dues. We request that each family donate \$5/year to the PTO as seed money for our activities. Please send your donation

payable to FOREIGN LANGUAGE ACADEMIC PTO in an

envelope marked "PTO Membership Donation".

The PTO is a 501c3 organization



Donate to Your PTO Today.

which means it is a non-profit group.

According to IRS rules any contribution of \$20 or more is tax-deductible.

The PTO Treasurer will provide a tax deductible receipt for individual donations of greater

than \$50 per one-time donation.

Treasurer's Report

Current balance PTO account as of 08/31/2009 is \$7,185.35. We have set aside \$850 for the FFC (Future Focus Committee) & \$550 for 2010-11 School Supplies.

2008/2009 Fund Raiser details:

<u>Fundraiser</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Box Tops	\$145.00
Carnival	2013.00
Donations	30.00
Family Night	350.00
Papa Johns	350.00
Recycle	52.00
Santa Workshop	209.00
PTO T-Shirts	176.00

TOTAL	\$3325.00
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Sharon Rozas

Fund Raising Committee

Last year, we successfully focused our efforts on retaining the immersion programs in place at the South Blvd location rather than on fundraising, so this year we want to double our efforts to raise funds for the school. PTO money will be used to purchase French and Spanish books for our library, buy more playground equipment, provide target language enrichment activities, and much more. We need your help to make all of this happen! We collect General Mills Box Tops and Community Coffee labels, cell phone, and printer cartridges on an ongoing, yearlong basis. So send them with your child to school or drop them in the appropriate boxes near the office.

October 23rd is the date for our Fall Carnival this year. Each year the PTO holds a raffle in conjunction with the Carnival. We need parents' help to obtain items for this raffle. Very soon a letter will arrive to you with details on how you can help us solicit TAX DEDUCTIBLE gifts from local businesses to include in the raffle. This is the PTO's biggest fundraising money maker! *Keep in mind, Ms. Beatty (our librarian) is in charge of the other aspects of Carnival, and she will need your donations*

for carnival game prizes as well.

In the past, we have had a monthly Papa John's pizza night for our families and Papa Johns has donated a portion of the money to our PTO. We

PTO money will be used to purchase French and Spanish books for our library, buy more playground equipment...and much more.

are going to reinstitute pizza night this year. We will send a letter in your child's folder with more information when the 1st pizza night is near. Typically, we have pizza night on early dismissal days.

For the 2009-2010 school year, we are going to try some new fundraising events. A short list of these include: a monthly Box Top classroom competition, a large ticket raffle with a tiered prize structure (1st prize will receive several thousand dollars!), a Barnes and Noble store buying opportunity with a portion of the donations given to our PTO (this will happen in De-

ember), a family night at the school in February, and various other buying opportunities with local businesses who will donate a portion of the money to our PTO (such as Office Depot, Winn Dixie, CC's Coffee Houses). Again, letters will be in your child's folder soon outlining more details of these opportunities for you to help raise money for the PTO.

Lastly, we know that there are several grant and donation opportunities in the local community for our school. If you know of any businesses, or perhaps work for a company, who has grant or donation programs, please let me know. You may even work for a company that will match an employees' volunteer time with a monetary donation, or match employees' monetary donations. Also, we accept monetary donations if you would prefer to write a check rather than participate in fundraising events.

Amber Moran

Advertising and Recruitment Committee

I would like to extend a warm welcome to new and returning FLAIM parents. It is a joy to work with such an enthusiastic group.

It is hard to believe that the recruiting process for the 2010-2011 school year will soon be kicking off. We have found over the last few years that our greatest asset in this process is the positive recommendations to prospective parents from current parents. Your words of experience as parents who have "been there" making the tough decision to put their child in an innovative program in a public school, has proven time and time again to carry great weight in the minds of prospective parents.

You will soon be receiving a letter asking you to think of friends, relatives, and neighbors who might be

interested in having their kindergarten or first grade child apply for our program. Students applying after first grade need to be coming from an immersion school, but are also welcome to apply.

You will be asked to fill in the names and complete mailing addresses of those you think might be interested. I will extend an invitation to them to attend Magnet Mania and the school's magnet Open House on Tuesday, October 20th from 9:00

A.M. until 2:30 P.M. They will get to tour the school with the Student Ambassadors to give them a "taste" of the immersion experience. Current parents and I will also be on hand to answer any questions that prospective parents may have about entering a child into our program.

Please start thinking about names of families to write in on the form. The letter should go out to you during the last week of September. This should give you time to secure a complete mailing address.



...our greatest asset...is the positive recommendations to prospective parents from current parents.

Pauline Ewing

Many thanks to Shannon Plauche for her tireless work as our Secretary this year. Thanks to Susana Lee for putting this newsletter together as well as keeping our website updated.

Parent Activity Sign-up Opportunities *(Times on other side.)*

A. Friday, October 23rd Fall Carnival: 4-6 parent volunteers are needed during each shift to help with making popcorn, cotton candy, selling raffle tickets, taking tickets, and other tasks. Carnival will be at the school. Please check which shift(s) you are able to work.

B. Saturday, October 17th Magnet Mania: 3-5 parent volunteers are needed during each shift to answer questions about South Blvd and the FLAIM program. The event will be from 10am-3pm at Cortana Mall. Please check which shift(s) you are able to work.



C. Tuesday, October 20th Magnet Mania School Tours: 2-4 parent volunteers are needed during each shift to assist student ambassadors with taking potential parents on school tours. Please check with shift(s) you are able to work.

D. Santa's Shop: 4-6 parent volunteers are needed to work 2 hour shifts during the school day. Parent volunteers serve as shopping assistants, cashiers, and wrappers. We also need 2-3 parents to assist before school each day to make sure that everything is set up and ready for the children. We are waiting to finalize the dates for Santa's Shop and we will be sending out more information as we get closer to December.

Future Focus Committee

The Future Focus Committee has been actively engaging the local community, the School Board and School Administration to find a temporary location where we can grow and develop a long term plan for future facility for FLAIM at a permanent location. Tara Wicker and Mr. Winfield arranged for Ms. Miller and several staff and PTO members to tour the campus of the vacated School for the Blind and Visually Impaired. This facility is a potential temporary location that will give FLAIM a place to increase the number of participating children while a long term permanent facility is designed.

The Future Focus Committee met with Downtown Development District and BREC to discuss a possible multi-use facility in the Downtown District. This idea is still in the con-



The Future Focus Committee is actively engaging many to allow for FLAIM to grow.

Baton Rouge School Board to build an innovative campus that could be used year round and draw people back to the Downtown area.

Kirt Bennet and Emmett Robbins

ception phase, but there is great interest from both of these community groups to partner with the East



PARENT ACTIVITY SIGN UP SHEET

*Please print and
make your choices.
Detach and return to
your child's teacher
by **October 7th.***

Name _____

Phone Number _____

Email Address _____

Sign up for:

Time

- | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|---------|----|--------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> A. Friday, October 23rd Fall Carnival | 2:00 PM | to | 3:00 PM (Setup) | OR <input type="checkbox"/> | I prefer to work for my child's class booth
(teacher, name/grade) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A. Friday, October 23rd Fall Carnival | 3:00 PM | to | 4:00 PM (Carnival) | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A. Friday, October 23rd Fall Carnival | 4:00 PM | to | 5:00 PM (Carnival) | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A. Friday, October 23rd Fall Carnival | 5:00 PM | to | 6:00 PM (Clean-up) | | |

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|----------|----|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> B. Saturday, October 17th Magnet Mania | 10:00 AM | to | 11:00 AM |
| <input type="checkbox"/> B. Saturday, October 17th Magnet Mania | 11:00 AM | to | 12:00 PM |
| <input type="checkbox"/> B. Saturday, October 17th Magnet Mania | 12:00 PM | to | 1:00 PM |
| <input type="checkbox"/> B. Saturday, October 17th Magnet Mania | 1:00 PM | to | 2:00 PM |
| <input type="checkbox"/> B. Saturday, October 17th Magnet Mania | 2:00 PM | to | 3:00 PM |

- | | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|----------|----|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> C. Tuesday, October 20th School Tours | 9:00 AM | to | 10:00 AM |
| <input type="checkbox"/> C. Tuesday, October 20th School Tours | 10:00 AM | to | 11:00 AM |
| <input type="checkbox"/> C. Tuesday, October 20th School Tours | 11:00 AM | to | 12:00 PM |
| <input type="checkbox"/> C. Tuesday, October 20th School Tours | 12:00 PM | to | 1:00 PM |
| <input type="checkbox"/> C. Tuesday, October 20th School Tours | 1:00 PM | to | 2:00 PM |

- I would like to sign-up for the Santa's Workshop Coordinator position.

**Teachers send these slips to
the Office.
Office put slips in the PTO
mailbox.**