

# The Sutterville Slate

Newsletter of the Sutterville PTA

<http://schools.scusd.edu/sutterville/index.htm>

January 2004

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## Dates to Remember

- **Jan. 21**  
See's Candy Orders Due
- **Jan. 24**  
See's Candy Pick-up
- **Feb. 8**  
Arco Arena Concession
- **Feb. 10**  
Mark Kistler Assemblies
- **Feb. 10**  
Student Crafts Fair
- **Feb. 10**  
Family Art Night  
Art of Pasta  
Scholastic Book Fair
- **Mar. 10**  
PTA General Meeting
- **Mar. 28**  
Jog-a-thon
- **May 22**  
Rummage Sale

## 2003 PTA Board

- Kirstie Wilson, President
- Denay DeGuzman, Vice President
- Jenny Hitchings, Vice President
- Mary Whisten, Vice President
- Lindsay Nevis, Treasurer
- Becca Gonzales, Secretary

## PTA President's Message

Welcome back to school, I hope everyone had a pleasant holiday season. 2004 will bring challenges to Sutterville as the current educational budget crisis will be felt keenly as the year progresses. The PTA is working as hard as ever to provide your children the extra educational experiences you've come to expect here at Sutterville.

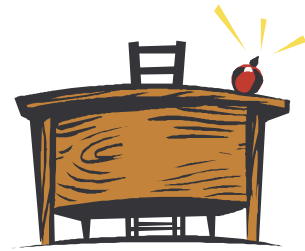
On February 10<sup>th</sup>, the PTA will be hosting our Art of Pasta night, featuring the ever-popular 3-D artist Mark Kistler. This is a fun family night; as the annual Scholastic Book Fair will be open that evening as well!

We have a couple of new "fun"draisers planned for later in the year. One is our first Jog-A-Thon, which will take place during the school day. More details will be following as the idea takes shape. Are there any parents who are knowledgeable about running Jog-A-Thons? If so, we'd love to have your input. Please call Jenny Hitchings at 454-9300.

Also, when you're doing your Spring Cleaning, here's a great opportunity to pass on some of your unwanted/unneeded items: Our first Rummage Sale! Tables will be available for rent for a small fee, and the proceeds you make from your sales are yours to keep! We plan to hold a Pancake Breakfast that morning to get everyone primed and ready to buy! Our famous Class Baskets will also be auctioned off that day. Hold the date of May 22nd for all this activity.

I'd like to bring to your attention that the Teacher's Wish List is a very real situation.

President's Message - *Cont. Page 4*



## The Principal's Office

This month I have good news to share and bad news. Being an optimist, I'm going to begin with the "Good News."

I am so pleased to report that our school made a 26-point increase on our API this year. We moved from 786 to 812. The number 800 is the achieving school score the state has selected for all schools, and we have met and passed that score. We also surpassed the median growth scores for similar schools.

Students, teachers, and parents are to be congratulated on all their hard work last year in preparing our students to meet their grade level standards. We will celebrate with the students during special assemblies in the next few weeks, and we will inform you when those dates have been selected.

Unfortunately, the bad news now needs to be shared with you also. The budget crunch that our school is experiencing this year has really hit us hard. We have cut the instructional supply budget in half and the custodial budget by a third. We have tried to conserve on classroom and custodial supplies, but we are now in a very tight situation and need help.

We are in need of paper towels, soap, and lights for the classrooms.

Principal's Office - *Cont. Page 4*

## School Cents Update

Thank you very much for the generous contributions of food for our Red Bucket program! With the donations received prior to the School Cents deadline, we were able to fill eight red buckets with food. In addition to filling empty pantries, we earned 40,000 points. This may be enough to boost us from fourth to third place in the School Cents competition.

Also, we have added a School Cents box in the Sutterville office--if you forgot to register your Arden Fair Mall receipts, you may drop them in the box, and we'll do it for you. Receipts dated in December and registered in January will earn DOUBLE POINTS, so bring them in as soon as possible!

(Receipts can be registered within 60 days after issue.) !

*Kim Woodruff, School Cents Coordinator 452-8770*

## Storytelling Review

The story-telling assembly was a great hit with both children and adults. Teacher Sharon Leonard sent in the following note: "One of the reasons I love and appreciate Sutterville, as a teacher AND parent, is because PTA recognizes the importance of art and music in our school. We are very fortunate to have involved parents in our PTA, who do support and help make these programs possible."

**"Ask your child's teacher how you can help."**

## Scrip Summary

Our new Raley's scrip program, using the Quality of Life cards and key chain tags, has really taken off! During the month of December 2003, we earned \$358.34--just by buying our usual groceries at our usual store. Thank you, Raley's shoppers!

December's top earner was: #45000162073 with \$29.91; second place #45000163630 with \$23.99 and third place went to #45000162730 with \$22.22. An honorable mention is granted to a fourth earner was also above \$20--#45000163692.

The profit from the most recent MO scrip order was over \$230.00. And all backorders (except \$25 for Bed Bath & Beyond) have been delivered. Please be sure to review the new order form next week -- a number of changes have been made, e.g., Petco is no longer with the program and Exxon/Mobil has been dropped because the scrip cannot be used in several states including California. Orders are due at noon on Monday, January 26, 2004.

P.S. We call it MO scrip because our accounting system lists it as "mail order" -- and because you can always use "mo' scrip!"



## Gardens

Brrrr, it's been cold! The gardeners have been lying as low as the snails. Fortunately, weeds grow very slowly in this weather! In lieu of getting our hands dirty, we have applied for a load of mulch, which is available to us -- FREE! Thanks to a statewide collaboration of grocery stores. We are eagerly waiting for our truckload to arrive.

## Classroom Wish Lists

K-1<sup>st</sup> Grade - (D. Hose):  
*Expo markers*

1<sup>st</sup> Grade - (J. Greene):  
*Black dry-erase pens, sugarless snacks*

2<sup>nd</sup> Grade - (S. Leonard):  
*Box of legal-size file folders, box of sheet/page protectors, disposable cameras, SNACKS, watercolor pencils, oil pastels, set of earphones for our class computers, office supply store scrip, wide-ruled white binder paper*

3<sup>rd</sup> Grade - (L. Loflin):  
*Overhead transparencies*

5<sup>th</sup> Grade - (P. Woltering)  
*Binder paper, pencil sharpener (non-electric), facial tissue, pencils, erasers*

Office -  
*Fax machine in good condition, oral and aural thermometer covers, SNACK-size baggies, facial tissue, an extension ladder to safely reach the marquee, more field trip drivers!*

Ms. Shada -  
*Pencils to give students as awards, facial tissue*

## Sweet Deals

Satisfy that sweet tooth of yours and your sweethearts with See's Candy for Valentine's Day. Your children should have brought home the order forms last week so don't forget to place your order soon!

Here are the important dates:  
Order Deadline – Jan 21  
Order Pick-up Day – Jan 24 in the Cafeteria from 2:45 p.m. - 4 p.m.

## PTA General Meeting Minutes – January 7, 2004

Members attending:

Kirstie Wilson, President

Denay DeGuzman, Vice President

Lindsay Nevis, Treasurer

Becca Gonzales, Secretary

Diane Shada, Principal

PTA general membership:

3 attendees

Lindsay Nevis presented the **Treasurer's Report**, handing out the PTA fund's balance sheet. The fund is in decent shape but compared to last year our revenue is down. A general discussion followed about how to make some of our fundraisers more successful.

It was reported that Mr. Govi contributed \$250 for his class to go to Coloma. The PTA agreed to kick in matching funds for this program. Thank you Mr. Govi!

The **jog-a-thon** date was set for the morning of Sunday, March 28<sup>th</sup>. We decided to combine this with a breakfast bar fundraiser for the runners and walkers to enjoy before their workout.

The **rummage sale** was moved to Saturday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>. This will be combined with a pancake breakfast. Parents will be able to buy a space to sell their wares so plan on cleaning out your closets in May.

Katy Spanos also said that she will look into getting ethnic dance groups to perform that day since this is the time of year that the sixth graders are studying international studies.

Kirstie Wilson talked about the need to get 25 more volunteers to work the **Arco Arena concession stand** on Sunday, Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>

to earn money for the PTA. Those interested in helping should contact Kirstie or Helen in the office. There will be a brief orientation meeting for volunteers on Tuesday, Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in the multipurpose room.

It was reported that the new Superintendent for the Sacramento City Unified School District would be visiting Sutterville Elementary in the near future.

Kim Woodruff announced there would be a new form for the **mail order scrip**. The new form will feature some new vendors. We are finally out of Raley's paper Script. So far the Quality of Life card for Raley's is doing well. In October, the school earned \$150, in November, \$275 and December we earned \$350. Keep using those cards!

Sutterville is still in fourth place in the **School Cents** program at Arden Fair mall. After the points are totaled for the food that was donated in the red buckets we may move up to third place. Sutterville earned 40,000 points from the donation program. Kim encouraged everyone to register their December receipts at the information desk at Arden Fair Mall to earn double points.

Irma asked the PTA for money to move the refrigerator into the nurse's office since the traffic interferes with the speech therapist's lessons. Money will be needed to hire a plumber to move the water line. The PTA agreed to fund this project.

Diane Shada talked about the budget crisis that the schools are in. She said that the supply budget for the teachers has been cut in half and that Creighton's budget has been cut by a third. In fact, there is only \$30 left in Creighton's budget for custodial supplies.

This money can only be taken out of the school's general fund, which has been decimated from state budget cuts. The PTA agreed to help. Kirstie Wilson volunteered to go to Costco to pick up tissues and hand sanitizers for all of the classrooms.

We also followed up on the shed that was discussed at the last meeting to hold tools, custodial supplies along with some PTA supplies. The cost will be about \$2,000.00. The PTA agreed this is a worthwhile expense.

Katy Spanos spoke about the **Art of Pasta night** on February 10<sup>th</sup>. There will be a student craft fair from 3:15 – 5:30, the pasta dinner from 5-6, a family night with 3-D artist Kistler from 6:30-7:30 and a Scholastic Book Fair from 6-8. Volunteers will be needed for the dinner and the book fair. If interested, contact Katy Spanos. Proceeds will go to the art fund.

We also discussed that the crafts should be made by the kids and not by the parents. Otherwise, when kids are trying to sell their wares, it can be a bit unfair to those kids who did all of the work themselves.

Lastly, we talked about a **"B" Street Theatre** actor coming in March to help the 5<sup>th</sup> grade students produce an anti-tobacco video. There will be a cost involved so each 5<sup>th</sup> grade class will need to decide if they want to participate. Katy also talked about making this into a movie night complete with popcorn. The 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes would rent the film.

The next PTA meeting was set for March 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Join Us!  
PTA Meeting March  
10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

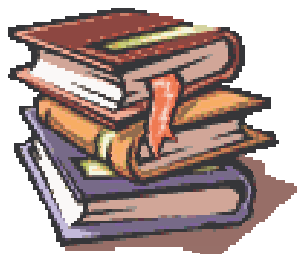
## Thank You!

Our field trip drivers and chaperons are dearly appreciated at Sutterville. Field trips could not occur without you!

## Slate Article Submission

The Slate staff asks that any articles to be considered be submitted by the first Friday of each month. We plan to distribute the second Friday of each month. The next submission date is Feb. 6.

*Mike and Mary Whisten,  
[mwhisten@hotmail.com](mailto:mwhisten@hotmail.com)*



## Presidents Message cont.

School supplies are running low already, and there just isn't any money available to replenish these supplies. A sad situation to be sure, but its reality these days. Please, read about (or ask) what your child's teacher is wishing for, and do your best to help. It will be much appreciated. With your help, we can get through this rough economic patch.

Our next PTA meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 10th in the school library at 6:30 pm. Hope to see you there!

*Kirstie Wilson  
PTA President, 2003-04*

## Classroom News

On Feb. 13, Mrs. Hose and her **Room 3** students will attend Disney on Ice.

Ms. Tomita and Mrs. Griffith are teaching their **Room 4** first graders to "Eat Healthy, Grow Strong." These students and their chaperons walked to Raley's on January 14 for a field trip about healthy food choices for strong bodies.

On February 19, Ms. Loflin will take her **Room 10** third graders to the Discovery Science Museum to learn more about outer space.

Mr. Millikan's **Room 11** third-graders are working hard to memorize all of the times tables (one through twelve) by Jan. 30.

The third graders of **Lucky 13** are studying current events -- on Mars! They are also completing their community service project posters and their "Kindness-to-Animals" sculpture. They plan to write a class poem to accompany the sculpture and will work on individual sculpting projects during their Jan. 23 field trip to Sol Ceramica.

Ms. Woltering's **Room 10** fifth grade students are looking forward to two upcoming field trips: Space Camp and Angel Island. Both should be very exciting!

The **sixth-graders** have returned from their chilly week at Sly Park.

## Help! Help!

We need volunteers! The PTA is always interested in meeting folks who would like to help out. No experience necessary, we will train!

*Kirstie Wilson, 441-2392  
email: [moose-wilson@comcast.net](mailto:moose-wilson@comcast.net).*

## Family Art Night Schedule

Our annual Family Art Night, featuring artist Mark Kistler, is fast approaching on Feb. 10<sup>th</sup>.

We kick the night off with the Student Art Fair. Dinner is served with the Art of Pasta dinner, followed by Mark Kistler. During the evening, the Scholastic Book Fair will be open in the Library.

Schedule of events:

Student Craft Fair - 3:15 - 5:30

Art of Pasta Dinner - 5:00 - 6:00

Mark Kistler - 6:30 - 7:30

Scholastic Book Fair - 6:00 - 8:00

Help is needed to make these events happen. If you can help with the dinner or the craft fair, please contact Katy Spanos.

*Katy Spanos, 395-8045*

## Principal's Office cont.

All of these items are specific custodial items and cannot be over-the-counter supplies. (Creighton, our Plant Manager, has even tried to trade toilet paper for paper towels. No luck so far!)

We have asked the PTA to help us with purchasing the above items and they have agreed to help us again. The PTA has also purchased tissues and anti-bacterial lotion for each of our classrooms and the office.

How fortunate we are to have our generous families and the PTA who are willing to do all that is necessary to provide supplies for our students and the school. The students and staff appreciate all of your support. It does make such a difference.

*Diane Shada, Principal*

