

 *October 2011*

Eagle



Eye

PTA Executive Board

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Reba Steck

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Diane Cibula, Secretary

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Attendance Line
630-375-3500 press 3

School Office
630-375-3500 press 0

Steck/PTA Web Site
<http://steck.ipds.org>
New PTA link!!

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October

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
9/26 Fall Book Fair	9/27 * Book Fair Family Night 3:30-6:00PM Maggie Moos Celebrity Scoop Night 4-8PM	9/28 * Book Fair Family Night 3:30-6:00PM	9/29 * Book Fair Ends 12PM	9/30	1	2
3 Walk to School Week Box Tops Contest starts	4 * Picture Day 9-2:30PM Gr. 3 On your Own Program 9:15-10:45AM	5 * PTA Executive Board Mtg 9:30-10:30AM Halloween Costume Exchange 6:00-8:00PM	6 * 1st Manna Card Pick-up 4:45- 6PM	7 * Gr. 3 Planetarium 10:15-12:45PM	8	9
10 No School- Columbus Day	11 Gr. 1 PE Night 6:30-7:30PM	12 No School in PM- Teacher In- service PTA General Mtg 9:30-10:30AM	13	14 Box Tops Contest Ends	15	16
17	18	19	20 Market Day Pick-up 4:45-5:30PM	21 End of 1st Quarter	22	23
24 Red Ribbon Week	25 *	26 *	27 *	28 * Report cards go home Halloween Parades 1:45-2:15PM Room Parties 2:15-3:15PM	29	30
31						

Hello Steck Families!

It's amazing how fast we go from missing school due to the heat, to wondering if we should turn the furnace on! But honestly, this is one of my favorite times of year. The smell of the leaves burning, those Indian Summer days, apples and pumpkins, and start of the beautiful fall colors soon to be admired!

October brings a lot of fun things for our kids at Steck the Halloween Fall Room Parties, Day...just to name

I would like to thank all the local that came to participated in our visited the PTA heard lots of about our and am excited things to come. I participated in our



lot of fun things for too. I look forward to Costume Exchange, and Walk to School a few.

thank all the families Curriculum Night and area in the LMC. I positive feedback initiatives this year, about all the fun would also like to businesses that Membership Drive

Raffle. We had such fun prizes, and it really helped drum up some new members too! And it's not too late! If you haven't had the time to sign up, please download the membership form from the PTA portion of the Steck website, or print it out from this issue of the Eagle Eye! Without your support we cannot keep funding the great programming at Steck.

Please think of us when you are planning your weekly shopping, birthday party gifts, or dinners out. Our Manna card selection covers so much of what we do each week, and I hope you will consider buying the cards through us to use as needed. The PTA is relying on these funds to help cover the costs of all the great things planned this year. We thank you for your support!!

Have a wonderful fall everyone....and I hope you get to enjoy all that comes along with the season!

Kindest regards,

Kimberly Mitchell
PTA President

Indian Prairie Parents' Council (IPPC) /Legislative Corner

By Heather Sheppard

District News

District 204 opened the 2011-2012 school year with its first ever Excessive Heat day. Nineteen schools were closed because of the temperatures inside the buildings exceeding 80 degrees for more than 48 hours. High Schools and Middle Schools were still in session, as well as 2 Elementary schools because those buildings had air conditioning. Representatives from the district took the summer to gather temperature readings from a random group of buildings within the district. They found the buildings did not drop below 80 degrees at night when the heat index was over 90 during the day. They felt it was necessary to cancel classes for the hottest days.

ACT scores for District 204 for 2011 exceeded expectations growing by a full .5%. District 204 continues to succeed and stay ahead of the national average. Overall, the nation dropped by .5%.

Legislative News

No bills on the docket at this time. IL Congress is in Veto session.

District Calendar

District wide Winter Clothing Drive

Deadline on October 21st

Special Needs Fair

October 18th at 6:30-8:30 Still Middle School

What Parents Need to Know-Students and Technology

November 16th at 7PM Where-TBD




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C

What is Half Time?

- Who- All Available Staff
 - What –Differentiated learning
 - Where-Steck
 - When-9:30-10:00, Mon-Fri. (Not Wed.)
 - Why-To inspire students to achieve their greatest potential through differentiated instruction
 - Schedule sets a dedicated time for all staff members to be in small groups.... (Reading)
- 

HALFTIME AT STECK

Starting in early October, Steck students will be involved in an exciting, new initiative called Halftime. This program will occur four days a week for thirty minutes. During this time, the entire student body will be engaged in reading activities to improve, develop and enrich reading skills. All available staff members will be working with small groups or individuals during this dedicated time. Students may remain in the classroom or they may go to another classroom or location. Groups will be determined by using the Fall assessment data and classroom performance. These groups will be changing throughout the year.





Steck's Fall Book Fair is Here!

Our fall Anderson's Book Fair has arrived! Come to the LMC to see some of the fabulous new books just out. There are books for all ages. Come to browse, see what's new, and buy some favorites for family or treat yourself to some great reading, or a new cookbook, perhaps. The Anderson Bookfair Company has books from many different categories available, including Early Readers, Science and Nature, Reference, Arts, Crafts & Fun, Bargain Books, and Books for Adults.

You can visit Anderson's online shopping site at www.abcfairs.com. From this site you can shop any time! Profits from in-school as well as online sales benefit the children of our school! Thanks to everyone in advance for helping to make our fall book fair a very successful event.

Calling all artists!!

Writers, painters, photographers, dancers, illustrators and many more are invited to participate in the National PTA Reflections Program!

Pick up a paint brush, pen or camera and get your entries in by October 24th. If you or your student has any questions about the Reflections program, please contact Beth Tukker at beth@tukker.us



School Picture Day is Tuesday, October 4!



Payment envelopes have been sent home for parents who wish to purchase pictures.

Students must bring the payment envelope with them on October 4 and give it to the photographer -- no late payments will be accepted.

If your child does not bring the payment envelope with him/her on that day, retakes are scheduled for November 16 and they may have their picture taken on that day.

All students will have their picture taken for class composites and our Steck Yearbook on Tuesday, October 4.

Attention First Grade Parents:



Physical Education Night for the First Grade is Tuesday, October 11th, from 6:30–7:30. There will be two sessions. Each session will be the same and will be a half hour long. This event has always been very exciting and offers a variety of activities for you and your child to enjoy.

Shift 1 6:30–7:00 1MK and 1VK

Shift 2 7:00–7:30 1H and 1W

Since this is a special time for you and your first grader, we ask that siblings do not attend. Please be sure to wear your gym shoes and sweats!! If you have any questions please call, 630–375–3500 extension 9785. Hope to see you there!



The Big Shoe Award

This is a new special incentive for students to remember their gym shoes for PE. One Big Shoe Award will be awarded to one kindergarten, 1st, or 2nd grade class and another award will go to one class in 3rd, 4th or 5th grade class at the end of the month. They will be awarded to the class that is responsible and remembers their gym shoes the most for the month. These two classes will display one of the big shoes in their classroom for the month. The big shoe is a size 20–basketball shoe.

The two winners for the month of August were 2G and 5H. Way to Go!!

 **P.E. STARS OF THE MONTH** 

Every day a student comes to physical education class they will have an opportunity to earn a chance to put their name into the P.E. Star shoebox. If Mrs. Ask or Mrs. Treptow see a student doing a great job listening, following directions, helping someone, being a leader, going above and beyond, or showing good sportsmanship, they will receive a star slip to put into the shoe box. At the end of the month, Mrs. Treptow will draw out two names for grades, 3rd, 4th, and 5th, and two names for K, 1st, and 2nd. They will get a certificate to go home and their picture will go up on the board. Everyone keep up the great job in P.E.

For the month of August the winners are:

From 1H: Aayushi Shah

From 2KA: Spencer Beebe

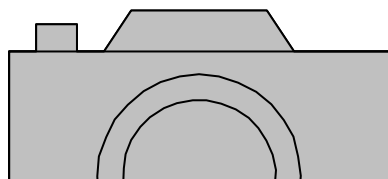
From 4M: Spencer Williams

From 5H: Emily Hennessy



Get ready to walk!!

The International PTA-sponsored Walk to School Week is October 3-7. Look for activities at Steck to celebrate our legs and how we travel: walk, bike or scoot. All are beneficial to our health and also save the planet!!



Many parents have posed the question recently –

“Exactly what does PTA do and why should I become a member?”

PTA is an organization comprised of parents and teachers who join together to collectively participate in and support programs that will benefit students and their classrooms, as well as bringing the school community together to support educational programs and social activities for students.

Your support of PTA fundraisers, along with your volunteer time, set a good example to your children and shows them you are interested and care about their education. Your PTA membership dues allow you voting privileges in the selection of your PTA leadership, provide some financial support to PTA-sponsored programs, and includes a copy of the PTA student directory.

The Steck PTA financially supports the following educational programs:

Accelerated Reader Program

Art Awareness Program

In-House Educational programs which enhance the curriculum

Student field trips

3 to 4 all-school assemblies per year

They also provide support to extra-curricular activities, such as Drama Club and Environmental Club.

The Steck PTA provides helpful services for students and parents, such as:

Bicycle Helmet Sale

School Supply Kits

They also provide support for fun student events:

Treats for Fall and Spring student parties

Year-end 5th grade graduation celebration, Showcase, and middle school T-shirts

Recess supplies

December Season of Sharing & Pancake Breakfast

February Carnival

Spirit Wear

The Steck PTA shows support of the Steck teaching staff through:

Classroom funds for teachers

May Staff Appreciation Week

Curriculum Night and Open House dinners

Thank you for your support!



Reba O. Steck PTA

460 Inverness Drive Aurora IL 60504

Writer of the Week... Pancake Breakfast ... Walk to School Week ... Drama Club ... Back to School Social ... and more!

*Field Trips ... Literacy, Math and Science Programs ...
School Assemblies ... Junior Achievement ... Clubs ...
Art Awareness ... Field Day ... Parent Resources ...
Room Parties ... Classroom Help ... Market Day ...
Carnival ... Staff Appreciation ... Season of Sharing ...*

PTA Membership 2011-2012

Plan ahead for next year and join Steck PTA now!

PTA programs are made possible solely by your financial support and/or your personal involvement. Please support your child by becoming a member!

Return this form with a check made payable to Steck PTA. Place in a sealed envelope labeled "PTA Membership" and place in any white PTA bucket or mail to Steck at 460 Inverness Drive, Aurora 60504.

As we hear from you, with either a YES or a NO, we will remove you from future 2011-12 membership drives. If you continue to receive membership letters, we haven't received your form. Return your form today!

Consult the Steck PTA website to confirm receipt: <http://www.steckpta.org/joinpta.asp>

With memberships and fundraising, 2010-11 PTA gave a typical child:

- \$6.00 for 3 class parties
- \$7.00 for field trips
- \$7.00 for assemblies and more!

With your membership:

- You will be noted as a PTA member in the Steck directory
- You will receive a copy of the directory (directories will NOT be available to non-members)
- You will receive IL and National PTA membership for an adult in your family.

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, I'd like to join PTA. <small>Note: Steck PTA is a tax-exempt, 501(c)(3) non-profit association. Your donation is fully tax-deductible and may also be eligible for a corporate match by your employer.</small>	Enclosed is: _____ \$22.00 (before 6/1/11) or \$25.00 (after 6/1/11) _____ Donation _____ Total _____ Check Number
<input type="checkbox"/> No, thank you	

Steck Directory

Following is information that will be published in the 2011-2012 Steck Directory. **Information supplied here is used for the directory ONLY.** Please review for accuracy and mark your changes. Strike information you do not want published. Return this form even if you make NO changes. Thanks for ensuring the accuracy of the directory!

1. Child Name:	11-12 Grade:
2. Child Name:	11-12 Grade:
3. Child Name:	11-12 Grade:

Parent/Guardian:	Parent/Guardian:
Address/Zip:	Phone:
Family Email:	Optional Email:

Note: as stated above, these email addresses are for the directory only. To receive email communication from the school via listserv, return the listserv form which will be included in your Steck 2011-12 Registration packet or sign up on the Steck website, <http://steck.ipeds.org/index.asp>, under "Subscribe to our school e-mail list".

MANNA CARDS ARE HERE!

The Steck PTA has exciting news to share about their upcoming fundraiser, Manna Script cards.

Manna is the name given to gift cards and certificates which are provided from local and national retailers. They are the same gift cards which are available in stores. Retailers agree to sell gift cards to the PTA at a discount, and Steck families can buy the gift cards at full value. **NO STUDENT SELLING WILL BE INVOLVED IN THIS FUNDRAISER!**

The list of retailers is extensive—some of the nationally known retailers include Walmart, Jewel, Dominick's, J. C. Penny, Kohl's, Best Buy, Shell, Speedway, Starbucks, Home Depot, Subway--to name only a few. The Manna cards make a wonderful present for friends and relatives for birthdays, Christmas, thank-you gifts... almost any occasion!

Order forms are available on-line and through list-serv starting September 26. Look for your first chance to order in backpack mail! Deadline for orders is every Friday by 3:00 PM and pick-up is scheduled for every Thursday from 4:45 to 6:00 PM. Detailed information, including a vendor list, will be sent home with your student.

Please help the Steck PTA in its efforts to raise funds for student field trips, assemblies, and other student programs.

If you have any questions regarding the Manna Scrip program, please contact:

Heather Sheppard dhshep3263@sbcglobal.net 630-818-6608



Dominick's participates in the "eScrip" program. Steck PTA will receive a customer loyalty donation associated with the amount you purchase at Dominick's. At a minimum, all you need to do is register your Dominick's Fresh Values card. In addition, please consider registering your debit/credit card(s) for online shopping and local restaurants. Log on to www.escrip.com and go to "sign up". Designate "Reba Steck Elementary School PTA" to receive your contributions.

Register your Fresh Values Card from Dominick's. Note: If you enter your phone number at the store, please call 1-877-723-3929 to obtain your Fresh Values number.

Target's "Take Charge of Education" program taps into their Red Card Credit Cards. Sign up for a Target credit card and Steck PTA earns 1% of all your Target purchases and .5% of non-Target purchases. Visit redcard.target.com for more information. For existing Red Card holders, you can visit your online account and select our PTA. Steck PTA will benefit once you sign up for Target's "Take Charge of Education program". Follow the instructions to look up and designate "Steck Elementary School" (ID: 48659) as your Take Charge of Education recipient.

General Mills Box Tops for Education is a CASH program where product packaging of (see list <http://www.boxtops4education.com/earn/clip/brands.aspx> of participating products) contains box top labels. Clip Box Tops and place them in a sealed envelope or plastic bag and deliver them to Steck OR deliver to a Steck student in your neighborhood. Each label is worth 10 cents. Visit www.boxtop4education.com to see how you can participate. Retailers participate in a number of programs throughout the school year which raise bonus box tops certificates which can be redeemed directly through this programs website. Be certain to register and direct these bonus box tops to "Reba O Steck Elementary School". Registrants can also shop online at 200+ stores through the Box Tops Marketplace. Up to 8% of each qualifying purchase will be donated to Steck PTA. Charge purchases on your Box Tops Visa card and 1% of each purchase will be donated.

Campbell's Labels for Education fund raising campaign has been around for many years. Simply cut out the UPC labels or keep caps from juice drinks of your Campbell's and Pepperidge Farms products and turn them into Steck or a Steck student. Visit www.labelsforeducation.com for more information, register, and direct any label redemption to "Reba O Steck Elem Sch Pta". Local retailers often participate in Campbell's bonus label campaigns. Take advantage of these easy and effortless ways to generate quick cash for our PTA.

Tyson Project A+ labels found on participating Tyson products (www.tyson.com/projectaplus) help fund Steck PTA. Clip and save Tyson Project A+ labels from participating products. Drop off or send labels to Steck in an envelope or plastic bag. Feel free to hand over your labels to any Steck student to take into the school. Steck PTA will redeem labels for cash to support school programs. Each label is worth \$0.24! If you have any questions regarding these programs, feel free to email kathylengiewicz@sbcglobal.net

It's time!!!!

Collect Box Tops, Campbell's Labels and
Tyson's Project A+ labels. Classroom contest starts
October 3rd and ends October 14th. Start saving your
labels now so your child's classroom could win!!!

Any questions, contact
Kathy Lengiewicz at kathylengiewicz@sbcglobal.net



October Market Day

This month be sure to check out three brand new items at Market Day! Don't forget to place your order this month and get some great FREE items!

NEW!

Naked Turkey Chili, General Tso's Chicken, and Sweet Potato Fries



FREE THIS MONTH!

This month get FREE French Breadsticks & Garlic Parmesan Seasoning with any \$40 purchase and FREE Cheese Ravioli with any \$90 purchase on marketday.com. Make sure to use promo Code: OCTBONUS. Also Buy 3 Times and Earn a FREE Insulated Bag*



*Make two purchases of \$40 between October and December. Then place a third order of \$40 in January to receive a Free Insulated Bag at your January sale pick-up.

September Sale Pickup: **Thursday, October 20, 4:45 – 5:45**
Internet Order cutoff: **Monday, October 17 @ 11PM**
Order online at: www.marketday.com, code #6470

Market Day Co-Chairs:

Jennifer Martin 630.236.0402
Chrissy Baka 630.978.1031