

The Summer Scoop

August 2011



CALENDAR @ A GLANCE

Tues., Aug. 30	Meet the Teacher (times below)
Wed., Aug. 31	First Day of School! <i>Welcome back!</i>
Wed., Aug. 31	Welcome Coffee for Kindergarten Parents; 9:15 am; Cafetorium
Mon., Sept. 5	NO SCHOOL – Labor Day
Tues., Sept. 13	Easton Board of Ed Meeting; 7:30 pm; HKMS
Fri., Sept. 16	School Spirit Day; Wear SSES Colors!
Sat., Sept. 17	ELF Used Sporting Goods Super Sale; 9 am – 3 pm; HKMS Tennis Courts
Wed., Sept. 21	Parent Back to School Night for Pre-K – Grade 2; 7 pm
Thurs., Sept. 22	Parent Back to School Night for Grades 3 -5; 7 pm
Fri., Sept. 23	EARLY DISMISSAL – Professional Development; 1 pm
Thurs., Sept. 29	NO SCHOOL – Rosh Hashanah
Fri., Oct. 7	NO SCHOOL – Staff Development Day
Mon., Oct. 10	NO SCHOOL – Columbus Day
Thurs., Oct. 27	EARLY DISMISSAL; Prof. Development; 1 pm; (HKMS also at 12:10 pm)
Mon., Oct. 31	SSES Halloween Parades



Meet the Teacher on August 30st

Stop by and say hello to your new teacher and see your classroom on Tues., Aug. 30st:

- Pre-K, Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd Grades: 2-3 pm
- 3rd, 4th and 5th Grades: 1-2 pm



Principal's Coffees for September

Please join Kim Fox-Santora in the Cafetorium at 9:15 am:

The following coffees are scheduled specifically for the class or grade listed.

9/12: K-Kuruc	9/8: K-Paciello
9/9: K-Pilkington	9/15: K-Giglio
9/16: K-Cox	9/19: Grade 1 Parents
9/20: Grade 2 Parents	9/21: Grade 3 Parents
9/22: Grade 4 Parents	9/23: Grade 5 Parents

2011 – 2011 Calendar

The finalized calendar for this school year is online at:

http://www.er9.org/Calendars/REVISED_School_Calendar_2010-2011_School_Year.PDF
<http://www.er9.org/Calendars/RevisedApproved2011-2012SchoolCalendar.pdf>

THE PTA SCOOP

Meet Your PTA Executive Board:

- **SSES Co-President - Stephanie Frangenes:** This is Stephanie's second year on the board and has a daughter in 6th grade and a son in 3rd grade.
- **SSES Co-President - Sharon Stemme:** This is Sharon's third year on the board (one year as recording secretary and entering her second year as co-president) and has a son in 7th grade and a daughter in 4th grade.
- **HKMS Co-President - Ruth Straughn:** This is Ruth's first year on the board and she has a son in 6th grade and a daughter in 4th grade.
- **HKMS Co-President - Dona Zappulla:** This is Dona's first year on the board and she has a daughter in 9th grade, a son in 6th grade, a daughter in 4th grade, and a son in 1st grade.
- **Membership - Caryn Jack:** This is Caryn's first year on the board and she has a son in 4th grade and a daughter in 3rd grade.
- **Recording Secretary - Jill Jarvis:** This is Jill's second year on the board she and has a son in 1st grade and a two-year old daughter.
- **Corresponding Secretary - Melinda O'Brien:** This is Melinda's second year on the board and has daughters in 9th, 8th, and 5th grades and a son in 3rd grade.
- **Treasurer - Christine Eden:** This is Christine's first year on the board and she has a daughter in 6th grade and a son in 5th grade.
- **Treasurer - Cathie Gordon:** This is Cathie's second time being on the board; she was on several year ago as treasurer and has graciously agreed to take on the same position again. She has sons in 9th and 8th grade and a daughter in 7th grade.

We are excited to be your PTA board for the year, please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns, we look forward to a great year!

Book Drive Update



Thank you to all who contributed books last spring to the very successful book collection for the United Way/Read-to-Grow Book Drive. ***We collected 2,585 books – surpassing our lofty goal of 2,500 -- within two weeks, thanks to contributions from SSES and HKMS families, as well as the general Easton community.***

The project, coordinated by the Easton PTA, several SSES teachers and last year's 5th graders, benefited children in the Fairfield County area by providing new and gently used books to those who otherwise wouldn't have books for their summer reading. The United Way/Read-to-Grow's total goal for this summer reading program was 100,000 and they surpassed it by reaching 101,773, thanks in part to this tremendous contribution from Easton.

Summer Label Contest

Welcome new families! At SSES we collect all Box Tops, Campbell, and Tyson A+ labels to earn cash for our school. We are currently running a Summer Label Contest, please make sure to send in any labels you collected this summer by Friday, September 9th. Make sure to include your name and teacher's name. The student who collects the most will win a certificate to our school store.

Easton SEPTA (Special Ed PTA)

If you have a child receiving special services, we invite you to be a part of our SEPTA. Please contact Stacy Varvaro pvsav@optonline.net for more information.

The Scoop Scoop

**The Scoop has a new publication schedule:
It will come out the 1st and the 15th of every month, Sept. 15 through June 1.**

Please submit any information – in MS Word format -- by a minimum of three days prior to publication.

The Scoop is distributed by SSES' email Listserv. To add or change your Listserv information go to www.er9.org/sSES/ and click on "Join Our Listserv". *The Scoop and the SSES Office do not update the Listserv, but please be sure to inform the school office of any changes to your email address.*

Questions and submissions to Cathy Dunsby at ssesscoop@yahoo.com



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Important Websites

www.samuelstaplesps.org

www.eastonpta.com

www.er9.org

Easton PTA Membership 2011-2012

Dear Parents/Guardians, Teachers, and Staff:

We invite you to join The Easton PTA. The PTA provides many programs for the students of Samuel Staples and Helen Keller Schools. By becoming a member, you will assist in providing these programs and many other activities. For existing members, this is your opportunity to renew your membership. For families, teachers, and staff new to our school, now is your chance to join and become an active participant of the Easton PTA. We also realize that due to busy schedules, many people are not able to donate as much of their time to the PTA as they would like, but we still encourage you to become a member of the organization.

Why Become a Member?

- The proceeds go to support many programs at SSES and HKMS, some of which are listed below.
- You **must** be a member to be a room parent or to be a committee chairperson.
- Membership shows our children how much we care for and support our school.
- You will receive a complimentary Easton PTA, Student Directory 2011-2012.

Activities and Programs Supported by the PTA

- Enrichment Programs – \$1,000 per grade
- Parent/Student Directory
- Staples School Calendar
- Student Enrichment Events
- *SCOOP* – SSES Newsletter
- Sport Events & Family Activity Nights
- Parent Education
- GR 5-8 Agenda Planner Notebooks
- *Cougar Connection* – HKMS Newsletter
- Diversity Day
- 2nd Grade Play Productions
- Ice Cream Social
- School Store
- Reflections

Please mail or return your tax-deductible check payable to **Easton PTA** to Caryn Jack-Membership, 85 Norton Road. Attn: PTA Membership to help support 2011-2012 programs. Thank you.



Parent Name _____

Student Name(s) _____

Address _____ Phone _____

E-mail _____

Annual Membership Levels:

\$15 family membership \$25 patron \$50 star \$100 superstar \$6 teacher

Parent/Guardian at: SSES HKMS BOTH

Room Parent 101

- ❖ The PTA oversees the Room Parent program, and is looking for four room parents per classroom, for each grade from Pre-K to 5th.
- ❖ You **MUST** be a PTA member to be a room parent. This is an insurance requirement.
- ❖ You may only be a Room Parent for *one child per family*. If a particular class does not have enough volunteers, then we may also allow your second choice as well.
- ❖ If you have any questions, please call Jodi Forte at 203.373.1790.

What are the duties?

- ❖ Attend a Room Parent meeting in September.
- ❖ Collect money from each family for class dues.
- ❖ Designate volunteers to plan and implement each class party. Dates, times and specifics will be discussed with the classroom teacher. Typically parties are held for Halloween, Winter Holidays, Valentine’s Day, and the End-of-the-Year.
- ❖ Organize Teacher Appreciation Week activities, usually held in May.
- ❖ Coordinate classroom volunteers for Field Day, held in June.
- ❖ Work with classroom teacher and PTA on other possible classroom and school-wide events.

How do I sign up?

- ❖ Below slip must be returned to school *no later than September 9th*. No exceptions. Room parents will be chosen by a lottery system.
- ❖ You will be notified by September 17th if you have been selected.



Room Parent Interest Form

Name _____ Phone _____

Email _____ Prior room parent experience? _____

1st Choice Child’s Name _____ Grade _____ Teacher _____

2nd Choice Child’s Name _____ Grade _____ Teacher _____

3rd Choice Child’s Name _____ Grade _____ Teacher _____

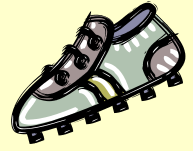
Please return to *no later than September 9th*, to the office,
attention: **“PTA / Room Parents”**.

THE TOWN SCOOP

Donate Used Sports Equipment to ELF's Super Sale

Drop off your sports equipment in the lobby of the Easton Public Library, the ECC, SSES or HKMS, or at the "Pod" container at the HKMS tennis Courts (starting Sept. 4th).

ELF's annual mega-sale will take place at the HKMS tennis courts on Sat., Sept. 17th from 9 am to 3 pm. All proceeds will support the Easton Learning Foundation. Our teachers and your children will benefit!



What to donate? Bikes, jog strollers, exercise equip., snow clothes and boots, skis, skates, rackets, playground toys, hockey, baseball, lacrosse, golf, tennis equipment, cleats...if you use it when you are sporting, we will take it! Please, no large plastic play structures.

Save the Dates:

- Fall Into Fashion: HKMS' fashion show to raise funds for the outdoor classroom memorializing Principal Joan Parker; Fri., Oct. 14
- Easton Library Book Parade; Sat., Oct. 15
- Catwalk for the Cure to benefit Norma Pfriem Breast Center; Sun., Oct. 23rd.
- ELF Cocktail Party and Auction; Sat., Dec. 3rd at Aspetuck Valley Country Club