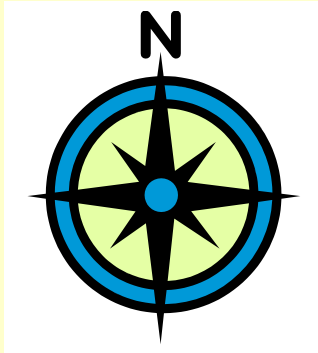


The Passport

February 2010
Volume 1, Issue 1

Saint Louis Language Immersion Schools
Parents Assembly Newsletter



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~ It is time for
parents to teach
young people early
on that in diversity
there is beauty and
there is strength. ~

Maya Angelou

Parents Assembly Executive Committee

For many months the SLLIS Parents Assembly (PA) has been working hard organizing itself. After several meetings and long discussions about By-laws, we have elected Executive Committee members who will serve as leaders of the Parents Assembly until the end of the 2010-2011 school year. This ONE Parents Assembly and Executive Committee will serve both the French and the Spanish Schools.

In addition to the Executive Committee, the Parents Assembly has many parents acting as Task Force Facilitators. These Facilitators and their parent volunteers have been hard at work, many even before our school opened its doors in August. Several pages of this newsletter are dedicated to communicating their work and upcoming events. Task Forces are an important part of the Parents Assembly and all parents are invited to join one, or more, and to participate in PA meetings and activities.



Brandon Moore, Sr
President



DeAngelo Britt
Vice President



Patrice Hadley
Treasurer



Jean Lammers
Secretary



Kevin Cameron
(with Iris, 1st grade)



Spanish School
Representative

Catherine Unseth
French School
Representative

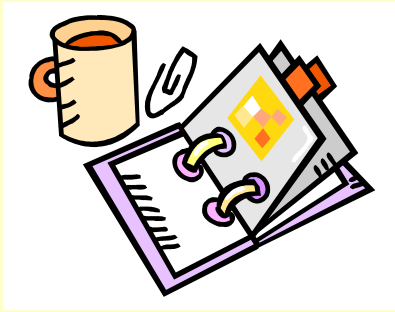
Town Hall Forum

A Town Hall Forum is scheduled for Tuesday February 23rd from 6:00-8:00 at the school. All parents are invited and encouraged to attend.

This important event will give the Administration the opportunity to share with parents the results of the Mid-Year Parent Satisfaction Survey. They will also let parents know what can be expected for the rest of the school year.

Additionally, there will be an opportunity for parents to bring questions, concerns and suggestions to the Executive Director as well as to the Head and Assistant Head of the French School and to the Head of the Spanish School. Don't miss this chance for open and direct communication!

(Please see *Announcements* on page 4 for details about childcare.)



Upcoming Events

- Feb 22, 6:00
Fundraising
Task Force
Meeting
- Feb 23, 6:00
Town Hall
Forum
- Feb 24, 6:00
SLLIS Board of
Directors
Meeting
- Feb 25, 6:00
Green Space
Task Force
Meeting
- Feb 26
End of Box
Tops Contest
in classrooms
- March 2, 7-
9am
Dads & Donuts
- March 2, 6:00
Parents
Assembly
Meeting
- March 4, 6:00
SLLIS Pizza
Dinner
- March 17
Social Night at
Monkey Joe's

A Word from the President

Teamwork is defined as cooperation by the members of a group or team to achieve a common goal. That common goal is providing what is best for our kids. We, the Founding Families, are a team committed to working together to reach that goal despite what obstacles we may encounter.

We all come from different backgrounds, ethnicities and cultures. These are some of the things that make our school special, but these things alone don't bring about success. Teamwork does.

I am, and I hope you are, proud to be a part of the SLLIS Team. We

have made tremendous strides thus far, but we have a lot to accomplish. The Executive Committee and the SLLIS Parents Assembly are dedicated to doing what is right for our school and serving the needs of our children. Parent feedback and suggestions are always welcome. Communications for the PA can be sent to our email at parentsassembly@sllis.org or be placed in the PA mailbox in the front lobby.

Your involvement in all PA activities is essential to our success. The SLLIS team will always be at its best when you are part of the solution.

Submitted by Brandon Moore, Sr.

Green Space Task Force

The task force is moving forward with the outdoor science classroom, (playground) with the help of a \$14,282 grant from the **Monsanto Foundation**. The plan for the spring work days is to divide the space into various sections. Members of the task force will be asked to be on a subcommittee that will oversee the development of a section of the green space (the pond, fountain and stream, the greenhouse, etc.) You must be willing to work on one of these subcommittees until completion of the project (hopefully before school lets out). Volunteers to lead a subcommittee would be especially appreciated.

After the space is finished and school starts again in the fall, Task Force members will be asked to sign up for weekly shifts to inspect the space for needed maintenance (to be done by the committee, not necessarily that person) and to work on seasonal projects associated with

the space. This is the long term plan for this Task Force.

You don't have to be on the Task Force to help with these efforts. We'll need LOTS of help and volunteers for the spring work days.

Please join us for our **next meeting on Thursday, February 25** at 6:00 at SLLIS. If you can't make it and still want to be on the Task Force, please contact Facilitator Lisa Berman, 314-773-1995 or lisaberman@rocketmail.com.

Other projects: We need to complete a video for our Kaboom project page by Feb. 28 and also make this page more active. We need a coordinator for this.

Sally Matiszik just completed a grant application for the Lowe's Toolbox for Education program to get more funds donated to the Green Space for additional projects.

Submitted by Lisa Berman.

Fundraising Task Force

The Task Force is now working with an annual calendar of fundraising events. The calendar will be posted on the bulletin boards and eventually on the SLLIS website. It is our intent to inform families of individual events as they occur (through normal channels of communication) and to provide a full calendar to everyone at the beginning of each school year.

Fundraisers:

- **Stuck on You** - bulk order Feb 12th
 - Customized sticky vinyl and iron/sew-on labels for clothing
 - Vinyl labels are waterproof, UV resistant and microwave/dishwasher safe
 - Iron/Sew-on labels are machine washable and dryer safe
 - Sample: 50 Labels/Dots = \$19.95
 - View full range of products online www.stuckonyou.biz/sllis
 - Online ordering is available year round, shipped to the home (delivery charges apply)
- **Restaurant or Social Night**-3rd Wed of the month

- March 17th = Monkey Joe's (details to follow soon)
- **SLLIS Pizza Night** -1st Thurs of month
 - 1st one is March 4th @ 6pm
 - Pizzas must be pre-ordered and pre-paid in cash
 - Pizzas delivered to SLLIS at 6:00pm
 - Families may choose to bring their pizza home or stay and eat in the SLLIS cafeteria
- Beverages, side dishes, table settings are BYO
- Volunteers for cleaning crew needed each month

BoxTop\$: Pizza lunch contest ends Feb 26th; Final contest runs Mar 1st - May 28th

Reminders:

- **Next meeting: Feb 22, 6:00**
- March - Recruiting begins for Busch Stadium Concession Stand
- TJs Pizza/Cookie Dough/Pie Sale -- April 5th - 15th

Submitted by Task Force Facilitator: Sally Matiszik email address: smatiszik@yahoo.com



For more information or to participate in the Task Forces please contact the Facilitators, or attend their next meeting. All are welcome!

Fundraising:

Sally Matiszik

Promotions:

Brandon Moore

By Laws:

Brandon Moore

Green Space:

Lisa Berman

Room Parents:

Leah Dyer

The above Facilitators and those from other Task Forces can be reached directly, through the Parents Assembly email: parentsassembly@sllis.org, or by using the PA mailbox in the lobby.

Other Task Force Updates

By-laws Task Force- The final version of the By-laws was passed at the February Parents Assembly Meeting and is in effect. The next review of the By-laws is scheduled for September. A meeting will be scheduled at that time.

Promotions Task Force-

Coffee w/The Currents - This was a very well attended event both by future and current families. All panel participants did a great job and SLLIS was represented admirably.

Dads and Donuts - Rescheduled for Tuesday March 2, 7am-9am due to the many events already planned during the last week of February.

(Above updates submitted by Task Force Facilitator Brandon Moore, Sr.)

Room Parents Task Force- Each class has a head room parent that is in charge of communication with the teachers. They in turn communicate their needs to the rest of their class' room parents or other class parents if necessary.

Submitted by Task Force Facilitator: Leah Dyer, leahdyer@gmail.com

Other Comments: All Task Force meetings are on the master calendar which can be reached from the blog or school website. Please be courteous and help the Facilitators set-up and clean-up at meetings.

Other Task Force updates will be included in future monthly newsletters.

Summary of Minutes from February PA Meeting

Saint Louis Language Immersion Schools Parents Assembly

E-mail:

parentsassembly@sllis.org

PA Meeting schedule:

Tuesday March 2
Monday April 5
Tuesday May 4
Monday June 7

January meeting minutes approved.

Executive Committee introduced.
Thanks offered to Lisa Berman for all her work in getting the PA started.

By Laws approved unanimously.

Discussion of goals of the year including communication and fundraising.

Task Force Reports should be given to DeAngelo Britt by the 2nd Monday of the month to be included in the newsletter. Reports were given by Fundraising, and

Promotions. Discussions about Food/farm Task Force being absorbed by the Food Services employee and Recess Task Force being absorbed by other Task Forces.

Unscheduled business: Safety at drop-off & pick-up, communication with Administration, results of mid-year survey, and interview process for Spanish Head of School.

Detailed copy of minutes is available on the blog, the bulletin board and at the next PA meeting (Tuesday March 2, 6pm).

Announcements

- **Intent to Enroll** forms for 2010-2011 school year are due February 22.
- **Childcare** will not be provided at PA meetings or the Town Hall Forum. However, families can bring their children but will share the responsibility of childcare on a rotating basis (15 minute intervals) with others who brought children. If you are not willing to miss parts of the meeting to watch the children, please make other arrangements.
- The Grand Opening of the **Parents Lounge** is coming. This space, in the basement, will soon be ready to host casual gatherings and will give parents a space to socialize during school hours. If you are interested in helping to organize this space, please contact Kevin Cameron, kevin@parkwayucc.org.

Next PA meeting
Tuesday March 2
6-8 pm
All are invited!!



Spaghetteria
Mamma Mia
Fundraiser
Night.
Good Food &
lots of fun to
support our
schools!!