

# PTO Times

## President's Letter

Dear Ada Families —

The PTO hit the ground running in 2016! We have so many exciting things going on at Ada Elementary. (Don't we have the best school ever?) Beginning this week, many of our 1-4 graders began Junior Great Books. Junior Great Books is a program that extends students' skills in reading, thinking, and communicating. We are so grateful to the many parent volunteers that make this program a possibility. Also thank you to LeAndra Fisher and Kara Hotaling for co-chairing this event.

Another favorite reading event at Ada Elementary is our Ada Reader program. On February 5, many of our students attended Ada Reader night. Our students got to meet Paleo Joe, a local paleontologist and children's author. Thank you to Stacey Sapp and her team for organizing another amazing Ada Reader night.

We are looking forward to our school Carnival and Auction on Friday, March 4. We are seeking businesses to sponsor or provide silent auction donations. With a \$100 donation, your business will have a sign with your company name/logo placed in front of a classroom hosting a carnival activity. Inside the classroom, companies have the option to leave marketing materials such as flyers, coupons or menus for hundreds of families to take home. In addition, the sponsors will be recognized in the Spring Carnival via emails to parents, flyers, and Ada's website. If you are interested in sponsoring, providing gift cards, merchandise, or tickets to enter in the Silent Auction, please contact Becky Musgraves at (616) 450-1787 or [becky.muskgraves@sbcglobal.net](mailto:becky.muskgraves@sbcglobal.net).

Another fun upcoming event is our roller skating party on February 9th. We are looking forward to spending the night skating with other Ada families at Woodland Skating Rink. Siblings (both older and younger) are welcome as well and we are sure this will be an event you won't want to miss.

On February 12, we have another classroom party, our beloved Valentine Party. Our parties are a success thanks to our amazing room parents and parent volunteers.

The PTO and I wish you a very happy February!

Stay warm!  
Erica Bode  
PTO Co-President



## Upcoming Dates

Tuesday, February 9th  
Roller Skating Party

Wednesday, February 10th  
Tuesday, February 16th  
Thursday, February 18th  
Student Growth Conferences &  
Scholastic Book Fair

Friday, February 12th  
Valentine's Classroom Parties

Monday, February 15th  
No School for Students

## 2015-2016 PTO Board

**Susie VanSkiver**  
Co-President  
[susievan56@gmail.com](mailto:susievan56@gmail.com)

**Erica Bode**  
Co-President  
[bode.eric@gmail.com](mailto:bode.eric@gmail.com)

**Lisa Schmitz**  
Vice President  
[lisamschmitz@hotmail.com](mailto:lisamschmitz@hotmail.com)

**Beka McDowell**  
Treasurer  
[rmcdowell@zoho.com](mailto:rmcdowell@zoho.com)

**Brittany Hill**  
Secretary  
[timandbrittanyhill@gmail.com](mailto:timandbrittanyhill@gmail.com)

**Sally Murdock**  
Community Relations Coordinator  
[sallymurdock@comcast.net](mailto:sallymurdock@comcast.net)

**Stacey Knowles**  
Fundraising Coordinator  
[stacey.knowles315@gmail.com](mailto:stacey.knowles315@gmail.com)

**Jamie Farber**  
Communications Coordinator  
[jfarber13@yahoo.com](mailto:jfarber13@yahoo.com)

## **Cultural Arts**

**Submitted by Jenell Corey**

Awesome illustrator Tom Woodruff will be visiting Ada February 22nd and 23rd. Students in all grades will get to experience his presentation.

## **Conferences and February Book Fair go together!**

**Submitted by Brittany Hill and Amanda Harper**

Conferences are coming up quickly and along with that comes the February Book Fair!

This Fair is a Books Only Fair open just on conference nights.

Wednesday, February 10                      3:30-7:30

Tuesday, February 16                         3:30-7:30

Thursday, February 18                        3:30-7:30

Come on down before or after your kiddo's conference and pick out a book for your child and for your child's teacher as a "job well done" reward for both!

We would also love it if you could volunteer some of your time to run a register during the fair or help with setting up or tearing down the fair on the mornings of February 9 or 19. Here is the SignUp Genius link to volunteer: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0f4dadaa2ca5f94-spring>

Thanks for all of your support!

## **Teacher/Staff Conference Dinner**

**Submitted by Chris Willemin and Dolly Chowdhary**

A HUGE Thanks to all who donated for the Dinner during November Conferences!! It was a wonderful success and very appreciated by all the staff. If you would like to donate a dish/time/item for the dinner in February, and didn't sign up on the volunteer sheet at the beginning of the year, please email Chris Willemin at [grwillies@yahoo.com](mailto:grwillies@yahoo.com) or Dolly Chowdhary at [ckpuneet@yahoo.com](mailto:ckpuneet@yahoo.com). Donating is done through SignUpGenius and all items and dishes are specifically listed. Greatly appreciated as well is your time to help set up or clean up the night of the dinner. Thanks for your generous support of our teachers and staff!

## **Ada Carnival**

**Submitted by Jamie Farber and Jennifer Pennell**

Everyone's favorite family fun night is coming up on Friday, March 4th! Once again this year, all the fun of the Ada Carnival will be available for one price. The wristbands will include all games, prizes, entrance to the bounce house and unlimited cotton candy. Please watch your child's backpack for more information on pre-orders for wristbands. We also are in need of cake walk donations as well as volunteers to help staff wristband sales. If you would like to help, please contact Jamie Farber at [jfarber13@yahoo.com](mailto:jfarber13@yahoo.com) or Jennifer Pennell at [jennifer@pennellcpa.com](mailto:jennifer@pennellcpa.com).

## **School Directory**

**Submitted by Lori Ashcroft**

The school directory has been updated and a new version is available for download! If you have corrections or additions, please contact Lori Ashcroft at [lashcroft@comcast.net](mailto:lashcroft@comcast.net).

## Grounds and Gardening

Submitted by Jane Krug and Rebecca Smiggen

As Spring is near, we are beginning to think of plans to plant pansies, marigolds, and vegetable seeds! Should you have any extra or no longer needed hand trowels, hand cultivators (a three pronged "rake"), and/or child sized garden gloves, please consider donating them to Ada Elementary! They will be used to provide small groups, or class sized groups, of students their own tool to dig, plant, and weed! Currently, we have a few trowels and cultivators, but we would like to grow our collection! Traditionally, 2nd and 3rd graders plant the seeds in Ada's Vegetable Garden and Kindergarteners plant Marigolds around the perimeter. Gardening opportunities for 1st and 4th graders will also be made available! Used and/or new donations gratefully accepted throughout the remainder of the school year (please deliver to Office with a label of Grounds and Gardening Committee); THANK YOU!!!

## Roller Skating Party

Ada is having a roller skating party! You won't want to miss this great family event on Tuesday, February 9th from 5:30 - 7:30 pm. Join your Ada friends at Woodland Skating Rink (2100 - 28th St) for a night of skating, games and races. Skate rental is \$3 per person and non-skaters are free. Siblings are welcome. Please contact Jamie Farber at 644-7082 or [jfarber13@yahoo.com](mailto:jfarber13@yahoo.com) with questions. We hope to see you there!

## Spring Auction

Submitted by Becky Musgraves and Paula Woodend

Ada Elementary School's Spring Carnival is Friday, March 4 from 6-8pm! This year, we will have a silent auction and sponsorship opportunities where all proceeds will go towards, instructional resources, technology, and a new screen and projector for our Multi-Purpose Room!

This year's silent auction will include:

- 4 One-Day Park Hopper Passes to Walt Disney World, Shedd Aquarium tickets, MVP 3 month membership, Whitecaps tickets, Griffins tickets, Gift Cards to Meijer, Design One, Celebration Cinema, a Goldfish Swim School package and MUCH MUCH more!
- Themed Gift Baskets, such as Star Wars, Legos, UofM and MSU themes, from each grade to bid on! Please look for an email from your classroom head room parent with information about your grade's theme. We are asking parents to send in donations that will be combined into one big grade level basket that will be available for bidding.
- BACK AGAIN THIS YEAR....We will be auctioning off "Teacher Experiences!" Each teacher will offer a chance for the highest bidder's child to spend time with them (and the other winners in their grade level) during a fun activity like going to the movies or swimming! This year's activities are yet to be determined.

If you are interested in providing gift cards, merchandise, or tickets for the Silent Auction, please let us know!

We are also looking for local business sponsors! With a \$100 donation, your business can sponsor a classroom, which includes a sign with company name or logo placed in front of a classroom hosting a carnival activity. Inside the classroom, companies have the option to leave marketing materials such as flyers, coupons or menus for hundreds of families to take and bring home. In addition, the Spring Carnival sponsors will be recognized via emails to parents, flyers, and Ada's website.

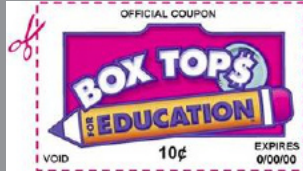
If you are interested in a sponsorship or donating for the silent auction, please contact Becky Musgraves at [becky.musgraves@sbcglobal.net](mailto:becky.musgraves@sbcglobal.net) or Paula Woodend at [pmwoodend@msn.com](mailto:pmwoodend@msn.com).

## Box Tops Update

Submitted by Sarah Streit

Did you know that the power of Box Tops is in your hands? The power for Ada Elementary to earn \$5,000 without any monetary donations. All you have to do is collect, cut, and turn in any and all Box Tops from participating products (Ziplock, Chex Mix, Go-Gurt, etc.). Place these items in a small plastic bag or envelope and send them to school with your child. The next collection deadline is Feb. 25th, but don't wait until then to turn them in. Turn them in now! If we reach our goal of \$5,000, each student in the school will receive a small reward. Each of these labels earn ten cents for our school which adds up quickly if everyone participates. Please also turn in any Labels for Education labels you may have. With these labels the school is able to purchase supplies for the classrooms. Any questions or if you would like to volunteer to help on this committee, please contact Sarah Streit at [jskc4@yahoo.com](mailto:jskc4@yahoo.com)

Example of labels:



## Local Store Rewards Cards Information

Easy Fundraising for Ada Elementary!

Meijer Rewards Card  
Ada Elementary PTO - Code #583970  
Sign-up: [meijer.com/rewards](http://meijer.com/rewards)

Forest Hills Foods – Serving You More Card  
Ada Elementary ID #11166

Target — Take Charge of Education  
Ada Elementary School ID #61675  
Sign-up: [target.com/tcoe](http://target.com/tcoe)  
or call 1-800-316-6142

Follow us on Facebook! [www.facebook.com/adaelementarypto](http://www.facebook.com/adaelementarypto)

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Ada Elementary  
PTO

# THANK YOU!!

Many thanks to the following sponsors who have already signed up to support the Carnival and Auction:

- The Ada Pour House
- Thompson Remodeling
- Spacetoys.com
- Midwest Air Filter
- Ada Piano Academy
- Applause Catering
- Caroline Lowry Hall, LLPC, Professional Counselor
- Pennell CPA
- Strategies Financial Group
- AIC Insurance
- Family & Pediatric Eye Care
- Goldfish Swim School
- Spica Real Estate
- Norman Dental
- Orthopaedic Associates of Michigan
- National Flag Football
- PF Changs
- Miller Orthodontics
- Kumon Math & Reading Center
- Falcon Printing