

IES PTA Express

www.iespta.org

October 2009

President's Corner

WAY TO GO MAVERICKS ON GIVING BACK TO CASEY'S KIDS!

The excitement has been building as we come to our conclusion of the Casey's Coins Drive!! IES and IES PTA wanted to support this event to provide an opportunity for the students to **"give back"** to kids in our own community. And, WOW, have they done a fantastic job!! As we go to print for our newsletter, we have collected almost \$1900 and 16 classes have reached a sponsorship level. Two classes stand out - Mrs. Markham's 3rd grade class and Mrs. Jenkins Am & PM Kindergarten classes. They have both reached a Gold Level sponsorship of \$100 - YEAH!! The response for this project has been overwhelming and touching to see our school and the kids giving with such enthusiasm! We would like to send a huge shout out to **COACH LEACH** for taking the time to talk to the kids about the benefits of participating in this event: to be healthy and fit but also to help those in our community who may be in need. We hope everyone can get out and enjoy the run on Sat. Nov 7th and further support Casey's KIDS Fun Run. Each class that reaches a sponsorship level will see their class name, grade and school on the Casey's KIDS Fun Run t-shirts to be handed out on the day of the event. A t-shirt comes with your registration so -- sign up NOW!! Thank you to Behr Process for supplying us with the buckets to collect the coins!! Our final results to be announced on Monday, Oct 5th!!

Just around the corner we have the **Maverick Round Up Fall Carnival on Friday, Oct 9th!!** We are really excited about all the fun planned for everyone. This is a great night to get out to the school and have some fun with the family. Everyone is welcome - grandparents, mom, dad,

Dates to Remember

- Oct 9 **Maverick Roundup**
6-8 pm
- Oct 13 **PTA Meeting**
6:30 pm
- Oct 26-30 **Red Ribbon Week**
- Oct 28 **Carter Blood Care**
- Nov 7 **Casey's Kids**
Fun Run
- Nov 10 **PTA Meeting**
6:30 pm
- Nov 19 **McDonald's Night**
- Dec 11 **Grandparents**
Game Night

NO PTA Meeting in December!

Maverick Round Up Fall Carnival Friday, Oct 9 6-8 pm

Cowboys and cowgirls are invited to come out and have a boot-stomping, hand-clapping, whistle-blowing good time!! There will be bounce houses, an obstacle course, a rock climbing wall, a dunk tank (guess who's getting in this year?!), carnival games, and food.

Punch cards will be sold Tues-Thurs, Oct 6-8, 2:45-3:30 pm, and also at the carnival. Each punch card has 12 punches on it and are 2/\$10 for PTA members and 2/\$12 for non PTA members. Most activities will be 1 card punch while the food ranges from 6-10 punches. If you volunteer for the

and especially the kids. Your PTA is also very excited to have samples of our upcoming fundraiser - Grandma's Gourmet Country Pies at the Fall Carnival!

Thank you to all the parents, family members and friends for supporting IES through the school's magazine fundraiser. The children had lots of fun with their cool prizes, and the school will be able to do great things with the money raised.

IES PTA would also like to thank you as we continue to get back to basics this year!! We want to thank everyone for their help at the school during the month of September. Your support and efforts have been appreciated by the teachers and staff and also the kids who love seeing their mom or dad helping at the school!! There are so many great opportunities to give back this year. If you would like to find out more information, please email our volunteer chair Tammie Corbett or our special events chair Rochelle Yglesias.

One last note, we hope you are enjoying our newsletter in the email format we are using. I want to thank our communications chair Sue Pelis who has taken on this task and is doing a fantastic job of coordinating and getting the information into this format and onto our website - www.iespta.org!

As we continue to take our goals for this year and shape them into reality through hard work and dedication to making IES the best, please let us know any thoughts or ideas that will help us continue to improve!

Your IES PTA President,
Anna Jimenez

PTA Membership Drive

Our PTA membership drive will be ending mid October. IES PTA is sponsoring a special reward for every class that reaches our goal of 100% participation. If you are receiving this newsletter, you are already a member so **thank you!** Besides the warm, fuzzy feelings you get knowing that you are helping IES just by being a member, another benefit is that you will be able to purchase Maverick Round Up punch cards and our new IES spiritwear at a

carnival, you will receive a free 6-punch punch card!!!

Have a tasty chili recipe? Enter our 3rd annual chili cook off! Attendees will sample all entries and vote on their favorite dish.

To volunteer for the carnival or enter our chili cook off, please contact Rochelle Yglesias, our special events chair.

PTA Fall Fundraiser

This fall's PTA fundraiser will be Grandma's Gourmet Country Pies. Come and taste a bite of these delicious pies during the Maverick Round Up Fall Carnival. These yummy pies will be ready for delivery just in time for Thanksgiving. So make your Turkey Day meal a little easier and support your IES PTA at the same time!! Information on this will be coming home the week of Oct 12th! If you have any questions, please contact our 2nd V.P. of fundraising Sylvia Olivo.

Spirit Wear

New spirit wear will be available next week as well as Maverick magnets! We also have shirts from previous years on clearance (\$5 each, sizes are limited). To see pictures of some of the shirts available, check out www.iespta.org.

Maverick Math

Maverick Math will be starting on Oct 9th! This program was an incredible success last year. It's a supplemental math program for children that provides fun, yet challenging, math problems to help encourage thinking skills and reinforce classroom math lessons. This is a VOLUNTARY program that is open to all kindergarten through 4th grade students. The sheets will be available on the IES PTA website Friday, Oct 9th with the first turn in date on the following Friday, Oct 16th. They will

discounted rate! So tell everyone to JOIN IES PTA!!

Volunteers

In order for the Maverick Roundup to be a success, we will need lots of volunteers to help set up, run the games and events, and also clean up after the fun's over. Please email our special events chair Rochelle Yglesias to sign up.

Do you love to bake or prepare yummy things to eat (or buy them at the grocery store)? Please help us love on the teachers and staff by joining the Hospitality Committee. Once a month in the teacher's lounge there will be a special treat for the people who are so important in our children's lives. At the end of the year, we get to love on them daily during Teacher Appreciation Week. If you have any questions about this fun committee or would like to join, please contact Rochelle.

If art is more your area of interest, we also need help with the Reflections Program. The PTA sponsored program offers students the opportunity to create works of art for fun and recognition. Students are encouraged to create and submit works of art in six areas: literature, musical composition, photography, the visual arts, dance choreography, and film/video. Check out our website for more information about this program.

If you would like to volunteer in your child's classroom, contact your child's teacher. Each teacher plans how he/she would like to have parent help. Volunteers are always welcome and the kids love to have a family member help out in the classroom. For more information contact Melissa Cicerelli, the Room Parent Chair.

There are many other volunteer opportunities at IES: special events throughout the year like parent/student events, grandparent/student events and also daily needs in the library, cafeteria, workroom and front office. Please contact Tammie Corbett for more information.

Remember to sign in on the PTA log in the office so that we can recognize your hard work!

Yearbook

be available at the school on Monday, Oct 12th in front of the library. Please check out the website for more information.

Scrapbook

Please send any pictures for the 2009-2010 IES scrapbook to Felicia Hoover, our historian. The scrapbook will be on display in the lobby so that visitors can see what our school is all about!

Box Tops/ Campbell's Labels for Education

Hey, Mavericks! Welcome to another great year at Independence! Now that we have all settled into a new school year routine it is time to get started on our Box Top/Campbell's collection program.

My name is Tonya Harkins and I'm the volunteer coordinator for Box Tops for Education and Campbell's Labels for Education. This year our goal is to raise at least \$2,000 in our "Cash for Trash" programs. We have lots of info to share for the first of the year about these programs. Both programs offer a great opportunity for us to "think green" in a couple of ways. First, we will be recycling by turning in Box Top and Campbell's from our regular trash, and secondly, we will be earning green cash for our school.

These products are all things, as families, we purchase already. No need to purchase anything special to participate or help reach our goal.

How can you help? Take a look at the participating product lists at www.boxtops4education.com and www.labelsforeducation.com and clip the Box Top or Campbell's UPC code/cap. Turn in those labels to your child's classroom. The Box Tops can be attached to the collection sheets or sent in bags/envelopes. Campbell's should be sent in envelopes. Please be sure to have your child's first and last

We are excited to announce a yearbook cover contest for the new 2009-2010 yearbook! All students are eligible to enter a design.

Contest Rules

- All artwork must be original and completed by the student (only one entry per student).
- Use 8 ½" x 11" white paper only.
- Artwork must be arranged in portrait layout.
- Use bright colored crayons, markers, or colored pencils.

- Artwork must include the following:

The school name:

Independence Elementary School

The year: 2009-2010

A drawing of the school mascot: Maverick

We also need candid photos of students, teachers and parents!

Please share any pictures you take this year of your child and their friends from any of the following:

- In class
- On field trips
- At school concerts
- Meet the Teachers Night
- First day of school
- Grandparents Breakfast
- And other events, evening functions, or aspect of school life

We prefer high-resolution digital photos but can also accept color prints.

Your photos can be sent to the editor in the following ways:

- Save the photos to a disc and place it in the PTA Yearbook box located in the school office.
- Send the photos via email to Millette Hertel, the yearbook chair.
- Place the developed pictures in the PTA Yearbook box located in the school office.

Locks of Love

Independence Elementary and the PTA are working together to show our students that everyone can help our community. Locks of Love is an

name and their teacher's name somewhere on the submission.

Throughout the year, there will be prizes for the classroom that collects the most Box Tops and Campbell's Labels. The prize periods will be August-October, November-January, and February-May15. We have already received lots of labels from families, and I appreciate all the support you have shown for this program by saving them over the summer months. Keep up the good work, and we will certainly make a difference for our school.

To learn more or to receive information about bonus opportunities, local specials, or how you can help, visit the above websites or contact me at 817-741-2651 or TonyaD@troopharkins.com. Thanks for helping IES with Box Tops and Campbell's Labels!

Caprisun Pouches

Caprisun pouches are also being collected to send in for money for IES. We can earn 2¢ for each pouch. For more information about the "Be Green – Earn Green" program, check out www.kraftfood.com/caprisun and also www.terracyle.net.

SunnyD Labels

Another label campaign that benefits classrooms is the SunnyD Book Spree program. Teachers can get 20 free books by collecting just 20 labels. Go to www.sunnyd.com for more information. Please send these labels directly to your child's teacher. This program ends November 14 so send in your labels soon!

Easy \$ for IES

You may not be aware of this but here are two stores that will send our school money just for shopping at their business! If you link your reward card at Tom Thumb to IES,

organization that estimates 80% of all hair donations come from children who wish to help other children. The hair is used to make wigs for kids who are dealing with hair loss due to cancer. To find out more information go to www.LocksofLove.org.

We are looking for kids who have 6-10 inches or longer and would like to have their hair cut to donate to Locks of Love. Measure your child's hair from the base of the neck to see if it is at least 6 inches. If you would like to have your child participate, please go to the IES PTA website and click on the link to print a permission slip. Just fill it out and send it to your child's teacher. Once the PTA receives your permission slip it will be numbered and the first 20 students will receive a free blunt hair cut. This is due to time constraints and the number of [hair stylists that will be available.](#)

The "Big Haircut Event" will take place in the spring at a Mother/Daughter event hosted by the PTA. Participants must have a signed permission slip and a parent present at the time of the haircut.

Check out the display in the hallway by the cafeteria to see pictures of the student participants and also of Ms. Gant, one of the third grade teachers, who donated her hair last month. Feel free to send in a picture of your child so we can share it with the school (forward face shot-hair down the front, any size photo up to 8x10).

Thank you for supporting Locks of Love. We are so excited to participate in a program that shows children how important it is to help others. Please contact the PTA or email Room Parent chair Melissa Cicerelli with any questions.

GO MAVERICKS!!!

Tom Thumb will send IES 1% of what you spend every quarter. Target also sends 1% of purchases if you link your Target credit card to IES. How easy is that?!

Sept Newsletter

If you did not receive the September newsletter, just check out the PTA website and click on the link for the September newsletter on the home page.

PTA Board Members

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