

THE PTA PLANET

MOKENA PTA NEWSLETTER

May 2011



Serving Mokena Elementary, Intermediate, and Junior High Schools
<http://www.MokenaPTA.org> or e-mail: MokenaPTA@gmail.com

President's Message

It's that time of year to reflect on our program so that we can begin planning for the next school year. As with any organization, there are many people who work to make our programs a success.

Most parents may not be aware of how much goes on behind the scenes between school staff, the district office, volunteers, and administrators. When any organization asks for help, the building administrators play a vital role in the success of each event. Thank you to them for their support, encouragement and many hours assisting Mokena District 159 organizations.

Also, thank you to the staff building representatives for the year: Mrs. Arduino (MES), Mrs. Hasier (MIS), and Mrs. Novak (MJHS). These teachers create a liaison between the staff and the PTA. We appreciate your support.

Thank you to rest of the PTA Board for all of your work this year: Cindy Hoyle, vice president, Carrie Ivicic, treasurer, and Diane Handley, secretary. Also, sincere thanks go to our committee chairs for the year: Carrie Ivicic, Santa's Secret Shop; Karen Bussean, membership; Kari Abrahamsen, Notecard Fundraiser; Cindy Hoyle, MJH Dances; Linda Marquardt and Trish Roberts, Fun Fair; Carrie Ivicic, Fannie May Fundraiser; Sylvia Gonzalez, Flower Power Fundraiser; Carla Wojtczak, eScrip; Andrea Espinosa, Staff Appreciation Luncheon; and Tiffinee Garcia, Scrip.

And last, but certainly not least, thank you to all of the parents who have supported us this year. If you bought an Entertainment book, volunteered at an event, purchased a gift card, or registered your Dominick's card to support the PTA, you have been an important part of the year. Please know that although there are too many to thank, we do appreciate each and every one of you.

On behalf of the PTA board, have a wonderful summer.

Carol Garcia

President, Mokena PTA

DATES TO REMEMBER

PTA Meeting, 4:30 p.m. at MES (elections)	May 23
MEF Golf Outing and Dinner	June 3
Rummage Sale Donation Drop offs	June 7, 14, 18, 21
Rummage Sale	June 25
School Supply Pick-up	August 1 and 4
@MES during Residency Verification	

Rummage Sale

The Mokena PTA will be hosting the second annual Rummage Sale on Saturday, June 25 from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. at Mokena Intermediate School.

Household items, clothes, books, furniture, toys, outdoor items, and more will be sold. Cash only!

Plus -- Get Cash for your Gold. Bring in your gold jewelry (with or without stones), watches, coins, platinum, silver, or any precious metals, and **get cash** on the spot! Items can be in any condition. Rodger Kadet (formerly with his family's business Rogers & Hollands Jewelers) will be there the day of the sale to purchase your items and a percentage of the sales go to the schools!

If you are willing to donate items, drop-off will be on the first three Tuesdays in June (June 7, 14, 21) from 7 a.m. - 3p.m. or Saturday, June 18 from 9 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. at MIS (Enter at exit H from the main parking lot). All items must be carried; please do not drag anything across the floor. Leave donations in the foyer. Donation receipts will be available.

We will accept most traditional garage sale items (toys, bikes, clothing, handbags, books, household, holiday, furniture, etc.) We will NOT be able to accept computer equipment, televisions, or expired car seats. If you are donating clothing, please bag each size separately and make sure it is in very good condition.

If you have any donation questions, or would like to volunteer to help, please e-mail Carol Garcia at carolgarcia3@gmail.com.

PTA Awards Night

The PTA held our annual Awards Night recently. Several students were selected to read their Staff Appreciation Essays to the staff member who they wished to honor that evening. Everyone who participated in the contest received a special thank you for their entry this year.

Congratulations to the following students who read their essays on Awards Night:

Benjamin Gonzalez (Mrs. Schimanski)
 Jenna Chiaramonte (Mrs. Jungles)
 Taylore Loy (Mrs. Kaminski)
 Skylar Swatkowski (Mrs. Blazek)
 Jacob Kruse (Mrs. Barr)
 Nathan Mills (Mrs. Szostak)
 Jenna Deang (Mrs. Janes)
 Jared Garcia (Nurse Kate)
 Olivia Nigro (Mrs. Meehan)
 Michael Maloney (Mrs. DeSalvo)
 Micaela Cesta (Mrs. Angelo)
 Matthew Maloney (Mrs. Denovellis)
 Alison VanDyke (Mrs. Wooge)
 Emily Arduino (Mrs. Blank)
 Randy Lathus (Mrs. Marcus)
 Marnie Moran (Ms. Sullivan)
 Grace Fitzpatrick (Mrs. Young)

Scholarship Winner

Each year the PTA offers a \$500 scholarship to a student graduating from Lincoln-Way who is also a former student of District 159. The scholarship committee met to select a winner based on the applications received. This year, the recipient is Daniel Ward. Congratulations to Daniel and thanks to the committee for your work on this program.

Staff Appreciation Luncheon

We have received many letters of thanks from the staff for the annual Staff Appreciation Luncheon. We wanted to pass those messages along to those who helped make this event a success by either sending a dish to share or giving of their time to work at the luncheon. Your support was overwhelming. Thanks to Andrea Espinosa for organizing this luncheon.

News Bites

- Thank you to the many parents who helped with the Jr. High Step-up Dance. We were able to put on a fun night complete with DJ, bungee run, and Velcro wall, thanks to the help of the many volunteers. We look forward to more dances next school year!
- Thanks to all of the families who made a donation to our PTA this year. We welcome direct donations in lieu of purchases as an option for families. Look for more information again next school year.
- Please keep using your registered Dominick's Fresh Values card to help support the PTA. To register your card, visit, www.escrrip.com. Because of the support we are already receiving, we were able to raise over \$400 during the January 10% Back to Schools program. The next 10% Back to Schools program is August 10 – September 13, 2011. Mokena PTA can earn 10% of your purchase amounts on thousands of participating products.

A Message from Mokena Educational Foundation

Mokena District 159 Educational Foundation invites you to their annual fundraiser, "Drive for Success," held at Odyssey Country Club, 19110 Ridgeland Ave. Tinley Park, on Friday, June 3, 2011.

The golf rounds will start at 1:30 p.m. and a dinner and silent auction beginning at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are available for guests to attend both golf and dinner for \$120, which includes golf, cart, snack lunch, dinner, 3 hr refreshments and evening entertainment.) You may also purchase dinner tickets separately for \$50 (\$55 at the door). Silent auction items will be on display during the dinner, along with music, door prizes, and class basket drawings.

To purchase tickets, please contact Cathy Gainer at cgainer@polysystems.com or 708-479-0537.

Mokena Educational Foundation is dedicated to providing independent financial support to enrich, encourage and expand educational initiatives for Mokena School District 159 students and staff.