

# STEVENS STAR



## PTA Newsletter



March 2009

Francis L. Stevens Elementary School, Lake Hill Road, Ballston Lake, NY  
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Northeastern District PTA



### Calendar Of Events

#### **Monday March 2nd**

Stevens PTA begins "Parents as Reading Partners"  
District Pre-K Parents Meeting at Pashley 7:00pm

#### **Monday March 2nd - 6th**

New York State Grades 3, 4, and 5 Math Test

#### **Wednesday March 4th**

PTA Meeting 7:00pm

#### **Sunday March 8th**

Daylight Savings Time Begins, "spring forward"

#### **Monday March 9th & Tuesday March 10th**

Kindergarten Registration at Stevens Elementary

#### **Tuesday March 10th**

Board of Education meeting 7:30pm at Stevens



### News from our President

The month of February is behind us and now we are into the busy month of March. State math tests kick off the month so we all need to make sure our 3rd, 4th and 5th grade children are well rested and ready. We will also be celebrating Parents as Reading Partners or PARP month. This program promotes the importance of reading with your children every night. Our annual Book Fair will be held March 18th, 19th and 20th with the Pajama Party closing out the program on Friday night. We need a lot of volunteers to make this happen so if you can spare some time please contact Kim North or Denise Stewart. District wide Kindergarten Registration will be held on March 9th and 10th in the Stevens gym. Please contact Tina Crocetto if you are able to help out. In the month of April we will be holding Science Nights. This is an hour long event where kids come to do a number of different science experiments. It is a lot of fun and Bob Rafferty has done a wonderful job with this program for a number of years. He is looking for someone to help out and learn the "ropes" since he only has a couple more years with us at Stevens. If you are interested please let him know. Calling all committee chairs: if the event that you were in charge of is done for the year, please hand in your red or green folder either through the PTA mailbox or at a PTA meeting. We are looking to fill some PTA positions for next year. If you are interested please contact Amy Aldrich. The nominating committee will be announced at the next PTA meeting. Have a great month of March and think spring☺

Cathy Todd  
PTA President



### **Stevens Library and PTA Present Lights, Camera, Read!**



Sunday, March 1st kicks off the Stevens' Parents as Reading Partners (PARP) program. PARP is a reading program supported by parents, library staff, faculty and the PTA to encourage reading and literature-based activities at home.

Our theme this year is "Lights, Camera, Read!" putting our books in the spotlight. Students are encouraged to read 15-20 minutes daily during the month of March. Look for a packet coming home soon!

Calendar of Events**Thursday March 12th**

Half Day Grades 1 – 5  
Dismissal 12:00noon

**Wednesday March 18th**

Stevens PTA Book Fair begins

**Friday March 20th**

Stevens PTA Pajama Party

**Tuesday March 24th**

Board of Education meeting 7:30pm  
Middle School

**Monday March 30th**

COGAT Test Grade 3

**Wednesday April 1st**

PTA Meeting 7:00pm

**Friday April 3rd &****Saturday April 4th**

BHBL Theatre for Children

**Tuesday April 7th**

Board of Education meeting 7:30pm  
Pashley

**Wednesday April 8th**

Report Cards Grades 1 – 5  
Stevens PTA Science Night

**April 10th – 17th**

Spring Break

**Save the Date!**

**Grease, Jr.** will be performed by the BH-BL Theatre for Children on Friday and Saturday, **April 3rd and 4th** at the BH-BL High School Auditorium.

You won't want to miss this wonderful opportunity to enjoy affordable, live theatre for the whole family. Your enjoyment benefits our schools' Arts in Education programs and our high school stage and auditorium

**Attention Parents/Grandparents/Older Siblings/Teachers**

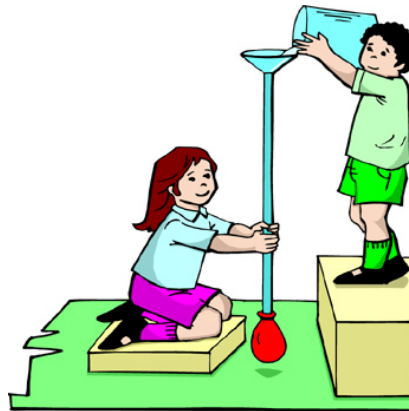
Lots of Snack Makers and Servers Needed for  
Huge Book Fair Pajama Party - Friday, March 20th 7:00pm  
We serve about 500 people, so your generous help is greatly appreciated again this year!

**Cupcakes, Cookies, Popcorn, Fruit, Jell-o, Pretzels, Juice, Milk, Lemonade Mix**

Server shifts needed are 1/2 hr to 1 hour or more while your family visits the book fair and secret readers

Set up and clean up help is always welcome!

Please call Denise Stewart or email: [denistew@nycap.rr.com](mailto:denistew@nycap.rr.com)

**Science Night**

Science Night is here! A unique Stevens tradition returns on April 8th and April 22nd. Pick a night and come learn science by participating in a fun interactive environment with your child. According to Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary, science is knowledge attained through study or practice. A great way to learn science is through hands-on practice which Science Night offers. Children (and parents) will participate in learning activities at the same time. Several different activities are currently being planned for all students Kindergarten through 5th grade to participate in.

We are always open to new ideas or activities so feel free to send along suggestions. Look for a registration and volunteer sign-up note to come home with your child soon. Science Night is very popular and will fill up quickly on a first come first served basis so please make sure you return your registration as soon as possible. We look forward to seeing the Stevens Scientists soon!

**2008-2009 Stevens****PTA Officers****President**

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Emailed or written submissions must be received by the 2nd Monday of the month for inclusion in the next month's newsletter. Submissions by e-mail should be sent to

[mgrabb@nycap.rr.com](mailto:mgrabb@nycap.rr.com)

**Staff**

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 399-4438

Colleen Grabb – Editor, 384-7336  
[mgrabb@nycap.rr.com](mailto:mgrabb@nycap.rr.com)

Asst. Editor, Laura Foster

**Think Spring! Volunteers needed:  
 From all schools, for the District Wide Kindergarten Registration.**

When: March 9th and March 10th. Two shifts available:  
 Morning 8:30 - 11:30 or Afternoon 11:45 - 2:00

Where: Stevens Elementary School

If you can help on either day or shift please call Tina Crocetto  
 At 399-2555

**Parents as Reading Partners** – contact Lynette Albright  
 @ 399-7189

**Book Fair** – contact Kim North @ 309-3551

**Kindergarten Orientation** – contact Paula Wunderlich  
 @ 399-6277  
 or Colleen Grabb @ 384-7336



**New Information if Your Child is Absent**

Parents should always notify the school by **9:00AM**, either by phone call or email, whenever their child will be absent. If there is no call or email from a parent, the office staff must verify the student is absent by calling the parent. (A written excuse with a parent signature is still required when the child returns to school.) [bmlodzianowski@bhbl.org](mailto:bmlodzianowski@bhbl.org), [jbennett@bhbl.org](mailto:jbennett@bhbl.org)



**The Yearbook is Looking For Your Photos**

The 2008-2009 yearbook is looking for photos. Please remember to bring your camera to all school events and when you visit your child's classroom. The more photos we have the better the yearbook will look.

*Please send them to:*  
 Paula Wunderlich

Please drop off your pictures in the main office marked yearbook pictures. There are only a couple more weeks to collect pictures for the 2008-2009 year book. If you are working on page(s), please call Paula at 399-6277 or email her at [ewunderl@nycap.rr.com](mailto:ewunderl@nycap.rr.com)

Please let Paula know which page(s) you are working on and when they will be completed. Thank you for your help this year.

### Silver Graphics

It's Silver Graphics time again. The artwork is done and the order forms are on their way home. There are many new items this year: travel coffee mugs; aluminum water bottles; grocery totes and garden flags just to name a few. Please check out the samples on display in school or visit [www.silvergraphics.com](http://www.silvergraphics.com) (Custom Gift Products with Art) to see what's available. As always if you have any questions please feel free to call or e-mail me Karen Orlop 877-8203 or [forlop@nycap.rr.com](mailto:forlop@nycap.rr.com). Thanks to all who signed up to help I'll be in touch early April



### Stevens Goes Green Plant Sale Fundraiser



This spring, the Stevens PTA will be conducting a fundraising plant sale. Order forms will be distributed in early April. Proceeds will go to fund green related activities for students including field trips and classroom activities and for various other PTA programs for our children. Please have your children sell plants to family and friends (no door-to-door selling please). All flowers and plants will be from local businesses.

We will be asking parents of students to divide existing perennials from their gardens for us to sell as well. Please think about what you have in your garden that you may want to divide. You may bring plants to Stevens on Friday afternoon, May 15th or arrange to have us pick them up the week before the event. Plants can be placed in recycled containers or in plastic shopping bags.

All plants must be picked up on Friday afternoon May 15th or Saturday morning May 16th. We will have a drive-up area in front of Stevens for those just picking up their plants. If you are unable to pick up your plants on one of these days, please indicate it on your order form and we will arrange delivery to you.

If you have any questions or you can volunteer for the plant sale, please contact chairpersons Tricia Letendre at 399-4602, or Kathy Welch at 885-6980.

**All Articles for the April newsletter are due by  
Monday March 16, 2009.**

**Please email Colleen @ [mgrabb@nycap.rr.com](mailto:mgrabb@nycap.rr.com)  
Or leave in the PTA mailbox.**

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[www.nyspta.org](http://www.nyspta.org)