

Bower Elementary  
August 2008

# Bower Buzz

## Mark your Calendar!

- August 27th  
Curriculum Night
- August 29<sup>th</sup>  
Gift Wrap  
Fundraiser Begins
- August 29<sup>th</sup>  
SPIRIT DAY- Wear  
your teacher's  
FAVORITE COLOR
- September 1<sup>st</sup>  
No School/Labor  
Day
- September 8<sup>th</sup>  
Vision/Hearing  
Screening
- September 10<sup>th</sup>  
PTA Meeting –  
7:00 pm Staff  
lounge
- September 15<sup>th</sup>  
Wrapping Paper  
Orders DUE
- September 17<sup>th</sup>  
Market Day P/U
- September 20<sup>th</sup>  
Fun Run
- September 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Picture Day

### COMING SOON:

- October 8<sup>th</sup>  
PTA Meeting -  
7:00pm
- October 13<sup>th</sup>  
No  
School/Columbus  
Day



## Welcome Back

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome each of you and your families to Bower Elementary School. As the PTA President it is my responsibility to talk with you about getting involved in the school. But first, since this may be the first time at Bower for many of you, I think that it is important to explain what the Bower PTA is all about. The PTA is the group that is made up of Parents and Teachers working together to ensure a great school year for your children. All you have to do is send in your membership and you are a part of the Bower PTA.

We do many wonderful things as a PTA. Some of the things that we are responsible for our Book Fairs, Bingo Night, Roller Skating Party, Field trips, Fun Fair, and celebrating and appreciating our teachers and staff. But as you can imagine to meet all of the goals that we have, we need active participation. This is where YOU come in. Now I truly understand how daunting volunteering can be. I am here to assure you that we will never force anyone to dedicate more time than they are willing, or take on something that you are not comfortable with. ANY time that you are willing to offer is more valuable than I can relate! Volunteering does not have to be a huge time commitment. Whatever your schedule permits, we have several things that can be performed in the evenings or that can be done from home also!

Please take a minute to stop by the PTA's table at Curriculum Night to see if there is something you are interested in volunteering for. We will all be there to answer any questions you may have.

We fund the programs mentioned above with our Gift Wrap fundraiser. Look for more information in your backpack mail next week. We receive 50% profit from most everything sold in the catalog!!! Every little bit helps the Bower PTA help your students!

Thanks,

Lisa Mentzer

## Office News

Each day a student will be absent please call the office at 630-393-9413 by 8:30 am. If your student will be late please call the office or send a note with the student the day before.

If there is a change in a child's transportation on any given day, a **note** must accompany the child to school to inform the teacher and the office. If there is no note, the child will go home as usual.

Important: Tardy children must be accompanied by an adult to the school office. Children should not be dropped off at the school's door, this is a safety issue. The district's main concern is the safety of all students.

## **BOWER SPIRIT DAYS:**

Our first Spirit Day is set for August 29<sup>th</sup>! Please have your child ask your teacher what his/her favorite color is and show your Bower Spirit by wearing your teacher's favorite color!

### **Nurses Notes: VISION AND HEARING SCREENING**

The DuPage County vision and hearing technicians will be at Bower School this year on Monday, September 8 for screening. **Initial screening for the DLP students will be on Monday, September 15.** The re-screening date is Monday, September 22 for all students. State mandated grades and students will be screened as follows: kindergartners, second graders, all special education students, students new to the district, and foster children will be screened for vision and hearing; first and third graders will be screened just for hearing. Kindergarten students meeting the requirements of the vision examination law and having forms on file with the nurse's office will not be screened. Students with glasses will not be screened for vision, as they require a much more comprehensive examination. They need to bring their glasses as they will be checked for damage.

The goal of the vision and hearing screening program is to detect gross abnormalities in vision and/or hearing from the norm and to do it in a short amount of time. You will be notified by a phone call and a letter if your child needs a follow-up examination for vision and/or hearing **after** the rescreening date. If you have any questions regarding vision and hearing screening, you can reach me at Bower School 630-393-9413 ext. 203 during school hours.

Mrs. O'Connor  
School Nurse

### **Bower Buzz**

Starting this fall, any submissions for the Buzz can be left in the "Bower Press" mail slot in the office, or sent directly to Julie Clark at [monark97@sbcglobal.net](mailto:monark97@sbcglobal.net)

**The Bower Buzz will be available online on the last Friday of each month, so the deadline for submissions will be the third Friday of the month.**

## **Attention Parents**

**FIRST PTA MEETING September 10<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 pm in the Teachers Lounge**  
If you have any questions please feel free to e-mail anyone on the board. The new board for next year will be:

Lisa Mentzer – President [mentzers@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mentzers@sbcglobal.net)

Carla Kibler – First Vice President [carlakibler@sbcglobal.net](mailto:carlakibler@sbcglobal.net)

Pam Nielsen – Second Vice President [jpnielsen@comcast.net](mailto:jpnielsen@comcast.net)

Karen Cook – Treasurer [cyclones93@comcast.net](mailto:cyclones93@comcast.net)

Jen Diomar – Recording Secretary [jrdiomar@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jrdiomar@sbcglobal.net)

Judy Blitzki – Corresponding Secretary [twinma213@hotmail.com](mailto:twinma213@hotmail.com)

All meetings will begin at 7:00 pm in the staff lounge. The meetings for this year are as follows:

September 10 <sup>th</sup>	October 8 <sup>th</sup>	November 12 <sup>th</sup>
January 14 <sup>th</sup>	February 11 <sup>th</sup>	March 11 <sup>th</sup>
April 8 <sup>th</sup>		

**[Please consider attending a PTA meeting this fall to learn about upcoming events at the school.](#)**

*This is a great way to get involved with your children's education and your efforts make a significant difference in the lives of the students, teachers,*

## **FUN RUN**

Please mark your calendars for September 20<sup>th</sup> 2008 for the third annual New 200 Fun Run. The New 200 Foundation is a district wide non-profit foundation, focused on enhancing the educational experience of students and teachers throughout all 20 schools in District 200. The Fun Run is a 5K or 1 mile run, along with other rides and attractions. Last year's fun run was a great success and we hope to make this year's event even better. This year's event will be on Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup> at Hubble Middle School.

Last year we had over 700 runners and raised approximately \$10,000 for various educational programs. The money raised was used for a new library program at Hubble Middle School, a new multi-media learning capability at Johnson Elementary School, and a variety of smaller programs throughout District 200. All District 200 schools have benefited from grants from the New 200 Foundation.

In order to encourage participation and to foster a little friendly competition between schools, we will again be rewarding the schools at each level that have the highest percentage of participants. Last year Madison Elementary and Edison Middle School each received a \$1000 grant for having the most students participate, and the students benefited from the grants with new computers and school supplies.

We are looking for participants, volunteers, and business sponsors. If you have any questions, or would like to get more involved, please contact Eric Patton from the New 200 Board at 630-215-3934 or at [wericpatton@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wericpatton@sbcglobal.net). For more information, please see the New 200 website at [www.new200foundation.org](http://www.new200foundation.org)

## **September is Membership month at our Bower PTA!**

We encourage all families to join the Bower PTA. Your contribution and participation allows for great programs for our children at Bower. Fun Fairs, Roller Skating, Talent Show, Young Rembrandt's Arts program, Girls on the Run, Yearbook, Field trips, and assemblies such as *AC Rock* to mention just a few activities that can be enjoyed by all our students and families.

Come and meet your PTA Board at curriculum night on Wed, August 27 and you can sign up then. Also, membership forms are available on our Bower website under PTA.

*Every child, our child.....PTA motto*

Pam Nielsen

Membership Chair

