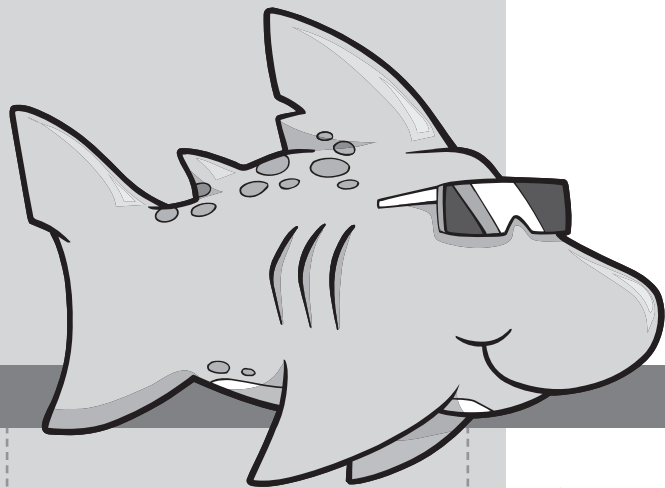


Sharkbytes

ALWAYS MOVING FORWARD



Mark your Calendar!

May

- TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK
May 4-8
- VOLUNTEER TEA
May 15 11:30 am
- SPRING CONCERT/PTA MEETING
May 19

June

- READING INCENTIVE FINALE
June 3
- PTA MEETING/LUNCHEON
June 4 11:30 am
- FIFTH GRADE FIELD DAY
June 8
- FIFTH GRADE FAREWELL REHEARSAL
June 9 morning
- FIFTH GRADE PICNIC
June 9 afternoon
- FIFTH GRADE FAREWELL CEREMONY
June 10
- KICKBALL GAME
(FIFTH GRADERS VS. SPARKS STAFF)
June 11
- LAST DAY FOR STUDENTS
June 12

The Sparks PTA Needs You!

Please see our request (at right) for committee heads needed for the upcoming school year.

To contact the Sparks PTA

✉ 601 Belfast Road, Sparks MD 21152

☎ 410.357.0046

@ kimgraybill@comcast.net

Sparks Library Gift Fund

Spark's Library Gift Fund Committee would like to thank the families of the children listed below for making a contribution to the Fund. New books have been purchased for the benefit of Sparks Elementary Library honoring these students. Many of these students recently celebrated birthdays and others were simply recognized by their families. Thank you for your ongoing support!

Emily K. Miles David M.
Charlie N. Kevin W.

Sparks Needs You!

The Sparks PTA needs committee heads for the 2009-2010 school year:

- American Education Week
- Health Fair
- Science Fair

Please contact Kim Graybill (see left) to volunteer or for more information.

Spring Concert: Music for Mother Earth

Tuesday, May 19th
2:00 pm (school performance)
7:00 pm (for family and friends)

Featuring the 5th grade Band and Orchestra, 4th Grade Chorus and Recorder Ensemble. Hope to see you there!

Welcome to Sparks!

Nicholas B.
5th Grade - Mr. Wimberly
Michael and Nancy Burton-Prately
11 Stoddard Court, Sparks, MD 21152
443.212.5292, nancyhubbard@gmail.com

Please add Nicholas' name to your roster.

Environmental Fair Wrap-Up

The Sparks Environmental Fair was a success thanks to a wonderful committee and the help of many parent volunteers! We also would like to thank presenters who represented the following organizations:

Snyder Foundation for Animals
Maryland Department of Natural Resources:
Biohabitats
Wayne Hudson-Eco-Logic LLC
Sparks Glencoe Community Planning Council
Irvine Nature Center
Bob Stanhope, Naturalist
Dave Smith, Horticulturalist
Todd Harman- Hallaton, Inc
US Dept of Transportation
University of Maryland
One Straw Farm
Clean Air Partners
Mid-Atlantic Diesel Collaborative

Many thanks to Sparks families for supporting us through sending in paper for the recycling drive, books for the book swap, and encouraging your children to ride the bus or carpool. These efforts to teach our children environmental stewardship do not need to end just because Earth Day is over. Please continue to encourage your children to continue earth-friendly practices like ride the bus, carpool, and pack low- or no-trash lunches. We always recycle at Sparks and you may continue to send your paper (no cardboard, please). In partnership with Abitibi Consolidated, we get money for the paper that is recycled. There is a paper recycling dumpster labeled ABITIBI next to other dumpster if you would rather deposit your paper directly in the container. Additionally, we get money for used ink cartridges. Please send in your ink cartridges to the green collection container in the lobby.

Submitting Receipts for Reimbursement to the PTA?

Please remember that all receipts submitted for reimbursement to the PTA must include a Disbursement/Reimbursement form. Forms can be downloaded at sparkspta.org. Click on **Forms and Documents**, then go to **Miscellaneous**. Also, remember to include third-party receipts for each expense. Thank you. –Diana Weiss

A Special Thank You

The Box Tops and Receipts committee would like to thank Mrs. Marty Hackett of the Hereford High School PTSA. Because of her efforts, our school has received an additional \$157.00 from the Graul's Cash for Kids programs. Marty coordinated a pooling of receipts with 3 other schools in order to use all of our receipts. So our total amount earned this year from Graul's is \$ 907.12. **Thank you Marty!**

HZ Rec & Parks Summer Camps

Registration for the HZ Rec & Parks Summer Camps takes place on May 7th from 6:30-8:30 pm in the Hereford High School Cafeteria. The camps are outlined on the website (www.herefordrec.org) under the Summer Camps option.

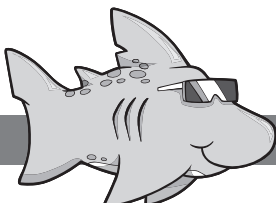


Sparks Elementary thanks...

...the following contributors to this year's Spring Fair!

A Step Above The Rest • American Girl Doll • American Insurance • Amy Simmons • Amy's Hallmark • Arbonne/Marie Dias • Bagel Works
Baltimore Coffee & Tea • The Baltimore Orioles • Beaumont Pottery • Bee Beautiful • Blair Wilcox Design • The Blooming Shoe
Bluestone Restaurant • Mrs Brack • Bradley Liquors • Brentwood Auto • Brooks-Huff • California Pizza Kitchen • Carmine's Pizza
Cathy Williams • Mrs Chaney • Charm City Karate • Chick Fil-A • Cohens Clothiers • Cold Stone Creamery • Cookie Lee/Diane Bedwell
Damon's Grill • Jaye Dansicker • Mr Daughaday • Debbie Barnes • Delibrio Family • Delmarva Carpet • Denistry for Kids • Diddywops &
Keefers • Dowell Family • Earth Treks • Elefun • Expectations Salon • F/X Studios • Mrs Fanshaw • 5 Wacky Women • The Filling Station
Ms Kirby French • Jerry Gaylord • Giant Food • Goddard Sparks • Goff Family • Grenzor Family • Gunpowder Bison • Hair Cuttery
Henry's Bistro • Hereford Fire Dept • Hereford Golf • Hereford Graul' • Hereford Pharmacy • Hereford Snowball • Herrs • Hot Pots
Imperial Sounds • Jackie & Joe's • Jay's Great Moments • Mrs Kearney • Kids First Swim Club • Kindsdene Nursery • Lasure Family
Lee Family • Let's Dish • Lia Sophia/Vickie Adams • Little Gym • Mary Kay/Tammy Kincaid • Mar's Grocery • Mast Tennis Academy
McInnes & Brummer • Mrs Mayo & Friends • Mrs McNelly • Melissa Benhoff/Nancy Dewlin • Michael's Café • Michaels Pizza
Mt Carmel Animal Hospital • Milton Inn • Monarch Med Spa • Monkton Community Art Ctr • The Moving Co • My Secret Garden Florist
• N County Dermatology • Ms Berna Oates • Palmisano Family • Paper Mill Pharmacy • Pazza Luna • Pizza Connection • PlayCenters
Polka Dot Panache • Proctor & Gamble • Pulse Health & Fitness • Renaissance Salon & Spa • Riley & Associates • Rita's Ice of Hunt Valley
Anne Roth • Safeway • Sam's Club • Sandra Paetow Photography • Sementa Family • Sherwin Williams • Silly Spud Tees • Sister Ties Stacy
Lochary • The Still • Tammy Kincaid / Joanie Lucas • Tastefully Simple/Kelly Rodier • Thorns & Thistles • Troyer Liquors • Trudy Burns
Bryan Turner • Ultimate Playzone • UsBourne Books/Linda Plummer • UTZ • Vito's Café • Wavedancer • Wegmans Grocery

A very special THANKS to al of the parent and committee volunteers. Without you, this event would not be possible!



Sparks Needs You!

2009-2010 SPARKS ELEMENTARY VOLUNTEER FORM



The Sparks PTA encourages and values the participation of each and every parent, whether you're a seasoned volunteer or a first-timer. We make it easy. There are many ways that you can help out. **Please see the back of this sheet for more details about each committee.** Please indicate all areas of interest and/or expertise.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> American Education Week | <input type="checkbox"/> Nurse Helper |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Baltimore County Rep (2) | <input type="checkbox"/> Photocopying |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Book Fair | <input type="checkbox"/> PTA Membership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boxtops & Receipts | <input type="checkbox"/> Reading Incentive Program |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cafeteria/Lunch Helpers | <input type="checkbox"/> Reflections Program |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate Gifts and Advertising | <input type="checkbox"/> Roster |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Direct Donation Campaign | <input type="checkbox"/> Science Fair |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Education/Nature Trail | <input type="checkbox"/> Spirit Wear |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family Events (Movie Night, Skating Party, etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Spring Fair |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fifth Grade Graduation | <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher Appreciation Week |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grandparents Day | <input type="checkbox"/> Technical Support |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health Fair | <input type="checkbox"/> 100-Year Celebration |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitality/Bakers/Cooks | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hula for Hopkins | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ice Cream Social | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Library Help/Library Gift Fund | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Parent Party | |

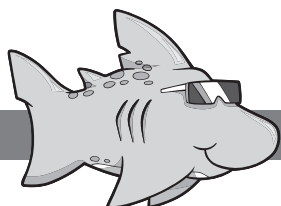
Please look on the back of this sheet for more details about each committee.

Name _____

Child(ren)/Grade(s) _____

Phone _____

Email _____



ALWAYS MOVING FORWARD

PTA STANDING COMMITTEES

American Education Week Assist with planning, preparation and set up for this week-long event. **(November)**

Baltimore County Council Representative Attend county PTA meetings each month and report back to the Sparks PTA executive board. **(Monthly)**

Book Fair Help coordinate the Scholastic Book Fair at Sparks, where students, teachers and families can visit and purchase books. **(October)**

Boxtops & Receipts Help create and execute a campaign to motivate parents and children to collect Boxtops, Giant & Graul's receipts to raise funds for the PTA. **(Ongoing)**

Corporate Gifts and Advertising Assist with soliciting corporate gifts and advertising to support the Direct Donation campaign. **(August-October)**

Direct Donation Assist in the creation and executive of a fundraising campaign to support PTA programs. **(Ongoing)**

Environmental Education/Nature Trail Assist with maintenance of the Sparks Nature Trail **(Ongoing)**

Family Events Help the PTA First VP with one of the family events held throughout the year: Movie Night, Skating Party, Games Night, etc. **(As Scheduled)**

Fifth Grade Graduation Help organize graduation ceremonies and activities for 5th grade class. **(Dec-June)**

Grandparents Day Help organize a the visitation event for grandparents and special friends. **(November)**

Health Fair Assist the Sparks nurse to plan and execute this one-day event.

Hospitality/Bakers/Cooks Help keep PTA closet organized and supplied. Assist program chairs with catering needs for PTA events. Participate in the effort to welcome new families to the school. **(Ongoing)**

Hula for Hopkins Help organize a night of fun and service learning for the entire Sparks community. **(January-April)**

Ice Cream Social Help organize a night of music and ice cream for Sparks families and teachers. **(October)**

Library Gift Fund Assist in program communication as well as the selection and distribution of books for the birthday program that supports the Sparks library resources. Provide help in to the Sparks librarian as needed. **(Monthly)**

New Parent Party Help organize a night for new Sparks families to meet PTA board members, faculty and staff and to get involved in the school. **(September)**

Nurse Helper Assist the nurse with tasks such as preparing ice packs and fluoride treatment. **(Ongoing)**

Photocopying Be an in-house resource for a variety of copying needs. As needed. **(Ongoing)**

PTA Membership Assist with the PTA membership drive in conjunction with the Direct Donation campaign. **(August-October)**

Reading Incentive Program Help facilitate the Sparks reading incentive program campaign with goals, contests and prizes designed to encourage Sparks students to read for fun. **(February/March)**

Reflections Program Help promote the PTA Reflections art program and coordinate and communicate the submission of entries and the distribution of prizes. **(October)**

Roster Assist in the assembly, creation and distribution of Sparks Elementary School Directory. **(August-October)**

Science Fair Assist in the organization of science project submissions and the Science Fair display. **(April)**

Spirit Wear Help organize a campaign to sell and distribute Sparks Spirit Wear apparel. **(Ongoing)**

Spring Fair Help organize a day of outside games and activities for Sparks families. **(May)**

Teacher Appreciation Week Help organize a week of events to celebrate and thank our teachers. **(May)**

Technical Support Make your technical skills available to the Sparks PTA. Projects may include data integration, generating mailings, and more. This is a new committee. As needed. **(Ongoing)**

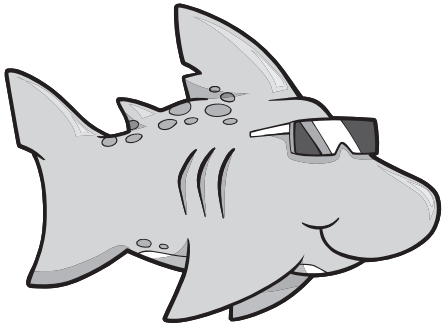
100-Year Celebration Sparks Elementary will be 100 years old this year! There will be a celebration in October and we need volunteers to help out with this event. **(September)**

You must be a member of the Sparks PTA to serve on a committee.



PTA Executive Board Nominations

FOR THE 2009-2010 SCHOOL YEAR



The PTA Nominations Committee is proud to announce the slate of Officers for the next school year. The official election will take place prior to the Spring Concert on May 19 at 6:55pm.

PRESIDENT

My name is Kim Graybill and I currently have one child at Sparks and one child at Hereford Middle School. Tyler is heading to seventh grade and Dylan will be in fifth Grade. My husband, Bob and I moved to the Sparks area 8 years ago. In addition to taking care of my children, I was a part-time Baltimore County Teacher with 14 years of experience in the county school system. I taught fifth grade for 8 years and served as the Instructional Support Team facilitator, leading a team, which analyzed academic and behavioral needs of struggling students and worked collaboratively to develop instructional plans to meet individual needs. Working within the system, I understand the value of a good education and believe that every family deserves the very best. It's my belief that this can only occur if parents, teachers and administrators work together to create a school that is nurturing yet challenging, and most importantly a school that meets students/families needs. I've been involved with the Sparks PTA for many years, serving on the PTA Executive board as well as the School Improvement Team and I look forward to serving you again in the upcoming school year as Sparks PTA President.

1ST VICE PRESIDENT:

My name is Tracey Blair and I will have two daughters at Sparks next year. Katie will be in 2nd grade and Erin will begin Kindergarten. We moved to Monkton two years ago, but have been in the Hereford Zone for the last five years. I am a stay at home and have enjoyed being involved at Sparks. This would be my second year serving as the 1st Vice President. I have also been involved in many other PTA events. I am looking forward to another year on the Executive Board.

2ND VICE PRESIDENT

My name is Aimee Klink. My husband, Rick and I have three children; Abby is in 3rd Grade, Sarah is in 1st Grade, and Danny is 3 years old. Originally from New Jersey and Pittsburgh, we relocated to Monkton 3 years ago. This will be my first time on the Sparks PTA Board, and I am excited to learn and participate!

TREASURER

My name is Shanon Graves-Zinn. My husband Doug and our daughter Hannah, (currently in kindergarten) moved to Sparks in August of 2007. For eighteen years I worked for the Medstar Health System with the last six years as the Director of Finance at Franklin Square Hospital Center. When our daughter Hannah was born, I began work as a Financial Consultant providing training, development and maintenance for healthcare decision support systems in Baltimore and Washington. I have a Bachelor's Degree in Business with a concentration in Accounting from Towson State University, a Master's Degree in Administrative Science with a concentration in Health Care Administration from Johns Hopkins University and hold a CPA license in the state of Maryland. I hope my skills in financial systems design, management experience, and commitment to the excellent academic reputation of Sparks Elementary School will serve the PTA well.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

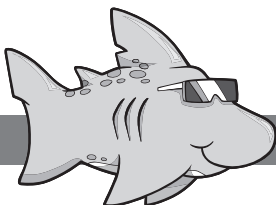
My name is Ed Kohlenstein and I have a daughter, Emily, who is currently in the third grade. My wife, Pam, and I moved to Sparks 9 years ago when she took a position as an 8th grade English teacher at Hereford Middle School. I am a CPA and have worked for Hertzbach & Company for almost 10 years. I look forward to becoming more involved in the Sparks Elementary PTA during my daughter's last two years here at Sparks.

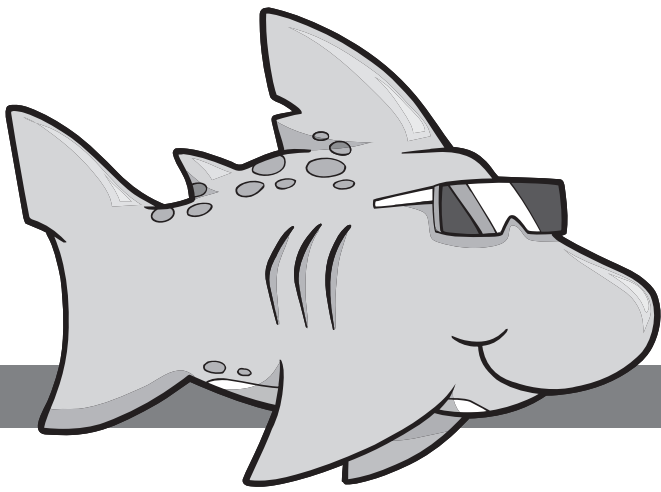
RECORDING SECRETARY

My name is Diana Weiss. My husband, Phil and I have four children. Joshua is in the 6th grade, Daniel is in 2nd grade, Michael is in Kindergarten and Sarah is 3 years old. We relocated from New Jersey six years ago. I am a CPA who works part-time from home. I look forward to being on the Sparks PTA Board.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

My name is Holly Inglisa. I live in Monkton with my husband John and three children, Nicholas, a 7th grader at Hereford Middle, Marissa, a 5th grader here at Sparks, and Joseph, a 2nd grader here at Sparks. I work in the field of Special Education as an assistant at Jacksonville Elementary. I am also currently going to school two nights a week to complete my teaching certification in elementary special education. I am thrilled to be serving on the Sparks PTA for a second year, moving from recording secretary to corresponding secretary. We have a wonderful school and I am happy to be a part of it.





Yearbook Ads

FOR FAMILIES AND LOCAL BUSINESSES

**Flyers will be coming home next week.
Here is a sneak peak at this year's offerings...**

Advertise or personalize with a block ad or a line ad

All ads should be turned in correctly sized (ad sizes are on the back of this form). Your ads can be sent via e-mail to schmalenberger@comcast.net, on disk, or hard copy (ready to scan). **PLEASE make sure your ad fits!** All single line ads will be typed on the same page by the Yearbook Committee. Make checks payable to Sparks Elementary School. Return attached form to Sparks NO LATER THAN June 5, 2009. Please indicate "Yearbook Committee" on the envelope. **For more information contact Joanie Schmalenberger at 410-472-1051.**

Parent's Name _____ Phone _____

Child's Name: _____ Teacher's Name _____

Block Ads Please note that personal and business ads are priced differently.

| | | | | |
|--------------------------|---------|--|-------|----------|
| Eighth page (3.5 x 2) | _____ x | \$20.00 (personal) \$30.00 (business) | Total | \$ _____ |
| Quarter page (3.5 x 4.5) | _____ x | \$35.00 (personal) \$60.00 (business) | Total | \$ _____ |
| Half page (7 x 4.5) | _____ x | \$70.00 (personal) \$110.00 (business) | Total | \$ _____ |
| Full page (7 x 9.5) | _____ x | \$140.00 (personal) \$220.00 (business) | Total | \$ _____ |
| Line ad | _____ x | \$3.00 (personal) | Total | \$ _____ |

Line Ad (59 characters, spaces included). Ad will be typed as follows:

FULL PAGE

Dimensions: 7" x 9.5"
Cost: \$140.00 (personal)
\$220.00 (business)

EIGHTH PAGE

Dimensions: 3.5" x 2"
Cost: \$20.00 (personal)
\$30.00 (business)

QUARTER PAGE

Dimensions: 3.5" x 4.5"
Cost: \$35.00 (personal)
\$60.00 (business)

HALF PAGE

Dimensions: 7" x 4.5"
Cost: \$70.00 (personal)
\$110.00 (business)

