

PTG News

ptg@ctkschool.org

A Monthly Newsletter - APRIL/MAY 2010

Issue No. 6

Meetings - Events This Month

CTK Auction	Saturday, May 1 st
Dine Out Fundraiser at Sweet Tomatoes	Thursday, May 6 th
CTK Festival	May 14 th –May 16 th
“Race to Nowhere” Screening (\$15)	Tuesday, May 18 th at 7:00 p.m. in Pleasanton
PTG Meeting	Tuesday, May 25 th at 7:15 p.m.
School Board Meeting	Thursday, May 20 th

Topic of the Month

Amphitheater Fund-A-Need to become a Reality:

At last year’s Auction, school families donated almost \$20,000 in support of an outdoor classroom/ amphitheater. Since that time, people have been working behind the scenes to fine-tune the design and get the necessary approvals from the school and parish. The amphitheater will be located on the small lawn between the junior high school wing and the large parking lot. It will have seating for 130 people on concrete benches (three tiers

shaped in a semi circle) with additional seating on the lawn area above the benches. A small patio area below the concrete seating area will be used for performances, presentations or even an outdoor Mass. Pathways will connect the amphitheater to the junior high wing, the prayer garden, and adjacent areas. If costs permit, a large shade arbor will be constructed north of the amphitheater (near the large church parking lot) with space for 12 picnic tables.

The amphitheater will be shared by the entire parish community and will comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The first phase of the amphitheater will be constructed over the summer which will include the patio, concrete

bench structures, pathways, and initial landscaping. The amphitheater will be designed so that lights or a sound system can be added later. The parish facilities committee has determined that the amphitheater will complement the site improvements being considered for the next CTK Parish Master Plan.

The cost of the project will be shared by the school, parish ministries, and the Fund-a-Need program. Proceeds from this year’s Fund-a-Need program (the goal is \$25,000) will also be designated for the amphitheater. With your support, the school and parish community will benefit from having an informal, outdoor setting to gather, study, and perform.

Auction Committee Needs Help

If you have a few hours to spare, please stop by the gym or tent Thursday, April 29th, and Friday, April 30th, to see if the **Auction** committee needs an extra set of hands to help set up and decorate for the Auction. **Or...** Consider signing up for an extra shift at the **Festival**. More help is needed Saturday evening (8-10 pm) and Sunday (10am-12pm and 12-2pm).

The school administration is considering the use of email for school announcements. Please answer the following questions about how you prefer to receive communications from the school. Return responses in the family envelope or to the school office.

1. Do you read the entire school newsletter in the family envelope each week?
Yes _____ No _____
2. Are you more likely to read school information sent by email or printed on paper? Email _____
Printed on Paper _____
3. Have you ever looked for calendar information or school news on the school website (www.ctkschool.org)? Yes _____ No _____

Join the PTG Board

The PTG is in the process of contacting people who indicated in our last newsletter that they would like to learn more about participating on the PTG Board. If you missed the opportunity to respond last month and are interested in participating on a PTG committee or holding a board position, please write your name below and send this form back to the office to get more information. You may also email us at PTG@ctkschool.org.

Yes, I am interested in learning more about PTG committees or board positions.

Name: _____

Need a Festival T-Shirt?

The festival committee is selling T-shirts after all masses May 1st and 2nd.

Survey Results on Special Person's Day, Social Events, and Parent Education

We received 61 responses to our last survey. Many families provided great suggestions for our Special Event, Social, and Education committees. We value your input and use your suggestions to improve our events. Thanks!

Special Person's Day – 76% of the survey respondents liked the idea of scheduling Special Person's Day every other year, although 7 people thought we should just simplify the event and host it every year. Some parents were disappointed that the event would not be held annually and a few suggested that we extend the interval to every 2, 3 or 5 years! Some comments that we will consider when planning the next event include: *change the date from April to Thanksgiving when more relatives are in town; make sure to involve children who do not have a special person to bring to school; try to minimize the amount of time that is taken away from academics; limit Special Person's Day to the lower grades (K-5)...*

Social Events – Approximately 52% of the parents surveyed felt satisfied with the social activities offered to the school community. Forty-two percent of our respondents were enthusiastic about adding more social events, and even had the following ideas: *add an event for boys and parents (comparable to the Father/Daughter Dance); host a movie night at the school; schedule another A's or Giants Baseball game with CTK families; offer a social dancing night (like Star of the Sea Catholic School in San Francisco) with western, folk, or Scottish country dance; have a family day with relays and games or Olympics; have a family day during the summer at a local aquatic center...*

The PTG is testing a new format for parent education seminars. At the end of May or beginning of June, an informal seminar on teaching kids about banks and saving money will be given on a Friday morning following breakfast at the Garden Café.

Having Fun and Earning Funds at Monthly Dine Out Nights

Thank you to all the families who participated in the Rubio's/Yogurtland Dine Out Fundraiser in April. Between the two places, we brought in over \$350.00 for the school. We felt sorry for anyone eating at Rubio's who wasn't from CTK as the place was packed with school families!

This year, the Dine Out Fundraisers have raised close to \$900. The last Dine Out event for the year is scheduled on Thursday, May 6th at Sweet Tomatoes. The restaurant has increased their donation to our event from 15% to 20%. Look for fliers in the family envelope next week. Order your scrip now and we will see you there!

More "Race to Nowhere" Film Screenings Scheduled

Several parents attended the "Race to Nowhere" Screening at the Independent Film Festival in Orinda. Their comments were very positive. The next local screening of the film is in Pleasanton on Tuesday, May 18th. Please visit the website: racetonowhere.com for information and advance tickets.