



HORIZON PTO NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2015

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The PTO mission is to provide all students at Horizon the opportunity to excel in academics and in life by providing committed volunteers and supplemental funding for supplies and programs that will enhance the learning environment at Horizon Elementary

NEW YEARS RESOLUTIONS

The New Year is a time to reflect on the past, take stock of our lives and, if you are like many, hopefully fix what we don't like. Children often want to make resolutions too. They can learn a lot about self-discipline and goal setting in the process. Depending on your child's age, they may be able to manage a resolution on their own but there are many ways you can include your younger child in your resolution or even create Family resolutions. Resolutions are kept most often when you don't make too many of them and keep them simple. The best part of making resolutions with your family is that you are doing it together, supporting each other, learning what is important to each family member, and seeing how to manage your role not only in the family but also in the larger world. Here are some ideas:

"I'm going to drink more water this year, because it is good for me. Do you want to join me?"

"I'm going to turn off my phone when I get home. Can you remind me and also remember to keep your game off until after dinnertime?"

"The dog needs to be walked more and I could use some more exercise. Will you walk with me to keep me company?"

"As a family, we want to spend more time together. Let's have a family game night or movie night once a month."

"While you do your homework, I am going to read too. If you get stuck, just ask."

JAN PTO MEETING

THURS
1/15/15
6:30PM

HORIZON
LEARNING CTR
Guests:
6th Grade
Teachers
&
Dianha Ortega-
Ehreth, Exec
Director of Elgin
Youth
Leadership
Academy



PROJECTOR VS. CAMERA, WHO WILL WIN?

To date, Horizon has raised \$5380 through the Cash Raffle, will pay out \$1750 in prizes, leaving \$3630 for cameras. Each camera costs \$595. Decisions will be made in the coming months on which 6 classrooms will get the new cameras! Raffle tickets are still available for \$10 each. Thank you to all who participated.

Prize	November	December
\$75	Terea Eid	Dawn Martin
\$50	Marcella Hernandez	Julie Henaghan
\$50	Brian Caputo	Aaliyah Zaper
\$25	Mitch Kowalkowski	Laith Kafawin
\$25	Simi Patel	Alyssa Manuel
\$25	Macy Medendorp	Ethan Curran

Did You Know?

Elementary report cards are available on Infinite Campus. You can see them anytime! If you don't have a Username/Password, go to the U-46 home page (U-46.org) and click the Infinite Campus button on the right hand side. Instructions are then provided.



HORIZON VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

At Horizon, we have been very fortunate to have dedicated long-standing volunteers running many of the school events. However, there comes a time when they move on as their kids go on to middle school. The PTO has a number of 5th and 6th grade parent volunteers that run important events that benefit the student body. To continue the events, we need parents to run them. The jobs are not hard and can be quite fun. Training will be provided and costs are reimbursed. It is always great, if you are interested, to recruit another parent to work with you. It lightens the load and makes for more fun! If you would like to volunteer or learn more about running any of these events, please contact the PTO for more information.

Scholastic Book Fairs:

Book Fairs are held three times a year at Horizon; Sept, Feb and May. The job entails coordinating with Scholastic for the delivery and pickup of materials, assigning volunteers to work the sale, and reporting to the PTO.

Family Movie Night:

This is a one night event that is very simple. The job entails sending out a flyer to the school for voting on a movie, getting copies of the movie, and asking for volunteers, and being there the night of the event.

Bingo Night:

This is very similar to Family Movie Night but a little more involved. This event is usually chaired by several people (and we have a great time, watch us at bingo night!) The position entails ordering bingo cards, ordering pizza, purchasing concession items, recruiting volunteers, soliciting for raffle prizes, purchasing prizes, and possibly creating raffle baskets.

Accelerated Reader Program:

The accelerated reader program is a year long program and needs several different position filled. *Purchasing Coordinator:* reorder items (from home is fine) when AR prizes are low. Submit your receipt to the PTO for reimbursement. *Accelerated Reader Coordinator:* coordinate classroom volunteers, train and assist them throughout the school year. Provide AR award certificates to volunteers at year end for them to fill out. Liaison with Horizon for any AR issues.

Student Directory:

The student directory is published once a year. The job entails getting the data from the school, formatting it, and sending it to the printer.



STAY INVOLVED WITH ACCELERATED READER

PTO funds the purchase of Accelerated Reader Enterprise *for each Horizon student every school year.*

Accelerated Reader Enterprise gives the students unlimited access to 140,000 quizzes on books from publishers around the world. *Parents please be aware that the Accelerated Reader contains tests for all reading levels including teenage material. Parents, please monitor your student's reading.* If the Horizon Library doesn't carry a book, it is possible it may not be appropriate for elementary students.

Renaissance Home Connect gives parents access to their student's books read, quizzes taken, number of words read, email notification of quizzes taken and more!

Login is easy!

1. Go to the following website:
<https://hosted271.renlearn.com/173326/HomeConnect/Login.aspx>
2. Ask your student or their teacher for their AR login and password to login.
3. To find out if a book has an AR quiz, look it up online:www.arbookfind.com
4. If the book is on the list, the student has access to the AR quiz!

Find more information regarding the Accelerated Reader Program on the PTO website at www.horizonpto.com

HOW ARE WE DOING?

Do you have suggestions, comments or thoughts on fundraisers or events such as Harvest Fest? How well does the PTO communicate? What can we do better? What works? If you cannot attend a PTO meeting, send us an email at horizonpto@yahoo.com. All input is welcome!