

Bulldog Barks

A publication of the T/E Middle School PTO

May 2010

[TEMS PTO Website](#)

Visit [TEMS School Website](#) for more school information!



<<{:}} @ Handel's on Wednesday!

Hello TEMS Families!

Just as spring is in full swing...so is the PTO! We have been busy visiting parents of incoming 5th grade students at the elementary schools; what an exciting time for them! We also have a couple of upcoming activities planned for you! The first is our spirit day at Handel's on May 19th, and the second is our Barnes and Noble Day on June 10th. Read this newsletter and watch the blast emails for more details!

Also, heartfelt congratulations to our new PTO executive committee for the 2010-11 school year: Margaret MacKenzie, Kristin Schappell, Gail McCarthy, Evelyn Shreve, Tracey Prestipino, and Lauren Baran. As you are looking to the summer break, we are already looking ahead to 2010-11, and what promises to be great year! A big thank you to all of our wonderful parent volunteers, who help to make our PTO and our school quite special.

Welcome to our incoming 5th grade parents reading Bulldog Barks for the first time. To all TEMS families (future and current), who are reading this electronically, thank you for subscribing to our email blast system. It is a great way to connect with TEMS.

As always, thank you for being an important part of our middle school community.

Warmest Wishes,
Margaret MacKenzie
PTO President; on behalf of the PTO Board



Advertise in the 2010/11 TEMS Student Directory!

Market your business or service to the 800+ families at TE Middle School!! If you are interested, contact Rosi McPherson at remcp7@verizon.net
Space is limited

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And more!

8th Grade student receives German Award

On Saturday, April 24th one of our 8th grade German students was honored for her achievement on the National German Exam. The award ceremony took place at the Cannstatter Volksfest Verein in Philadelphia.

This exam is geared to high school students. Middle school students rarely participate in this difficult test. Caroline M did extremely well. Her parents and teacher, Frau Wahlgren, are proud of her. They are equally pleased about the achievements of all 8th Grade German students. The entire class participated and many students had high scores.

We celebrated their success with a pizza party! Go German students!



TEMS at Handel's Ice Cream

Wednesday, May 19 (3-8 pm)

This is an easy and delicious fundraiser. On Wed, May 19, 3-8pm, is TEMS Day at Handel's Ice Cream in Berwyn.

- Present the TEMS voucher and the PTO receives 20% of your purchase. Voucher on Page 12 or [Link to Flyer](#) online.
- Special thanks to the TEMS Staff who have volunteered to be VIP Servers! Rain date is Thurs, May 20.
- In the event of inclement weather, Handel's will accept the voucher on both May 19 and 20.
- There will be parents stationed along the route from school to Handel's. So kids are encouraged to walk over from school.
- You can make arrangements for pick up at Handel's. (If Handel's parking lot is nutty that day, please park in the CVS lot and walk over to retrieve junior.)

Spring Cleaning Alert

Crayons: The 8th grade recognition committee is collecting gently used (or new) crayons for the 8th Grade Recognition Breakfast. Collection basket is in the Main Office – this week and next.

Stuffed Animals: What a Life! Committee is collecting gently used stuffed animals through Thursday, May 20. Details on pg 3.

Dates for the Calendar!

View current [TEMS Weekly Bulletin](#)

Looking ahead to May!

May 19	TEMS Day at Handel's, 3-8 pm Handel's in Berwyn
	TEMS orientation for 4th Grade parents 7pm, Large Group Rm
May 24	“What a Life!” assembly: Mayhem Poets, <i>details on page 3</i>
May 27:	Lisa Lukens “Technology Q & A for 4th grade parents 9am, LGR
May 31	NO SCHOOL, Memorial Day
June 2:	PTO Meeting 9am
June 10:	TEMS Day @ Barnes & Noble, Shop for Summer Reading, 9am – 10 pm
June 18:	8th grade graduation & last day of school
Aug 25-27	Back to School Supplies & Gym Uniform Sale @ TEMS
Sept 1:	First Day of School 2010/11, Link to Summary of 2011/11 calendar

Mark your calendar to join TEMS @ Barnes & Noble

Thursday, June 10

The TEMS Barnes & Noble Bookfair will make shopping for the summer reading list fast and easy. On the second floor, the summer reading books will be displayed on tables and separated by grade. Two special events are planned. *Barnes & Noble located on Swedesford Road in Wayne.*

- ★ TEMS acapella group performing at 7pm and
- ★ (2) a presentation, Q&A and book signing by local author and TE mom, Homa Tavangar at 7:30pm. Flyer on pg 13.
- ★ Mention TEMS at checkout on June 10 and the PTO will receive a portion of the purchase – ALL DAY!
- ★ We'd like to have two **parent volunteers** at B&N throughout the day and evening for 1-1.5 hour shifts. Please contact Debbie Gillespie via email ddgillespie@verizon.net or phone 610-640-1596.

[Link to
TEMS
Summer
Reading
Lists](#)

Would you like to market your business or service to more than 800 families right in the T/E community? Do it by placing an ad in next year's TEMS Student Directory! Please contact Rosi McPherson now (@ remcp7@verizon.net) for information.



What a Life! ... make it count



Collecting New or Very Gently Used Stuffed Animal Drive

Collection at TEMS is now through Thursday, May 20!

Continuing with our theme of "Social Responsibility" this year, the What a Life Committee is hosting a stuffed animal drive for Loving Hugs, Inc. The stuffed animals will be shipped around the world to comfort children around the world living in very stressful situations – such as disaster areas, war zones, orphanages, IDP Camps, and those who are in hospitals – to emphasize social responsibility on a global level.

We are collecting New or Very Gently Used stuffed animals in collection boxes in the lobby of TEMS from Monday, May 17 through Thursday, May 20.

We will be sorting and preparing your donations for shipping after school on May 20 in the Adaptive Gym. Students and parents are welcome to help! Please contact Jeanne Dechiario (jdechiario@yahoo.com or 610.647.4692) for more information.

There are some easy-to-follow guidelines for your stuffed animal donations:

- Must be soft and cuddly, not stiff
- No smaller than 6" or bigger than 18" tall/long (they can be a little taller if they are squishy-soft and can be packed down)
- No Beanie Babies, they are too small/heavy to ship.
- Webkinz are OK.
- Not animated or talking (battery operated)
- No TV cartoon characters (e.g., Sponge Bob, Sesame Street characters, etc.) . Exceptions: soft classic Disney characters like Mickey and Minnie Mouse, Winnie the Pooh, Eeyore, Snoopy, etc.
- No sea animals, bugs, or reptiles. Exceptions: cuddly dolphins and whales are OK. Cute turtles are OK.
- Holiday-style animals with seasonal trimmings removed are OK (e.g., snip off Santa hats, Valentine hearts, etc.)



The Mayhem Poets on Monday, May 24

The What a Life! committee is pleased to announce that the culminating event for this year will be a performance by The Mayhem Poets on Monday, May 24. There will be two assemblies – one for the 5th/6th grades and another for the 7th/8th grades. A group of three young adults, The Mayhem Poets combine comedy, poetry, theatre, improv techniques, and hip hop to talk about contemporary world issues – including *Social Responsibility*, the theme for the What a Life! program this year. Learn more about The Mayhem Poets and preview video clips on their website at www.mayhempoets.com .

April Expression Contest Winners

The entries were all very cool. Winners are:

Hannah A, Gr 5
Juliann S, Gr 7
Sara W, Gr 8
Haley V, Gr 8

Spring Break Challenge Winners

Winners received a gift certificate to the school store

Alexia D
Bharathi K
Juliann S
Bharathi K.

ACME receipts generate over \$2,000 for T/E Middle School!

Thank you very much to everyone who sent in their Acme receipts this year. Acme has decided to cancel the program but we made \$2,072.62 for collecting the receipts. If anyone has any suggestions on a new fundraiser to replace the Acme program, please let the PTO know.

Green Piece → Buy Fresh, Buy Local!

It is now farmers' market season and it's a great time to eat some really great local food. I just bought strawberries at the Bryn Mawr farmer's market and they were absolutely delicious and so sweet. Each strawberry was red all the way through, not white on the inside like some strawberries that have to travel long distances. Most of the food we buy will have traveled many miles before it reaches our tables. Buying locally has many benefits, the food tastes better and is generally more nutritious, it reduces the environment impact of long distance food travel and packaging, it preserves family farms and generates local jobs. According to BuyLocalPA.org, if every household in PA bought just \$10 a week of locally grown food, \$48 million would stay in the local economy each week. You can find area farmers' markets at www.farmtocity.org or www.localharvest.org. You can also ask for locally grown food at your regular grocery store.

➤ If you have any questions, or ideas or information you'd like to share, please contact Julia Fisher at jjfish3@verizon.net.





Valley Forge National Historical Park Community Service Projects

This past winter and spring, a group of students from Valley Forge Middle School and Tredyffrin/Easttown Middle School participated in ecological community service projects at Valley Forge National Historical Park.

During the winter, students volunteered in an invasive plant control project, and learned how to identify and control non-native invasive plants in the Park. This spring, students volunteered in the 'Crayfish Corps', a non-native invasive crayfish removal project targeting Valley Creek. The project was coordinated by Mike Caldwell, Park Superintendent, and Kristina Heister, Natural Resource Manager. Under the supervision of Gifted Support Teachers Pat Gately, Dawn Settle, and Tracy Scully, Park Ecologist Kate Jensen, and Park Biological Technician Amy Ruhe, students received ecology education, training, and instruction. Students were very successful in helping to control invasive plants and remove invasive crayfish from the Park. Any interested volunteers can participate in both projects at the Park by contacting Ernestine White, Park Volunteer Coordinator, at 610-733-1065.

- ★ Students participating from Tredyffrin/Easttown Middle School: Lindsey S, Hannah L, Andrew U, Sreejata M, Rachel H, Patrick N, Kanishka R, and Eric Y.
- ★ Students participating from Valley Forge Middle School: Nathaniel R, Jack I, Frank L, Jonathan J, Melissa Z, Bobby P, Cahlin P, Conor G, Suproteem S, Ryan C, Thor H, Callum B, Leah P, Teddy H, Yang T, Gloria X, and Eric W.

Internet Safety Discussion for Incoming 5th grade parents

Thursday, May 27th, 2010... 9-10 am
**4th Grade Parents Only*

As your children prepare to enter the middle school setting, parents will quickly come to realize the world of cell phones, texting, and social online communities that will undoubtedly become a part of your child's world (if not already!). Our discussion will range from the age-appropriate time to adopt these communication devices to the caution and concern their usage demands. Ideas of how to keep the channels of communication open between children and their parents will be discussed along with time for parents to share their own experiences - successes and/or failures. This hour will be guided by pre-determined topics such as defining common media tools, social networking online sites, safety while on the Internet, and cyber bullying. There will be time for Q&A.

Lisa Lukens has served as a Teacher on Assignment for Technology K-12 in TESD for 11 years. She serves as a teacher who works with classroom teachers to implement technology successfully into the classroom. In addition, she works closely with the Director of Technology on several technology initiatives not only in the classroom, but throughout many capacities in the District.

New T/E School Web Site Coming in July 2010



The T/E School District web site is in the process of being overhauled and will be replaced with a new site that includes a user-friendly design and expanded features. The new web site will become live in July 2010. The web site will include a number of new features including:

- An interactive, on-line calendar that will be updated throughout the school year as needed,
- Drop down menus for easy navigation throughout the web site,
- Expanded school web sites,
- Teacher web pages at all levels, and
- New web 2.0 technology tools for students.

The existing web site address of www.tesd.net will remain the same after the transition to the new web site. Please visit the current T/E School District web site at www.tesd.net to watch a short video preview of the new site. Check it out live in July 2010!

Sampler from the T/E Bulletin Board

Visit the [T/E Bulletin Board](#) for all sports and community information!

Bulletin Board Sampler as of 5/17/10

New Fliers (posted in order received)

[Pioneer Lacrosse Camp](#)

[1st and Goal Football Camp](#)

[Junior Parents Offer Safe Alternative to Post-Prom Parties](#)

[Make Sunday Dinner Pizza with CAPCO](#)

[Upper Main Line YMCA Art Camps](#)

[Upper Main Line YMCA Day Camps](#)



From the Classroom...

5th Grade News



Social Studies

"All roads lead to Rome", even in 5th grade! This unit is our last extended stop on our ancient civilizations tour. While studying Rome, students will compare ancient Roman ways of life to life in our current society. They will also have the opportunity to explore how discoveries and inventions developed by the Romans have had a lasting impact on the way we live today.

English

In English, the students are continuing their study of the three types of writing. They are also learning how to incorporate the parts of speech into these writings. To close out the year, the students will be writing a friendly letter to fourth grade students in the district who will come to TEMS next year. The letter will be informing the fourth graders of what they can expect when coming to the middle school.

Reading

It's time to get ready for summer reading! Please visit the T/E Middle School website and connect to "Library Links" where you can find the sixth grade summer reading list. Be sure to visit Barnes & Noble on Thursday, June 10 between 9AM and 10PM. This is the day for our TEMS bookfair that will highlight books for summer reading. As always, your children should continue to engage in independent reading for 20 minutes each night until school ends on June 18. Let's keep them reading!

Math

Math can be found in a number of everyday situations! Engaging your students in these situations and encouraging them to use math processes to determine solutions will help them become more comfortable with using their problem solving skills. Please encourage your students to practice their math facts on a regular basis, too.

Science

We had beautiful weather for our annual trip to the zoo and had a great time! Thanks to all the parents who helped with chaperoning. In school, students are finishing earth science topics including fossils, plate tectonics, landforms, and conservation. Our final unit, Magnets and Motors will give students the opportunity to explore the mysterious force of magnetism, try to make a stronger electromagnet, and see how a variety of different motors work.

Want to market your business or service among 800 plus families right in the T/E community?? Do it by placing an ad in next year's TEMS Student Directory!!

Contact Rosi McPherson now @ remcp7@verizon.net for information.

Music - Grade 5

Our 5th graders are currently studying medieval folk dances. They are also working on recorder and mallet percussion accompaniments for these dances.

Health - Grade 5 & 6

In both fifth and sixth grade, students are finishing the Family Life unit and starting Life Skills Units. These units provide the students with the knowledge and skills enable them to become happier and more successful adults. For sixth grade, the units include decision making, information about smoking, alcohol and marijuana, stress, anger management and violence and the media. In Fifth grade, the topics include self-esteem, decision making, advertising, dealing with stress and information about the perils of smoking.

Physical Education - Grade 5 & 6

In fifth and sixth grade physical education, students are involved in pickle ball, golf or cooperative games. In both pickle ball and golf, students are learning the basic rules of the games while participating in small group activities working on the sport specific skills.

Art - Grade 5

Fifth grade art students are continuing interdisciplinary connections through Asian and Oaxaca art. Concepts of color theory, shape and form are demonstrated with skill development in design, painting and ceramics.



From the Classroom...

6th Grade News

Reading: Sixth graders have read so much this year! We have enjoyed plays, short stories, fables, folk tales, novels and nonfiction works. However, it is equally important that all students continue to read into the summer months. The summer reading list will be sent home shortly to help everyone find the "right book." During summer vacation, the students are asked to read at least two books and write brief reactions that will be handed in to the English teacher in the fall.

English: The sixth grade has also written a great deal this year. Our students have learned how to construct paragraphs, write creative stories, informational essays, and persuasive essays. During the month of May, students worked on a longer narrative fiction piece and wrote original poetry. In June, we will review all of the grammar learned this year and will continue to practice writing skills. Please encourage your child to write over the summer. Some suggestions are to keep a diary on trips, write letters from camp, or just sit down at the computer and write a creative story!

Science We are finishing the year with the Astronomy unit. Students will be learning about the Earth, moon, and our solar system. We will track the phases of the moon for a month and learn what causes eclipses, tides, and seasons. Classes will be split into teams of four in order to complete The Great Solar System Rescue simulation game. The interactive game will challenge students to use their knowledge of the planets to locate missing space probes.

As our culminating unit students will pair up and construct a protective vehicle for a raw egg. During our "Egg Drop" activity the vehicles will be dropped by the Science teachers from different heights throughout the school including from off the roof! The objective is to construct a safe vehicle that will allow the raw egg to survive.

Math The 6th grade 24 game finalists will be competing in the district championships Thursday, May 27th here at T/E Middle.

On-Grade Level Math Sixth grade students have finished their work with fractions and carried over their use of fractions into ratios, proportions, and percents. They utilized their study of decimals *and* fractions as they were involved with the percent unit. The students learned practical applications of percent such as sale discounts and sales tax. The On-grade level students will finish the year with a unit on Geometry, including lots of vocabulary.

Above-Grade Level Math Above grade level classes are finishing their study of Geometry. The students have not only learned many new vocabulary words but have also applied the words to analyze and draw conclusions about new situations. In this unit, they have had their first interaction with square roots and the Pythagorean Theorem. They will conclude the

unit by applying the concepts learned to calculating unknown lengths and areas of irregularly shaped figures.

Students will finish the year in math with a unit on integers, part of the foundation of next year's pre-algebra course.

Pre-Algebra Students are finishing the Geometry unit. The students have learned *many* vocabulary terms and have applied the definitions to new situations. Pupils have investigated relationships between lines, angles and other geometric shapes. The Pre-Algebra students are concluding the Geometry unit with the study of perimeter, circumference, area, volume, lateral area and surface area. Students will complete a short unit on special right triangles, once again using the algebra concepts they have learned throughout the year. Students will finish the year with a unit on statistics and probability.

Social Studies: We will be ending the year studying Europe and Russia focusing on the physical and cultural features of the area. To highlight these, we will begin by working on a Geo Tour project. This project will ask each student to research and display the physical, cultural, and economic features of ten selected countries in a creative and unique way.

**The entire team hopes you
have a happy, healthy summer!!**

Music - Our 6th graders have been studying multicultural music. We have been listening, performing, and creating music in the style of various cultures from around the world.

Health - In both fifth and sixth grade, students are finishing the Family Life unit and starting Life Skills Units. These units provide the students with the knowledge and skills enable them to become happier and more successful adults. For sixth grade, the units include decision making, information about smoking, alcohol and marijuana, stress, anger management and violence and the media. In Fifth grade, the topics include self-esteem, decision making, advertising, dealing with stress and information about the perils of smoking.

Physical Education - In fifth and sixth grade physical education, students are involved in pickle ball, golf or cooperative games. In both pickle ball and golf, students are learning the basic rules of the games while participating in small group activities working on the sport specific skills.

Art - Sixth grade art students are demonstrating concepts in color theory, pattern and line quality while developing skills in drawing, painting and printmaking. Inspiration for projects varies from Japanese Gytaku and Aboriginal Art to altering and spoofing Mona Lisa portraits.



From the Classroom...

7th Grade News



Williamsburg Notes...

Students will receive their room assignments for the hotel in Williamsburg by Tuesday, June 1st. Students will also receive reminders of what to bring for the trip and a schedule of events for the three days. The teacher chaperones are looking forward to a pleasant and enjoyable trip.

Link to [Williamsburg Trip information online.](#)

English - In the last marking period of 7th grade, students will be reviewing their grammar skills and knowledge of literary terms in preparation for next year. In addition, they will be honing their persuasive writing skills and reading. To facilitate the continued development of these skills students will be reading John Steinbeck's *The Pearl*, George Orwell's *Animal Farm* and Jack London's *Call of the Wild*.

Science – Some students will finish the year with a unit on the fundamentals of motion physics. They will be using a variety of lab activities and simulations to introduce concepts including forces, velocity, acceleration, Newton's laws, Bernoulli's Principle and potential and kinetic energy. Upon completion of the unit some students will conclude the year with the application of physics concepts to mechanical and human space flight. Other students will conclude the year with a unit on chemistry including the periodic table of elements, density, and solutions.

Mathematics - Math 7 classes will finish the first half of the geometry unit (lines, angles and figures), and then study perimeter, circumference, area and volume. In June, students will finish the year by learning the pre-algebra concept of integers. In this unit, they will add, subtract, multiply, and divide positive and negative numbers.

Pre-Algebra classes will be completing the geometry unit. Students will calculate circumference, area, surface area and volume of different geometric figures. The remaining part of the school year will be devoted to probability and statistics.

Algebra students will complete the year by studying rational expressions and equations. Here, students will simplify, add, subtract, multiply, and divide a variety of rational expressions and equations. Students will conclude the unit by working on word problems with rational expressions.

Geometry students are completing the circle unit which incorporates all the theorems they have studied this year. Finally, students will move on to the unit on probability and statistics in preparation for Algebra 2.

Social Studies - Students will complete their study of the American Revolution and its aftermath. The conclusion of seventh grade social studies will be a study of the first administrations of Washington, Adams, and Jefferson. This will include the Louisiana Purchase, as well as, the explorations of Lewis and Clark. Culminating activities will prepare the students for our trip to Jamestown, Yorktown, and Williamsburg



From the Classroom...

8th Grade News



American History:

Students will be studying the aftermath of the U. S. Civil War. Topics such as: Reconstruction, industrialization and late 19th century United States culture will be examined. Students will finish the year with an exploration of early 20th Century American politics and society.

English:

Students have been continuing their study of the Holocaust and related literature. The three novels being read are The Book Thief by Markus Zusak, The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows, and The Boy in the Striped Pajamas by John Boyne. Students are completing the Holocaust unit with two culminating projects: Socratic Seminars and a persuasive writing piece. Students will begin reading To Kill a Mockingbird in the middle of the month, which will take us through the end of the school year.

Science:

Students are continuing their investigation of Motion, Forces and Energy. Students will study forces like gravity, friction, and buoyancy. Newton's Laws of Motion will be explored through activities, demonstrations, labs and content resources with the focus on understanding the interaction of forces and their effects on motion. The Motion, Forces and Energy unit includes an investigation of work, power, and simple machines. Finally, the unit concludes with a review of the kinds and forms of energy and how energy is transformed and conserved. Students will interact with the content via websites, like Edheads, labs, models, textbooks, and other electronic and print resources.

All math classes will have finals
on Thursday, June 10th and
Friday, June 11th.

Math:

Pre-Algebra: Students are reviewing solving percents and proportions. They will then work with applications such as mark-up, discount and interest among others.

Algebra 1A: Students will be completing a unit of study on systems of equations. The challenging second half of the unit will focus on the applications of systems.

Algebra I: Algebra students have concluded their unit on factoring with our annual Factoring Olympics. Students participated in this two day event in their individual math classes. The gold medal teams from each class competed in our 8th grade Olympics finals with Mrs. Joost's class winning for the grade level. Students are now moving on to studying rational expressions and their applications.

Geometry: Geometry students are currently involved in the a unit on circles. We will finish the year with a Finite Math unit on Statistics

Algebra 2: Algebra 2 students are completing their study of Sequences and Series. Students will be able to find specific terms of both geometric and arithmetic sequences as well as define both types of series using a formula. Real world applications are emphasized as well.

Spring Cleaning Alert

Crayons: The 8th grade recognition committee is collecting gently used (or new) crayons for the 8th Grade Recognition Breakfast. Collection basket is in the Main Office – this week and next.

Stuffed Animals: What a Life! Committee is collecting gently used stuffed animals through Thursday, May 17. Details on page 3.

A couple notes about 8th grade graduation on June 18 (morning event)

- Space is extremely tight. Attendees limited to parents and guardians only, please.
- Dress Code Boys: Long pants, collared shirts (tucked in, please) no flip flops or sandals.
- Dress Code Girls: Skirt & blouse, dress or dress pants, no flip flops.



TEMS MIDDLE SCHOOL PTO – Meeting minutes for April 7, 2010

Welcome, by Margaret MacKenzie at 7:03pm.

- ★ Kristin Schappell made a motion to approve minutes 04-07-10. Karen Consalo seconded. All in favor: yes.
- ★ Thanks to all volunteers to date by Margaret MacKenzie.

Monthly Reports

Treasurer: Karen Consalo handed out the current financial report for the PTO and pointed out bills that are still outstanding for “What a Life” Program, 8th Grade Recognition and Spiritwear/Teamwear. PTO budget for 2010-2011 school year will be voted on at the June 2nd PTO meeting.

Principal: Mark Cataldi reported the administration is very busy executing the 4th grade transition meetings at Hillside, Beaumont and Devon. The TEMS staff really appreciated the breakfast hosted by the PTO on 5/5/10. Mark also reported that Andy Pitts has provided a list of book titles to be made available for the Barnes and Noble Day planned for June 10, 2010. Gigi Miller recommended encouraging an individual donation of one book to the school’s library on a student’s birthday. The group discussed the idea and suggested we move forward with it. Mark reported the wish list of possible PTO donations to the school is likely to include additional equipment for the TV studio and additional Smart Boards.

Representative Updates:

ARCH: Gwenn reported on upcoming youth survey which is planned for distribution in fall 2010.

BUILD: no report

ISC: rep not present...Keystone Exams and PSSA testing were topics discussed. Please see www.TESD.net for the complete minutes.

School Board: Gigi Miller reported on highlights: strategic plan review, new TESD website, fiber optics upgrade, staff self insurance plan. Please see www.TESD.net for the complete minutes.

New Business/Upcoming Events

Voted on 2010-11 executive slate. Gigi Miller made a motion to approve the slate as proposed. Gail McCarthy seconded. All in favor: yes.

Shared the 2010-11 schedule of activities...School Store Sale is planned for 8/25-8/27, 2010. Balance of calendar of events will be available on the PTO website ASAP.

Discussed open volunteer positions for 2010-11 school year...Parent Social Chair, New Parent Orientation Chair, School Board Rep position all still open.

8:06, Wrap-Up/Next meeting: June 2nd @ 9:00 am in the staff room

Important Dates/Events:

- | | |
|----------|---|
| May 3-7: | Staff Appreciation Week! Thank you breakfast today, May 5th! |
| May 19: | Handel’s Ice Cream Event 3pm-8pm
TEMS orientation for 4th Gr parents 7pm |
| May 24: | “What a Life!” assembly: Mayhem Poets |
| May 27: | Lisa Lukens “Technology Q & A for 4th grade parents 9am |
| May 31: | Memorial Day Holiday-NO SCHOOL |
| June 2: | PTO Meeting 9am |
| June 10: | Barnes & Noble Summer Reading Day 9am-10pm |
| June 18: | 8th grade graduation & last day of school |



Report to the TEMS PTO: April 26, 2010 T/E Board of School Directors Meeting

Reported by: Gigi Miller

For PTO Meeting Date: May 5, 2010

- **TEMS Students' Poetry Selected for Publication:** 7th grade students Will Gillespie, Cynthia Horan, Jill Mascioli, Kathryn Santivasci and Erika Ferraioli created original works of poetry that were selected for publication in the 2010 edition of the *Anthology of Poetry by Young Americans*.
- **Priority Discussion:**
 - Update on District Strategic Plan
 - New district website being developed which will provide consistency across schools and will have a calendar that is editable by the schools.
- **Committee Reports:**
 - **Education:**
 - World Language program reviewed
 - Asked that several other middle school world language curriculum options be provided for review by the committee
 - **Legislative**
 - PSERS is a key topic at most meetings and would be discussed at a breakfast the Friday following the school board meeting
 - **Facilities:**
 - Technology – regular cycle of replacement and upgrading occurring to the fiber optic network, computers and other network equipment. Deployment of wireless through the district
 - Vehicles: 23 owned, 15.6 years average age. Asked the question: Do we need this many? Regardless of answer, some will need to be replaced through a 5 year plan. 7 budgeted for this year.
 - Energy Audit: Penn State has a program where an energy consultant provides a report free of charge (non-profit) to the School District.
 - Sidewalk Project: in cooperation with the township
- **Finance:**
 - Still tracking expenses at or below this year's budget
 - Self insuring medical: no change to employees rather district pays bills rather than premiums to B/C and they pay the bills.
 - 2010 Budget: Close the gap through three strategies:
 - Taxes, Cuts, & Fund Balance Transfer
 - Budget to be presented to the School Board May 10th (reviewed at Finance Committee on May 3rd which will be televised). 30-day comment period, finalized end of June.



From www.tesd.net

T/E School Board Approves 2010-2011 Proposed Final Budget...

At its regular meeting on May 10, 2010, the T/E School Board approved the 2010-2011 proposed final budget. The 2010-2011 proposed final budget includes a property tax increase at the Act 1 index of 2.9%; which results in \$2.46 million in revenue, or \$128 to the average assessed T/E homeowner; \$5.26 million in expense reductions and revenue enhancements; and \$1.48 million in fund balance contribution to address the \$9.25 million gap between revenues and expenditures. [Click to read the full press release.](#)

[Recap of May 10, 2010 Regular School Board Meeting](#)

[New T/E School District Web Site Preview](#)

The new TESD web site is currently under development and will become live in July 2010. Watch for more information on the new site over the next few months. [Click here to watch a short video introducing the new web site design and some of the new features.](#)

[T/E Board Talk Program Airs on T/E TV](#)

The program features segments on electronic learning; the impact of the Pennsylvania School Employee Retirement System on school district budgets; and green initiatives throughout the District. The program airs daily on Comcast Channel 14 and Verizon Channel 20 at 6:00 pm. [Click to watch the program on-line.](#)

[Recap of April 26, 2010 Regular School Board Meeting](#)



TEMS Spirit Day at



Important
Please bring this voucher with you to hand in at the time of your purchase. TEMS will receive 20% of your total purchase.

Wednesday, May 19, 2010
3-8 pm

Who: The entire TE Middle School Community

Purpose: To enjoy great ice cream with great people and raise money for TE Middle School in the process.

Where: Handel's Ice Cream
576 Lancaster Ave, Berwyn, Pa 19312
610-640-1606

*****VIP Servers/Greeters*****

There will be several VIP Servers/Greeters participating throughout the Spirit Day . Stop by to see who they might be!

~In the Event of Inclement Weather~

This voucher will be honored on both May 19th & May 20th from 3pm to 8pm. VIP Servers will only be present on Wednesday (rain/shine).

Not valid with any other offer. Good at only Berwyn Handel's. Good this day & time only
Void if distributed on Handel's property.

BRING THIS SHEET TO HANDEL'S SO TEMS FOR TEMS TO RECEIVE A PERCENTAGE OF THE SALE.



**SAVE
THE DATE**

Barnes & Noble Bookfair



**Thursday, June 10, 2010
Barnes & Noble
Swedesford Road**

Come support T/E Middle School
Pick up your summer reading
See old friends and make new friends
7 p.m. T/E Acapella Group
7:30 p.m. Homa Tavangar, Author and T/E Mom
Will speak and hold a book signing

Please join us between 9 a.m. and 10 p.m.
It is sure to be fun!

