

From: Bach PTO <bac_pto@aaps.k12.mi.us>

Subject: Bach PTO Newsletter for Week of October 16, 2017

Dates to Note

- October 19th PTO Meeting 9-10am in the MPR
- October 27th First Student Council Meeting for 4th and 5th graders (application will be coming home this week) 4-5:15pm
- October 30th 8am Breakfast for teachers -- [To sign up click here.](#)

Change Can Make a Difference

Greetings Parents:

We are excited to join Busch's "Change Can Make a Difference" program again this year. Busch's was a generous supporter of this year's Fun Run and we are happy to partner with them again on this important philanthropy project. Many local families will go hungry during the holiday season because they don't have money to buy food. Many have lost their jobs or government support and are in need of our help. You can help by donating your loose change.



Collection containers will be placed in the Office and in the front lobby of the school. We are asking children, along with their parents, to look for loose change around the house. Children can bring any loose change they have to school and put it in the collection container anytime during the month of October. All money collected will be donated to Busch's Holiday Food Drive.

Where can you find loose change? Lots of places!

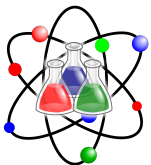
- Between your couch cushions
- Underneath the seats in your parent's car
- In the pockets of pants and coats
- In dressers and drawers

The family we help could be your neighbor or the person who sits next to your child in class. You would be amazed that one sandwich bag filled with coins can do!

Sincerely ~ The Bach PTO

Upcoming Events

Family Science Night



We are very excited about this year's Family Science Night at Bach on Friday, November 17th! The theme this year is "Language and Literacy," and the Hands-On Museum will be bringing many new experiments and activities for everyone to explore. The Bach PTO funds this event in full so that it may be offered free of charge to Bach students, their families, and everyone in the local community. Pioneer H.S. students will again be serving as volunteers, running all of the activities, so that Bach family members may be free to enjoy the event together.

Gift Basket Raffle

This year, we have decided to try something new in conjunction with Family Science Night – we will be organizing a Gift Basket Raffle. All funds raised by the Gift Basket Raffle will go to the Bach PTO.

The baskets will be created in two parts:

1. Local Vendor “Big Ticket” Items – Donations from local vendors (like free classes, memberships, admissions, parties, etc.)
2. New or Like-New Donated Items – Items donated by Bach families that tie in with a basket theme and are in new or like new condition

We will have 10-12 differently themed baskets (1 or 2 per grade level) filled with the donations from Bach families and local vendors. We will allow 2-3 weeks for the basket items to be collected. Once the baskets are ready in early November, raffle tickets will be available for purchase, and students may select the basket(s) they like most. Each Bach student will be given one complimentary ticket so that everyone has a chance to win. Tickets will also be available for purchase online, after school, and during the Family Science Night, and the drawing will be held at the end of the event (but it will not be necessary to be present to win).

We would like to have at least one central “big ticket” item in each themed basket, so this is where you all may come in to help! We have thought of some area vendors who could tie in with our basket themes and may be willing to contribute (see attached list of themes and possible sources for local “big ticket” donations). If anyone has connections with local vendors (listed or not) and would be willing to reach out to them on our behalf or connect us with a specific contact, please let us know. Bach family business owners – your own business (restaurant, service, etc.) might make a great big ticket item or donation! If you are interested in helping out our school by contributing to the basket raffle (while also getting some great advertising), please contact us!

We would also welcome volunteers willing to help us with outreach (even if you do not have personal connections to any vendors). Dividing the list among several volunteers will save us a great deal of legwork. Examples of items we are really hoping for from vendors are things like free tickets, memberships, kid or family-friendly classes, gift cards, etc., although items like toys, books, t-shirts, and other misc. products would certainly be welcomed.

If you are able to help us in any way, please contact Family Science Night Co-Chairs Melanie Rountrey [734-255-5315 / melroutrey@gmail.com] and Cathy Leitner [646-408-7932 / cathyleitner@gmail.com]. Thank you in advance for supporting us as we attempt what we hope will be a fun and successful Bach PTO Fundraiser!

Gift Basket Themes

These are the proposed themes, but they will be adjusted as needed based upon the vendor donations and the items we receive:

Themes with Confirmed “Big Ticket” Donations (but we could always add more)

- *SCIENCE* – Big Ticket: Hands-On Museum Membership!
- MATH & ENGINEERING – Big Ticket: 4 Free Tutoring Sessions at Mathnasium
- SPORTS – Big Ticket: Quest Martial Arts has donated a Free Ninja Birthday
- M - GO BLUE! – Big Ticket: MDen donation & UM Athletics - autographed item
- PETS – Big Ticket: Humane Society – Tiny Lions Pet Cafe free visits

- COOKING I – Big Ticket: Jerusalem Garden has donated \$40 worth of gift cards
- COOKING II – Big ticket: Jefferson Market/Mighty Good Free Cake (a voucher will go in the basket)

Themes in need of Vendor Outreach to source “Big Ticket” Items:

- ARTS & CRAFTS (This may be separated into two baskets - Lower Elementary & Upper Elementary)
- MOVIE NIGHT
- MUSIC
- GLOBETROTTER: TRAVEL & GEOGRAPHY
- GREAT OUTDOORS
- BOOKS/LITERACY I (Lower Elementary)
- BOOKS/LITERACY II (Upper Elementary)
- GAME NIGHT I (Lower Elementary)
- GAME NIGHT II (Upper Elementary)

(These may be combined into one GAME NIGHT basket.)

Don't worry, once we've settled on the actual themes, we plan to give the baskets catchier titles!

Vendors to contact for potential “Big Ticket” basket donations:

- Vault of Midnight
- AADL
- Literati
- Wild Swan Theater
- Michigan Theater
- Young People's Theater
- Mudpuddles
- Scrapbox
- Flipside Art Studio
- Ann Arbor Arts Center
- Yourist Studio
- Wide World of Sports
- Music-Go-Round
- School of Rock
- Argus
- Arbor Farms Market
- Downtown Home & Garden
- Zingerman's
- Ice Cube
- Vets Arena
- Revel & Roll
- Bel-Mark Lanes
- Running Fit
- Cherry Republic
- Goldfish
- The Y
- Any of the UM Museums or Departments
- Zap Zone
- Pinball Pete's
- Planet Rock

- Airtime (opening soon in Cranbrook Village Shopping Center)

With such a rich variety of local vendors, there are certainly possibilities we have not included. We welcome suggestions, and we are even open to reworking basket themes to fit with “big ticket” items. We have had a great response from the few vendors we have contacted so far! Not only are contributors supporting a local school, but they will also be getting some excellent advertising by participating!

If you are able to help us with outreach, please contact Melanie Rountrey [734-255-5315 / melroutrey@gmail.com] or Cathy Leitner [646-408-7932 / cathyleitner@gmail.com].

Thank you,

Melanie Rountrey & Cathy Leitner
Bach Family Science Night Co-Chairs

PTO Meeting

Our next meeting (this Thursday) is October 19th from 9am-10am in the MPR.

All are welcome.

Agenda

1. Welcome from our new Associate Principal Ivey (15 min)
2. Teacher Report (10 min)
3. Fun Run (5 min.)
4. Updates on Playground
5. Student Council
6. PTO teacher appreciation
7. Budget Approval (15 min)
8. New Business

Click for [Meeting Minutes from September's](#) meeting.

PTO Led Initiatives



Do you paint? The staff/adult bathrooms if you have ever been in them are in desperate need of fresh paint with a splash of color and some beautiful art on the walls. If you are interested in helping us give our teachers a much needed upgrade to their bathrooms please email eprestonrahim@gmail.com. If you have expertise in framing art work or have art to donate we'd love to work with you.



Do you bake or cook? The last Monday of every month the PTO would like to organize a group of parents and any interested youth to donate breakfast items and cook a warm breakfast sandwich for our teachers. Our first teacher breakfast will be October 30th. Meet in the Teacher Lounge at 8:00am. [To sign up click here.](#)

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