

# Raccoon Tales

from GRE PTA  
October, 2011



Next Member Meeting: Monday, October 10, 7-8pm in the Library  
Board Meeting: Monday, October 3 at 1:30pm

## News From the Board

We are in need of volunteers for the Board. Open positions are President Elect, Vice President, 2nd Vice President and Parliamentarian. President Elect is someone to shadow the current President with the intention of taking over this role for the 2012/13 school year. At the end of this school year, Tammy will have completed her 2nd year as President, and therefore, will not be able to continue as President as stated in our Bylaws. If there is not a President elected for the 2012/13 school year, Colorado PTA has the ability to close GRE PTA and remove all of our money and disburse it to other Colorado PTAs! So let's not let the money our families have raised disappear. Let's get involved! Please contact a current Board member with questions of any of the Board positions and required duties.

## Wellness Committee

Walk to School Day - Wednesday, October 5, 2011

Girls on the Run® of the Rockies uses the power of running to change the way girls see themselves and their opportunities! It is an innovative health education and wellness program that uniquely combines training for a 3.1 mile run/walk event with life-changing, self esteem enhancing lessons that encourage healthy habits and an active lifestyle in 8-13 year old girls.

The Governor's Ranch chapter has a record 30 girls this season and meets twice a week. We are training for the *Race For Fetal Hope* on November 13th in Washington Park. We invite anyone who's interested to come and run the 5k with us - or just cheer the girls on - we would love to see a great turn-out for the race!

### Community Nights

Tuesday, October 18th - 5-8pm --- Please join us at **Chipotle** on S. Wadsworth and Cross Dr. (in the shopping center with Bear's Car Wash)! Chipotle is SO generous to give our PTA **50% of all sales during 5-8pm**, so eat up!! You can even use an App or go online to place your order so it's ready when you get there!

*Do you have a suggestion or idea of what we can do for a Community Night? Let a Board member know and we will look into it!*

### Red Ribbon Days

Wednesday, October 26 - Friday, October 28 - Please join our students in pledging to live a Drug Free Life!!

Spirit Days are:

Wednesday - Follow Your Dreams - Don't Do Drugs (Pajama Day)

Thursday - Drugs are Ridiculous (Crazy Hair/Crazy Outfit Day)

Friday - Team Up Against Drugs (Team Apparel/Gear Day)

### Destination Imagination

DI is back!!! Desination ImaginiNation is an organization that allows students to compete in creative problem-solving activities. Students will develop and strengthen skills in many areas - such as technical, analytical, comical, theatrical, and linguistic. Interest forms went home with the kids and it is also available on our website. Interest forms are due back to Mrs. Walton by October 14. We will be forming several teams, if interest is there, and will need parent volunteers to "manage" every team. Please mark the form appropriately for your's and your child's interest in this fun group!

### Reflections

The theme for 2011-12 school year is, "Diversity is...." Students can use their imagination to do a project showing what Diversity is to them! Check out the JeffCo PTA website for rules regarding projects. All projects are due to Amy Schneider by October 26!

[http://www.jeffcopta.org/programs\\_awards/reflections/](http://www.jeffcopta.org/programs_awards/reflections/)

### Volunteer Opportunities

#### *October*

We are in need of a Hospitality Committee to plan and organize meals for the teachers and staff during Conferences on October 13 & 14. We are in need of 2 dinners. You can organize to have all

items donated. Suggested successful meals: chili and bread/cornbread, baked potato bar and salad, and of course, some sweet treats! Please let TammySimons know if you are interested in organizing this appreciation to the teachers.

### **November**

November 9 - we are in need of 5-6 volunteers to help Donna Westwood, Clinic Nurse, with the Vision and Hearing screenings. If you can help out in the morning for 1-3.5 hours between 8:30 - 12, please let Tammy Simons or Donna know.

### **Ongoing**

We are looking for a **Hospitality Committee Chairperson** for the school year. Obligations would include planning and organizing meals for teachers for Fall and Spring Conferences, a catered lunch for Teacher Appreciation Days in the Spring, and helping the front office with a retirement party at the end of the school year for any retiring staff.

We are also looking for someone to "shadow" Tamra VanNorstrand in learning to be the **ExCEL Committee Chair** for teachers at GRE. What this would entail is receiving requests from the teachers and staff for PTA funds for programs and field trips for their classes and filling out the appropriate paperwork to get teacher's the PTA funds and keeping a spreadsheet up-to-date with any money spent from each teacher.. Each child at GRE has allocated amount from PTA money to help offset the costs of field trips ad programs. Tamra is looking for someone to take over this Committee for the 2012/13 school year, so it'd be great to have someone to help her out and learn the ropes this year.

We are also looking for a **Co-Chair for the Talent Show** scheduled in February. Please help us out to make sure that this wonderful fun-filled evening takes place! It is always a great time with lots of laughs and fantastic talent from the students of GRE.

School Board Elections are coming up!

We are voting on school board members soon. Remember that even if they are not in our district, we still vote on them. And once they're voted in, majority rules to do whatever they want even with committee input.

**All four of them will be at the School Board Candidates Forum on Wednesday, October 5th at the Columbine Public Library beginning at 7pm.**

**Here's a great article and comments from the candidates' debate last week:**

<http://www.ednewscolorado.org/2011/09/27/25099-jeffco-candidates-spark-lively-debate>

Thank you and we are all looking forward to a great year!

Tammy Simons, President

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