

NORTHWEST REGION

“BRIGHT IDEAS”

Banneker Achievement Center – At Banneker’s Annual Open House, PTA invited parents to purchase table space to promote their home-based or community-based businesses. Two complimentary memberships were given to participating vendors with their paid fee. The evening also included a book signing with a local author, the American Cancer Society promoted breast cancer awareness and parents were able to register to vote.

Franklin Elementary – Franklin PTA presented a “Learning is Fun Night”. There were five learning stations through the school including: United States Map where students/parents had to name states on a blank map; The Name Game where the letters of the alphabet were assigned a value and children had to figure out how much their name was worth and the child with the greatest sum received a prize; Craft station where they received a colored lunch bag with supplies like markers, crayons, stickers, glue, etc. and they had to create a hand puppet; The Spelling Egg Relay where each family was given a basket of plastic eggs filled with a letter and they had to run back and forth to their basket to try to spell as many words as possible; Guess How Many Jelly Beans are in the Jar where the winner received the jar full of jelly beans. The evening was ended with several raffle prizes.

Handley School – Handley PTA produced and “Opportunities Abound” volunteer sign up sheet. The sheet supplied parents with volunteer opportunities and a brief description of each position. Parents were to supply their name, student’s name and room number, e-mail address and phone number. Parents also were to check the box next to each position they were interested in.

Highland Middle School – The Highland PTSA developed an “Everyone Can Go” program. The program was designed to provide financial aid for students who were unable to attend field trips due to financial difficulties.

J.W. Riley Elementary – Riley PTA invited the entire community to their open house where someone from the Police Department Crime Unit spoke about child safety and offered suggestions to families and children. After the presentation, the officers fingerprinted and photographed children and adults who wanted it free of charge.

Kingsford Heights Elementary – The PTA had a parent volunteer paint a mural of a tree without leaves on the main hallway wall. Each members name was put on an oak leaf die cut and placed on the tree. Each child’s name will be put on a die cut of a boy and a girl and placed along the hallway walls along with the slogan “Hand In Hand, Together We Can” posted throughout the school.

Lee L. Caldwell Elementary – The PTA holds a “Books in Kids Hands” program where each student is given a \$5.00 coupon with which to purchase books at the book fair to encourage reading and to keep. The rest of the funds are given to the Resource Center for books and computer software used by the students.

Lincoln School – Lincoln PTA offered an afternoon of fun to the students. Students stayed after school for 2 ½ hours to play games, listen to music and hang out. Admission for families of PTA members was free and non-members were charged \$1.00 per child to attend. They sold sodas and pizza. Students were required to have a permission slip and parents were required pick them up and to sign the students out at the end of the afternoon (no child walked home).

Mary Frank Elementary – At the end of the previous school year, a directory form is sent home to all families in the school asking if they want to be voluntarily included in the directory for the following year. The form is sent again at the beginning of the school year so as not to exclude anyone. The directory is full of classroom lists, school bus numbers and driver’s names, PTA calendar, frequently asked questions and school office hours and phone numbers. A contest was held for the students to design the cover.

Morton Elementary – The PTA gave out money saving coupons to various PTA functions with a paid membership. The PTA held a “Fall Fling” centered on arts and crafts. The pumpkin painting cost \$2.00 unless you had your PTA membership coupon worth \$2.00 for the price of the pumpkin. They served pumpkin bread, caramel corn and apple cider. They also held their PTA meeting and had a short presentation on Trick-or-Treating safety at the same event.

Thomas Jefferson Elementary – The PTA held a “Caught Reading Program” in coordination with the book fair. Students were told that someone would be calling their home trying to catch them reading. If they were caught reading, they received a free book at the book fair. During the two weeks prior to and a week after the book fair, they had community members reading to the classrooms.

Vohr Elementary – They had a “Dads Step Up” dinner/workshop. A program of poetry, song, quizzes, information and hands-on activities were conducted. A presentation on how to strengthen relationships with their children was given along with dinner and door prizes.

Warren G. Harding Elementary – Their Santa’s Secret Shop has been a success. Volunteers shop at dollar stores purchasing gifts for family members. The items are then gift wrapped for children to purchase and take home with every item given the same price. Volunteers are available to assist students and tag their gifts.