



Lester Life

March 2011



Lester admist a winter wonderland

The blizzard of 2011 left more than two feet of snow on the surrounding area and gave students two days off from school. Snowy peaks awaited returning students.



Downers Grove Grade School District 58

We Envision. We Seek. We Believe.

236 Indianapolis Avenue • Downers Grove, IL 60515 • www.dg58.org • Phone (630) 719-5855 • Fax (630) 719-0053

Dear Lester Families: Principal's Message

We hit the ground running in March with our ISAT Testing for students in grades 3 – 6. Testing will take place from March 1 – 11. Please encourage your children to give their best effort on testing days! This month we also have Young Author Assemblies, Hip Hop Day, and our Beach Blow-Out taking place in school, along with the PTA Fun Fair event happening the evening of March 18th. Our Spring Break begins on March 28th to round out the month.

We are looking forward to enjoying some of the warmer weather that may be coming our way as we shift into the spring season. With the fluctuating temperatures, please make sure that your child is dressed appropriately for the weather each day. Layering works well in both the spring and the fall.

Finally, a big thank you to Mrs. Bowerman, Mrs. Roberts and Mrs. Crosson for chairing the PTA Trivia Night, and to their many volunteers who contributed countless hours to make this event run so well.

This event is our largest fundraiser of the year and could not be the success that it is without the combined efforts and hard work of everyone involved and the generosity of the Lester community. Great fun was had by all who attended!



Enjoy March Madness,
Mrs. Carin Novak

Special thank you!

We'd like to take the time to thank one of our Lester parents, **Mrs. Yepiz**, for her generous donation to Lester School. Mrs. Yepiz utilized a program from her employer that provides grants to non-profit organizations. Lester School was the recipient of a \$300. gift. We used this money to purchase a variety of headphones for our Lester students—noise reducing, microphone accompanying, and child friendly (made for the small ears/heads of our youngest learners.) We appreciate her thoughtfulness in thinking of a creative way to provide for our students!

Stay connected!

- **Lester School**

www.dg58.org

- **Lester PTA**

www.lesterpta.com

- **Lester Life email**

lesterlife@lesterpta.com

- **District 58**

www.dg58.org

- **District 58 Twitter**



www.twitter.com/DGDistrict58

(choose Lester from the list on the left-hand side of the District 58 site)

Send email to Lester Life to

Lesterlife@lesterpta.com

The deadline for the April Lester Life Newsletter issue is
Friday, March 25th



Solo artists

Congratulations to those Lester students who participated in Herrick's annual Band and Orchestra Solo Day on Saturday, February 5! The following students worked for over two months to prepare solo pieces to perform in front of professional adjudicators. We are proud of their hard work to prepare for this day!

- Mrs. Kaminski and Ms. Martin

Spencer Casey—violin

Luc Collo—violin

Kaitlyn Farrington—cello

Ashia Hanes—flute

Gavin Harker—trumpet

Elizabeth Hodonicky—trombone

Xanthe Huspen—cello

Lily Janowicz—violin

Tatiana Jordan—violin

Evan Klum—alto sax

Eirene Kowal—percussion

Matt McCoy—alto sax and clarinet

Zach McCoy—percussion

Katrina Miller—viola

Abbe Murphy—French horn

Fletcher Peters—violin

Abigail Pfeiffer—viola

Kaleb Pfothauer—violin

Ben Perdue—cello

Elise Radigan—viola

Erin Radigan—violin

Emma Rotz—French horn

Theodore Schneider—viola



Trivia Night is a smashing success!

This year's Trivia Night and Silent Auction, sponsored by the Lester PTA, exceeded all of our expectations and earned a record amount of funds for the PTA! After lots of laughs over costumes, trivia, prize winners, and that crazy emcee, the PTA earned nearly \$30,000! These funds will be used for technology upgrades, classroom equipment, learning materials and so much more. If you'd like a voice in how the money will be distributed, be sure to come to the April and May PTA meetings, which is when the budget for next year is discussed. In addition to input from the teachers and staff, we want to hear from you, the parents and members of the PTA!

This night would not be possible without the hard work of several tireless volunteers, a few of whom having been working on this event since last October. The Trivia committee was chaired by **Sophie Bowerman**, and she did a great job in her first year! **Tammy Crosson** and **Candie Roberts** were in charge of the Silent Auction committee, and once again dazzled us with their awesome prize offerings. This was their last year as chairs of this event, and they sure went out with a bang! Next year's Silent Auction will be chaired by **Kim Peters** and **Sue Mancuso**, who spent this year learning and working alongside the rest of the volunteers.

In addition, the following parents were instrumental in making Trivia Night a tremendous success:

Melissa and Jeff Bell
Kyle Bowerman
Jen Braun
Diane Crisp
Marybeth Curran
Tracy Driscoll
Renee and Dave Eckmann
Karen and John Grzbek
Lisa Higgins
Kathy Johnson
Kathy and Bill Johnston
Dale Mancuso
Megan and Gene Marino
Amy Mills
Dana Mitchell
Chris Pautsch
Mary Peters
Kathy and Pete Reiselt
Lara and David Vazquez

Thanks so much to the Lester Teachers and Staff, as well as the dozens of Downers Grove parents and businesses who donated prizes! Please be sure to check out the full list of donors, and show your appreciation by visiting their shops. Now that our favorite event of winter is over, let Spring begin (soon)!

Trivia Night sponsors

Thank You to Our Generous Donors



2 Toots Train Whistle Grill
A Shear Encounter II
A. Hardy USA (Ken Driscoll)
AB Decorating (Adam Barry)
Academy of Music & Arts
All Aboard Diner
Anderson's Book Store
Another Round Bar and Grill
ATI Fitness
Aurelio's Pizza
Avec Panache
Ballydoyle Irish Pub
Bead Heaven
Beard Auto
Beauty on the Main
Bell Family
Benefit Cosmetics
Berto's Deli
Bluestone Academy of Dance & Music
Bowerman Family
Brigantine Gallery
Brookfield Zoo
Brunswick Bowl
Bulls/Sox Training Academy
Candy Bear Lane
Capri Restaurant
Carin Novak
Carlson's Paint, Glass and Art
Carlucci's
Chicago Bears
Chicago Blackhawks
Chicago Cubs
Chicago White Sox
Chicago Wolves
Classic Cinemas
Cozzi Corner
Crilly Family
Crosson Family
Culver's
Dana Mitchell
Dancin' 1
Darien Sportsplex
Dariusz Jewelers
Davies Family
D'Lara Photography
Doggie Depot
DoubleTree Guest Suites
Downers Grove Ice Arena
Downers Grove Park District
Downers Grove Roadrunners
Downers Grove Swim & Racquet Club
Downers Grove Youth Baseball
Dream Interiors
DuBois Family
DuPage Children's Museum
Egg Harbor Café
Elmhurst College Athletics
Emmy's Pancake House
Eye Candy by Amy (Amy Smetana)
Fanta Family
Fuller's Car Wash
Gallery's Choice
Game Pazzo
Gatto's Restaurant
Giordano's Pizzeria (The LoCascio Family)
Glen Ellyn Village Links
Great American Bagel
Heritage House Florist
Higgins Family
HKT Designs (Holly Thusty)
Hollywood Boulevard
Home Run Inn Pizza
Hooter's
J&C Auto
Jenner Frank
Jewel
Jolie Boutique
Josh Porter (Coach Josh)
Josh Williams (Coach Bubba)
Justin Sisul
Kane County Cougars
Kenilworth Financial (Bill Grant)
Knickerbocker Family
LA Tan
Larson Eye Clinic (Michael Macek)
Legoland Discovery Center
Lester School Staff
Lombard Roller Rink
Los Burritos Tapatios
MagiQuest Yorktown
Mancuso Family
Mary Kay (Lisa Higgins)
Maximum Printing & Design
McCool Family
McKay Chiropractic
ME Peters Salon (Mary Peters)
Meagan Johnson
Mid America Steel Drum (Mike Higgins)
Mills Family
Moondance Diner
Moose Lodge
Morton Arboretum
Mount Olympus Water Park
Muriel Mundy
Museum of Science and Industry
Naper Settlement
Navy Pier Fun Maze
Nicole Prepejchal
No Name Painters (Tim Salmán)
Noodles & Co.
Ooo La La! (Ann Sobczak)
Paperworks
PartyLight
Pautsch Family
Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum
Penn Station Subs
Platinum Carpet Cleaning (Kevin Greaney)
Platinum Partners (Diane Crisp & Tracy Driscoll)
Play It Again Sports
PNC Bank (Dale Mancuso)
Premier Gymnastics
Q Nails
Rebecca Hansen
Remedy Accupuncture
Rob Johnson Family
Roberts Family
Rocco & Rocco
Rock Academy
Rubey Family
Runge Family
Scarletti's Italian Kitchen
Scooby's Hot Dogs
Second City
Silpada Designs (Chris McKay)
Skuddlebutts Pizza
Soccer 2000
Starbucks Coffee
Steve Peters Family
Style Studio
Suburbanite Bowl
Tap House Grill
Tastefully Simple/Pampered Chef (Bev Nykiel)
Taylor Brewing Company
The Dog Spot
The Polished Nail
The Shedd Aquarium
Theatre of Western Springs
Tivoli Bowl
Trader Joe's
Uncle Julio's
Vazquez Family
Vincitori Restaurant
Walt Disney World
Whole Foods
Willis Tower
WingStop
Wyndham Chicago
Xtreme Trampolines
Za Za's

Trivia Night raffle winners!

Raffle	Winner
5-Star Soccer Camp	Webster
All Dolled Up	Ms Francis
Announcements- April	Ficht
Announcements- March	Spreitzer
Announcements- May	Gilman
Blackhawks and Hossa	R. Johnson
Bon Appetit	Mrs. Garbis
Boy Crazy	Burry
Date Night	Coleman
Dream Design Package	Neil
Family Fun	Hammond
Flip Flop Gymnastics Party	Laffey
For Fido	Rummler
Game Night	Mrs. Beard
Game Pazzo Party	Fields
Girl Crazy	Mullen
Hello Sunshine	Huskisson
Hot Food for a Year	Prescott
In Good Taste	Gorey
iPad	Martin
iPod Touch	Pruitt
Lucky Lunch	Prescott
Lucky Lunch	Buehler
Make a Splash	Turk
Name That Tune	Ms. Francis
Nintendo Dsi XL	Schlegel
Notebook Computer	Krejci
Play Together, Stay Together	Daugvila
Travel Package	Knickerbocker
Xbox	Barton

Discovering science!

Congratulations to the 190 students who participated in the 3rd Annual Lester School Science Olympiad Fun Night on February 22nd!

Students had a great time exploring science concepts while working on important life skills – teamwork, problem solving and critical thinking. A special thanks to the 70+ Lester parents who helped out.

Whether you were an event supervisor, assisted with an event or helped out as a parent guide, your help is greatly appreciated. This program could not happen without you! THANK YOU!

Look for Science Olympiad to return next year!

— Tricia Tokash

A list of all the teams are on the next two pages



The Science Olympiad Team Scientists!

H2O

Peyton Myers
Anna Tokash
Grace Gilman
Emma Rausch

Rockets

Colin Azuse
Luke Johnson
Robby Boucher
Caleb Moore-Carter

Red Fire

Kyle Peters
Caden Sharp
Sean Lutz
Arren Wallace

Red Hots

Karla Santos
Maddy Dvorak
Molly Benton
Anna Sosnow

Blue Jays

Michael Logan
Nathan Macek
Brooks Barofsky
Levi Kimberling

Blue Man Group

Timmy Wise
Jonah Sutton
Gabriel Hammond

The Investigators

Olivia Shuster
Ella Mancuso
Meg Crisp

Dinomite

Theo Pawlik
Jonah Richardson
Ben Tomy
Luke Janowicz



Major League Science

Ava Schlegel
Amber Leckie
Ashley Novak
Grace D'Amico

Whomping Willow Wizards

David Hipp
Matthew Gowen
Trevor Mills
Benjamin Koncel

The Rockets

Daniel Jones
Lincoln Peckenpaugh
Thomas Kowal
Trey McDonald

Lester Minions

Evan Miller
Zachary Sosnow
Liam Gade
Douglas Wagner

Pink Bows

Gwen Wolkow
Johanna Kimberling
Elisenda Lee-Palou
Autumn Neil

Black Eye Glow Sticks

Alex Brauweiler
Jacob Baldwin
Zachery Heppner
Erich Hene

Team Lovelace

Penny Ham
Kate Laffey
Natalia Greaney
Mikayla Moran

Ninja Warhawk Fish Brains

Huck Fields
Jack Derbis
Tim Martello
Jacob Runge

Team Black & White

Nicolas Teune
Ryan Weber
Zach Rutkowski
Callahan Reynolds

Team Tie-dye

Ethan Bell
Luke Rheintgen
Nick Vazquez
Joey Reiselt

Green Team

MacKenzie McGuire
Abigail Goodman
Emma Coleman
Amy Spreitzer
Rachel Rios

Mad Green Silly Scientists

Eamonn O'Connell
Drew Driscoll
Nate Pautsch
Lucas Nielsen

Green Geniuses

Kate Crisp
Apple Patel
Matea Greaney
Alison Ostrowski
Patricia Moran

Big Cheese

Trygve Hansen
Justin Peters
Justin Berghorst

Science Rockers

Annelise Richardson
Megan Pulliam
Elisse Martin
Greta Prepejchal
Piper Baran

Yellow Leopards

Aidan Hall
Evan Cummins
Jesse Wei

Scientists

Max Dvorak
Brian Benton
Mason Roberts

Wizards

Genevieve Millhouse
Erin Miller
Lia Van Santen

Poison Electric Phoenix

Jack Tomy
Nathan Hemstreet
Jackson Geist
Isaac Johnson

Iron Snakes

Christopher Teune
Dylan Skeen
Asher Neil
Max Leshner

Purple Puppies

Shea Casey
Lily Jane Buehler
Clare Webster
Katherine Tokash

Red Robins

Maggie Logan
Camille Jachim
Elizabeth Drobny
Georgia Kowal

Green Hornets

Eli Pfothenauer
Ben Hodonicky
Jack Perdue
Conor Sutton

Blue Ocean

Carrigan Reynolds
Briana McCraw
Jessica Pearson
Arden Jachim

Fuzzy Bananas

Logan Burek
Matthew Millhouse
Billy Berberich
Mason Adams
Trey Kaiser

Toxic Waste

Larry Arndt
Mickey Lutz
Dylan Tlusty
Matthew Thompson

Toxic Waste

Myles Laffey
Ethan Hall
Matthew Macek

Intellectual Leopards

Morgan Mancuso
Camryn Farrington
Claire Drobny
Eva Vazquez

Sport Sparks

Andy Runge
Matthew Rios
Alexander Teng
Nathan Brauweiler

Perfect Pink Poodles

Brin Driscoll
Shelby Berghorst
Parker Jo McGuire
Caroline Weidman

Beluga Whales

Sean McDermott
Liam Schultz
Carson Burek
Nicholas Wagner
Ben Reiselt

The Elements

Ryan Pavinato
Jack Roberts
Christian Rummeler
Paul Crosson

Team Moose

Elise Radigan
Gillian Braun
Kaitlyn Farrington
Erin Radigan

Purple Power

Jillian Pitelka
Lily Jachim
Karli Kwityn
Alena Spreitzer
Madison Pulliam

Pretty Purple Prancing Ponies

Lily Janowicz
Rachel Hemstreet
Madeline Kaiser
Kinzie Geist

The Marios

Kyle Pearson
Luc Collo
Ben Heppner
Ben Perdue
Jackson Rummeler

5th Grade Girls

Kessie Olekanma
Rachel Martello
Lily Nielsen
Cassidy Baran

Two Gallons of Milk

Aidan Webster
Gavin Harker
Brett Mills
Andrew Gallwas

6th Grade Girls

Mary Laffey
Valeria Buzinova
Emma Rotz
Eirene Kowal

The Sixth Grade Scientists

Jack Drobny
Will Cullen
Tyler Tlusty
Tim Berberich

Jump Rope for the Heart

Jump Rope for Heart had 90 jumpers participate this year. Another great turnout from students and their families!

While donations for 2011 are still coming in, this was our 23rd year of participating and so far the Lester community has raised over \$136,000.00! That is quite an accomplishment!

This is the first year the Lester Leapers (our school jump rope team has performed). See the fun they had!

—Mrs. Brown



Word of the Day

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 IMMORAL <i>violating moral principles</i> Stealing from the grocery store was immoral.	2 WISDOM <i>knowledge of what is true</i> My grandmother has a lot of wisdom about life.	3 LONELY <i>standing apart</i> A lonely tower stood on the hill.	4 VOLUNTEER <i>a person who performs a service willingly and without pay</i> I am a volunteer at the soup kitchen.	5
6	7 NO SCHOOL	8 ILLITERATE <i>unable to read or write</i> My four-year old brother is illiterate, but he can't wait to read books like his big sister.	9 DISCREDIT <i>a person or thing that is a source of disgrace</i> If you behavior poorly on a field trip, you are a discredit to the school.	10 EQUIVALENT <i>equal in value</i> One quarter is equivalent to 25 cents.	11 MINIATURE <i>a much smaller size than normal</i> The miniature poodle barked at the big dog.	12
13	14 PSHAW <i>humorous</i> My parents pshawed the idea of making my bedtime midnight.	15 CONSTRUCT <i>to build</i> My dad and I like to construct sand castles.	16 SPECTRUM <i>a band of colors as seen on a rainbow</i> There was a spectrum of colors in the rainbow.	17 DISOBEY <i>to neglect or refuse to obey</i> Students who disobey the school rules will be punished.	18 FUNCTION <i>purpose</i> The function of a vitamin is to keep you in good health.	19
20	21 ENCOURAGEMENT <i>to give support</i> It is important to give encouragement to your classmate when they try hard.	22 CAPACITY <i>the largest amount that something can contain</i> The capacity of the gym is 300 people.	23 HUMANE <i>tenderness, compassion, and sympathy for people and animals.</i> I am humane to all animals.	24 SHRIEKED <i>a loud, sharp cry</i> The man shrieked when he was at a haunted house.	25 AQUATIC <i>things related to water</i> The otter is an aquatic animal.	26
27	28 SPRING BREAK	29 SPRING BREAK	30 SRING BREAK	31 SPRING BREAK		

Reminder: Save your box tops and soup labels

The Box Tops and Labels for Education programs have been very successful fundraisers for the Lester PTA. Please help us continue this effort! The Box Tops for Education program earns money to support PTA activities, and the Labels for Education program has enabled us to acquire new physical education equipment to benefit all Lester students.

All you need to do is look for these official coupons on many different products. Any time you see one, cut it out and send it to school with your child. It only takes a moment, and it makes a big difference.

Questions?

E-mail Jenny Hodonicky & Bridgid Lutz at: BoxTops-SoupLabels@lesterpta.com



ISAT TESTING

ISAT Testing will take place for students in grades 3 – 6 beginning Tuesday, March 1st and continuing through Friday, March 11th.

Students will be taking their tests during week one and will complete any make-up testing during week two.

The ISAT tests are tied in with NCLB legislation at the federal level. Regular attendance during this time period is extremely important!

Please make sure that your child has had a good breakfast and plenty of sleep. Having “fuel in their tank” and being well rested will assist students in doing their best.



Daylight Savings Time

Mark your calendars so you don't forget to – “spring ahead” one hour at midnight between Saturday, March 12th and Sunday, March 13th.

District 58 Strategic Plan

As District 58 works to define its priorities and direction for the next five years, the development of a revised Strategic Plan, created in partnership with our stakeholders, is a key component.

The first step in the Strategic Plan process was a community-wide survey, during which more than 1,400 community members and staff took the time to offer their input. The results of this survey shaped the focus points for our upcoming day-long community engagement workshop, which will be attended by parents, community members, business and community leaders, District 58 staff and administrators.

Anyone in our community with an interest in the continued success of our schools and our children is encouraged to participate; all input will be greatly valued. The workshop will take place on Saturday, March 19, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Herrick Middle School, 4435 Middaugh Ave., Downers Grove.

Dr. Linda Hanson will facilitate the March 19 workshop. She has conducted planning processes for numerous school districts, and consults regularly with schools on the topics of planning and leadership. The sessions will be highly interactive, and participants will

have the opportunity to focus on an area of particular interest to them.

Anyone interested in participating should RSVP for the workshop by Friday, March 11, by calling (630) 719-5803 or e-mailing posika@dg58.org. We will send all participants reading materials and additional details about the planning process in early March.



We believe attendees will find the workshop thought-provoking and productive--and most importantly, they will be helping to shape the future of our school district and community.

Please call or email with any questions

(630) 719-5803, posika@dg58.org

(630) 719-5805, jwaldorf@dg58.org.

PTA Board Positions Open for 2011-2012 School Year

Calling all Lester parents: especially those with children in younger grades, free time (well a little free time), and a desire to help enrich our children's learning environment: **WE NEED YOU!**

Looking ahead to the next school year, we have many openings to join the dynamic and fun-loving PTA.

We are looking for some creative and energetic folks for **Secretary, VP Fundraising, VP Programs, and President Elect.**

Please join us at the March PTA meeting on Tuesday, March 15th, from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. to find out what these jobs entail.

Ideally, we will have candidates lined up soon (so the outgoing crew can "train" the incoming group).

Sophie Bowerman will be on hand to answer any questions (and, we will head over to the Cellar Door afterwards for anyone wishing to continue the discussion).

Interested parties, questions, comments, etc.

Please contact Sophie at 630.745.8118.

Grant writer needed

We are looking for a parent volunteer to research and assist with grant writing opportunities for the 2011/2012 school year. Local and bigger organizations have many opportunities available to receive FREE money for the school. We need someone to research and help with writing the grants. Interested parties should contact Amy Mills at 630-971-1209 or a.mills@comcast.net.

Open Committee Chair Position!

The Lester School PTA strives to provide diverse, interesting educational experiences and social activities for our students. Parent participation is the cornerstone of the opportunities offered to our students. Please consider volunteering your time. We are looking for a new Hot Food Chairperson for the 2011/2012 School year: (During/After School – Twice a Month) Tallies student orders; orders food; coordinates volunteers to help serve pre-ordered food to students during lunch hours at school. Interested parties should contact Fei Jordan at jordan@uhc.edu. Fei will work with the new chair for the remainder of this school year to prepare them for the 2011/2012 school year.

Lester PTA

Letter from the presidents

We hope everyone had a chance to attend the February was full of excitement and some significant accomplishments. In just 28 days, we navigated our way through a blizzard of events; parent-teacher conferences, Trivia Night, Science Olympiad, Valentine's Day and literally a snow blizzard.

Lester's most anticipated fundraiser of the year, Trivia Night, exceeded our expectations in so many ways. Candie Roberts and Tammy Crosson once again orchestrated a wonderful event enjoyed by parents and faculty alike.

A sincere "Thank You" goes out to everyone who helped make this event such a success. Whether you served as a committee member, generous donor, judge, or contributed by bidding on one of the prizes donated, we couldn't have done it without you.

Trivia Night raised more than \$30,000, which in part was influenced through Gene Marino's engaging interaction with the audience as the evening's MC.

It is fundraisers like this that help Lester afford fun and enriching programs for its students and keep our classrooms up-to-date with the latest technology.

The Science Olympiad presented a night of learning and entertainment for our children. Thank you to Tricia Tokash, along with a supporting cast of parent volunteers, that ran another well-organized and fun-filled event.

The fun doesn't stop with February! Coming up in March we look forward to the Annual Fun Fair on Friday, March 18th, followed by Spring Break from March 28th to April 1st. You're also invited to attend our monthly PTA meeting on Tuesday, March 15th.

Dawn Sirianni, President

(president@lesterpta.com)

Tricia Pautsch, President-Elect

(presidentelect@lesterpta.com)

Next PTA meeting: Thursday, March 15th

Please join us for the next Lester PTA meeting and help make a difference in the education and quality of life for all of our children. PTA meetings are held one evening per month—on the Third Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. in the LRC (no meeting in December). Babysitting is provided. Looking ahead to the next school year, we have many openings to join the dynamic and fun-loving PTA.

Butter Braid Spring Fundraiser

Just in time for Easter, we are selling tasty and very easy to prepare Butter Braid Pastries. They are great for breakfast, brunches, desserts, parties and more.

Butter Braids come in 6 delicious flavors: Almond Cream, Apple, Cherry, Cinnamon, Cream Cheese, and Raspberry.

Butter Braid pastries have enjoyed over 15 years of success in the fundraising market, and we have set a school goal to sell 1500 braids – that's just 5 per family! Order Forms will be sent home the week of March 7th.

All order forms and payment are due by Monday, March 21st; and pick up will be Monday, April 11th (after school) from 2:40 – 3:30 in the Lester School gym.

As always, the Lester PTA thanks you for supporting our school through fundraising!

Lester Spring Book Fair is coming...



It's Time to "Spring" In To Buy Some Great Books!

When – Thursday, April 7th (during Family Reading Night)

Where – Mrs. Kasicki's and Mrs. Salsbury's sixth grade classrooms adjacent to the LRC

Time – 4:30 pm to 8:30 pm



Great books from Anderson's Bookfair Company will be on sale, with a portion of the profits being returned as more great books for our LRC! Come shop during Family Reading Night!

Questions? Contact **Lara Vazquez** (630)434-8705 or laravv@comcast.net

Lester PTA Meeting Highlights

Meeting: Thursday, February 24, 2011 in the LRC



Business Briefs:

- Ending balance on 1/31/11 was \$30,541.14 not including all of the Trivia Night moneys, which will be accounted by next month.
- Discussion about the need of a PR person to get our information into local papers/newsletters – Ann Cummins volunteered for the position.
- Discussion about conducting a Butter Braid sale before Easter. Motion was made to conduct a Butter Braid sale this spring; the motion passed unanimously.
- Thank you for those of you that have taken on committees, or just donated your time, we are all so thankful. Young Author's assemblies on 3/10. ISATS start week of 2/28. Martin Luther King assembly was very nice, the children really

enjoyed it. We will have another assembly on 4/18 (tentative) for First through Sixth grades. It is called Condition ONE. A group of individuals (filmmakers) spent 34 days in Antarctica. The assembly will be about survival in extreme conditions.

Committee Reports and Ongoing PTA Fundraisers:

- **Family Reading Night** – will take place on Thursday, April 7th. Story teller (Sue Black) is lined up. Theme is American Tall Tales. The Downers Grove Speech Team will read tall tales in the classroom. The story teller will read to everyone in the gym and then the participants will break up and go into classrooms. Sue Black will also conduct two – 45 minutes kick off sessions (during school) for the students. The total cost of the event will be \$900.
- **Kane County Cougars** – The date has been set for the Friday night of Memorial Day weekend; May 27th. We will have the same seating section. We hope to have warm weather and a high level of participation for a Fun Family Night!
- **Reflections** – We have 4 children going to state: Aidan Webster, Lincoln Peckenpaugh, Jessica Pearson and Kyle Pearson. Pizza parties for the classroom(s) with the most participants will be taking place in March for our winners: Mrs. Brennan and Miss Francis.
- **Science Olympiad** – was on February 22nd. We had 190 kids and about 70 parents. Thank you to all of the volunteers that helped with the event. We had a lot of positive feedback from the students and parents. All activities are based on national science standards; combining learning and fun.
- **Trivia Night** – Thank you to everyone that participated. We were very successful, surpassing our budget. Net profit was around 30,000 (final numbers will be coming; all expenses need to be paid out). Sold 38 tables, over 400 people in attendance.

New Business:

- Parents brought up a need for 'age appropriate' basketball nets. We will be investigating the cost of various net options which would allow the nets to be adjusted from 8' – 10' in order to be appropriate for K-6 age groups using the nets.

Unfinished Business: We posted the need for a Grant Writing Chairperson in our eBlast and will continue to run that (as well as list in Lester Life).

Important dates

Date / Time	Item
March 7	Pulaski Day -- NO SCHOOL
March 10	Young Author's Assemblies / Hot Food Day
March 15 (7 p.m.)	PTA Meeting, LRC (babysitting provided)
March 18 (5 - 8 p.m.)	Fun Fair
March 23	Hip Hop Day
March 24	Hot Food Day
March 25	Beach Blowout & End of 3rd Quarter
March 28 - April 1	Spring Break -- NO SCHOOL (Classes resume April 4)
April 7	Spring Book Fair / Family Reading Night
April 8	Downers Grove Education Foundation Fundraiser — Second City

