



# THE NORTHWOOD PTA EXPLORER

May 2009 News for Northwood Elementary Families Volume 14, Issue 2

## President's Letter

It's hard to believe that the school year is coming to an end. Folks will be hard at work through the last day of school and beyond! But this will be the last PTA newsletter of the year, so we would like to take an opportunity to offer our thanks to the many volunteers whose dedication has made possible this year's PTA events, activities, and the fundraisers that support Northwood's teachers, departments, and student activities.

First, we must thank our fellow Board members: Servann Doherty stepped into the Secretary's position this year; Angela Blackwell is finishing her 2<sup>nd</sup> year as Vice President; and Katie Drew joined the Board this year as Parliamentarian. Julie Human and Michele Mobley joined the Board this year as Vice Presidents, and Darina Yankey is finishing her 2<sup>nd</sup> year as Treasurer. We truly could not have carried out our responsibilities as Co-Presidents without the support of this great team.

Next to thank are Northwood's 40-plus Committee Chairs who lead the school's 32 committees. These wonderful people are listed on the back of the newsletter. Some have run their committees for several years; some are new to the job this school year. They have done a great service for Northwood Elementary in their diverse roles. Needless to say, many wonderful events and activities would be lost without them!

Of course, Northwood would be at a loss without the nearly 100 Northwood Room Parents. Each is listed in the Directory with the class she/he supports. These volunteers organize classroom events, ensure the teacher's birthday and other special occasions are recognized, and manage the class budget. Our thanks to this special group of volunteers!

We must also thank all of you who volunteered at a school event this year. Without your help there would not be snacks during ITBS/CRCT test weeks or supplies for the classroom. There wouldn't be weekly readers, Book Fair, Carnival, Bingo, or Field Day. We couldn't run the Accelerated Reader program, and the Media Center would definitely miss you! We simply could not hold the many events and activities that make Northwood the special school it is without the support of every family. Thank you all.

There is another important group to thank: during our years on the PTA Board, we've had such wonderful support from Northwood's administrative team and the entire staff — thank you Sheila Michael and Ritu Ahuja and everyone on the Northwood team. And, our heartfelt gratitude to Willie Render — his hard work bookends almost every PTA event, and he is endlessly cheerful! The environment the Northwood team engenders invites and engages volunteers, and Northwood's students benefit!

This year has flown by. Next year will be here before we know it. The 2009-2010 PTA Board was elected on May 4<sup>th</sup>, before the Spring Band Concert, but there are still a few open Committee Chair positions. You can visit the PTA website ([www.NorthwoodPTA.com](http://www.NorthwoodPTA.com)) or talk to a current Board member or Committee Chair to learn more. Whether you find a Committee Chair that is a perfect match or just learn about a committee you are interested in assisting next year — we invite you to become involved at Northwood. We thank you for allowing us to serve as PTA Co-Presidents this past year. From our vantage point, we can assure you the rewards of volunteering are many!

*Stephanie Duffy and Lorrie de la Mata*

## Yearbooks on sale now!

It's time to purchase your 2008-2009 Northwood Yearbook! The Yearbook is a wonderful way to help your child remember his or her special school year at Northwood Elementary. Yearbooks are \$27 each. Many were pre-ordered as part of the "one-stop shopping" available on the PTA membership form; check your records to see if you took advantage of that deal. If not, hurry to order your yearbook now, while supplies last! Order forms are available on the PTA Website. Yearbooks will be delivered in mid-May. Questions? Contact Jennifer Pugh, Yearbook Committee Chair.

## Sneak Preview Night

The 2009-2010 school year starts on Monday, August 10<sup>th</sup>. To kick the year off right, you won't want to miss Sneak Preview, so be sure to circle it on your calendar now:

Thursday, August 6th

- Meet your child's teacher in the classroom
- Study the bus schedule
- Purchase meal cards
- Join the PTA and volunteer for next year's activities
- Shop for spirit wear
- Examine the fundraising partner display
- Visit with representatives from Girl and Boy Scouts as well as other after-school programs

Look for a letter to arrive at your home in late July with more details about this exciting day. We'll see you there!

## Teacher Appreciation Day a Great Success

A big thanks to our outstanding group of teachers and staff at Northwood Elementary School! Teacher Appreciation Day, May 4, 2009, was again a special day at Northwood. The PTA sponsored a luncheon to honor all of the teachers and staff, and many parents volunteered their time to hostess the event. Everyone enjoyed the amazing food from El Azteca as well as fruit and amazing desserts provided by several of our Room Parents. Teachers



received cards, flowers, and other appreciation they received from the Room Parent Committee Chair.