

December 2011

PTA NEWSLETTER

Eugenia Porter Rayzor Elementary

President's Message



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Wow did that first semester go quickly! We have had such a great fall on the PTA with successful programs and events--thank you to each of you for all that you do for your children and our school!

Congratulations to all Reflections winners! I was able to attend the awards ceremony in our cafeteria on December 1st and see some of the entries--what talented children we have at our school! Thank you to Chris Chelette for leading this program, including organizing the judges, coordinating with the district program leader and for the awards ceremony. All of the 1st and 2nd place entries have moved on to the District level contest which will be judged in January. Stay tuned to our next newsletter for an update on how our students fare in that event!

Enjoy your holiday break! We'll be jumping right back in with a busy January with the Daughter Date Dance on January 20th and Donuts for DOGS on January 24th. Please see related articles in this newsletter and/or the PTA page on the school website for more information.

We hope to see you on January 26th for the PTA General Meeting at 6:30 in the cafeteria. The E.P. Rayzor Orchestra will perform.

Nadine Roberts

E.P. Rayzor PTA President

Principal Matters

Hello EP Rayzor Red Wolves!

I am so glad to be back on campus. My dad is doing great and I missed everybody SO much! We have had a great, fast and furious 1st semester. As always, the students have strived in many areas. A few activities were: we had our first ever robotics team, our choir has grown from 30 students to 80 students, and our running club ran in the Newton Rayzor Fun Run. Our teachers have worked hard each and every day to ensure the success of your children. I can't wait for the Spring! I hope you have a wonderful and safe holiday season and we will see you on Tuesday, January 3, 2012.

Dr. Happy Carrico
Principal

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Bozeman's Banner

We have had a wonderful first semester at E.P. Rayzor and it is hard to believe it is time for the holidays. Our students are making great gains academically which shows the dedication to learning by our parents, students, faculty, and staff. We greatly appreciate the support our parents give each of our teachers as they work with their children. We are also thankful for our PTA which has been fabulous providing our campus with Nooks for the library, an incredible Wolf Fest event, a spectacular Reflections Contest and special treats for our teachers and staff. Have a safe and fun holiday season with your family. We will see you next semester!

Linda Bozeman

Assistant Principal
940-369-4102

December:

16th: Holiday Parties
19th -31st: Winter Break

January:

1st -2nd: Winter Break
10th: Texas Roadhouse Bite
Night 4:00pm-10:00pm
20th: Daughter Date Dance 6:00pm-8:00pm
23rd: PTA Board Meeting -- 1:30pm-2:45pm
24th: Donuts for DOGS -- 7:20am-8:20am
(brief intro/meeting after kids go to class)
26th: PTA General Meeting -6:30pm in cafeteria
(Orchestra program)
27th: Wolfing It Down--hosted by 2nd/3rd Grades
30th -Feb 3rd: Excite Gym @ PE

February:

3rd: Spring Picture Day
7th: Texas Roadhouse Bite Nite 4:00-10:00 pm
10th: Class Valentine Day Parties

DAUGHTER DATE DANCE 2012



Crystal Snowfall Winter Ball Friday, January 20th from 6pm to 8pm EP Rayzor Gym

Please join us for our 3rd annual Daughter Date Dance - where you and your daughter can dance the night away under the snowflakes at EP Rayzor.
Enjoy dancing, refreshments, photos and memories between you and your special girl.

Tickets are \$10 in advance beginning January 3rd and \$12 at the door the night of.

We will also offer single tickets for \$5 for additional daughters or a grandparent.

Flowers are also available in advance for \$8 - this is optional corsage and boutonniere combo.
We will have a **limited** amount of flowers at the door for \$10.

Calling all MOMS!!!

I need your help in the following areas:

- Day of decorating
- Refreshments - preparing and serving
 - Check in/Flowers/Coat Check
 - Photos
 - Tear Down

If you would like to volunteer in any of the following areas or have any questions - please contact me at:
tandlirwin@yahoo.com



Please continue to put aside those gently used books as you clean out over the holiday season. Christmas is just around the corner. Time to make room for the new!!!

E. P. Rayzor will continue to accept book donations from
January 2nd - January 31st for

BOOK CENTS a Used Book Sale

The goal of Book Cents is to promote education through reading and recycling. Instead of throwing away these books they can be donated and purchased at a spring book sale allowing a way to give back to DISD community. Portion of the proceeds will go toward library incentives at all DISD campuses that participate!

*** Donations of all types of books can be dropped off to school.

There will be boxes located by the front office and in front of the library.

" Bite Night at Texas Roadhouse"

Mark your calendars for the next (2) Two Bite Nights at Texas Roadhouse
Tuesday, January 10th and February 7th, 2012

****NOTE: You must tell your server that night that you are from E.P. Rayzor or we will NOT get 15% of ticket sales.****

So come out and support the school and your children, as well as enjoy great food Texas Roadhouse has to offer!

Texas Roadhouse is located at 3811 Long Prairie Road,
at the corner of 1171 and 2499.

**** Remember Dinner Specials from 4:00-6:00 ****

PTA Reflections Contest

This year's P.T.A. "Reflections" theme was "Diversity Means". We had entries in literature, photography, and visual arts. Several students entered in more than one category as well as in the same category multiple times. Thirteen judges from the area judged the entries and determined who took first, second, and third place. In one category we had a perfect tie for third place. We also had a few honorable mentions as their entries were close in judging points to the third place winners.

The students who placed first and second in each category have moved onto the district level judging for Denton ISD, which will take place in January. These students are: Lauren Moore and Stephanie Lee for Intermediate Literature; Abigail Barker and Mithra Arun for Primary Photography; Josh Chelette and Merrick Seeley for Intermediate Photography; Mason Pitner and Chelsea Wierenga for Primary Visual Arts; and, Mackenzie Lander and Fernando Harmjanz for Intermediate Visual Arts.

Last year we had several students win at the district level and were presented trophies by Denton ISD's Superintendent Dr. Braswell. Two students (Mithra Arun and Josh Chelette) continued on to compete at the state level.

The Reflections awards ceremony was held on Thursday, December 1, in the cafetorium where refreshments were served and trophies as well as honorable mention and participation medals were presented to the students. Here is a list of our winners and participants.

LITERATURE (INTERMEDIATE):

1st place - Lauren Moore
2nd place - Stephanie Lee
3rd place - Merrick Seeley
Honorable Mention - Josh Chelette

PHOTOGRAPHY (K-2, PRIMARY):

1st place - Abigail Barker
2nd place - Mithra Arun
3rd place - Madeline Huffman

PHOTOGRAPHY (3-5, INTERMEDIATE):

1st place - Josh Chelette
2nd place - Merrick Seeley
3rd place - Lauren Moore
3rd place - Maci Pitner

VISUAL ARTS (K-2, PRIMARY):

1st place - Mason Pitner
2nd place - Chelsea Wierenga
3rd place - Sisley Stephens
Honorable Mention - Madeline Huffman

VISUAL ARTS (3-5, INTERMEDIATE):

1st place - Mackenzie Lander
2nd place - Fernando Harmjanz
3rd place - Alexis Wierenga
Honorable Mention - Hailey Lander

PARTICIPATION MEDALS:

Samantha Cortez
Maren Herring
Madeline Huffman
Karen Lee
Taylor McMillan
Lauren Moore
Jillian Mustico
Maci Pitner
Itcel Romero
Mariella Stephens
Paola Suarez
Charlie Williams
Jake Williams

PTA Reflections Contest Winners



Photography Winner K-2 Primary
Abigail Barker



Photography Winner 3-5 Intermediate
Josh Chelette



Visual Arts Winner K-2 Primary
Mason Pitner



Visual Arts Winner 3-5 Intermediate
Mackenzie Lander



Donuts for DOGS!

January 24th

7:20-7:50 Donuts with your child
7:50-8:20 Watch DOG Info

Join us with your child from 7:20 to 7:50 to have a donut and then stay for a brief meeting with Brett Houser, Watch DOG chairman, about how you can get involved with this program for dads at the school in the spring. Brett will have the calendar with dates available for volunteers as well as background check forms to complete if you haven't yet done that. ***Please remember that district policy prevents you from volunteering with students without a completed background check and that these checks take approximately 2 weeks to complete and have results back to our campus.***



"Where Children's Stories Come to Life"

What started as a gift from the PTA to E.P. Rayzor of 13 Nook Colors last summer has now become a total of 25 thanks to the technology department of DISD. The check was given to Dr. Carrico in August so that purchasing could occur through the proper channels within the district. When it reached the technology department for approval however, we hit a "speed bump". The district had been looking at e-readers as potential future technology already so the technology and legal departments within the district entered discussions and eventually contract negotiations with Barnes & Noble. By increasing the order to 25, we qualified for an education and bulk discount and the DISD paid for the additional e-readers. **We all owe a big "Thank You" to Dr. Carrico, Ms. Carey and Beth Landers for their time and dedication to seeing this idea through to its full potential!**

E.P. Rayzor is now considered to be a pilot program for Nook Colors in the DISD. We will be watched and supported by the district and Barnes & Noble to ensure this is a successful program. Ms. Carey will be developing measurement tools so that she can report back to the district on how they are used and their effectiveness. Teachers that utilize them for classroom learning will also provide feedback. IF we are successful, the District would like to eventually enter an agreement with Barnes & Noble to launch this program to other schools.

Ms. Carey received the Nooks and protective covers last week and is getting them ready for the students to use when they return in January. They will be divided into groups by grade level so that the content is easier to manage. These have the ability to read aloud to the kids in Kindergarten and 1st grade as they learn to read and have an installed dictionary for the older kids to tap on a word to look up its' meaning as they are reading. There are also educational apps that have been installed that teachers can use with the students to reinforce concepts being taught in class. Mrs. Vaughn, our Dyslexia Therapy teacher, is already making plans to use the Nooks in January with some of her students.

Nook Colors Continued...

The staff will be trained by reps from the Denton Barnes & Noble store in January. Those reps will be back out for at least one training sessions for the library volunteers later in January as well. If you volunteer in the library, look for an email with more information after the first of the year.

None of this would have been possible without **YOUR** support of EP Rayzor and the PTA. Thank you for allowing us to take the first step in making this a reality for our school!

Stay tuned...we'll ask Ms. Carey to provide an update in the spring as to how the kids are using the Nooks and what they are learning.





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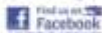
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