

Clinton Courier

A Publication of the Clinton Parent Teacher Association
Issue 7, March 2007

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Through this column, the PTA, our teachers' communications, and word of mouth, you always hear about the special and unique things that are happening at Clinton School. However, many things at Clinton do not receive as much publicity but are just as important to our school and students:

Did you know... We have an Intervention and Referral Services Committee (I&RS) that meets regularly to identify challenges and create action plans for individual students. The classroom teachers refer students to Intervention. The committee is headed by Mrs. Nolan, and includes a variety of teachers with varying areas of expertise. The goal of the Intervention team is to assist the classroom teacher to brainstorm strategies and develop a plan of action that will improve a student's performance and learning.

Did you know... Through our social work program, Mrs. Rollo and two social work interns (this year Ms. Alfonso and Mrs. Miggins) provide counseling for individual students and also facilitate social skills, friendship, and other groups relevant to elementary students' lives. Mrs. Rollo also supervises the Lunchbox Buddies program, which uses recess once a week to partner some of our students with a buddy from Columbia High School.

Did you know... For the third consecutive year, Mrs. Dunsavage is facilitating an artist-in-residence grant where our fourth grade students will work with two artists as a complement to their social studies immigration unit. For the first time this year, the grant will also include a staff development component for our full faculty.

Did you know... Clinton School is the receiving school for all English language-learning students in our district, providing us with a more diverse and unique student population. Three teachers conduct the ESL program that includes an extended day for kindergarten, and serves approximately 40 students.

I could fill a column each month with items such as these; and we are proud of every one of them. Clinton School is truly a wonderful place, "where learning comes to life" for all of us.

Sincerely,
Rich Katz

MARCH-AT-A-GLANCE

8 TH , 15 TH , 22 ND & 29 TH	AFTER SCHOOL ENRICHMENT (3-4:15PM)
9 TH	COOKIE DOUGH SALE ENDS
12-15 TH	NJ ASK, 5 TH GRADE
19-22 ND	NJ ASK 3 RD GRADE 5 TH GRADE MAKE-UP
19-23 RD	NJ ASK 4 TH GRADE
26-30	NJ ASK 3 RD & 4 TH GRADE MAKE-UP
29 TH	A TASTE OF CLINTON, CLINTON SCHOOL'S 6 TH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL DINNER, 6:15-7:45 PM

A BEAUTIFUL NEW TRIPTYCH

Recent visitors to Clinton School could not help but notice the striking new triptych gracing the front entrance hall. The vibrant colors and textural quality of the three panels—each composed of 25 tiles—make for an eye-popping exhibit. Upon closer inspection one can see that each tile portrays a unique cultural identity reflected through family portraits, flags, Christmas trees, menorahs, hearts, beads, sequins, boats, and country names ranging from Kenya to Scotland. Conceived by art teacher Irene Dunsavage and funded through a grant from the NJ Council of the Arts, this permanent installation is the work of last year's fourth grade class as part of its immigration curriculum.

Last spring Mrs. Dunsavage tapped Clinton parent and artist Janet Walentiny to work with fourth graders to create individual tiles representing each student's cultural heritage. "Janet and I chose to have the kids work with clay since it is a medium that fully engages children because it is so pliable and forgiving to work with," says Mrs. Dunsavage.

Mrs. Walentiny first asked the students to think about how to represent their individual heritage in a meaningful way. She suggested they get ideas from their families and search for objects to bring in to use to make imprints on their clay tiles. "The kids were really excited about this project and couldn't wait to get their hands on the clay," says Mrs. Walentiny, who has a BA in printmaking and an MA in art therapy. The students cut and rolled out their own tiles, which is why the thickness varies somewhat, and then used pencils and other objects to etch the clay. Once the tiles were dry, the kids painted them using colors they mixed themselves with acrylic paints. Mrs. Walentiny then applied a finish to seal the tiles and give them a little shine. Using liquid nails, she then attached the tiles to the wood frames, which were built by her husband, Joe Walentiny. *con't on p. 2*

A MESSAGE FROM THE PTA PRESIDENT

Dear Clinton Families,

It's hard to believe March is here already. In just a matter of weeks, spring will arrive and our school grounds will be covered with beautiful flowers and lush greenery, thanks to the hard work of **Jeremy Moss** and the many volunteers on the Beautification Committee.

Looking back on the past month, I'm once again astonished by all that we have accomplished. Thanks to **Mrs. Eames** for an incredibly rich and entertaining winter concert. Thank you to **Kirsten Fallon** for arranging for the student/astronaut email project. This has been a great opportunity for our students to correspond with a real astronaut living on a space station (see page 3 for details). The **After-School Enrichment Program** is once again underway and, as predicted, it's running like a well-oiled machine. Also, thanks to **Jennifer Payne-Parrish** for taking time out of her busy schedule to be our guest speaker at the February PTA Meeting.

Over 100 students have logged onto Study Island and we're hoping more will join in. The on-line service for 3rd, 4th and 5th graders has been paid for by the PTA. It's a test prep service that also can be used as a tutor. Once your child logs on he or she is registered until June 2008!

Thanks to **Mrs. Dunsavage, Janet Walentiny** and last year's fourth grade for the beautiful art work in the front entrance way. It's amazing and will most definitely be enjoyed for years to come! See page 1 for complete story.

Congratulations to our winners of the Website Scavenger Hunt! The response was impressive. Thank you to **Elizabeth King** for organizing. We hope that everyone continues to log on to our wonderful new website: www.clintonelementary.org

Thanks to everyone who participated in the 4th and 5th Grade Hershey Kiss Project. It was a huge success. The proceeds will go to Habitat for Humanity and The Heifer Foundation. Thank you **Lindy Rollo** for organizing!

This month we will be asking for your help in nominating people for next year's PTA Board. This is an opportunity to be part of an amazing team of people who work hard to bring the very best to our children. Also our **International Dinner** will be held this month on March 29th. This is an event that should not be missed. Please mark your calendar and plan to join us for a tasting of delicious food from around the world. Be sure to turn in your form for tickets and note what dish you will be bringing. This year our students will be invited into the auditorium to participate in Karaoke. I guarantee this will be an experience for all of us.

Flyers for **Girls on the Run** have been distributed to the upper grades. This is a wonderful learning program for girls based on training for a 3.1 mile run/walk. Space is limited so act now (see page 3 for details).

Claire Sinclair is still accepting donations for our **Tricky Tray/Silent Auction on April 21st**. Please contribute if you can. Many of our prizes are showcased in the glass case in the front hallway. Make it a point to check it out. You will be wowed!

Lastly, a special thank you goes out to **David Bayliss**. For many years David has been responsible for posting the monthly events here at Clinton on the sign outside the school. No matter what the weather is outside, David is out there making sure that everyone knows what's happening at Clinton. Thank you David!

All the best, Josie O'Brien

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THE NEW CLINTON SCHOOL WEBSITE

By now we hope you've had a chance to view our informative, beautiful, and easy to navigate new website (www.clintonelementary.org)! Congratulations to the three winners of our **Website Scavenger Hunt**. We had a box full of entries and these three Clinton students were the lucky winners of our Scholastic Book Fair gift certificates:

1st Prize: 2nd Grader Erin D.
2nd Prize: 1st Grader Jack O.
3rd Prize: 3rd Grader Caila B.

con't from page 1 (Art Triptych)

After some discussion it was decided that Mrs. Walentiny would use her aesthetic sense to put the tiles together, balancing the pieces by color rather than by class or theme. "This project is about integration," says Mrs. Walentiny. "Each of these unique cultural identities fit together to create a beautiful whole. I think the end result resembles three ceramic quilts."

Mrs. Walentiny is currently putting together a key so that people will be able to identify the artist behind each tile. "This project shows community in a very tangible way," says Mrs. Dunsavage, who is hoping to have a formal opening soon.
—Liz Herring

SUPPORT OUR ANNUAL TRICKY TRAY/SILENT AUCTION

Please join us on **Saturday evening, April 21st at 6 pm** for our annual **Tricky Tray and Silent Auction** event. This fundraiser, one of our most successful (and fun!) every year, raises thousands of dollars and has played a significant part in some of our major purchases including our wonderful climbing wall and our incredible new playground.

Flyers will be sent home soon with details about making reservations. Please respond as soon as possible to ensure your reservation. You can gather together a group of people and reserve for a table of ten. Beer, wine, and desserts are included in the entry price (\$20) as well as a sheet of tricky tray tickets. You should feel free to bring any kind of food or snack you'd like.

This event is loads of fun and the prizes this year are incredible. Here are just a few;

- one year membership for two children at Blue Life Karate (\$2115 value)
- day of work from a master carpenter/Finishing Touches Unlimited (\$500 value)
- iPod Nano
- Walt Disney Park Hopper Passes (\$480 value)
- one night stay at the Dorral Arrowhood Hotel with breakfast
- "Emily" American Girl doll
- a gorgeous area rug (\$350 value)
- \$100 gift basket from DiPasquale Spa
- weekend car rental from Enterprise Rent-a-Car
- three month membership to Can Do Fitness
- \$150 gift certificate for Flowers of the World
- tickets to the Paper Mill Playhouse
- case of wine from Erath Vineyards
- autographed Jason Giambi baseball
- \$50 gift certificate to Gleason's Cleaners
- Kiddie Soccer session
- one month of tutoring at SCORE Learning Center
- twelve month supply of bagels from Panera
- tickets to numerous minor league games including the Brooklyn Cyclones
- tickets to a NY Liberty game
- business cards designed by Clinton parent/graphic artist Heather Kern
- \$350 worth of scrapbooking materials

And as always, we're still looking for prize donations. If you have access to a service or product that you can donate, please contact Claire Sinclair (973-763-0088 or hifromclaire@yahoo.com) as soon as possible.

GIRLS ON THE RUN COMES TO CLINTON

Girls on the Run is coming to Clinton School this spring! This wonderful program is for girls in grades 3-5 and is designed to promote physical, emotional, and social development. Visit www.girlsontherunnj.org for more information. Meetings will be held on Wednesdays from 3:30-5 pm, from April 11-June 13. Cost of the program is \$160. **Girls on the Run** will also be offered at Memorial Park in Maplewood on Saturday mornings. Watch your child's backpack for the flyer or contact Anne Klein at kleins.nj@verizon.net for more information.

CLINTON SCHOOL'S AMAZING INTERNATIONAL DINNER IS HERE!

Get ready for the **6th Annual International Dinner, "A Taste of Clinton,"** to be held on **Thursday, March 29 from 6:15-7:45 pm** at Clinton School. This wonderful event brings together the culturally and ethnically diverse families that make Clinton School so very special. For those of you who have attended the dinner in prior years, you can attest to the scrumptious array of international dishes prepared by our own Clinton families. As a special feature for the kids this year, there will be a festive hot dog stand. Of course, children are welcome to sample some of the other delicious gourmet cuisine that will be offered.

We hope all Clinton families will take advantage of the opportunity to sit and socialize with each other over a fabulous meal. In order to make this event a success, we need your help. Please let us know if you are willing to prepare a dish for the dinner or volunteer a bit of your time by aiding with set-up, clean-up, or other miscellaneous tasks. Please contact Anne Klein at 973-762-5699 or by e-mail at kleins.nj@verizon.net.

Thank you and Bon Appetit,
Robin Davenport and Anne Klein, A Taste of Clinton Co-Chairs

CLINTON KIDS EMAIL OUTER SPACE

If you saw the front page of the February 15th edition of the *News Record*, you'll know that some very lucky Clinton students had the opportunity to communicate with an astronaut who is part of the crew aboard the International Space Station. The astronaut, Sunita L. Williams, has been on the Space Station since December 6th. Her mission will last six months. She set a record on February 4th by amassing the most hours of space walking of any female astronaut (22 hours, 27 minutes).

Ms. Williams is the friend of an uncle of two Clinton students, Connor and Blake Fallon. This connection led to Ms. Williams offering to take questions from Clinton children during her time in space. Connor's first grade teacher, Mrs. Jennifer Motz, and Blake's third grade teacher, Mrs. Mary Khan, were delighted to have this rare opportunity and they began working with their classes to come up with questions for the astronaut.

The questions were all thought up by students and the classes voted to select the top five questions from each class. The kids were incredibly excited to be in contact with an astronaut and they were curious about many aspects of space travel. When the questions were finalized they were sent, via email, to Ms. Williams, who will be answering them some time during her Space Station mission. The experience is one that the Clinton kids are bound to remember for a long time to come.

SPRING AFTER SCHOOL ENRICHMENT UNDERWAY

The PTA spring After School Enrichment session began on **Thursday, March 1st, and will meet eight times (March 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29 and April 12, 19, & 26)**. Twelve classes are being offered with a total enrollment of 163 students. New classes include **Magic & Circus, Gardening, and Math for Laughs**, and many of the old favorites are back as well.

WHILE THEY WERE OUT...

During winter break the Clinton PTA Executive Board, led by VP and remodeling mastermind **Leah Gombert**, looked like a crew from an HGTV show as they completely renovated the Clinton teacher's lounge (which was in dire need of some updating). The teachers were completely surprised to find a beautifully painted and decorated room when they arrived back at school after break. In addition to a gorgeous paint job, there are new chairs, a sofa, a microwave, a table, a new counter with stools, lamps, shelves, and decorative items. The teachers love their new space and we are grateful to everyone who helped make this happen.

In addition to the PTA Board, other Clinton families donated much-needed items and their time to complete the renovation. Several kids were on hand helping with painting, clean-up, and other tasks as well. Special thanks go to the following people for everything they did to make this happen: the **Gombert Family**, the **O'Brien Family**, the **Buckham Family**, the **Romanau Family**, the **Davenport's**, the **Sinclair's**, the **Moss Family**, the **Cancellaro-Zinner family**, the **McLaughlins**, the **Chmiels**, the **Herring Family**, the **Betheils**, the **Kerns**, the **Rosenbergs**, the **McCombs Family**, and the **Nelson Family**.

CLINTON'S HONEY POT HEROES

At the end of February, the Character Education Committee, in conjunction with the Clinton School staff, initiated a school-wide character/behavior incentive program called Honey Pot Heroes. Honey Pot Heroes recognizes students for choosing behaviors that demonstrate the five character traits that drive the school's character education efforts: respect, responsibility, honesty, caring, and high-quality citizenship.

When a student is seen demonstrating any one of these character traits, his or her teacher will write his name on a honey pot (an extension of the Clinton Bear theme) and give him a sticker. The sticker will have the name of the trait for which the student is being recognized. The student will place the sticker on his or her honey pot, which will then be hung in a designated area in the school hallway. When the student's honey pot is filled with stickers (about five) the student will receive his or her choice of a good character bracelet or button to wear proudly.

Any staff member can recognize a student and students can make recommendations to staff members on behalf of other students. Classroom teachers will have the stickers and honey pots in their classrooms. The stickers and subsequent buttons/bracelets will be presented during a time in which the entire class is participating to ensure that everyone sees that admirable choices have positive consequences.

Mr. Katz hopes that parents will encourage and reinforce these character traits at home.

NEWS FROM SOMEF

Congratulations to Clinton School Staff who received grants from the South Orange-Maplewood Education Foundation (SOMEF) for the following special projects to be carried out with students this spring: Parent Resource Library, Clinton Character Education/Project Wisdom, After School Enrichment Scholarship Program, Boardmaker Printers, Invention Convention Workshops, Pictures Say a Thousand Words.

EACH ONE, TEACH ONE

On Wednesday evening, May 2nd, at the South Orange Performing Arts Center, SOMEF will celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the ACHIEVE Volunteer Tutor Program! The celebration will feature the artistry of Columbia High School students, the premiere of a documentary about ACHIEVE, a juried photography exhibit, and a musical performance. All this will be topped off by a delicious hors d'oeuvres reception. Proceeds from the benefit will help fund ACHIEVE's continuing efforts to recruit, train, and supervise adult and teenage volunteers who provide academic assistance to at-risk students in the South Orange-Maplewood School District. For information on the anniversary event, contact achieveprogram@yahoo.com or call 973-762-5600, ext. 1847.

A FUNDRAISING UPDATE FROM DEIDRA MCLAUGHLIN

ONGOING FUNDRAISERS: *How are we doing so far?*

CAMPBELL'S LABELS FOR EDUCATION

We have accumulated 2,948 points thus far!! These points can be redeemed for a variety of items including electronics, sports equipment, and classroom aides. Campbell's also gives 500 bonus points each time we submit a Community Participation Form. I submitted one for our Thanksgiving Food Drive. We are eligible for up to 2,000 bonus points until June 1st. If you think of a community effort in which our school can participate, please let me know.

CELL PHONE/INK CARTRIDGE RECYCLING

A lot of old cell phones and empty printer cartridges have been collected in our school drop off box. We have earned 423 points which can be redeemed for products or transferred to a "bank" (which currently has \$169.40).

TYSON FOODS® PROJECT A+ LABELS

This is our first year participating in this program, so we still have some work to do to accumulate a significant amount of money. To participate, just clip and save the entire Project A+ label from participating Tyson products. Each label we collect is worth 24 cents for our school.

SCHOOLPOP CREDIT CARD SHOPPING

We currently have 31 registered cardholders. Our contributions are tallied quarterly. Our last check (8/06) was \$137.95. Our next tally will arrive next month.

TARGET® TAKE CHARGE OF EDUCATION

We currently have 62 cardholder supporters. Our last donation check (9/06) was \$238.63. The total amount toward our next donation, so far, is \$268.54. If you have a Target credit card please remember to call 800-316-6412 or visit www.target.com/tcoe to designate Clinton School on your card. Clinton will earn a percentage of every purchase you make.

UPROMISE (COLLEGE SAVINGS PROGRAM)

We currently have 11 participating families. The percentage donation to our account is at \$20.69 and growing.

GOODSEARCH (INTERNET SEARCH)

Since our registration in January, a total of \$6.97 has been raised (and climbing) @ 1 cent per search. By the time you get this, it should be more. Tell everyone you know to go to www.goodsearch.com, select Clinton School (as "Who you will GoodSearch for?") and search the internet!

To get more information about these ongoing fundraisers, please visit www.clintonelementary.org, click on the fundraising link on the left sidebar and then click through to the fundraising calendar.

Things are looking good, and I thank you all for your participation. At the end of this month, I plan to distribute a survey which will outline our current and proposed fundraisers. My hope is that the feedback we receive from Clinton families will assist us as we make our fundraising planning decisions for next year. As always, I am available to speak with you *anytime* by phone: 973-313-1760 or email deidralynn@comcast.net

Be well, Deidra

READY, SET,...EAT TO PAINT (OUR GYM!)

With the help of our "Food Receipt Program" and participating local restaurants, the PTA Board is setting a new challenge. We want to raise enough money through our receipts program to give our gym a *desperately needed* paint job!! We will direct the proceeds of all receipts collected (from this point forward), to fund this project, so please eat, eat, and eat! The designated days and local businesses participating are:

MONDAYS at Bunny's Restaurant, South Orange (eat-in only)

TUESDAYS at Village Trattoria, Maplewood Village (pizza only)

FRIDAYS at The Goat Café, South Orange

Mention Clinton, SAVE YOUR RECEIPT and send it to school in an envelope marked: PTA-Food Receipt

We will provide a monthly tally of our progress! If you need more information, please contact Deidra McLaughlin at 973-313-1760 or deidralynn@comcast.net, or any other PTA Board member. Now let's get out there and EAT!

MARCH IS WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Women's History Month is a time to reflect on the women of the past who invented and created, traveled and discovered, and nurtured and taught. It is also a time to show appreciation for the women of the present who work and toil, cook and clean, transport and triage, and love and support their children and families. The display case outside the main office proudly exhibits the women of the past and present who continue to shape our lives. Throughout this month, let us honor our ancestors, our contemporaries, and our future leaders by performing random acts of kindness for our mothers and teachers, aunts and grandmothers, sisters and daughters. You may also enter a raffle (as many times as you'd like) in order to win a prize at the end of the month. The raffle box and questionnaire are located next to the display case. This month let's celebrate women of the past, present, and future! —*Jacqueline Rhinehart, Cultural*

Heritage Month Coordinator, 973-378-3068

P.S. Congratulations to the winner of the African American Heritage raffle and thanks to all who participated.

BOARD OF EDUCATION NEWS

The Board of Education is pleased to announce that the search for the next superintendent is proceeding on schedule. The Board interviewed seven candidates for the position and is now engaged in checking the references of two candidates whom the Board determined best met the selection criteria. The Board is on track to have the new superintendent assume the position on July 1. The Board appreciates the input provided by many constituents during the development of the leadership profile and will provide an opportunity for members of the school community to meet the selected finalist or finalists prior to making the appointment of the new superintendent.

Board of Education News is submitted to school newsletters each month by the BOE.

BOX TOPS CLIPPERS

February was a little slow for Box Tops but a *great* month for Campbell's Soup labels. We collected \$42.70 worth of box tops for January and February. Good job, but let's try even harder for March. Kindergarteners and 1st Graders were especially strong last month. Let's go other grades!—Stephanie Mose

Kindergarten: Cosmas: **Juliet A.**

Swan: **Ceci M.**

Shelffo: **Jack K.**

1st Grade: Frascella: **Max O., Wendy G.**

Motz: **Connor F., Emilia V.**

Cutrufello: **James C., Shannon D.**

2nd Grade: Poutre: **Scott M., Jack K., Juvan O.**

Hall: **Lyric P., Emmanuel J.**

3rd Grade: Khan: **Scott M., Blake F.**

4th Grade: Power: **D.J.S.**

5th Grade: Fleming: **Sarah B.**

CLASSROOM NEWS

This feature provides a wonderful opportunity for everyone in the Clinton community to learn about all the innovative and inspiring activities that engage students during the school day. If you would like to have your child's classroom experiences and stories included in next month's *Courier*, please send an email to Amy Higer at amyhiger@gmail.com.

SECOND GRADE

Clinton's second graders commemorated Black History Month with impressive reports and dioramas featuring a diverse group of inspiring African Americans including Scott Joplin, Jackie Robinson, Duke Ellington, Langston Hughes, Marian Anderson, Sojourner Truth, Harriet Tubman, Jesse Owens, Benjamin Banneker, and Muhammad Ali. After conducting their own research, the students wrote original reports and then used a diorama to highlight an important event in that individual's life. The final products are outstanding, and creatively celebrate the impressive lives of their subjects.

THIRD GRADE

The children from Mrs. Pomares/Ms. Johnson's 3rd grade class got a big surprise when they returned to school on Monday. Mrs. Pomares came back from maternity leave. They were thrilled to see her but saddened that Ms. Johnson will not continue to be their teacher.

FOURTH GRADE

Mr. Leuchs' Language Arts Enrichment students wrote and videotaped interviews with mythological creatures. They have also created board games and newspapers that teach about mythology.

The fourth grade Mathematics Enrichment students are involved in a project about the stock market. Each student has an imaginary \$100,000 to spend on five different stocks. The students then create portfolios. At the end of the year, there will be prizes for students who show the most growth in their portfolios.

FIFTH GRADE

The fifth grade Language Arts Enrichment students are conducting a mock trial of Gretel from the fairy tale, *Hansel and Gretel*. Did Gretel murder Ms. Salem in order to steal her jewels? Lawyers are working to determine her guilt or innocence in the mock trial.

The fifth grade Mathematics Enrichment students are creating original number systems in various bases from two to twenty-five. Each student developed his/her own symbols and converted the base ten numbers to individual bases. Their final products will be charts that demonstrate various numbers in their unique systems.

Don't forget to visit our website at www.clintonelementary.org

NEWS FROM PAC

The Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) provides a forum for interaction between the principal and parents. The goal is to develop action plans to address concerns of the Clinton community. Each month, the *Courier* will run a summary of the PAC meeting agenda and discussion. This summary is from the Feb. 7th meeting.

Discussion: Student Supervision during AM Drop-Off

Action: As an update to last month's discussion, teacher monitors of the safety patrol continue to be outside to immediately address any incidents that arise. A reminder flyer has been sent home to all parents reiterating the need for parental supervision before school opens.

Discussion: PTA and the Parent Resource Library

Action: With the input from a survey sent to parents, an initial purchase of resource books for our parent center has been made and books are beginning to arrive. A list of books will be sent home soon. More suggestions are always welcome. The PTA will plan to allocate funding in their budget to support the growth of the inventory. Parents are invited to view the collection and sign out books in the main office.

Discussion: Literacy Consultant

Action: Ira Schulman, our literacy consultant, has visited our school twice since his presentation to the parents to work with our staff. He met with the K-2 teachers to further discuss guided reading and with the 3-5 grade teachers for writing. He will return to discuss a new topic, Kagan cooperative learning, in which groups work together in a very structured environment to solve a problem.

Discussion: Lunch/ Recess Parent Volunteers

Action: Many thanks go out to Mike Paris for his work in setting up our parent recess volunteers. If you'd like to volunteer on either Wednesday or Friday please contact Mike at mparis@ccny.cuny.edu.

Discussion: Lunch/Recess Aides

Action: Mrs. Bennett, lead lunch aide, currently holds daily meetings with the aide staff to review the happenings of the day. School staff will also be facilitating training sessions for the aides. The addition of more parents to assist at lunch and recess should be a further help to the staff and allow all of us to participate more with the children in making sure that they have a safe and rejuvenating lunch/recess experience.

Discussion: Long Term Assignments

Action: Though there are specific projects associated with each grade, there was a suggestion for open dialog within each grade to build consistency.

Discussion: Differentiated Instruction

Action: Through differentiated instruction each child receives what they need to learn according to their readiness, ability, and personal learning style. Parents should communicate with teachers on an individual basis with regard to their child's learning needs.

This year's PAC members are:

Kindergarten:	Tammy Dandino, Kat Lozynsky
First Grade:	Mike Paris, Celynn Lennon
Second Grade:	open
Third Grade:	Laura Whitmire, Sharon McHale
Fourth Grade:	Beatrice Mebude, Stephanie Williams
Fifth Grade:	Mary Jo Hoyt, Rita Willis
At-Large:	Erica Dussman



Cougar Basketball Camp at Columbia High School (ages 8-14)

Dates: Monday, July 9th - Friday, July 13th
Monday, July 16th - Friday, July 20th

Time: 9 am – 2 pm

Cost: \$130 for 1 week/\$235 for 2 weeks

Camp includes T-shirt for every camper, skill test, competitive games, and competitions (with trophies).

For more information contact Jerry Hill (Columbia Basketball Coach) at 845-661-9398 or Hill@nvnet.org

Melissa's Interior Finishes

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1-201-707-7993

MelissaRomanaux@aol.com

The Clinton PTA would like to thank Melissa Romanaux for the beautiful painting she has done in our school. There's more to come, but for now you can check out her spectacular work in the Clinton School Library and in Nurse Harrigan's office.

Mario's Painting

- Interior/Exterior
- Floor Refinishing
- Power Washing
- Renovation

Clinton School owes a special thanks to Mario's for donating their time to paint the front entrance halls and portions of the main office during the summer. Their generosity is much appreciated.

Fully Insured

References Available

908-298-9106