

# The Poupard Press

September , 2008

## Poupard Elementary School

20655 Lennon  
Harper Woods, Michigan 48225  
*Penny Stocks, Ed.S. Principal*



Main Office: 432-4800

Attendance: 432-4801

FAX: 432-4802

*Welcome Back!*

## From the Principal...

Dear Poupard Parents,

This is the time of year that all parents are bombarded with sales ads telling us all the items our children "need" in order to succeed this school year. We find ourselves lost in a sea of backpacks, lunch boxes, and folders, trying to find the "perfect" one (you know, the one that looks cool but won't fall apart in October). We are trying to get our families back into the early bedtime routine and the dreaded morning routine. The children are anxious to find out who their teachers will be and, as parents, we're a bit anxious too. I sometimes wonder if we get lost in all of this and forget to focus on what will really help our children succeed throughout the school year.

Research has shown that parent involvement improves student behavior and student achievement. An analysis that was done in 2003 reported that 65 percent of teachers surveyed believed if parental involvement increased, their students would do better in school and 72 percent of parents surveyed felt that children sometimes "fall through the cracks" if the parents are not involved. This does not mean that you have to be at every PTO meeting (though it would be great) or even volunteer in the classroom (though your child would think that was wonderful). Parents can support their children's education both at home and at school.

### **At home you can:**

- Monitor your child's time watching television and playing video games
- Look in their backpack each night
- Talk to your child about work that comes home in their weekly packet with them
- Help with homework
- Set aside time and a quiet space for homework
- Model desired behavior (read for pleasure and read with your child)
- Take 15 minutes a day to read with your child
- Incorporate learning into as many everyday activities as you can (such as talking about fractions when you are passing out the pizza)

**At school you can:**

- Get to know your child's teachers
- Attend Back to School Night and other school activities
  
- Attend Math Night and other education nights
- Read the school newsletter
- Read and respond if necessary to communication from the teacher
- Help out at school functions, join and attend PTO and/or help out with class parties
- Drive on field trips if possible

The important thing here is communication. Keep the lines of communication open with your child AND with your child's teachers. You may get the typical response of "nothing" when you ask your child what they did in school that day, but there are those unexpected moments when kids will open up and share something (good or bad) that happened at school. By asking them, you are communicating that school is important and it lets them know you care. It also gives them a consistent opportunity to open up. Regardless of your history with school, if you speak in a positive way about education, your child is more likely to see it as something valuable. I encourage you to become a partner in your child's education. Find something you can do NOW to be a more involved parent. I am looking forward to meeting all of you on September 16<sup>th</sup> at Back to School Night. Welcome to Poupard.

Sincerely,  
Penny Stocks

<b>Dates to Remember</b>	
<b>Sept 19</b>	Sock Hop
<b>Sept. 22</b>	Board of Ed. Meeting
<b>Sept 16</b>	Back to School Night, Gym 6:00 pm Kindergarten Parents 7:00 pm General Meeting
<b>Sept 24</b>	Market Day Pick Up
<b>Sept. 24</b>	<b>Picture Day</b>

<b>Back to School Night</b>
<b>September 16<sup>th</sup></b> <b>6:00 P.M. Kindergarten</b> <b>7:00 General Meeting</b> <b>Market Day Pick Up in the Gym</b>
<b>(Parents only please! If absolutely necessary babysitting will be provided)</b>

**SMILE PLEASE**

**Picture Day is:**  
**September 24th**



# Parents are Teachers, too!

## *Learning starts at home.*

It's a fact—when parents play learning games with their children, the children generally do better in school. Children who succeed in school often succeed in other areas of life.

## *There's a lot you can teach your child.*

Schools value parents as partners in educating children. You don't need special training, or a lot of money or time. Think of teaching your child as playing and exploring—because that's what is it! Don't think of it as work.

## *Instill a positive attitude toward school.*

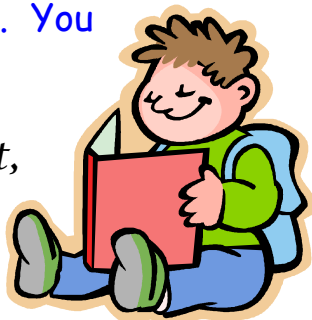
Children may develop curiosity. Share your children's passions, and try to nurture them. A "can-do" spirit can help to build good learning habits.

## *Reading is the key.*

Parents, grandparents, siblings, sitters and friends can read to your child. Make the time. You will be glad you did!

*Reading Specialist,*

*Mrs. Steinberg*



Morning Entry	8:20 am
Classroom Instruction Begins	8:25 am
Lunch Begins	11:34 am
Lunch Ends	12:29 pm
Final Dismissal	3:38 pm

## Playground Rules

Please discuss with your children these important playground rules:

1. Use playground equipment appropriately:  
One at a time on each apparatus,  
Feet first, sitting down on the slides,  
No playing chase or tag,  
No jumping from the tops of equipment,  
No standing near the swing sets.
2. Climbing trees and fences is prohibited,
3. Throwing dirt, rocks, woodchips, etc, is prohibited.
4. Bouncing balls while walking to and from the playground is prohibited.
5. Display good sportsmanship when playing. No rough play.
6. Tackle football is not allowed at any time.
7. Line up with your class immediately when the whistle blows.



Student council (all grades) and 5th grade service squad will not begin until October. This will give teachers and students time to readjust to the school routine. We look forward to their help in a few weeks!



## SAFETY AND SERVICE SQUAD NEWS

### Classrooms After Hours

Please help to remind your child to gather everything they will need from their classroom at the end of the school day. Classrooms may not be unlocked after school hours. Please do not ask custodial or office staff to unlock a classroom for you. This causes many interruptions in the afternoon and evening work schedule of our staff. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

### Classroom Interruptions

Please make every effort to send your child to school with what he or she needs for the day. If your child forgets something urgent such as lunch or lunch money, school policy is that it should be brought to the office and we will get it to your child. Other items that are not urgent should stay home. Do not bring lunches or anything else directly to the classroom. This creates unnecessary interruptions and interferes with instruction.

Please also keep in mind that once the bell has rung, your child's teacher has important responsibilities in the classroom. Children should be dropped off outside and

parents should not walk into the classroom with the teacher. Important messages can be given before school starts, when the teacher comes out to pick up the children, or in a note. If you have more serious concerns, you can write a note or send an email to set up an appointment.

Thank you for observing these guidelines. The purpose is to have clear procedures that are consistent for everyone and to preserve classroom time for instruction.

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## Medication

If your child needs medication, it is important that you follow these procedures:

1. The office **MUST** have a "Medication Prescriber/Parent Authorization" form completed and signed by your physician for the office to administer ANY medication.
2. The label from the pharmacy that indicates the quantity, day, time, and duration of time medication is taken must be in the container. Over-the-counter medication must be labeled and in the original packaging.
3. An adult **MUST** bring all medications to the office in the original container supplied by the pharmacy. No child is allowed to keep medication with him/her during the school day. This policy is designed to keep all Poupard children safe and healthy and is a Grosse Pointe School policy.



School

Office

### Information

School Campus hours are from 8:10 am – 3:45 pm unless otherwise authorized. Students are not allowed on campus prior to 8:10 am as adult supervision is not in place at that time. Parents who are unable to adhere to these time requirements should inquire about the before and after school program (Kids' Club.)

- Office hours are 8:00 am – 4:30 pm Monday through Thursday and 8:00 am – 4:00 pm on Friday.

- During school hours, visitors and parents must report to the office to obtain a visitor's pass.
- For your child's safety, notify school personnel of any change of address and/or phone numbers.
- Parents must notify the school office if you are picking up students early.
- Students are not allowed to leave school early unescorted or with an unauthorized person. When picking up your child (a picture id is required) report to the office. The office will call the student's classroom. Parent's should not go directly to the classroom.

Thank you,

Mrs. Marshall and Mrs. Greer

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## Emergency Medical Forms

If you have not done so already, please fill out the emergency card completely and return it to your student's teacher by September 14. The emergency sheets provide the school with contacts and vital medical information for your child in case of an emergency.

### Emergency Medical Forms

Students will not be allowed to participate in field trips if the form is not returned.

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## **Nondiscrimination**

The Grosse Pointe Public School System is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination in relation to race, color, religion, or national origin. (Title VI, Civil Rights Act of 1964); sex (Title IX, Educational Amendments of 1972); or handicap (Section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973). Policies GAAB and GAAC and Grievance regulations are available for those who believe that this policy may have been abused.

## **The PTO Communicator**

*(The PTO Communicator will be a regular article in the Poupard Newsletter and will feature information from your PTO President.)*

How many times have you found yourself saying "Never mind, I'll do it myself"? If you're like me, I'll bet you've uttered those six words more times than you care to admit. As you're new PTO President I have recently re-discovered that regardless of my best efforts, I simply cannot do it all myself. Fortunately for me, I have also discovered that I have a group of dedicated and talented parent volunteers who are willing to help accomplish the many goals of the PTO. To those of you who have already volunteered to help with a particular PTO activity or event I would like to say "Thank You" for being so proactive and for supporting such a wonderful cause. For those of you who have not yet found your volunteer niche, I would like to invite you to come out to one of our events – spend an hour taking your PTO for a "test drive" – you'll be amazed by the incredible parents that you will find yourself working with! There are many volunteer opportunities available and several of them only require a small amount of time to complete. If you want to help but just aren't sure where to start, give me a call. I would love to hear about your talents and interests; I would also like to answer any questions that you might have about your PTO and our activities.

In the near future a packet of information relating to PTO membership will be coming home in your child's backpack. Please take a moment and review this information and consider becoming a member of the Poupard PTO. By formalizing your relationship with the PTO you are expressing your support for our organization and the activities that we support. The funds generated through our annual membership drive help support PTO activities throughout the year. As always, if you have questions or concerns, please let us know.

I will be at back to School night if you have any questions....We need all the help we can to make your child's year a successful one!

Karrri-Lynn Caillouette

Poupard.pto@comcast.net

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## **Box Tops for Education**

Welcome back! Last year we saw a wonderful increase in Box Tops collecting and this year we have set a new collection goal based on those numbers. For the 2008-09 school year, we would like to collect 15,000 Box Tops! This would earn \$1,500 for our school – imagine that, \$1,500 just for saving a portion of a package that you would have otherwise just thrown away! Last year was such a success!

To help make collecting Box Tops fun we will again be featuring several collection contests throughout the year. Our first contest will start in September . There will be many new prizes.

We will also be participating in the all new Box Tops Book Club. This book club will feature grade appropriate books that may be ordered at regular intervals throughout the school year. Look for order forms in your child's backpack.

Peggy Graham  
(313) 882-01082

## **Kroger Gift Cards**

I would like to welcome back all of our dedicated Kroger shoppers!

You haven't heard about this great program? Let me tell you more. Through a partnership with Kroger we are able to provide Kroger Gift cards to members of the "Poupard Family". These rechargeable gift cards cost \$5.00 each, but come with a \$5.00 credit already loaded on them making them basically free. Once you have purchased your gift card you can begin using it each time that you shop at Kroger. Simply recharge your gift card prior to purchasing your groceries and then use the gift card to pay for your purchase. Kroger will keep track of the amount of money that you have recharged on your gift card and "rebate" 5% of that amount back to Poupard each month. There is nothing else to purchase and participation does not cost you anything!

The Kroger Gift Card program is a unique way of supporting your school since there is no need to purchase anything that you wouldn't normally purchase. These rechargeable gift cards are also a great way to manage grocery money for college students or anyone else that you would like to provide grocery money to. Kroger Gift Cards are valid at any Kroger nationwide allowing you to use your card while traveling – this also makes it convenient for Grandparents and other relatives to support your child's school!

We will be selling new Kroger Gift Cards at "Back to School Night" on Tuesday, Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> There will be more chances to purchase the cards through Sept. and throughout the School year.

.If you would like to purchase a card but are unable to make it to one of these sale dates, or if you have any questions about the program

We'll see you at Kroger!

Karri-Lynn Caillouette  
(313) 884-8844

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**Grosse Pointe North High School presents "You Can't Take it With You", a wacky, screwball comedy directed by Marty Bufalini, at the Performing Arts Center at Grosse Pointe North on October 2, 3 and 4 at 7:30 pm. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$8 for senior citizens and \$5 for students. Tickets will be on sale at the door and at Wild Birds Unlimited, 20485 Mack Ave. in Grosse Pointe Woods. Please call 313.886.8458 for further information.**



### ***Welcome Back!***

It's a new school year and Market Day is ready to bring you exciting and healthy foods for your child's lunchbox and your busy home. Check out all the favorites, on sale this month, in the September Market Day form. New this year is Fair Trade Coffee (Sample some at our September Sale), Free Groceries Contest in October, our annual Holiday Pie sale in November, and Cookie Dough sale in December. Market Day can help your family eat healthy, spend less time cooking, pack fun foods in the kid's lunch (that they'll actually eat!), and make a profit for your school. Last year, we made over \$2300 in profit. This year, our goal is to reach \$3500. Ask all your friends to order too, to help us meet our goals. Additional forms can be found in the PTO pockets by the front door.

### **Discover why Market Day is a fundraiser like no other**

- A full menu of over 160 convenient, nutritious selections
- Satisfaction guarantee on every purchase
- At least 10% of your purchase supports our school

### **We invite you to become a Frequent Buyer**

- Order 2 out of 3 months between September and November
- Minimum order of \$35 or more to qualify
- Receive one FREE 4 pack of ChicNSteakes when you pick up your order of \$35 or more in December

### **Look for other great deals!**

- Great price specials every month
- **FREE** Photo Tote bag with purchase of three items from the insert
- Check out the E-mazing Give-Away raffle at Back to School night on September 16<sup>th</sup>.

### **Supporting our school is easy!**

- Order online 24/7 at [www.marketday.com](http://www.marketday.com), or
- Fill out the order sheet and return to school
- See the back of the order sheet for pick-up date and time

We look forward to seeing you at our Market Day pick up each month!

Acct #10675

Acct Name: Poupard Elementary

For more information contact: Cindy Matula at (313) 417-0646 or (313) 671-1669; or email me at [cm19172@comcast.net](mailto:cm19172@comcast.net). Please use Market Day in the subject line.

**2008 – 2009 Pickup Calendar:**

September 24, 2008

October 22, 2008

November 19, 2008

December 17, 2008

January 28, 2009

February 25, 2009

March 25, 2009

April 29, 2009

May 27, 2009