

# Backpack News

Hudson Cliffs School

September 2007

## Important Dates

- Sept 13 No School
- Sept 14 No School
- Sept 15 Little Red Lighthouse Festival  
Noon-5 PM
- Sept 17 Grades 1 & 2 Orientation  
1:30-2:15
- Sept 18 Election Day Bake Sale
- Sept 19 High School Orientation  
6:30 PM for Grade 7 & 8  
Parents & Students
- Sept 26 School Leadership Team  
Meeting 3:15—4:15 PM
- Sept 27 **PA General Mtg 7 PM**  
**Please come and participate!**
- Oct 18 General PA Meeting 6:30 PM
- Oct 20 Harvest Festival  
1-4 at Bennett Park



## Welcome Back!

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Welcome back! I hope you had an exciting summer vacation. As the new Parents Association President, and on behalf of the entire Executive Board, I would like to welcome you all to the 2007-2008 school year. This year we are pleased to announce that our P.S./I.S. 187 family has grown and now includes Pre-Kindergarten!

As always, the Parents Association is interested in new ideas. We hope that you will participate in our meetings, join one of our several committees, volunteer your services, voice your opinions, and/or share your ideas. We hope that every parent/guardian will become an active member of the Parents Association, since we value the interests of all our parents.

Once again, welcome back, and I look forward to meeting all of you.

Sincerely,

Kathy Brito

## Volunteer Opportunities

There are many ways to get involved in the Parents' Association:

### Attend General Meetings

Monthly meetings are usually on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM. By attending, you will get information about what's happening at school and in the PA, and you'll be able to share ideas.

### Join a Committee

There are currently 4 committees that meet once a month. To participate on a committee, sign up at a general meeting, or put a letter in the PA mailbox.

- Fundraising—Raises money for activities, events, and materials for the school and the PA.

- Hospitality—Organizes and hosts PA events and arranges for a PA presence at school events.
- Community Liaison—Provides information about PS/IS 187 to local preschools, prospective parents, and other interested parties.
- Environmental—Addresses concerns about the school's physical environment, including the gardens, school yard and pathways, and neighborhood construction, and traffic congestion.

Volunteer for specific events or activities. Let us know the kinds of events for which you'd like to volunteer.

## PA Executive Board 2007-2008

- President.....Kathy Brito
- Vice-Pres. I.S.....Stevie Ray Dallimore
- Vice-Pres. E.S.....Francesca Di Mauro
- Treasurer.....Luisa Diorio
- Recording Secretary.....Kirsten Cowal
- Comm. Secretary.....Marci Stringham
- UPA Delegate.....Juan Carlos Brito

## PA General Meeting Opening Social

**Come join our PA and help us decide the future of PS/IS 187. These meetings are your chance to let your voice be heard.**

**WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

**Join a committee, voice an opinion, propose an idea, or just attend to show your support.**

Refreshments will be served and contributions are welcome!

Spanish Translation will be provided.

Tendremos traducción al Español

We will have babysitting.

Come meet fellow parents, learn about PA committees, learn about projects for the coming year, and find out how you can help. We'll be talking about fundraising, reviewing our budget and the allocation of funds and there will be an open forum for questions. Hope to see you there!

### Other Volunteer Opportunities

#### Class Parent Representatives

Parents in most grades K-4 classes are encouraged to volunteer as a Class Parent Representative for their child's class.

#### Learning Leaders

Learning Leader volunteers are sorely needed. These volunteers are asked to be available for a minimum of one hour per week to help teachers directly in the classroom.

#### Book Pals

Professional actors, under the auspices of the Screen Actors Guild (SAG), are sought to read aloud to children at public elementary schools, helping to introduce them to the world of reading and literacy.

### Translation

The PA needs volunteers that are bilingual in Spanish and English to translate this newsletter and other PA materials. Call the PA voicemail at (212) 465-7517 to volunteer.

### Parent Coordinator

The school is actively seeking to fill the paid position of Parent Coordinator. This job opportunity will be posted on the DOE website within the next few days, and any interested parties are encouraged to apply.

### District Calendar

If ever you are confused about what holidays or tests are coming up, visit

<http://schools.nyc.gov/Calendar/>

on the Internet to review the calendar the district provides.

## Fundraising

Great job on fundraising last year!

Wrapping paper/Candy sale \$12,869

Cookie Dough sale \$2,366

Membership Dues \$3,601

### Shop to Raise Money for P.S./I.S. 187

Cut out the "Box Tops for Education" on more than 500 General Mills products. These are worth 10¢ each and the school receives a check that can be used for whatever it needs most.

Box Tops and ink cartridges can be sent to the PA via the PA mailbox, or dropped in the Box Top box at Franks Market. Please contact Ivelisse Suarez [ivelissesuarez@hotmail.com](mailto:ivelissesuarez@hotmail.com) with any questions about the program.

### Want to Contact the PA?

- Drop a note in the PA box in the main office.
- Subscribe to our e-group by sending a blank e-mail to [ps187pa-subscribe@yahoo.com](mailto:ps187pa-subscribe@yahoo.com)
- Leave a message at 212-465-7517

## Backpack News

Backpack News is a monthly publication of the Parents' Association of Hudson Cliffs School P.S./I.S. 187. Its intent is to help inform parents of events at the school and PA and to communicate volunteer opportunities and other important information to parents in a timely manner.

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Please submit information for the newsletter to Marci Stringham through the PA Mailbox in the Main Office, or send an e-mail to [marci@stringham.name](mailto:marci@stringham.name).

Submission deadline is the 20th of each month.