



Corl Street Chronicle

Published by the Corl Street PTO

September 2016

Save the Date:

- ✦ 9/15 SCASD Beginning Instrument Meeting
- ✦ 9/19 Community Meeting on Elementary School Planning Options—MNMS
- ✦ 9/20 Back To School Night (K-2)
- ✦ 9/21 Back To School Night (3-5)
- ✦ 9/28 Cougar Cat Run
- ✦ 10/4 PTO Meeting
- ✦ 10/12 Sweet Frog Fundraiser

Cougar Cat Run

Get those running shoes ready! The annual Corl Street Cougar Cat Run will be held on **Wednesday, September 28**, from 10:30-11:15. Spectators are welcome to cheer students on as they skip, walk and run laps around the Corl Street playground for 15 minutes per group.

What is the Cougar Cat Run?

It is an amazing fundraising event which brings our community together. Students take pride in earning money for their school by participating in meaningful physical activity, and families and community come together to support the Corl Street students. Last year we raised over \$20,000 for the PTO! A successful event can fund all PTO activities throughout the

year, eliminating the need for other fundraisers .

How are funds raised?

Individual donations can be made through the website, or can be sent in to school in the envelopes students brought home recently. Envelopes can be handed in up to the morning of the event. You can also help by identifying potential corporate sponsors. We are looking for businesses, practices and corporations with links to Corl Street that would be interested in supporting our students, education, and/or the Corl Street community.



To be involved in making the Cougar Cat Run happen, or if you know of a corporate sponsor, please contact Sarah Rito at smr230@comcast.net or Jen Reutzels at reutzels@gmail.com.

Cougar Cat Run Donations: www.memberplanet.com/campaign/corlstreet/ccr2016

Back-To-School Nights:

September 20 (K-2) & 21 (3-5)

Don't miss the Corl Street Back-to- School nights. These evenings are for parents only and there is no childcare. Each evening begins in the APR at 6:30 p.m. After a welcome from the principal and PTO president, meet your child's teacher in their classroom for an overview on expectations and learning. For Grades 3 to 5 you will also get to visit with your child's math teacher if the teacher should be different from the homeroom teacher.

Although you are encouraged to ask questions, Back-to- School Night is not for individual conferences. If you have a need to speak with the teacher in-depth, please call or e-mail the teacher to set up an appointment.

President's Points:

Make a difference with the PTO

As I write this, we are five days into the new school year. I have not yet had to drag moaning children out of bed, and my oldest daughter has happily assumed lunch-making duties. As my daughters are learning their roles in their new classrooms (I hear my middle child is in charge of taking everyone's lunch orders this month), I am beginning my two-year term as PTO president.

Why the PTO?

When my family arrived at Corl Street, I didn't really know what a PTO did. (My brother's girlfriend recently told me she imagines PTOs just discuss lice prevention measures.) Over two years of attending meetings and serving on and chairing committees I have come to understand the many ways that our PTO makes Corl Street a better place for children and teachers.

Imagine your kindergartner's day at school. Perhaps she reads books



with a book buddy in the morning. At lunch, she tries some fresh tomatoes from the school garden that are offered in the cafeteria. She goes out to recess, where after playing on the new balance beam she rests for a bit under a shade tree. After lunch, the class discusses their upcoming field trip to Way Fruit Farm. When she arrives home, she shows her dad a flyer about an upcoming family movie night—she can't wait to watch a movie on a big screen while lying on a blanket with her friends from school.

So many elements of your child's day—books, field trips, the school garden, shade trees on the playground, family activities—are provided by the PTO. We strive to support teachers by providing money for books, classroom supplies, projects, and field trips. We work to build community by organizing events like the ice cream social, movie nights, and others.

Get involved in the PTO!

Every Corl Street parent is a member of the PTO. Getting involved is as easy as coming to a meeting. No one will pressure you to speak or sign up for anything, but attending a meeting or two will give you a different view of the school and a new understanding of how it works. If you want to be a little more involved, you can join an existing committee—my first year here I signed up for the yearbook committee, which gave me a great excuse to hang out in my kids' classrooms taking pictures. And, if reading this has spurred you to take decisive action, we still have a few committees in need of chairs!

I hope that this has given some of you a better sense of what your PTO does. And I wish you all children who happily hop out of bed in the morning for the rest of the school year.

- Terrill Salter, President

Meet the Principal

Charlotte Zmyslo

I want to thank everyone who has welcomed me to Corl Street Elementary School. As I spoke to some of you, it is really a welcome back for me. I have been in the district as an administrator since January 1999. My first assignment was at Fairmount and Easterly Parkway, and have been at Corl Street Elementary in a variety of roles since then, including principal from 1999 to 2009. I am also principal at Ferguson Township Elementary School, and have been since 2002.

Please know that I am excited to be back "home" among the staff and families here. Before my late husband and I moved to State College in July of 1998, I had spent 24 ½ years in the classroom: as an elementary teacher; and Learning Support teacher in elementary, middle school, and high school in Maryland, California and Virginia. My mother has lived with me since 2012, and I have a son who lives in Maryland.

Bike Safety at Corl Street

One of the great things about Corl Street Elementary is that so many kids and parents ride their bikes to school. Please remember, as you get closer to the school, the sidewalks get more crowded. Make sure your children are careful on their bike and aware of all the walkers — who often don't hear bicyclists coming from behind. Once on school property, all bicycles must be walked. And remember, always wear a helmet.

Corl Street: Open or Closed?

The SCASD school board is currently developing an elementary school project plan. Several options involve closing Corl Street as an elementary school, others involve renovating and expanding it. Throughout the summer the board has refined the possible scenarios. They currently are (and may change):

1. Expand Houserville and Radio Park to 4 classes/grade, close Corl Street,
- 2A. Expand Radio Park and Easterly Parkway to 4 classes/grade, Houserville to 3/grade, close Corl Street,
- 2B. Expand Radio Park to 5 classes/grade, Houserville to 3/grade, close Corl Street,
3. Expand Corl Street, Houserville, and Radio Park to 3 classes/grade.

The board is sponsoring community forums concerning the projects **September 19** and **October 17** at Mount Nittany Middle School. The school board also has meetings Mondays: **Sept. 26** and **October 10 & 24**. The elementary projects will be discussed at these meetings as well as other school district issues. The final decision is currently scheduled for Monday, **November 14**.

ALL residents of the school district are invited to attend.

For more information, visit www.scasd.org and select Elementary School Projects from the left menu, or contact CS.PTO.NEWS@gmail.com.



Clearances for Volunteering at School

The many parents who volunteer at school make Corl Street a special place. As we prepare to return to school, please be aware of the district's Volunteer Guidelines. Below is a brief outline of requirements. For complete and up to date information, visit www.scasd.org/volunteer.

What if you had clearance last year?

Parents who submitted **only** the Policy and Procedure Form for the 2015-16 school year, because they volunteered previously, are required to submit all necessary clearances in order to volunteer this school year. A list of required items can be found via the link above.

Parents who submitted **all** paperwork last year must submit this year's Policy and Procedure Form, available at the link above.

Please send all paperwork to:

VIPS Supervisor
240 Villa Crest Drive,
State College, PA 16801.

If you have questions, please email the VIPS Supervisor at volunteers@scasd.org.

Giant Rewards

Every dollar you spend using your BONUSCARD at Giant can earn money for Corl Street. Last year, we earned over \$600 through Giant! Register your BONUSCARD online and designate Corl Street Elementary as a school to receive points accrued from shopping trips to Giant. To register your card, visit www.giantfoodstores.com/aplus/. Corl Street's School ID.# is 21418. If you previously registered with another school, you may change it to Corl Street at any time.



Thank you...

To Kristin Knowles and all who helped set up the faculty back-to-school lunch.

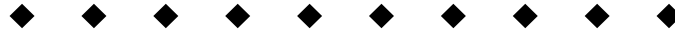
To Terrill Salter and the volunteers who set up a wonderful ice cream social.

And special thanks to Wegmans and Weis for their generous donations to the ice cream social.

Stay Up-To-Date with Corl Street and the PTO!

There are many ways to keep in touch about school issues, news, and events.

- ✓ **Attend monthly PTO meetings.** They are held at Corl Street the first Tuesday of the month (except December)
- ✓ **Bookmark the Corl Street Elementary website and our PTO website** (under "Our School" on the Corl Street homepage).
- ✓ **Join the "Corl Street PTO" Facebook group.**
- ✓ **Join the PTO List serve:** Send an email to cspto+subscribe@scasd.org. The subject of the email should be "Subscribe" and in the body of the message, enter "subscribe cspto". You will receive a verification email. You must reply to the verification email. The sender will receive a "successfully subscribed" message.



Get Listed in the Corl Street Directory

Do you ever wonder how to get in touch with other Corl Street Families for homework help, play dates, or birthday parties? There is a simple way to be a part of the Corl Street Directory. Every year the PTO provides a paperless and paper directory to the Corl Street Families. We need your help to create our directory. Don't worry—this is not a huge commitment. If you are a returning family, you will receive an email from corlstreetelementary@gmail.com. This email will contain a link that you will follow to confirm your information. That is it. Now If you are a new family, go to join.myschoolanywhere.com and enter code: **2311185** and follow the instructions. You must do this by **September 30th** to be included in the paper directory. If you have any questions please contact Pamela Trout at pamdaletrout@gmail.com

Yum!

Sweet Frog Fundraiser

Mark it down! October 12 is the Corl Street fundraiser at Sweet Frog in Northland Center on North Atherton. Information will come home closer to the date.

Collection Corner:

Outgrown Spirit Clothes

Little Cougars grow into bigger Cougars and outgrow their Corl Street spirit clothes. If you have gently-worn Corl Steet clothing that no longer fits your kids, bring it to the school and put it in the Outgrown Corl Street Clothing box across from the office. It will be distributed to Corl Street kids who can show their spirit in style.

Worn-out Markers

Bring worn-out markers for recycling to the Crayola Color-Cycle box, also outside the office. More details in next month's Chronicle.

Box Tops

Clip and bring in the Box Tops for Education on various products. The box is outside the office.