

PTA Pages

Loudonville Elementary School

January 2012

Mary Fitzgibbon and Nichole Gialanella, Co-Presidents
Beth Beshaw and Cissi Schaffer, Co-Vice Presidents



Presidents' Letter

Welcome Back! It's 2012 Already!

Happy New Year! We hope you and your family enjoyed the holidays and the school break.

We'd like to thank Mary Fitzgibbon, Kristine Eagan, and Robina Hussain, who organized the Staff Holiday Breakfast in December, along with the many other parents who helped out by baking food and serving the teachers, administrators, and staff. It was the **PTA's** pleasure to host this event in honor of those who work daily with our children.

A very special thank you to all the Room Parents and helpers who came up with some creative ideas to make the classrooms' holiday parties enjoyable, fun, and memorable.

As we move through the winter months, the **PTA** will remain active with the following upcoming activities:

- The **After-School Art Program** will be starting soon! Look for more information and additional details from Amy Favreau to be sent home;
- The **Science Fair** is fast approaching, too! Kathleen McGovern and Amy Favreau are co-chairing this **PTA**-sponsored annual event. Flyers will be sent home shortly;
- This year, the **Ice Skating Social** will be in March! Look for more information from Cissi Schaffer and in these **PTA Pages**.

The next **PTA** meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 18th, at 7:15 pm in the School's Library. The agenda is full and consists of information about upcoming spring activities and events. We encourage your input as plans are discussed and finalized! Additionally, the two candidates vying for the North Colonie School Board vacancy will be at the meeting to introduce themselves to our school community. **The PTA offers FREE childcare in the Kindergarten Room** making it more convenient for you to attend so that you may meet the candidates and listen to what each has to offer.

All are welcome! Please mark your calendars!

Sincerely,

Mary Fitzgibbon
PTA Co-President
mfitzgibbon@nycap.rr.com
Telephone # 432-4542

Nichole Gialanella
PTA Co-President
nrg628@yahoo.com
Telephone # 275-0808

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School Name
Loudonville Elementary
349 Osborne Road
Loudonville, NY 12211

Main Office Phone:
434.1960

Main Office FAX:
434.0739

District Website:
www.NorthColonie.org

Save these Dates!

January:

- 1st: New Year's Day
- 2nd: Winter Recess - **NO SCHOOL**
- 4th: Friends of Music @ SHS
- 5th: BOE Annual Eval. Review @ SHS
- 10th: Parent Program @ FF
- 10th: Special Ed **PTA** Meeting @ SHS
- 11th: District PAC Meeting @ LO
- 16th: MLK, Jr. day - **NO SCHOOL**
- 18th: **3rd PTA Meeting - LO**
- 23rd: BOE Meeting @ BC
- 25th: Phys. Ed. Night - Gr 1
- 30th: Progress Reports Go Home
- 31st: BOE Special Election/Vote



February:

- 1st: New Kindergartener's Mtg
- 2nd: Groundhog Day
- 7th: Special Ed **PTA** Meeting @ SHS
- 8th: Phys. Ed. Night - Gr 3
- 4th: Friends of Music @ SHS
- 11th: Sports Physicals
- 14th: Valentine's Breakfast
- 15th: **4th PTA Meeting - LO**
- 16th: Concert for 3rd Graders @ SHS
- 21st-24th: Feb. Recess - **NO SCHOOL**
- 22nd: Ash Wednesday
- 27th: BOE Meeting @ SG

4 Easy Ways to Help Loudonville Elementary

All programs help provide free educational equipment, such as computers, printers, sporting goods, software, books, and more!



Price Chopper Tools for Schools:

Help our school get its share of \$500,000 in FREE equipment!

A one-time sign up at Pricechopper.com is all that's required (Loudonville's School Code is **15968**). Use your card every time you shop at Price Chopper, and your points will be credited to the school's account. Look for the specially marked items that earn double points! This program runs through March 10, 2012.

Hannaford Helps Schools program:

Every time you shop at Hannaford Supermarkets, you can raise money for our school by purchasing [participating products](#). When checking out, please save the "School Dollars" the cashier gives you. This program ran until December 3, 2011.

Box Tops for Education:

Earn cash for our school by clipping and saving Box Tops coupons from hundreds of [participating products](#). This program runs all year long.

Labels for Education:

Clip UPCs and beverage caps from the Campbell's family of [participating products](#). You only need to save the **UPC scans**--not the whole label. It's that easy! This program runs all year long.

Please return all **Hannaford Helps School Dollars, Box Tops for Education coupons, and Labels for Education UPCs & caps** to school in **separate envelopes or zip-lock bags** c/o Rebecca O'Keefe.



Yearbook Pictures . . .

Did you take pictures at the Winter Holiday Parties? Email them!!!

We need pictures throughout the year of all grades for the Yearbook, so if you take photos of your child at class parties, field trips, or school events, send them in!

You may email your photos to Elaine McGuirk @ sgmcguirk@aol.com or send a CD/DVD via "Backpack Mail" c/o Mary Kate (4S). Digital (.jpg) photos in their largest form (not shrunk) are best and please do not send links to picture-storing websites. Or, if you prefer, you may send paper prints (copies only, no originals) via Backpack Mail c/o Mary Kate (4S). Every effort will be made to return them.

With each photo, please include your last name, as well as a description (Children's Name(s), Grade, Class, Event, Date, etc.).

Classroom pictures and photos of multiple children are always appreciated.

Think ahead . . . Bring your camera!

The **Classroom Valentine's Day Parties** will be the next "official" opportunities for school-related picture-taking.

Field Day and Halloween Parade & Party pictures are still welcome, too!

We really appreciate every photo you send. Thank you so much for sharing!



School News Notifier & Campus Parent Portal Tools



School News Notifier (SNN) is a Web-based, opt-in news and information service to which you can subscribe to receive emails and/or text messages with the latest updates from our school and the district.

More than 70% of Loudonville School's families have subscribed. Don't miss out on school-to-home communications!

To begin using the North Colonie **SNN**, **new users** must create a profile and subscribe to the notifications of your choice. **Returning users** please log in to edit your profile or add/delete your subscriptions.

Please note: When setting up or editing your profile, always select your school(s) **AND** the district. That way, you'll receive school-level messages, as well as district-wide notifications.

For the form and for more information, the website is:

<https://snn.neric.org/ncolonie/>.



Through the Web-based **Infinite Campus Portal**, the North Colonie Central School District provides parents and guardians instant access to accurate, current, and confidential information about their child(ren)'s school attendance, grading information, class assignments, NYS assessments, schedules, immunizations, and more!

Actively participate in your child(ren)'s education and progress! Register to use the Parent Portal today by making an appointment with the District Registrar's Office (785.3130). Parents and Legal Guardians must bring a photo ID to secure an account.

For more information, the Website is: <http://northcolonie.org/parent/parent>.

Helpful Information

School Hours

Doors Open @ 8:40 am

School Begins @ 8:50 am

School Dismisses @ 3:10 pm



School Banking

Sign up your child at anytime! Earn up to \$70 per year!

We've had a great start to our **School Banking** program this year. Currently, 55 students are participating. That's 10 more than last month, and the program has had record deposits! The kids seem to be getting serious about their banking!

Children can make deposits every Thursday at school and watch their account balances grow over the course of the year. Kids involved in the **School Banking** program can also earn up to \$40 per year! Simply send in a copy of your child's report card (with their name and account number) in a sealed envelope on **School Banking** days or submit it directly to **CAPCOM** in any 1 of the following 4 ways:

- Bring a copy to any branch location
- Scan the report card and send it via e-mail to greatgrades@capcomfcu.org
- FAX a copy to (518) 435-7224
- Mail a copy to:
CAPCOM FCU
 Attn: Great Grades
 18 Computer Drive East
 Albany, NY 12205

In addition, **CAPCOM's Reading Programs** allow School Bankers to earn another \$30 per year for reading 5 books in the winter and 5 books in the summer (That's \$3 per book!). **Winter Reading Program** submissions will be accepted between January 1st and March 31st and must include a signed entry form, which can be found at www.capcomfcu.org/schools or at any branch. **CAPCOM's Summer Reading Program** will begin in July. Rules apply and more details may be found at <https://web.capcomfcu.org/plan/kids/102-reading-program.html>. An Informational Flier issued by **CAPCOM** is also included with these **PTA Pages**.

To participate in **School Banking**, you must complete the **Youth Membership Application**, and if your child was banking with **FIRST NIAGARA** last year, you will have to complete the "Switch Form." Both can be found on the District Website by clicking on the Loudonville Elementary Tab and then by clicking on the **PTA** Link. The Website address is: http://www.northcolonie.org/loudonville/Loudon_pta.htm.

If you would like more information or have any questions, you may email Avidah Sadaghiani at avideh2008@yahoo.com or Millis McLaughlin at millis@wfmclaughlin.com. You may also visit **CAPCOM's** website at <https://www.capcomfcu.org/school-banking-faq.html>.

Ice Skating Party!



Save the Date! Join us for our annual **Ice Skating Party** that will take place on Sunday, March 4th, from 5:15 pm to 6:45 pm at Swinburne Skating Rink in Albany. This is a fun-filled event that is free to all Loudonville Elementary families!

Any questions? Please contact Cissi Schaffer at ceciliaschaffer@me.com or at 512-3895.

Watch for more information in February's **PTA Pages**.

The Science Fair

This annual event, scheduled to be held on March 29th, is a great opportunity for all Loudonville School's students to explore scientific topics of special interest.

Students can work independently or in groups to develop and share experiments.

Instructional packets will be available describing the "basics" of the **Science Fair**. Fliers will be sent home sometime in January or February.

Ecology Committee

Healthy Lunches & Earth Day

Need a few creative ideas for packing a **healthy lunch**? Check out www.laptoplunches.com and click on the Photo Gallery to garner a year's worth of lunch ideas, while cutting down on unnecessary pre-packaged items. Let us work together to remind our kids of the importance in making earth-friendly choices when we assemble their lunches.

The Committee is planning an event around **Earth Day**. If you would like to join us, please contact Cathie Love at clove@nycap.rr.com.



1st PTA Meeting of 2012 . . . Add Your Voice!

Start the New Year out right by getting involved with your children's school!

Our 3rd **PTA** meeting of the 2011-2012 school year will be on **Wednesday, January 18th at 7:15 pm** in the School Library.

At a typical **PTA** meeting, Principal Flynn reports on and speaks about our school, New York State testing, and/or the District budget; teachers talk about what's going on in the classrooms. The **PTA** Secretary also provides the last meeting's minutes for approval, and the Treasurer gives a financial report. In addition, Committee Chairs report on past events and discuss upcoming activities and initiatives.

Occasionally, guests and speakers are invited from outside our school to speak or make presentations. At past **PTA** meetings, a representative from our local police department has offered "Internet Safety" training.

In short, **PTA** meetings keep parents "in the loop." They're an excellent way to connect with other parents and maintain communication between school and home. Our meetings are **not** about trying to urge or recruit committee volunteers.

We hope you can join us! We'll be recapping November's and December's events and discussing upcoming news, events and after-school programs, as well as meeting the 2 candidates running for 1 vacant seat in the January 31st North Colonie Board of Education's special election.

As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact any of the Officers listed on the cover letter of these **PTA Pages**.



Loudonville ELEMENTARY



PTA Membership Update

Thank you for joining!

The Loudonville School *PTA* would like to thank each and every family who has joined to become a member for the 2011-2012 school year. You should have already received your *PTA* Cards and the school's *Student Directories*.

156 of 199 families, or 78%, have signed on to become members this year. Faculty and staff have also joined the *PTA* at a similar rate.

For those who have not joined yet, a registration form is included with these *PTA Pages*.

A Note from the *PTA* Officers: Even if you can't attend our meetings or volunteer your time, please consider joining the *PTA*. Your contribution helps to fund and offset the costs of many programs, products, and events. With your membership, you support things such as Visiting Authors, School Directory, and Class Field Trips.

Student Directories

Have you looked at yours?

Please take the time to notice the advertisements. If you patronize the businesses, please make sure to thank them for helping support the printing of our *Directory*.

Visiting Author Series

Sudipta Bardhan-Quallen!

School Librarian, Annesley Davis, and *PTA* Committee Chair Lynda Dranichak, are excited to announce that Children's Book Author, **Sudipta Bardhan-Quallen**, will be visiting the school in the spring!

More information will be forthcoming as the event nears. In the meantime, you may visit her Website:
<http://www.sudipta.com>.



Regal Cinema Tickets

Go see a Movie at a Discount!



Support your *PTA* and purchase tickets through us for \$8.00 each. The make GREAT "Thank You" gifts!

A **REGAL VIP SUPER SAVER MOVIE TICKETS** Order Form is included with these *PTA Pages* or you may print it through the District Website by clicking on the Loudonville Elementary Tab and then by clicking on the *PTA* Link. The Website address is:
http://www.northcolonie.org/loudonville/PTA/1112_PTA_Regal_VIP_Movie_Ticket.pdf.

After-School Art

Coming Soon!

The always popular **After School Art Program** will be getting started on Monday February 27th and will continue for 6 straight weeks, ending on Monday April 2nd. Look for the Registration information that will soon be in your child's folder, and please have all Registrations in by Friday Jan 27th. Thanks!

If you're interested in helping, please call Amy Favreau at 423-2163 or email her at afavreau@nycap.rr.com.

Cultural Arts

National Circus Project

We are very excited that **The National Circus Project** is coming to Loudonville School on March 21st and 22nd.

They'll be performing for the entire school and then they'll be working on circus skills with all of the grades during their Physical Education classes.

2011-2012 Loudonville PTA Executives & Committee Chairs

Executive Committee

Co-Presidents	Mary Fitzgibbon & Nichole Gialanella
Co-Vice Presidents	Cissi Shaffer & Beth Beshaw
Treasurer	Cathie Love
Secretary	Caroline Ahl

Executive Board

Committee	Chairpersons	E.C. Liaison
Fundraising	Kim Musser	N. Gialanella
Room Parent Coordinators	Janet McCutchen & Lisa Mirabile	M. Fitzgibbon
Cultural Arts	Kate & Jim Burns, Amy Kimbler	B. Beshaw
Parent Advisory Council	Amy Pisinski	C. Schaffer
PTA Council Reps	Jill August & Sandy Oakley	M. Fitzgibbon
Teacher Reps	M. Springstead, R. Coffey, D. Mattingly	N. Gialanella

Committees

Committee	Chairpersons	E.C. Liaison
After-School Art	Amy Favreau	B. Beshaw
Authors in Residence	Lynda Dranichak & Ann Davis (Librarian)	N. Gialanella
Banking	Avideh Sadaghiani & Millis McLaughlin	C. Schaffer
Beautification Day	Caroline Ahl & Sue Hazelton	B. Beshaw
Book Fair	Kristine Eagan & Kim Inglee	N. Gialanella
Care/Sunshine	Jaime Cashier & Liz Jelstrom	N. Gialanella
Directory	Paige Hartl	C. Schaffer
Ecology	Cathie Love	M. Fitzgibbon
Foreign Language	Liz Asadourian	B. Beshaw
Hip Hop	Kelli Ouder Kirk	B. Beshaw
Hospitality	Kristine Eagan	M. Fitzgibbon
Ice Skating	Cissi Schaffer	
June Jubilee	Lori Feinman	B. Beshaw
Membership	Mike & Erin Fratangelo	C. Schaffer
Mentoring	Lisa Mirabile	C. Schaffer
Newsletter	Erin Fratangelo	C. Schaffer
PARP (Parents as Reading Partners)	Elaine Bartley	N. Gialanella
Picture Day	Diane Parks & Rebecca O'Keefe	M. Fitzgibbon
School Appearance/Bulletin Board	Nichole Gialanella & Mary Fitzgibbon	N. Gialanella
Science Fair	Kathleen McGovern & Amy Favreau	B. Beshaw
Spring Soccer	Brenda & Dave Garretson	M. Fitzgibbon
Staff Recognition Day	Kara Guthrie	M. Fitzgibbon
Tools for Schools & Hannaford Helps	Rebecca O'Keefe	M. Fitzgibbon
Welcome Back Social	Beth Beshaw	N. Gialanella
Yearbook	Elaine McGuirk	N. Gialanella
Audit Committee	Sue Bucci, Mike Fratangelo, Avideh Sadaghiani	C. Schaffer

Other

Building Council Reps	Amy Fox & Pat Gilday	C. Schaffer
Budget Reps	Sarah DeVoe & Caroline Ahl	N. Gialanella

Please Join the Loudonville School *PTA*

“Roaring” into the 2011-2012 School Year!

\$20 Head of Household Membership

Member Benefits include:

Automatic National and New York State *PTA* Memberships

Opportunities to collaborate with the School
and help plan Programs and Activities to meet the needs of its Pupils

The Loudonville School 2011-2012 Student Directory

Family/*PTA* Member Name:

Please List Your Children’s Name(s), Grade(s), and Teacher(s):

<u>Name</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Teacher</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Amount Paid: \$ _____

Please Indicate: Cash _____ Check _____ (payable to “Loudonville *PTA*”)

(Please return by January 31st, this completed form and payment in an envelope labeled “PTA Membership c/o Michael & Erin Fratangelo”)

REGAL VIP SUPER SAVER MOVIE TICKETS

To order tickets, send into school the completed Form below with payment (Cash or Checks payable to the Loudonville *PTA*), in an envelope marked “*PTA* Movie Tickets, c/o Caroline Berg-Love (6R)”.

Your Order will be filled as soon as possible, and the tickets will be returned home with your child.

If you have any questions, please contact Cathie Love at clove@nycap.rr.com.

Thank you!

REGAL CINEMAS - VIP SUPER SAVER MOVIE TICKETS

of Tickets _____ @ \$8.00 each = \$_____

Name: _____ Phone # _____

Child's Name: _____ Grade: _____

Kids can earn up to \$70 per year!*

Great GradesSM

Kids in grades K to 12 can earn \$10* for every report card!

Provide a copy of your child's report card with their name and Account Number. See details below for making submissions. Report card submission deadlines: 1st Quarter due by Dec. 1; 2nd Quarter due by March 1; 3rd Quarter due by June 1; and 4th Quarter due by Aug. 1.

Winter Reading Program

Kids in grades K to 12 can earn money by reading books. Read up to five books between Jan. 1 and March 31 and receive \$3 per book! Look for our Summer Reading Program to begin in July.

Book entry guidelines:

- Ages 4 to 8 submit a drawing of a scene or the cover
- Ages 9 to 12 submit a 50-word written summary
- Ages 13 to 17 submit a 100-word written summary

Complete entry form found at www.capcomfcu.org/schools or at any branch. Submit entry form with book summaries or drawings.

Making a submission

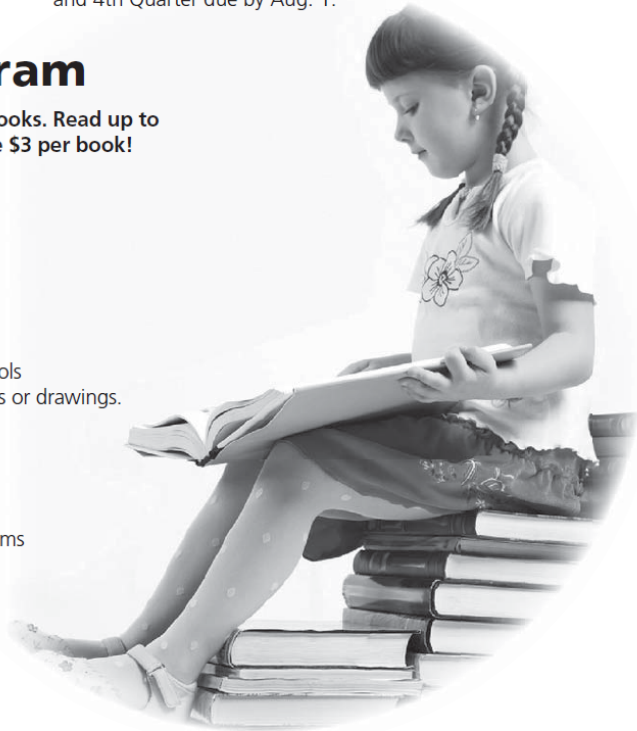
Gather your Great Grades or Winter Reading Program items and follow one of these convenient submission methods:

- Bring to any branch.
- Scan and e-mail to greatgrades@capcomfcu.org or readingprogram@capcomfcu.org.
- Fax to (518) 435-7224.
- Mail copies to:
CAP COM FCU – Attn: Great Grades or Reading Program
18 Computer Drive East
Albany, NY 12205
- Children in our School Banking program can submit items on School Banking Days in a sealed envelope.

For more information:

Call Youth Program Coordinator Danielle Sprague at (518) 458-2195 ext. 3032.

* See website or ask an Associate for additional details, current rates and disclosure information. For students who receive three report cards per school year, CAP COM will accept an interim progress report in place of a fourth report card. CAP COM FCU is federally insured by the National Credit Union Administration.



**CAP
COM**
Federal Credit Union
Our service says it all!SM