

Project Challenge Parent Association

Newsletter Volume VII

www.geocities.com/pobpcpa

January 2009

Family Night II

Our first Family Night was such a smashing success that we hope you'll join us again this Tuesday, Jan. 27 for another night of fun for the kids. Last October, the children were mesmerized by Mario the Magician in the PCPA's most successful and exciting event ever. This Tuesday at the POB Middle School Cafeteria at 7:30 p.m., we'll have Game Night. Bring your favorite board games so the kids can share some time together. Representatives from the Junior Lego League also will be there to tell us about their club and how you can join.

Refreshments will be served, so please RSVP to pobpcpa@yahoo.com to let us know how many adults and children will be coming.

Bylaws Change

An important amendment to the PCPA bylaws was ratified at our Dec. 5 business meeting when members voted in favor of allowing parents whose children have aged out of Project Challenge or whose children are not yet in the program to hold seats on our executive board. These parents, however, will not be able to hold the positions of President or First Vice President Communications. They also cannot constitute a majority of the positions on the board.

The point was made that the PCPA has been expanding its scope to advocate for children once they exit Project Challenge and to ensure there are programs available to them.

Project Challenge Testing

Second-, third and fourth-graders will be administered the OLSAT test over the next two weeks for admittance to Project Challenge. All children scoring 130 or above will automatically be considered for Project Challenge. Second- and third-graders who score between 120-129 and fourth-graders who score between 125-129 will have a chance to be retested to gain admittance.

Junior Great Books

Middle-school teachers are being trained in the Junior Great Books program which uses the Socratic method of teaching to promote critical thinking and enhance comprehension. The Project Challenge teachers were the first to be trained in this and they have been training other teachers in these methods. They began using it in PC classes last year and this year they have been pulling a select group of seventh-graders who are especially advanced readers for Junior Great Books sessions.

Science Enrichment

Eighth-graders have been working on science research projects this year focusing on Global Impact. In the spring, seventh-graders will begin exploring topics for their research projects next year. This will give them a head-start as they prepare for eighth grade and teach them preliminary research skills.

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