



## JANUARY 2010 NEWSLETTER

### Key Dates:

Jan 12: Dr. David Stember Lecture, 7 pm  
Jan 13: District-wide Concert, 7:30 pm  
Jan 18: No School/Martin Luther King Jr. Day  
Jan 19: School Committee Meeting, 7 pm  
Jan 20: PTO Quarterly Meeting, 9 am  
Jan 20: Early Release

### A Message from the PTO

A new decade and a new year! 2010 will certainly be a big year at Chickering. Our auction is just four months away and the search for a new principal will begin in earnest this month. Everyone is encouraged to get involved in both of these important efforts. Participation is welcomed and encouraged. Parents are needed to make the auction a great success, as well as serve on the committee to find Mr. Downing's replacement.

Our PTO Quarterly Meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 20<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am in the Cafeteria. Our guest will be Bob Springett, Chairman of the Dover School Committee. Mr. Springett will discuss the principal search and selection process. Who should lead our school? Please plan to attend and bring your questions.

### Mark Your Calendars for the AUCTION!

Chickering's "Rock-a-Palooza 2010" auction will take place on April 10<sup>th</sup> at Elm Bank's Hunnewell House. This year's auction theme is rock and roll from the 70's through the 90's. We are counting on a "sell-out" crowd! This is our major fundraiser and it is held just every-other year.

In addition to great music, food, and fun, "Rock-a-Palooza 2010" will feature a live and silent auction, accompanied by an exciting array of raffle items. New this year is an *online auction* which will begin in late February and continue until the end of March. In this way, select items may be bid upon in advance of the event by members of the Chickering community - and beyond. Grandparents, folks from the office, and neighbors can become involved. It's a great way to reach a broader audience! Red Sox tickets, anyone?

The "Rock-a-Palooza 2010" Auction Committee is hoping ALL parents can participate in some way to make this event a BIG success! Our Donations Committee is soliciting items, gift certificates, and services from corporations and local businesses. Now we need your help! Please watch for further details and forms in your child's backpack. Any and all contributions are greatly appreciated! We know this will be one of Chickering's best fundraisers ever!

For more information about "Rock-a-Palooza 2010" or to volunteer to help with the event, please feel free to contact:

Nancy Kostakos, Auction Chair  
508-785-3007; [gkostakos@comcast.net](mailto:gkostakos@comcast.net)

Annemarie Thompson, Donations Chair  
508-785-3378; [am7thompson@msn.com](mailto:am7thompson@msn.com)

Delphine Morton, Parent Donations Chair  
508-785-2249; [kdmorton@comcast.net](mailto:kdmorton@comcast.net)

### **Curriculum Enrichment Update**

2010 will bring an outstanding variety of new and favorite programs to our students. The fifth graders begin the year learning about the Puritans and the Salem Witch Trials through a dramatic, live re-enactment called *Cry Innocent*. Second graders will tour a life-sized dinosaur "from the inside-out" when the very popular *Dinoman* returns for his annual visit. First graders will be wowed by a performance by our remarkable feathered friends from *Wingmasters*. And finally, for third graders, *Techsplorations* will put on a lively, interactive show exploring circuits and electricity. These are just the offerings for January! Please remember to ask your child about these educational programs.

### **The PTO Speaker Series Continues**

Dr. David Stember will give a lecture on *Positive Parenting: Understanding your Child's Behavior*. Dr. Stember is a faculty member of Harvard Medical School and McLean Hospital and consults to a number of area school districts, including Dover-Sherborn. He is renowned for his charismatic brand of exposure and cognitive-behavioral therapies. These non-medication based treatments are often seen as the most effective for childhood behavioral and anxiety difficulties. Tuesday, January 12<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm in the Chickering Library.

### **Community Outreach Update**

A big THANK-YOU to the many artists and authors who created beautiful holiday/thank you cards for Dover's Hometown Heroes! And, a belated thanks to Kristin Brophy, Amy Fielding, and their children for collecting, storing, counting, and delivering nearly 500 grocery items to the Natick Food Pantry in November. Nice job, Chickering students!

This month, we will be participating in The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's "Pennies for Patients" program. Please donate your spare change to fund blood cancer research. Help us honor Nicholas, a local six year-old leukemia survivor. Coins, bills, and checks can be deposited in the white cardboard boxes in the school lobby during January. Join us in counting coins on January 16<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> at 10 am at the Dover Library. For more information, contact Lara Clark at [laraajclark@yahoo.com](mailto:laraajclark@yahoo.com).

### **News from Chickering's Class of 2010!**

Soon it will be time for the 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Celebration!! One of our first events is the Slogan and Logo Contest. Fifth graders are encouraged to design a slogan and logo that represents the Class of 2010. The winning entries will be printed on T-shirts and appear in the yearbook. Check your child's backpack for the contest flyers. Questions? Please contact CynDee Novitch or Mich Dupre.

### **Chickering Spotlight**

Some pretty amazing children have walked through our doors! In the 1960's, one such child was Leon Mobley. Leon was one of the first METCO students at Chickering and went on to graduate from D-S High School. He was also one of the original cast members of the PBS tv show, *Zoom!*. Today, Leon is a world-renowned percussionist and Master drummer. He has worked with Stevie Wonder, Madonna, Michael Jackson, Santana and countless other icons of the music world. Check him out on YouTube!

**Question:** How many of our teachers were once Chickering students? Answer next month!

*"Faith is taking the first step, even when you don't see the whole staircase."*

*-Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

