



# Bayview Buzz

## YEAR OF COLLABORATION!

# Welcome Back to School

### *A Message From Bayview Principal Chuck Anderson*

Welcome to the first issue of the *Bayview Buzz*, your Bayview PTO newsletter. The newsletter will be published three times per year, once per trimester. It will include information on upcoming PTO events and projects. I encourage you to not only read the newsletter carefully but to take

part in all your PTO has to offer. The main functions of the Bayview PTO has always been to provide educational, social and financial support to our students, staff and parents. This year we once again have a number of one-time and ongoing programs that meet these goals. We continue to provide programs that have been successful in the past, plus work hard to

bring new opportunities to you every year. I hope you take advantage of everything your PTO has to offer.

I also would like to recognize and thank our *Bayview Buzz* editor this year, **Terri Lee Paulsen**. Terri is taking time out of her own work schedule to put together a quality newsletter and her efforts are much appreciated by all.

## Meet Bayview's PTO President: Anne Bockelmann

**Anne Bockelmann** has assumed the duties as PTO president for the 2008–2009 school year. She was also president of the PTO last year.

"I enjoy being president of the PTO because it helps me stay really involved in my children's

education, and I love working with the staff and teachers at Bayview," says Anne.

Anne and her husband, Darrin, a chiropractor at Ridgeview Medical Center, live in Norwood and have three children, two at Bayview and one at

Clearwater Middle School.

Anne can be reached at (952) 212-7559.

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### Did You Know?

- There are currently 575 students enrolled at Bayview Elementary School; 52 of them are transfers from Southview Elementary School.
- The kindergarteners this year will be on pace to graduate from high school in 2021.

# The Numbers: Bayview PTO Aiming to Raise \$30,000 This Year

So far this school year, Bayview teachers have requested more than \$20,000 worth of materials and equipment from the PTO. Funds have also been set aside for special funds and projects for the entire school. These include:

SMART Board	\$4,000
Family Support	\$500
Dance Residency	\$1,500
Technology Support	\$1,000
Curriculum Night	\$500
Field Trip Support	\$1,500

Parent Speaker	\$300
Winter Dance	\$300
Parent Work Nights	\$500
Courtyard Gardens	\$375
Volunteer Recognition	\$400
4th-Grade Mixer	\$600
Science Programs	\$2,000
Memory Books	\$300
Staff Recognition	\$500
MCA Prep	\$600
Lyceums	\$1,000
Bookroom	\$1,000

Digital Piano	\$2,100
Refrigerator for K	\$200
Level Books (1st Grade)	\$500
Bare Books (2nd Grade)	\$300
Classroom Libraries (2nd Gr.)	\$1,000
DVD Players	\$600
Level Books	\$500
Book Buddy	\$200

**Total: \$22,275**

## Annual Fall Fundraiser Is Under Way

Again this fall, students at Bayview Elementary will be selling cookie dough and frozen soup from The Chip Shoppe. Last year the fundraiser netted the school \$16,000.

Students are asked to sell the products to family members, friends, neighbors and co-workers. Door-to-door sales are discouraged.

Also, people have the option of donating money to the school rather than purchasing products. This is a good option for family members living far from Waconia.

Order forms and money are due Monday, Oct. 20. Cookie dough and soup will be at Bayview on Thursday, Nov. 20, for students to

pick up and distribute to those who purchased from them.

Bayview receives 40% of all sales as its profit.

*"Donors don't give to institutions. They invest in ideas and people in whom they believe."  
- G.T. Smith*

## Parent Work Nights: New Structure to Encourage Better Turnout



It's always been a struggle to get more than a handful of parents to volunteer during the school year's Parent Work Nights. Teachers rely on these volunteers to prepare materials for their classrooms. Projects in the past have included cutting out shapes for art projects, binding, laminating, gluing and collating papers. Nothing too challenging!

Because these nights are so

important in allowing teachers to have materials (and keep teachers from having to do all of the prep work themselves), a new system will be tested. This year, Work Nights will be split among the grade levels, with parents of second-graders being asked help out at the first Work Night, on Thursday, Oct. 23. Please only come to Bayview on the date that corresponds to your child's grade level. The Work Night is held from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

This is a great opportunity to meet

parents of your child's classmates, plus a physical education, music or art teacher will put on a special demonstration of something your child is working on this year.

Refreshments will be served.

Please plan on attending without your children.

### *Work Night Schedule*

- Second-grade: Thursday, Oct. 23**
- Fourth-grade: Monday, Nov. 17**
- Kindergarten: Monday, Feb. 2**
- First-grade: Monday, March 16**
- Third-grade: Monday, April 20**

## Glossary of Key Terms

*Below we define a few educational terms and phrases you may not know.*

**professional learning communities:** A group of teachers who meets regularly to identify essential and valued student outcomes, develop common formative assessments, analyze current levels of individual student achievement, set achievement goals, share instructional strategies and then create lessons to meet their goals.

**differentiated instruction:** The practice of developing lessons that meet the needs of all students within a classroom setting, including the development of both remediation strategies for students needing additional instruction and expansion strategies for students who are excelling.

**SMART Board:** An interactive electronic whiteboard that allows students and staff to combine the simplicity of a whiteboard with the power of a computer. Curriculum and web-based instruction are available to students to interact while providing immediate feedback.

**lyceums:** An all-school program presentation generally focused on an educational program. Bayview has several scheduled this year.

**Study Island:** A web-based tutorial program focused on math and reading skills used by third- and fourth-grade students. Families have access to this site at their homes as well. Teachers will inform parents on how to access the site.

## Important Dates

**“Book Party”:** Fri., Nov. 14  
*In celebration of the \$30,000 the School Board allocated to Bayview to purchase about 2,000 books for the Media Center, each child will be allowed to check out one new book on this day.*

**Cookie Dough/Soup Distribution:** Thurs., Nov. 20

**Book Fair:** Thurs., Dec. 4, & Friday, Dec. 5

**Holiday Sing:** Fri., Dec. 19 (two performances will be held, at 9 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.)

**Curriculum Night:** Mon., Jan. 26  
*Topic still to be determined*

## PTO Welcomes New Superintendent of Waconia Schools

During her second interview for the Waconia Schools superintendent position, **Dr. Nancy Rajanen** was asked what her top three priorities would be if she was offered the job in Waconia. Her answer: “Listen. Listen. And listen.”

Just six weeks into the job, she’s “learning at warp speed,” and attending as many events and activities as she can. She attended Bayview’s PTO meeting Sept. 15.

“As a superintendent, I need to understand what this district is all about,” she explains. “We need to think through what our future should be as a school district. This is a fine, fine school district; we need to decide what we want to capture and grow that more.”

Competition for enrollment with bordering school districts, such as

Chanhassen, Chaska and Eden Prairie, make it important for Waconia schools to excel.

“We need to make sure our families choose to stay in the district,” Dr. Rajanen says.

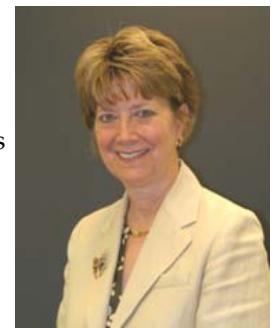
“As a district, we need to ask the question, ‘how do we make our kids competitive?’ We need to think district-wide and make sure our schools align, not just elementary but kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade,” she says.

In regard to varying abilities of students, Dr. Rajanen says, “We need to address both ends of the spectrum—not just the middle—and prepare them all for the future.”

One challenge facing Waconia schools in the near future is continued growth. This year the district grew by about 70 students, but anticipated future growth is 110 to 120 per year.

“The reality is by 2012 we will be close to outgrowing our facilities,” Dr. Rajanen says. To address this, the district is evaluating dozens of options and will look to the public for help in the decision-making.

Dr. Rajanen comes to Waconia from the Robbinsdale Area Schools, where she served as assistant superintendent.



*Dr. Nancy Rajanen,  
Waconia's new superintendent*

**A PUBLICATION OF THE  
BAYVIEW PARENT-TEACHER  
ORGANIZATION**

The Bayview PTO newsletter is published each trimester during the school year.

Editorial services for the Bayview Buzz have been provided gratis by Terri Lee Paulsen, Write Image Communications: [www.write-image.biz](http://www.write-image.biz).

**Helping Our Teachers Teach**

The Bayview Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO) is a volunteer-based group that includes parents, teachers and staff. Its mission is to create a close relationship between home and school by providing opportunities for all parents to become involved in the Bayview Elementary family.

The PTO raises funds for supplemental educational materials and operating expenses, and supports and sponsors school and family social interactions.

**The next PTO Meeting will be held Monday, Nov. 3,  
at 6:30 p.m. in the Bayview Media Center.  
It is open to all Bayview parents and guardians.**

**We're on the Web!**

[www.waconia.k12.mn.us](http://www.waconia.k12.mn.us)

**Bayview PTO Officers**

**President:** Anne Bockelmann      **Vice president:** Carla Hazeldine  
**Treasurer:** Lisa Hellerud-Schuth

## Easy Ways You Can Contribute

You already purchase the items. Why not turn those labels and coupons into cash for Bayview?

### Box Tops for Education

Clipping the Box Top for Education coupons found on dozens of General Mills' and other products is so easy—and, worth 10 cents a piece, it really adds up! Since 2002, Bayview has received \$7,841 from the Box Tops for Education program, including \$2,461 during the 2007–2008 school year. Bayview has used the funds from this program to buy SMART Boards. For more information on the Box Tops For Education program, including a list of participating products, coupons and recipe ideas—and to track Bayview's progress throughout the year, visit [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com).

### Take Charge of Education

In September 2008, Target donated \$1,226.97 to Bayview through Target's Take Charge of Education program, for a total of \$13,791.05 since the program began. Target's REDcard holders choose a school to receive a donation of up to 1% of their REDcard purchases at Target and Target.com.

With the new Target store opening in Waconia on Oct. 12, it's another great reminder to parents and others to designate Bayview as their favorite school to earn the funds. This can be done online at the Target Web site ([www.target.com](http://www.target.com)). There are currently 82 REDcard holders who have designated Bayview as their school of choice.

### Kemps Nickels for Schools

For each specially marked cap or proof-of-purchase symbol from Kemps dairy products, Kemps will pay Bayview 5 cents. In September, Bayview received \$210.05.

### Milk Moola

With Kwik Trip gas stations now open in Waconia and St. Bonifacius, it's even easier to collect the Milk Moola milk covers and bag tops. Each are worth 5 cents each for Bayview, and Donuts to Dough ovals earn 10 cents.

### Campbell's Labels for Education

This 30-year-old program awards free educational equipment to schools in exchange for proofs of purchase from the Campbell family of brands. Visit [www.labelsforeducation.com](http://www.labelsforeducation.com) for a complete list of eligible products.



### Can You Help?

Help is needed to count labels and caps and prepare them for submission. Contact **Pam Kurtz**, Bayview's ongoing fundraisers coordinator, at [ptkurtz@embarqmail.com](mailto:ptkurtz@embarqmail.com) or (952) 442-8704 if you are able to help.

Collection boxes and bins for Box Top coupons, soup labels, Milk Moola caps and bag tops, and Kemps caps and proof-of-purchase symbols are located just inside the main entrance near the office. You may send labels and caps to school with your child; their teacher will route the items to the office.