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## BUILDING COMMUNITY

Recently I was chatting with a few parents who send their children to CPS schools. The in-common statement from the group was, "I chose our school because of the great parents I met...the community clicked for me." I have a feeling this is why many of you have chosen to send your children to Mayer Magnet. We do have a wonderfully diverse and talented group of parents who tirelessly volunteer to make our school a thriving institution.

If you haven't experienced the Mayer parent community why not make this your New Year's resolution – it's not too late to make a difference!

Why not attend a Friends of Mayer or LSC meeting? Why not volunteer for the upcoming Walkathon (a huge fundraiser for our school)? Why not organize a classroom play date to help students strengthen their classroom community bond? Why not \_\_\_\_\_ (you fill-in the blank)?

At this fresh start of the New Year I hope many new parents step into the Mayer Magnet parent community.

I think you will find it personally rewarding and our school will benefit from your efforts.

Happy new year!

*-Debbie Hilander, Mayer Magnet parent newsletter editor and parent*

## SNA EDUCATOR AWARDS

Congratulations to **Tracy Lester** and **Katie Edmonds** for winning Educator awards from the Sheffield Neighborhood Association (SNA).

On January 18th at St. James Lutheran Church both teachers were presented with a much deserved plaque and cash award. Our school is very lucky to have such award winning teachers!

## CONGRATULATIONS DEC. STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

The following students were selected as **Students of the Month for December 2010:**

- ROOM 101 MEGAN RIORDAN, NATE GOSS
- ROOM 102 LIAM FITZGERALD, ELEANOR CLEARY
- ROOM 104 GISELLE LEBRON
- ROOM 105 AIDEN CHOSLOVSKY, NATE GOREN
- ROOM 106 ZARA VERSTEN, ANDREW SASSOWER
- ROOM 107 MOIRA KOLENO, MAX KOMEN
- ROOM 108 SHAVAREN WILLIAMS, SYDNEY OBLEN
- ROOM 109 CHARLIE OPPENHEIMER, ELIANA CONFORTI
- ROOM 111 ZACHARY BERMAN, KALEB HALEY
- ROOM 113 DALIYAH SMITH
- ROOM 201 MICHELLE BETTS
- ROOM 202 MICHAEL SKORY, ALEXIS DEMPSEY
- ROOM 203 MALLORY GORK, GABY HOLDEN
- ROOM 204 PETER ORNOWSKI
- ROOM 205 LIZZIE O'BRIEN, ALEXIS SASSOWER
- ROOM 206 JAMARI CHAMBERLAIN
- ROOM 210 ELIJAH RODRIQUEZ
- ROOM 212 DESIREE HERNANDEZ
- ROOM 213 JACKELINE JALOMO
- ROOM 214 ANDREW ORTEGA
- ROOM 221 JUSTIN FIELDS
- ROOM 223 DAVID MERAZ
- ROOM 225 JACK ALLSPAUGH
- ROOM 226 DIAMOND WALKER

Let's give these students a round of applause for being such superb role models for their classrooms!

# CALLING ALL PARENTS: *GET INVOLVED IN THE 4<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL WELLNESS IN MOTION WALKATHON*

This month's focus: **SPONSORSHIP**

**The event is Friday, May 6, but we need you NOW!**

## **Walkathon Sponsorship by the Numbers:**

- 1** - Number of New Sponsors secured for 2011 Walkathon
- 4** - Levels of Sponsorship (5K, 10K, Marathon & Triathlon)
- 125** - Companies who sponsored the 2010 Wellness-in-Motion Walkathon
- 600** - Local businesses who received our mass mailing in December
- 61,000** - Dollars raised from the 2010 Wellness-in-Motion Walkathon
- 75,000** - Fundraising goal for this year's Walkathon

To reach our goal, we need all parents to pitch in and here's how you can help:

- Check to see if your favorite retailer or business that you frequent is on our list. Simply email [fomwalkathon@yahoo.com](mailto:fomwalkathon@yahoo.com) to gain access to the list of area businesses. It is updated weekly and contains only those businesses that are not already assigned to a Mayer Magnet parent.
- After reviewing the list, email [fomwalkathon@yahoo.com](mailto:fomwalkathon@yahoo.com) to let us know which businesses we may assign to you. If you don't see a business listed that should be considered for sponsorship, please let us know!
- Pick up brochures in the school office to take to your businesses to explain to them the importance their sponsorship means to our school and the benefits they will receive in return for their donation.
- Even if you don't have time to visit businesses, please help by contacting businesses over email or by phone. We will provide you scripts with all of the information you need to let them know.

We look forward to seeing all of these numbers go up in the coming months leading up to the Walkathon, but we can't do it without your help.

Whether you want to get involved in sponsorship or other aspects of the walkathon, we will find a place for you! Especially if you have not had the amazing opportunity to become involved in the school, now is the perfect time. Parents are encouraged to make a mark in the community by helping, volunteering and simply showing support to our fabulous school. For more information on ways to get involved, reach out to Robin Gruen at [rsi611@aol.com](mailto:rsi611@aol.com).



## FRIENDS OF MAYER PLEDGE DRIVE UPDATE

Thank you to all of the Oscar Mayer families who have participated in the Pledge Drive. We really appreciate the support. We are nearing the end of the second quarter. If you made a monthly or quarterly pledge (via cash or check), please remember to drop it by the office. If you have not already made a pledge to the school, it's not too late to do so. Any amount helps and is highly appreciated. Donations can be made at [http://www.friendsofmayer.org/Pledge\\_Drive.html](http://www.friendsofmayer.org/Pledge_Drive.html), or checks can be made payable to Friends of Oscar Mayer School.

**As of January 22, a little over \$100,000 has been received with 35% participation.**

We hope everyone feels good about the fact that by participating in the Pledge Drive you have all made a significant difference in the lives of our Oscar Mayer students, and have truly helped the school to own its future. Thank you!

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## SOMEONE YOU SHOULD KNOW

*Submitted by JoANN LULLA*

This section is meant to help both new and existing parents get to know some of the faculty/staff at Mayer Magnet and build a sense of community among all.

Hope you enjoy getting to know the wonderful and dedicated faculty/staff of Mayer Magnet!

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### **Shannon Mahoney – 5th and 6th grade Language Arts and Humanities**

**My hometown:** Springfield, IL

**My college alma matter:** Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame

**I started at Oscar Mayer...** 2005

**What I enjoy most about Mayer Magnet is...** The great staff and smiling kids.

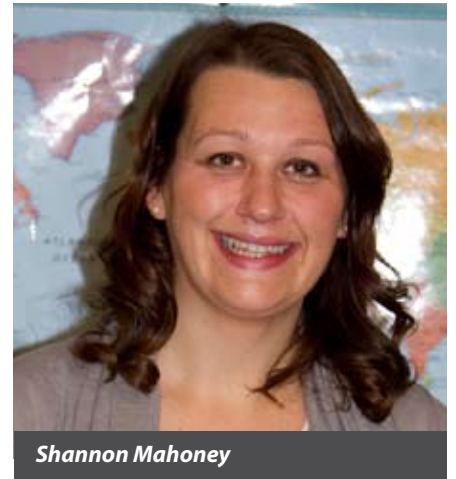
**I love it when I see students...** Being polite.

**During my free time I like to...** Walk my dog, Finn and go to Cubs games.

**My favorite food is:** French fries

**My favorite restaurant is:** Mandy B's

**Most people don't know that I...** I have Bieber Fever!



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### **Crystal Sankey – Elementary 1**



Crystal Sankey

**My hometown:** Austin, Texas

**My college alma matter:** The University of Chicago

**I started at Mayer Magnet in:** 2008

**What I enjoy most about Mayer Magnet is...** Our diverse student body and our super hard-working staff.

**My most memorable Mayer Magnet "moment":** Is when Room 113 unveiled Michael Jackson Scarecrow at Harvest Fest 2009!

**I love it when I see students...** doing something independently for the first time.

**During my free time I like to ...** spend time outdoors.

**My favorite food is...** homemade pepperoni pizza.

**Most people don't know that...** I can play classical guitar.

## WINTER COMMUNITY NIGHT – FEB. 3<sup>RD</sup>

Our Winter Community Night is fast approaching with student experts ready to share their knowledge! On Thursday, Feb. 3rd from 4:00 - 6:00 pm students will share what they've learned in their classrooms. As with every community event, we rely on volunteers to help make the evening run smoothly. If you are interested in volunteering with a classroom, please contact the teacher. The following classrooms are participating: 101-Marsh, 105-Lena, 108 - Mulcahy, 111-Lester, 203-O'Brien, 212 - Abraham, 213 - Levine, 223 - Kittinger, 225 - Davis-Lancaster. Folks that volunteer with a classroom teacher will need to help monitor during snack time (2:30 - 3:45); help set up (3:15 - 3:45); and chaperone students around our event (4:00 - 4:30, 4:30 - 5:00,

5:00 - 5:30, 5:30 - 6:00). If you are interested in any of these jobs, please contact the classroom teacher.

If your student is not participating this time, but you'd like to offer your time, we could use help in general set up from 2:30 - 3:45; concession stand monitor (4:00 - 5:00 & 5:00 - 6:00); stair case monitors (3:45 - 4:30; 4:30 - 5:00; 5:00 - 5:30; 5:30 - 6:00); tear down (6:00 - 6:20). Please contact Melissa Hooker (mchooker@cps.edu) if you are able to help with general set up and other odd jobs.

As always, we appreciate your time and effort and look forward to another successful event at Mayer Magnet!

*Submitted by Melissa Hooker, M. Ed.  
2009 Golden Apple Fellow, Music Instructor, Fine Arts*

## GIRL SCOUT COOKIES!

Thank you so much to everyone who has purchased Girl Scout cookies. The Mayer Scout really appreciate your support. If anyone did not preorder, but is interested in buying any, please contact Maureen Riordan at [mrsriordan@yahoo.com](mailto:mrsriordan@yahoo.com) or 773-525-5990. Cookies sell for \$4 per box and include traditional favorites of Thin Mints, Samoas and Trefoils, as well as new varieties. Cookies will be delivered the end of February/early March. Thanks!

## CAR POOL HELP NEEDED

A New Mayer parent, located near Halsted and Willow, needs school drop-off and possible pick-up assistance. If you live near this area and can help, please email [edaniels@steppenwolf.org](mailto:edaniels@steppenwolf.org) for details.

## MAYER BASKETBALL

The basketball season is beginning! The 7/8th grade team has been practicing and the first game is upon them. There is plenty of room in the bleachers at the newly built Jenner school. The Gym is on the third floor. The school is one block south of Division/ Clybourn intersection. Hope to see you there to support our students. Thank you Dave Lewin for coaching our team! Go Bulldogs!

**Mayer Basketball Schedule 2011**  
**All Games at Jenner School 1119 N. Cleveland**

<b>Thurs 1/20</b>	<b>Mayer vs Lincoln 5:30</b>
<b>Thurs 1/27</b>	<b>Mayer vs Hawthorne 4:30</b>
<b>Thurs 2/3</b>	<b>Mayer vs Diego 5:00 &amp; Mayer vs Franklin 5:30</b>
<b>Thurs 2/17</b>	<b>Mayer vs Sabin 4:30</b>
<b>Thurs 3/3</b>	<b>Mayer vs Newberry 3:45</b>
<b>Thurs 3/10</b>	<b>Mayer vs Alcott 5:30</b>

## IMPORTANT DATES!

**COMMUNITY NIGHT FEB. 3**

**NO SCHOOL FEB. 11**

**LSC MEETING FEB. 16**

**PARENT EDUCATION  
MEETING - SOCIAL CRUELTY FEB. 17**

**FRIENDS OF MAYER  
MEETING FEB. 23**

*If you have ideas for articles, comments or questions please email us at: [FOMnewsletter@yahoo.com](mailto:FOMnewsletter@yahoo.com)*