

**Highlights of what
PTA sponsored
this year :**

- \$6,500 for Cultural Arts Programs for each grade level, including Special Ed.
- \$3,500 to the Media Center to purchase new books,
- \$700 in scholarships to students for summer programs
- \$500 to support student Career Day
- Gave free ice cream to students with perfect attendance
- Top Knight Awards and donated \$150 toward the celebration for retiring teachers
- Sponsor of RMS Multi-Cultural Night
- Assisted with the Wellness Expos and contributed \$225 to the Book Drive
- PTA Reflections program
- Ice Cream Fridays
- National PTA's Three 4 Me® program
- Achieved the Georgia PTA Visionary Membership Award
- Achieved the Georgia PTA Early Bird Membership Award
- Achieved a 4% PTA membership increase overall

2008-2009

PTA Officers:

- Lee Merritt, President
- Tamara Agee, Co-Vice-President
- Angela Monetta, Co-Vice-President
- Jerri Campli, Secretary
- Chris McGee, Treasurer
- Chris Magne, Parliamentarian

Richards Middle School

PTA

2008—2009
School Year



PTA Accomplishments this School Year

The J. E. Richards MS School PTA sponsors different programs at our school. A major contribution is to our Cultural Arts Program. The majority of money raised during the PTA's yearly fundraisers is dedicated toward funding the age-appropriate cultural arts programs and educational activities that enrich our children's lives education during the year. Our Cultural Arts programs this year included:

- 6th grade— *Poetry off the Page* by Marty Barrett.
- 7th— *Out of Africa* by Ritmo Blu World Percussion Trio.
- 8th— *Laughing Matters – Acting Out – Improv!*
- Special Ed— *Celebrating Abilities* with Daniel Skandera. Despite the physical and mental challenges Daniel

faces, he has overcome and encourages others to follow their dreams.

PTA was a sponsor of our first Multicultural Night on February 18, 2009. It was a tremendous success. We had Indian, African, and Hispanic dance performances, traditional Nigerian music, food representing 38 countries (from African to Vietnamese), exhibits from 24 different countries, and performances from the RMS Drumline and RMS Orchestra.

The RMS Parent Center, with volunteers from the PTA, held Wellness Expos on October 8, 2008 and May 7, 2009. We also provide volunteers in the Media Center, RMS Café, and at various school events.

PTA program scholarships were awarded to 7 students

this year. Each student received \$100 toward an educational, enrichment program area of their choice.

RMS PTA leaders chap-eroned 7 students serving as a legislative PAGE for Representative Lee Thompson at the State of Georgia Capitol.

Our PTA Reflections Program had an 8th grade student, Ryan Riché, whose photography entry won first-place at the Georgia level and has now won a first-place, Award of Excellence, at the National level.

Finally, has your child enjoyed purchasing ice cream on Fridays? If so, thank PTA volunteer, Lynne Serrian, for volunteering her time for our children.

Opportunities for YOU!

With all the activities Richards MS PTA is involved in, there is definitely a place for you - whether you're available once during the school year, once a month, or once a week.

Just ask us how you can be involved! Studies have shown that the more a parent or parents are involved in their child's education, the better they perform

academically and socially.

So, don't wait any longer! Email our PTA Co-Presidents Faith Bailey, bailey4675@bellsouth.net and Tamara Agee, tamaraagee@aol.com and ask how you can get involved!

National PTA was founded over 100 years ago, and today we are even stronger with the help of families just like you!

It has been our privilege to provide programs and assistance to the students at Richards Middle School this year. If you want to find out more about parent involvement and resources to help your child succeed, please visit the following websites:

www.georgiapta.org or
www.pta.org