Dear Cowlishaw Families,

On behalf of the PTA we would like to welcome you back to another year of learning and fun at Cowlishaw Elementary. The school year 2011-12 was wonderful - with a 7% increase in membership and successful fundraisers; we were able to offer a variety of programs and experiences that benefitted our children such as Art Awareness, Culture Fair and field trips. We hope for the continued support of our families to make the coming year an even better one as we bring some new and exciting programs to Cowlishaw. New to this year will be Square One Art fundraiser – will allow you to purchase articles bearing your child’s artwork in time for the holiday season. Career Day - parents will have the opportunity to come into the classroom and talk about different careers. Family Nights Out – ex. Skate Night and Cowlishaw’s 1st Science Fair!!! Make sure you read the weekly listserve during the course of the year for more information on these new offerings.

Your NEW PTA Executive Board for 2012-2013

Co-Presidents: Usha Iyengar and Jackie Cuculich
1st Co-Vice Presidents: Bianca Ballard and Monica Houston
2nd Co-Vice Presidents: Victoria Senese and Tisha Danehl
Treasurer: Karen Ahern
Secretary: Gineen Vargas

There are many ways to get involved and support our PTA.

~First, SIGN UP!! We are hoping to hit an all time high for memberships this year.

~Next, time permitting, VOLUNTEER!! We need people to run all the great programs we have lined up for our kids.

~Last but not least, PARTICIPATE in our fundraisers and encourage friends and family to do so as well. The money from our fundraisers pays for all the events and programs sponsored by the PTA.

Looking forward to a great school year 2012-13.

Usha Iyengar & Jackie Cuculich
Welcome to the 2012 – 2013 school year! I have had the pleasure of serving as principal of Cowlishaw Elementary School for three years. This year we have 760 students attending our school. Our purpose, in collaboration with parents and our community, is to provide a safe learning environment. Our goal is to help our students develop and learn necessary skills while enjoying their educational process through active participation, technology resources, and research based instructional practices. It is a tremendous honor to work with such a fine group of teachers, parents, and students. Cowlishaw’s history is one of commitment and dedication. Teachers and staff truly care about children and have worked tirelessly to provide children and families the opportunity to learn and grow. It is my hope you will feel free to contact me in the event of a concern or question. A new school year is always so exciting. Let’s keep working together to continue a strong relationship between school and families. Have a great year!

Ms. Walton

It’s REFLECTIONS time again!

REFLECTIONS ART PROGRAM: The Reflections program is coming back! This year’s theme is “The Magic of a Moment”. Details regarding the entry process will be sent home this month.

Please note that entry in this program is free and all it takes to participate is just a little effort from parents/guardians and your child’s imagination.

Do not miss out on this opportunity to showcase your child’s talents and make this program a success. Any questions please contact: Julie Sterzinger at jasterzinger@gmail.com or Elvira Timothy at ectimothy@gmail.com.

2012 Cowlishaw Fall Fundraiser

When: 9/7 Packets arrive, 9/7 thru 10/3 Sell, Pickup at Halloween Party 10/26

Goal: $16,000 sales – Beating last year by $500 (40% we keep) (tax free)

Who: Karen Ahern - krahern@wowway.com 630-357-4096

What: Holiday Catalog including Thanksgiving and Holiday Items

Prizes: Each participant receives a prize

Why: This is our largest fund raiser of the year. Therefore, it is essential and vital to the continued success of the Cowlishaw PTA activities for our children.
Let’s Stomp Out Bullying

On October 1st, let’s show our support to stop bullying in our schools and wear Blue.

Both the STOMP Out Bullying Program™ and its Annual WORLD DAY OF BULLYING PREVENTION - BLUE SHIRT DAY™ initiative bring awareness and educates kids and teens, parents and schools about the issue. It offers hope for every student who experiences the harmful effects of bullying and teaches parents to keep open communication with their kids and teens and to look for signs.

Bullying is a problem that affects millions of students of all races and classes. 1 out of 4 kids are bullied and depending on their age up to 43% of students are cyberbullied. As many as 160,000 students stay home on any given day because they’re afraid of being bullied.

Child and teen Bullying and Cyberbullying are at an all-time high.

If we all show our support and wear Blue on October 1st it will show that we will not tolerate bullying in our schools. I know that I want my kids to feel safe at school and this is one way to support the cause.

Always talk to your child about how their day was and what to do if someone is bullying them. It is our job to protect our kids and stop what is happening in our schools.

Dana Jacobson

For more information on Stomp out Bullying go to: http://stompoutbullying.org/index.php
Picture Day is Tuesday, October 23, 2012

Say Cheese!

Volunteers Needed for Picture Day

I need volunteers to help starting at 9am until 2pm, possibly 2:30. We need several volunteers and myself on this day. We need a volunteer for each camera and then a runner to get the students from their classrooms. Last year I split it up in shift and it worked out great. We can do 9-11:30 then a shift from 11:30-2:30. Please let me know what times or times you can help by October 12th.

Thank you so much,
Dana Jacobson
creativedana@yahoo.com

EveryChild. OneVoice

Square 1 Art Fundraiser

Hi! My name is Nicole, and I'm heading up our first ever Square 1 Art fundraiser of the 2012-2013 school year for Cowlishaw. This fundraiser will give our kids a chance to show their creative art skills, as they will be working on projects in art class that will then be featured on exclusive merchandise just for you. For the coming holidays (coming sooner than you think!), you will be able to order different items, that will feature your child's own unique art work on it. Keep an eye out for a flyer that will be sent home with your child in the coming weeks, that will outline the details. And then at the start of November, get ready to purchase the items (either online, or via paper forms turned in to the school).

If you want to get a sneak peak at the types of options available, check out the website at www.square1art.com
August 2012
• 22nd - Summer Staff Luncheon
• 28th - PTA General Meeting – 7:00 pm

September
• 13th - Curriculum Night
• 13th - Yankee Candle Fall Fundraiser Starts
• 21st - Movie Night – 6:30

October
• 3rd - Walk to School Day
• 3rd – Yankee Candle Fall Fundraiser Ends
• 26th – Fall Party – 2:30pm
• 26th - Halloween Party – 6:30-8:00 pm
• 26th – Yankee Candle Pick-up Night
• TBD - PTA General Meeting
• TBD - School Assembly #1

November
• 5th – 8th – Book Fair
• 8th - Teacher fall dinner
• 26th - Reflections Assembly

December
• 13th - PTA General Meeting – 2:30 pm
• 14th - Holiday Shop – 6:30-8:00pm
• 21st – Winter Party – 2:30pm

January 2013
• 11th - Back to School Dance – 6:00-8:00 pm
• TBD - School Assembly #2

February
• 14th - Friendship Party – 2:30 pm
• 21st - PTA General Meeting – 7:00 pm – Dr. Birkett
• 22nd – Movie Night

March
• 6th – Kindergarten/Parent Preview Night – 6:30 pm

April
• 11th – Science Fair – 6:30-8:00pm
• 24th - PTA General Meeting – 7:00 pm
• TBD - School Assembly #3

May
• 3rd – Spring Fling – 6:30-8:00pm
• 6th – 10th – Teacher Appreciation Week
• 20th - PTA General Meeting – 7:00 pm
• TBD - 5th grade Farewell Event
• 31st – Tentative last day of school

EveryChild. OneVoice
Cowlishaw PTA Movie Night presents...

Bring your blanket, pillow and join us for the fun!

When:     Friday, September 21st
          Doors open @ 6:30pm
          Movie to Start at 6:50pm
Where:    Cowlishaw Gym

Cost:     PTA Members: FREE
          Non-Members: $1 per person

Water, Chips and Candy will be available for purchase for $1 each.

Please remember this is a family event. Parent supervision is required!
~ COWLISHAW SPIRITWEAR ~

Every Friday is Spirit Day at Cowlishaw!

All applicable sales tax included.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>Youth Size and Quantity</th>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Total Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. T-Shirt in Carolina blue</td>
<td>S: (6/8) M: (10/12) L: (14/16) XL: (18/20)</td>
<td></td>
<td>$8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. T-Shirt in kiwi green</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. bella® T-Shirt in pink</td>
<td></td>
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<td><strong>Note:</strong> This is a fitted style</td>
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<tr>
<td>D. Tie Dye T-Shirt in royal blue shades</td>
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<td>$14</td>
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<tr>
<td>E. Hooded Sweatshirt in grey</td>
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<td>$20</td>
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</tbody>
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Please return this form to the school. Make checks payable to: COWLISHAW PTA

Orders due by Tuesday, September 18th :: Spiritwear will be distributed by the end of October.

Orders due by Tuesday, September 18, 2012
Cowlishaw PTA Membership form 2012-2013

We are excited to have the opportunity to support the teachers and students of Cowlishaw Elementary. We hope you will share our excitement and become a member of the Cowlishaw PTA for the 2012-2013 academic year. Your PTA dues provide funding for many educational and extra-curricular activities at Cowlishaw including educational and fun activities like assemblies, field trips ($9 per child), school functions, and room parties that enhance your child’s experience at school.

As indicated below, dues are $14.00 for a family, a portion of which is sent to the Illinois State PTA and the National PTA to support the ongoing efforts of the PTA organization. You may donate any additional amount to the PTA, which will be used to sponsor families that are unable to afford the dues become PTA members. Your donation will be tax deductible as we are a 501(c)(3) Not for Profit organization.

Please note that this membership does not draft you as a PTA volunteer. A PTA volunteer is someone who chooses to take their membership a step further and volunteers to help out with various PTA committees. We encourage you to attend PTA meetings and become involved. If you have any questions, please contact the Membership Chairperson Victoria Senese @ victoriaanne006@yahoo.com

Each member receives a free Cowlishaw school directory which will be handed out in late fall!

Please complete and return to school in an envelope marked “PTA Membership” along with your membership dues and donation (if any) Membership Dues: $14   Tax deductible donation $

Total Amt $_________  Cash/Check   Check No. ______________

Member’s Last Name: ________________________ First Name(s): ________________________

Member’s Last Name: ________________________ First Name(s): ________________________

Address: _______________________________________________________________________

Phone #: ________________________ Email: ________________________

Child(ren)’s Last Name(s)   First Name:   Grade:   Teacher

________________________  __________________________   __________________________

________________________  __________________________   __________________________

________________________  __________________________   __________________________