



Pointing the Way

Summer 2010



A Publication of Fishers Pointe Cooperative Preschool

Calendar of Events

August

- 12 - Playdate at River Road Park(12575 River Road, Carmel) @ 10am
- 12 - Board Meeting at FPCP @7pm
- 17 - Panda Class Coffee @ 7pm
- 17 - Teddies Class Coffee @ 8pm
- 18 - Koalas Class Coffee @7pm
- 18 - Grizzlies Class Coffee @8pm
- 20 - Summer Picnic at Brooks School Park(117870 Brook School Road, Fishers) @ 10:30am
- 26 - Orientation @ 6:30pm
- 31 - TB Testing & Meet the Teacher Day(Teddies & Pandas) @ 10-11am

September

- 2 - TB Testing & Meet the Teacher Day(Koalas & Grizzlies) @ 10-11am
- 7 - First Day of School for Pandas/Teddies
- 8 - First Day of School for Koalas/Grizzlies
- 14 - Parent Ed, Dealing with Separation Anxiety @7pm
- 16/17 - Coffee Talk: Getting to know Fishers Pointe @9:30am

President's Prose

It's hard to believe that our summer vacation is almost over! Hamilton Southeastern students will be returning to school in a few short days. That means that Labor Day is just around the corner and Fishers Pointe Cooperative Preschool will begin its 14th school year! We are looking forward to a great year! We are thrilled to introduce new changes to the school this year including the addition of a new class, as well as welcoming many new members. We are also very excited about our upcoming relocation at the conclusion of this school year. Our search for a new facility is underway and we are confident that we will find a great new space for our school!

We are happy to welcome back Teddies teacher Teresa Hinkle. Mrs. Teresa took a leave of absence last year so that she could enjoy spending time with her youngest daughter. Former Bears teacher Marlo Landis will be teaching our new 2/3's Grizzlies class. Carla Bidwell is returning as teacher of our three year old Koalas class. Last, but certainly not least, Judy Barmann will be returning to teach the four year old Pandas class. For more information on our teachers and Executive Board members, please read their biographies on page 2 of the newsletter.

There are several upcoming events that we look forward to seeing you at. Let's kick off the school year with our annual summer picnic on Friday, August 20th at 10:30am at Brooks School Park in Fishers. All members, both new and returning, are encouraged to attend! A pitch-in will be provided by the board. All beef hot dogs will be provided. An Evite will be sent, so please take the time to RSVP.

Our Orientation meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 26 from 6:30-9:00 p.m. And will be held at the preschool. This meeting is for parents only. You will receive the school calendar, bi-laws, and policies and procedures. Please be sure to bring your calendar and a notebook since we will be giving you a lot of information! Also consider bringing your checkbook if you are interested in signing up for TB testing, purchasing school t-shirts, or buying mums through our fall flower sale. We will also be accepting checks for supply fees.

We look forward to the start of a great school and hope to meet all of you soon!

Cooperatively,
Lisa Switzer and Courtney Floyd
FPCP Co-Presidents

Class Coffees

What is a class coffee? Class coffees are typically held every other month in the evening, away from school. Class coffees provide a chance for members to get to know each other and their teachers outside of the classroom. One Parent Ed Credit will be earned for your attendance. We will be having our first class coffees the week before Orientation at the preschool, so that parents can become familiar with classrooms, schedules, and teacher expectations. Please plan on attending and bring your calendars so that you may sign up for your classroom participation days. You will also sign up for a time when your child can meet his or her teacher. The class coffees are as follows:

- Tuesday, August 17th Pandas from 7-8pm
- Tuesday, August 17th Teddies from 8-9pm
- Wednesday, August 18th Koalas from 7-8pm
- Wednesday, August 18th Grizzlies from 8-9pm

Orientation Update

FPCP Member Orientation will be held Thursday, August 26 at the preschool.

Orientation is intended for parents only. Babysitting will **not** be available. We will have an optional pitch-in for snacks. Social time and refreshments will be from 6:30-6:45 and Orientation will begin promptly at 6:45, and end around 9:00. Please plan on returning all of your paperwork and health forms. Supply fees will also be accepted that night and are as follows:

- Teddies: \$60
- Grizzlies: \$65
- Koalas: \$70
- Pandas: \$110

We will also have FPCP t-shirts available, as well as order forms for our fall flower sale.

If you are interested in having a TB test at FPCP during Meet the Teacher Days, you will need to pay the \$13 testing fee in advance at Orientation.

Membership Paperwork & TB Test Reminders

Please bring the following paperwork to Orientation on August 26th: Your *signed* Member Contract, Student Information Form, Health Record, TB test Form, and Child Protection Policy. To easily obtain your child's health records, send the form in a self-addressed stamped envelope to your child's pediatrician. Allow approximately a week for them to return it to you. These forms should be completed and returned to the school by the start of the school year. Your child will not be able to attend class on the first day of school, if your paperwork is not complete.

All participating members must have a TB test administered annually. Again this year, we are pleased to offer TB testing through Visiting Nurse Services on our Meet the Teacher Days. On August 31st, TB tests will be administered from 10-11am at FPCP for \$13. You must return on Thursday, September 2nd between 10-11am to have the testing site examined by a nurse. The \$13 must be paid in advance at Orientation, so please come prepared. TB tests can also be done at the Hamilton County Health Department or through your physician's office. Parents will not be allowed to participate in the classroom without a TB test.

Meet the Teacher

Children will have the opportunity to meet their teachers during classroom visits on August 31st and September 2nd. Teachers will use this time to get to know their new students, show the students the classrooms, and may take their pictures for use at a later time. The schedule is as follows:

- Tuesday, August 31st: Teddies meet Mrs. Teresa and Pandas meet Mrs. Barmann
- Thursday, September 2nd: Grizzlies meet Ms. Marlo and Koalas meet Mrs. B

FPCP Book Club

Did you know that FPCP has a book club? During the 2009-2010 school year, several members formed a book club that meets monthly in members' homes. If you are interested or would just like more information, please contact Joselyn Moore at cmoore0518@gmail.com.

ATTENTION
ALL NEW FPCP MEMBERS

SAVE THESE DATES:

Mon. 10-4-10 9a-12n

Thur. 10-7-10 9a-12n

We will hold mandatory CPT (Classroom Participation Training) class on these two mornings. As a new member of a co-op, you are required to attend this 6 hour class in order to participate with your child in the classroom. More information and details on this will be available at the start of the school year. Child care for siblings will be provided. For questions or concerns contact;

**Angela Noble ~ New Member Liaison/Ambassador
angelaknoble@hotmail.com
FPCP Koalas mom to Miles**

Fishers Pointe Cooperative School Board Members

Teachers

Judy Barmann

Judy is married to her high school sweetheart, Kelly, and they are the parents of four grown children. She and her husband are both graduates of the University of Illinois, and longtime residents of Indianapolis. They were co-op parents, themselves, for ten years, while their children were growing up. Since college, Judy has had a number of jobs. She has taught preschool for 15 years, was a kindergarten assistant in Washington Township public schools for 7 years, was a substitute teacher briefly, and currently works part time at Kid's Ink Bookstore in Indianapolis. Not to mention the many years as a full time mom and school volunteer. Judy has been at Fishers Pointe for five years and loves watching and guiding her students throughout their Panda (4/5's) year, as well as working with their parents. She knows very well how co-op provides the best support and friendships for kids and parents for those valuable preschool years.

Carla Bidwell

Greetings to all our new and returning co-op families. My name is Carla Bidwell but the kids call me Mrs. B. and this year I'm teaching the Koalas class and co-teaching the Panda Enrichment class. I begin teaching at Fishers Pointe when the school opened in September of 1996 and take great pride in our great success! I've been involved with co-ops since 1989 when my two children attended Willowcreek Coop. I served on the Parent Cooperative Preschool International Board for two years and have been involved with Indiana Council of Preschool Cooperative (ICPC) since 1994. My own co-op kids are now grown; Patrick is a Purdue graduate and Kelsey is entering her 4th year at Indiana University. My husband Kirk and I live in the Geist area, close to where we both grew up and where much of our extended family live too. I love co-op families and I'm very excited to begin another school year at Fishers Pointe!

Marlo Landis

Hello! My name is Marlo Landis, a.k.a. Miss Marlo. This will be my second year teaching at FPCP. I will be teaching the Grizzlies class. My husband Mike and I moved to the Indianapolis area from Pittsburgh, PA about 5 years ago. We have twin six year old sons Alex and Evan. They are recent graduates of FPCP and will be starting Kindergarten this year. I have a degree in Elementary Education and have nearly 10 years of experience working with children. The preschool years are my favorite! The children are so excited to learn new things. They have such a love of learning! After experiencing Co-op with my own children, I know that this is the best place to nurture that love and watch it grow! I am looking forward to a fun and exciting new year here at FPCP!

Teresa Hinkle

Teresa Hinkle is the teacher for our Teddies class that meets on Tuesdays and Fridays from 9:30-11:15am. She has a Bachelor's of Art in psychology from Purdue University. She has worked in the field of Early Childhood Education for 20+ years. She has certification from the Program for Infants and Toddlers to work with infants and toddlers. She has been a director in childcare as well as a trainer of early childhood educators. She enjoys working in a co-op childcare because she loves to see the relationship of parents and children grow through their experience in co-op. She is married and has 3 beautiful children at home - James, 8-yrs. old; Katelen, 6-yrs. old; and Hailey, 18-months old. James and Katelen are cooperative graduates and are doing great in elementary school!

Board Members

Lisa Switzer, Co-President

Hi, I am Lisa Switzer and I am your Co-President for this school year. I began my journey at FPCP with my oldest daughter Taylor 4 years ago. Taylor started as a Teddy and just this past May graduated as a Panda and will be heading to kindergarten in just a few very short weeks. My youngest daughter Kaylei started as a Cub and will be a Koala this year. I have really enjoyed being a part of Fishers Pointe the last three years and having such a wonderful opportunity to see my children learn and grow right before my eyes. In addition to being a mother and a wife I am also a Registered Nurse in Labor and Delivery at Community Hospital North. I have been a nurse for 9 years and can't think of anything more rewarding than seeing life be brought into this world each and every time I work. I am able to work on the weekends so that I can be home with my children during the week. I am very excited to get this school year started and I cannot wait to get to know each and every one of you.

Courtney Floyd, Co-President

I have a 4 year old daughter named Grace who is in the Pandas class this year. We started at FPCP when Grace was just a Cub. This is our fourth year at FPCP! I love the co-op philosophy and can't imagine us being anywhere else. I am a former special education teacher and I'm still having a hard time deciding what I want to be when I grow up. Being active at FPCP gives me a chance to get back in the classroom. My interests include spending time with family and friends, exercising, watching movies, and shopping. I also love to read and am part of a book club. I am looking forward to an exciting year as Co-President! I look forward to meeting and working with all of our FPCP families.

Rebecca Hollowell, Membership Co-Chair

Hello FPCP Membership! I am Rebecca Hollowell, this will be our 4th year at FPCP. My Husband, Todd, and I have been married for 8 years and have 2 boys, Hunter (a Panda Graduate starting Kindergarten at Brooks School Elementary) and Hayden, who will be a Koala this year! I will be Co-chairing the VP of Membership position for my second year. I am also a part-time Electrophysiology RN for the St. Vincent Heart Center of Indiana and actively involved in operations of Todd's American Family Insurance Agency. We feel quite blessed to have found FPCP and are excited to experience another year!!!!

Joscelyn Moore, Membership Co-Chair

Hello FPCP! I am so excited to begin another year at Fishers Pointe. This is our 4th year with the preschool. This year I will be Co-chairing as the VP of Membership with Rebecca. My husband Colin and I have 3 children. Our oldest Hannah, who is 6, is a graduate of the school and will be attending New Britton as a 1st grader. Marissa, who is 4, will be a Panda this year. We also have Nathan who is 2. Nathan will be a Koala next year. We have loved being a part of Fishers Pointe. We have met so many wonderful families who have become friends to both us and our children. I look forward to another great year!!

Laura Haan, Parent Ed

This is our fourth year at Fishers Pointe. This year I will be serving as the VP of Parent Education. My husband Paul and I, along with our three children, have lived in Fishers for the past three years. Our oldest daughter Ella (6) is a FPCP graduate and heading into first grade this year. Ava (4) will be joining the Pandas class, while our son Elliot (2) will be hanging out at home with me. After teaching both preschool and first grade for many years, I chose to stay home with our children. I really wanted to be involved with their early years of school and finding Fishers Pointe has allowed me to be even more involved than I ever expected.

Bonnie Kandel, Secretary

I am so excited to be participating on the board this year! I will be filling the position of board secretary. This will be our second year at FPCP. My son Porter will be in the Pandas class and Deke will be in the Teddies class. Yep, I love this place so much, we are double co-oping! I have loved the opportunity to work with and befriend fellow parents that are equally involved in their children's education. There is no greater priority in my opinion! My previous life included attending the Art Institute of Portland and earning a degree in design. I have managed design teams in high-end residential design, remodels, and furniture design. I have never found a more creative and supportive community as I have in the co-op experience.

Jenny Edmonds, Ways & Means Co-Chair

Hi, my name is Jenny Edmonds and I am a ways and means co-chair. This will be my 6th year as a co-op mom and I have a 14 year old son named Sam, a 9 year old daughter named Alyssa and my little 4 year old Panda Meggie. I have been married for 16 years to my wonderful Husband Randy.

Kristin Brown, Ways & Means Co-Chair

My name is Kristin Brown, and this will be my third year as a Ways and Means Co-Chair for FPCP. My husband, Matt, and I have two boys: 4 year old Zach, who began attending FPCP as a cub and will be a Panda this year, and 1 year old Josh, who will attend FPCP in the near future. We moved here four years ago and absolutely love calling Fishers our home. I'm a SAHM who also works from home for the Indiana Association of United Ways as a workplace fundraising campaign consultant. I love all that our co-op has to offer, and I look forward to putting the "fun" in fundraising at FPCP again this year!

Patricia Hagelskamp, Assistant Treasurer

This is my first year on the Board of Directors and I will serve as the Assistant Treasurer. I am a graduate of the University of Illinois, and have lived in Indianapolis for 8 years now. I've worked as a Mechanical and Industrial Engineer. Currently, I stay home with my two girls: Ashley (3), Alyssa (1). I am new to Co-oping and I love it. I can't believe I lucked into this wonderful preschool for my daughters. My other interests include: day trading, reading, quilting, exercise, and spending time with my family. I look forward to working with everyone and having a wonderful year at Fishers Pointe!

Sara Heiliger, Health & Safety

My name is Sara Heiliger and this is my second year with FPCP and first year as Health and Safety Chair. My husband and I live in Noblesville with our 3 children. Our oldest daughter Layla (5) is a FPCP graduate and now we are homeschooling. Our son Zayd (3) was a Teddy last year and is excited to go back to co op as a Koala. Our youngest, Aydah is almost two and has fun playing at home with mommy. Professionally, I have a master's degree in Social Work and choose to stay at home with my children but also am trained to work as a doula and enjoy serving families who are planning a birth. I love how FPCP allows me to be hands on with my children's education and continue to educate myself as a parent.

Andrea Summers, Koalas Class Rep

This will be my third year at FPCP - and my second go-around with a Koala! Macy (5) will be in Kindergarten this year at Thorpe Creek Elementary, Ava (3) will be a Koala, and Micah (1) is a future Koala! I have fallen in love with the co-op experience and can't think of a better way to initiate my children's formal learning. I love staying home with my three kids and I am also an adjunct faculty member for Indiana Wesleyan University, teaching classes online and in the evenings. I am looking forward to a great year and meeting new co-op families!

Anthony Gerardot, Communications Chair

This will be my third year on the board as Communications Chair and our fourth year at Fishers Pointe. Our oldest daughter, Janel, is a graduate and will be entering first grade this year. Taylor will be a Panda and Kate will be a Teddy. I became a stay at home Dad shortly after Taylor was born and greatly enjoy my time with the girls. I work part-time as a financial advisor on Fridays while Amy is home with the girls.

Tricia Grabinski, Grizzlies Class Rep

This will be my first year on the Board and I was designated Class Representative for the new Grizzlies class. I am from LaPorte, IN and attended Purdue University where I attained my nursing degree (and met my husband, Jim). I have stayed home with my children since becoming a Mom. Emma is going to be 4 in October and Owen was 1 in May. We've had Emma at Fishers Pointe since she was old enough to be a Cub in 2009 and we are extremely happy with the school. Owen will be a Cub in January and I know he will love it just as much as Emma has. Co-op has provided all of us with so much friendship, fun and a whole new family! I love to read, jog, cook and spend as much time out and about as possible. Can't wait to start a new year!

Jill Wamsley, Treasurer

This is my second year at Fishers Pointe and first as the treasurer. My husband, Rob and I moved to Fishers almost 2 years ago from Columbus, OH with our two children. Our daughter, Mackenzie (7) is a second grader at Brooks School Elementary. Our son, Kieffer (3) will be in the Koalas class. We enjoy camping, hiking, riding bikes and taking our dog for long walks. I'm looking forward to another year of fun in Kieffer's class.

Angela Noble, Ambassador/New Member Liaison

This is our 4th year at FPCP. My husband, Jim, and I have 2 boys. Dylan, age 6, is a FPCP graduate and headed into 1st grade. Miles, age 3, will be in Koalas this year and has been in the Cubs and Teddies classes in the previous years. I have served on the board for 3 years, each year experiencing a new position. I currently stay at home with our boys and am also a Silpada Designs Representative. I have really enjoyed participating in the classroom and getting to know other member and look forward to another exciting school year!

Yslea Rasmussen, Teddies Class Rep

I am looking forward to an exciting year as the class rep for Teddies. My daughter, Austin, will be a Teddy with Miss Teresa this year. She was a little Cub last year and absolutely loves the coop. My husband, Chris and I love watching Austin learn and grow in such a nurturing environment.

Mary Driskell, Pandas Class Rep

I am very excited to be this year's Panda's class representative. This is my third year with FPCP. My husband, Christopher and I have three children, Mia(7), Ava(5) and Ian(2). We LOVE Fishers Pointe because it's play-based curriculum is unmatched. I enjoy cooking, baking and learning about nutrition and a healthier lifestyle. I spend most of my free time researching therapies and alternative medical treatments for autism spectrum disorders.