

# BANNOCKBURN BANNER

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## SCHOOL ENHANCEMENTS KEEP PTA BUSY OVER SUMMER

Roughly a dozen Bannockburn PTA members turned out in mid-August to help paint the school's K-1-2 hall. Formerly pink, the primary grades corridor is now a sunshine yellow.

"Thank you volunteers for the spectacular paint job for the new Yellow Hall," said Ross Mills, 2nd-grade team leader. "It's twice as bright and seems twice as big. No longer will we have to endure the constant Pepto-Bismol jokes."

The last time Bannockburn was painted was following its remodeling in the late 1980s — roughly 15 years ago. With more pressing needs at other schools, MCPS has been unable to provide the manpower to spruce

up many of its school buildings. That's where the PTA was able to help.

Given the deep pink that was on the walls, the painting projected required four coats — one of primer, three of paint — and took three days. PTA Co-president Janice Huey and 5th-grade parent Linda Guild spearheaded the project.

The PTA extends its thanks to all who took time out of their summer to pick up a brush.



Photo by Dave Johanson



Photo by Dave Johanson

## PTA'S LANDSCAPING ROCKS!!

The corner of Bannockburn Drive and Dalroy Lane — long an eyesore in the community — has gotten a facelift thanks to Jim Mahaffie, chair of the PTA's Landscaping Committee.

After receiving a donation of stone, Mahaffie built a lovely wall beneath the wooden Bannockburn Elementary School sign at the bottom of the

hill. He also scattered a number of large stones to the right of the path leading up the hill.

With more work still to be done, Mahaffie is looking for volunteers. Contact him at [emahaffie@aol.com](mailto:emahaffie@aol.com) or 301/320-6125.



Photo by Karen Clarkson

## PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE UPDATE

After a successful fund-raising effort led by parents Hilary Joel and Lori Karaosmanoglu, the Bannockburn PTA established a committee last May to examine options for replacing the school’s aging, wooden equipment.

Following a series on meetings with MCPS and a playground equipment vendor, the committee learned that its options were limited and that the cost of a single structure could exceed \$20,000. Having decided on a possible piece of equipment, the

committee is awaiting word on the type of ground preparation and cover that will be needed before installation can occur.

The committee plans to meet with Principal Kim Bosnic once school begins to discuss both the short- and long-term needs of the playground. With MCPS pushing for the removal of all wooden structures from school playgrounds, the PTA may need to consider replacing additional structures over the next year or two.

Despite MCPS concerns about the safety of wooden playground structures, the school system budgets a minimal amount of money each year – roughly \$75,000 – to cover playground equipment purchases at all of its elementary schools. The bulk of that money goes to fund equipment at schools under construction.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW

The next few weeks are busy ones for Bannockburn parents. Please take note of these upcoming events and activities – many of which are funded and administered by the PTA.

Mon., Aug. 30th	Newcomers’ Tea	Media Cntr. @ 9:30am
Thurs., Sept. 2nd	Drama Club Parent Meeting	A-P Room @ 7pm
Mon., Sept. 6th	No School—Labor Day	
Wed., Sept. 8th	Back-to-School Night K-2	Classrooms @ 7pm
Thurs., Sept. 9th	Back-to-School Night 3-5	Classrooms @ 7pm
Thurs., Sept. 16th	No School—Rosh Hashanah	
Fri., Sept. 17th	Welcome Back Picnic	Playground @ 6pm
Wed., Sept. 22nd	Volunteer Training	Media Cntr. @ 7pm
Tues., Sept. 28th	Math Night, 3-5	TBA @ 7pm
Wed., Sept. 29th	Math Night, K-2	TBA @ 7pm
Mon., Oct. 4th	Early Dismissal, 1 pm	
Tues., Oct. 5th	PTA Meeting	Media Cntr. @ 7:30pm

## ON THE WEB

The Bannockburn PTA, in conjunction with Media Center Specialist Anita Hardy, has been working to upgrade the school’s web site. The goal is to make it more attractive, informative, and user-friendly.

Many thanks to parents Benno Schmidt, Ned Goddard, Peter Hobby and Gina Siddiqui for the time and thought they have put into improving our presence on the Internet.

If you haven’t checked out the site, you can visit it at:

<http://www.mcps.k12.md.us/schools/bannockburnes/>



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