



National Volunteer Week 2013



Dear PALS and Community Partners, and all who volunteer in any way!

It is that time of year when we pause to formally thank you all for your assistance and commitment each year. We don't need this week to remind us of the value you add to all our lives, but most importantly the lives of the children at our schools and in our communities.

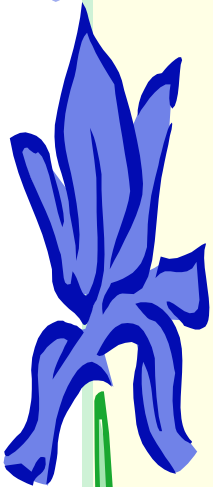

When you arrive at the school with your smiles, the children smile and have a skip in their step. They watch for you and appreciate your presence in their lives.

From the moment children enter the school in the morning to the wonderful smells of breakfast, to the end of the day when they play a sport, our students have an enriched education because you care.

The children have the advantage to experience activities in sports, crafts, and excursions through your efforts. Each year new activities are added with much excitement and enjoyment.

It is really heart-warming to watch them open up, share, and **try** these new activities because of your involvement. This is how they learn more about themselves.

With your support by working as team to enhance student learning:

- The children meet new role models and mentors
 - New opportunities arise for them at all levels
 - They know we all care about their futures and them as individuals
 - They are empowered to feel good, take risks, and develop positive values and social competencies.
 - Families have benefited as the children share their experiences
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The children are motivated to strive at school. They love to share their successes with each of you. Your smiles and encouragement mean the world to them, the staff and their parents.

Whether . . .

- **working directly with the children and the schools**
- **helping behind the scenes in many, many ways**
- **fundraising to support BBBS and other causes that support our children**
- **providing new opportunities for children and their parents before they reach school age**
- **providing opportunities at the high school level with career guidance and more**
- **tutoring at all levels**
- **or providing enriching opportunities for the children outside of the school environment**

. . . we are so glad to have you as part of our school communities – as part of our school families and as an important part of our children’s lives.

We also want to thank the staff and school community for welcoming us into their world – without their support and hard work, none of this would be possible. Their countless volunteer hours on behalf of the children and to make our many initiatives viable are essential and we appreciate it.

They are there for the children day in and out, providing them with the most important tool they will have for their future . . . a good education. You are there providing the extra support they need to make this happen!

Thank you all on behalf of PALS!

Caitlin Corkum, Susan Tipper, and Deborah Fisher

