

May 7, 2009

Dear Central Parents,

The end of the school year is almost here. The PTO is in the midst of preparing for next year, and we need your help!

Room parents are needed for all classes for the 2009-2010 school year. Your involvement makes a difference. Studies show that children tend to thrive in the classroom when parents actively participate, and parents become better equipped to support their child's schoolwork. Also, it's a great way to meet people and have fun! So even if time is tight, becoming involved at school benefits you, your child, and the school.

As a gentle reminder: each classroom at Central has a Room Parent team, which includes a lead room parent, assistant room parents and helper room parents.

- The **lead room parent**, in collaboration with the classroom teacher, organizes and plans classroom activities, including parties and field trips. The lead room parent also coordinates teacher gifts and communicates news from the classroom. In addition, the lead room parent provides support to the library committee, as needed, which may include organizing classroom library volunteers.
- **Assistant room parents** may also be asked to chaperone field trips, assist with classroom events, and/or help the lead room parent as needed.
- The **helper room parent** provides a wonderful opportunity to participate for working parents or for those with very young children, because this position does not require their presence during school hours. Specifically, helper room parents may provide snacks, beverages or paper products for a class party or they may assist with other projects at their convenience. *(Please note that younger siblings are not allowed to participate in school field trips, classroom parties, etc.)*

Around the beginning of the school year (August, 2009), room parents will be notified of their assignment. A gathering will be planned to discuss responsibilities, catch up on news, and to socialize with friends.

Moms, Dad, and Grandparents are welcome to volunteer as room parents. **If you are interested in being a room parent, please complete the form below and return it to the PTO mailbox in the Central School office by Friday, May 22, 2009.** Please feel free to contact us should you have any questions or comments.

Sincerely yours,

Nancy Hutchings and Jennifer Sedivy (see directory for contact information)
Central PTO 1st Vice- Presidents 2009-2010

(Detach and return to PTO mailbox)

Parent's name: _____ Home phone: _____
 Home address: _____
 E-mail address: _____ Cell phone: _____
 Student name(s) and grade(s) as of 2009-2010 school year: _____

I am interested in helping my child's class as the following (circle where applicable):

1) Lead Room Parent, grade __, 2) Assistant Room Parent, grade __, or 3) Helper, grade __

Do you have special interests and talents you would like to share (i.e., carpenter, computer, crafts, sewing, art, music, events planner, etc.)?
