

PTO PERSPECTIVE



AN INFORMATION SOURCE FROM THE SOMERVILLE HIGH SCHOOL PTO

WWW.SHSPTO.ORG

FALL 2013

Welcome to the 2013-14 school year!

The SHS PTO has been busy organizing fundraisers for the school year. September starts with the annual fall flower sale. Be sure to place your orders! The form can be found on the PTO website at www.shspto.org. The website is updated consistently with all pertinent information regarding fundraisers and upcoming events. Be sure to check it out.

Here are just a few of the things the PTO provides for SHS students:

- '2017' t-shirts were purchased and given to the incoming freshman at their pizza social held on August 29th.
- At the end of the first marking period the sophomore class will have completed their driving education course. In celebration, the PTO will provide each student with an insurance card holder. (Congratulations to the students. It's an exciting time for them, and maybe just a little stressful for their parents!!)
- In March, the juniors are provided with donut and juice refreshments during HSPA testing.
- June is a big month for the SENIORS! An ice cream social is held in the courtyard as yearbooks are handed out. Additionally, the PTO sponsors PROJECT GRADUATION, a fun-filled night (into early morning) event held at Rutgers' Sonny Werblin Center.

For all these wonderful events to happen (and many others), the PTO needs parental volunteers. We work throughout the year raising funds to support these events for the kids and we need your help. Come support the PTO.

The dates for this year's meeting are: October 29, 2013; December 11, 2013; March 18, 2014 & May 14, 2014.

The meetings are held in the SHS library and begin at 7 pm. If you are unable to attend meetings but would like to volunteer your time, or if you have any questions, please contact one of the officers listed on the next page. ♦

Thank you,

Sandy Costa, PTO President

IMPORTANT DATES!!

Fri., Sept. 6	First day of school (full day)
Sat., Sept. 7	Market Day pick up 10-11am, SHS Cafeteria
Thurs., Sept. 19	Back to School night, 7pm, SHS
Fri., Sept. 20	Fall Plant Sale pick up
Sat., Oct. 12	Market Day pick up 10-11am, SHS Cafeteria
Mon., Oct. 14	No school (staff development)
Thurs., Oct. 29	PTO meeting, SHS Library, 7pm

Project Graduation

What better way to spend your last night together as Ville Seniors than to attend Project Graduation 2013. This year 254 seniors, 84% of the graduating class, returned to the gym after their graduation dinners to board buses headed to the Sonny Werblin Recreation Center at Rutgers University. What a great turnout! During the evening students enjoyed DJ-led karaoke and dancing.

Seniors swam in the Olympic size swimming pool and played basketball, volleyball and racquetball. The inflatable Bungee Run was a huge hit as was the Temporary Tattoo table, three caricaturists, the photo booth and the air brush t-shirt booth. Sub sandwiches, beverages and tons of snacks were available all evening.

Pizza arrived at 2 am and was devoured shortly thereafter! At 2:30 am the 3rd annual Project Graduation BINGO game began!

All the students participated in ten exciting, suspenseful games of BINGO to win some great prizes including five 19" TVs, 4 "Beats" Headphones – all generously donated by the Project Graduation committee.

At 4:30 am six bus loads of very sleepy students headed back to the high school and then home for a power nap before their weekend celebrations continued.

Thank you to all who helped make this event a major success. A special note of thanks to all of the families who so generously donated money and/or prizes to Project Graduation this year. This year's expenses totaled \$23,701. Fundraisers alone are not enough. The event would not be possible without your contributions. ♦



June Balloons 2013!

Over 2,096 balloons were ordered this past June for the Class of 2013, decorating mailboxes all over Somerville and Branchburg. The cost of the balloons remained at \$5 each making this an affordable, popular fundraiser again this year. This year's event raised \$5,708 for Project Graduation! Many thanks to all of the PTO volunteers who inflated balloons, assembled bouquets and delivered to our seniors' homes. This successful fundraiser would not be possible without you. Special thanks to the North Branch Reformed Church for allowing us to use their facilities for "Balloon Central." ♦

Princeton Review SAT Practice Test! November 16th

Look in the coming weeks for more information on our website!

What is Market Day?

Market Day is one of PTO's best fundraisers. Each month, Market Day offers more than 160 convenient and nutritious products at competitive prices, such as poultry, meats, seafood, family meals, appetizers, breakfast items, and desserts. Order online at www.marketday.com or look for info updates on Power School. Market Day delivers the orders to SHS, and customers can pick up their food (see dates below) in the cafeteria. A percentage of each order is given back to the school. Last year, Market Day raised more than \$2,000 for the PTO. Helping on a Saturday morning for an hour or two is a great way to get involved with the PTO. Please contact **Clare Daly** with any questions. Her email is: clareedaly@yahoo.com ♦

Market Day Pick-Up Dates 2013-2014 Saturdays, 10-11am, SHS Cafeteria

September 7	October 12	November 9	December 7
January 18	February 15	March 15	April 12
May 17	June 7		



HALLOWEEN IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER!

Before you purchase your Halloween costumes this year, please consider our new fundraiser that supports SHS Project Graduation. Look for the form on the PTO website soon and watch for more details on Power School. Please visit www.wholesalecostumeclub.com/fundraiser and use the **Promo Code FUN648**. The company will donate 15% of all sales to Project Graduation. Please feel free to share this code with family and friends anywhere in the USA! ♦

Thank You for Supporting Our Project Graduation Fundraisers

Balloons in June	\$ 5,700
Arvin's Christmas Tree	\$ 224
California Pizza Kitchens	\$ 311
Senior Pictures	\$ 515
Commencement Flowers	\$ 118
Prom Flowers	\$ 380
Halloween Costumes	\$ 335
Bagel Sales	\$ 1,627
Plant Sales	\$ 1,912
Practice SAT/ACT	\$ 1,600
Other Local Eateries	\$ 525
Grand Total	\$ 13,247

2013-2014 PTO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President, Sandy Costa
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Vice President, Michele Grimm
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Treasurer, Carolyn Lang
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Secretary, Kim Fraser
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WHEN DOES THE PTO MEET?

Meetings are 7-8 PM in the library.

Tuesday, October 29th

Wednesday, December 11th

Tuesday, March 18th

Wednesday, May 14th

SHS VILLE Clothing Fall Sale

Start the 2013-2014 year off right and show your school spirit by purchasing orange and black VILLE clothing! During the fall season, classic items such as blankets, pinnies, sweatshirts, long- and short-sleeved T-shirts, sweatpants, flannel pants, shorts, knit hats, and bags will be available in a range of sizes. Many new items will also be added to these traditional offerings. All items will be available at the September 19th, Back to School night. Last year, several items sold out, so plan to purchase early! VILLE clothing and accessories also make great birthday or holiday gifts, or stocking stuffers!



Our order form can be downloaded right from our website. Visit us at www.shspto.org to start building your 'VILLE wardrobe today! Usually, clothing items are sent home with your student. BUT, if your order is a gift or surprise, other arrangements can be made when you place your order.

If you have any questions about VILLE clothing, please contact PTO Clothing Chairperson Michele Grimm at michelegrimm@verizon.net or Rosa Coulson at Rosa.Coulson@verizon.net. ♦

Join the SHS PTO!

The Somerville High School Parent Teacher Organization is a group of volunteers who raise funds and run events for the benefit of all students. In the past, the PTO has provided funding for a portable sound system, a defibrillator, and the stage curtains for the Auditorium. The PTO annually awards scholarships to seniors who meet certain criteria. The College Financial Aid Workshop is sponsored by the PTO in January. The PTO sponsors "Balloons-in-June" and Project Graduation each year. Project Graduation is a safe, drug/alcohol free, overnight celebration held the night of graduation for SHS's graduating seniors. And, the PTO provides all Freshmen with a T-shirt. The PTO is always looking for new ideas and help! It's only \$10 to join. Register online at www.shspto.org or look for your membership form that is included in this Back to School mailing.

QUESTIONS?

Email Kim Fraser at kfraser21@verizon.net. ♦