

Armchair Giving Campaign

February, 2011

Dear Barrington Middle School Families,

We are writing to ask for your continued support of the Parent Teacher Organization (PTO). Your generous donations have enabled us to enhance and enrich our children's education at Barrington Middle School.

Here are just a few examples of what you have made possible:

- Sound system for the auditorium
- Sound system for the library
- LCD Projectors
- Calculators for students
- Field Trips, including events like Exchange City (7th Grade)
- Assembly Enrichment Programs such as Anti-Bullying, Arts Programs, and Bike Safety
- Books and materials for the BMS Library
- Beautification of the school grounds
- Band instruments to be used at the school by the students

You may think, "Don't our property taxes cover these expenses?" Unfortunately, they do not. Our school system operates on a very lean budget. Support from organizations like the BMS PTO allows our school system to do things that help to separate Barrington from the other school systems in Rhode Island.

Over the past several years, the BMS PTO has had many different fundraisers to support these expenditures. On average, the BMS PTO receives only 50% of the money raised. This year the PTO has decided to forego some of our past fundraisers like Cookie Dough preferring that 100% of the monies donated directly benefit our children through the **Armchair Giving Contribution Campaign**. This is an option for families to simply write a check as a PTO donation, in lieu of or in addition to other fundraising efforts. It requires minimal effort on your part, is tax-deductible, and 100% of your donation goes directly to support the school.

Our children's education is very important to us and these projects help to enrich our children's experiences while at BMS. All funds raised from this campaign will directly benefit your child. For this reason, please consider giving!! Many companies will even match donations made by employees allowing you to double your gift! We are including the donation form with this letter. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or comments.

Thank you for your generosity!

Clare Connelley - jwconnelley@cox.net
Kate Lentz - wlentz65@msn.com

BMS Armchair Giving Contribution Program Form 2011

Please make checks payable to BMS PTO and return to the school.

The BMS PTO is a fully-certified tax-exempt 501(c)3/not-for-profit charitable organization.

Name(s) _____
Address _____ City _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ Student Grade Level(s) _____

Circle amount enclosed \$15 \$30 \$50 \$100 \$150 \$250 other _____

My employer will match my gift ____yes ____no

A match form is enclosed ____yes ____no

The simplest way to return your donation is to print off this form and mail it (or drop off) to the school.

BMS
261 Middle Highway
Barrington, RI 02806
Attn: BMS PTO Armchair Giving

Thank you,
BMS PTO