



September 2016
Issue 1

Linn Grove PTO



LIKE us on Facebook at Linn Grove PTO, follow us on Twitter @LGPTO, and find information and events on our website www.linngrovePTO.org. Email: linngroveptoemail@gmail.com

Welcome Back!

Hopefully everyone had a great summer and are getting back into the swing of things with school starting! Can you believe it's 4 weeks into the new school year already?

It's been great being able to catch up with families at Chalk the Sidewalk, Meet & Greet, Skate Night and our 1st PTO Meeting.

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Your PTO Executive Board

President:
Kara Larson

Vice President:
Kelly Ackley

Co-Treasurer:
Kelly Anderson

Co-Treasurer:
Sheri McCormick

Correspondence
Secretary:
Angie Lawrence

Recording Secretary:
Angela Lincoln

Update from the PTO

This year we will be sending home our Newsletters electronically to cut down on printing. We want to get you as much information as possible but we know sometimes that can be a lot of paper going home. So once a month between the 10th and 15th we are hoping to get you our monthly PTO Newsletter. We will have a few hard copies available to pick up in the lobby of Linn Grove.

We hope everyone has had a chance to LIKE Linn Grove PTO on Facebook, this is where you can stay up to date on everything going on at Linn Grove. We will post events, reminders for picture day, no school days along with contests for Box Tops! Our Website is also a great place for information. We did an overhaul on it at the end of last year and are always adding more sections to it. If there is something you see missing that you would like to see on the website please let us know!

We have added a few new FREE events this year, a Trunk or Treat and a Science Night! We hope more and more families are able to come out to our events to enjoy time in our community.

NEW!!

Something some of you may have noticed, our NEW Track is in! It looks amazing and we have had so many kids and staff comment on how nice it is! We are still hoping to put in fitness stations this coming spring. Check the last page of the newsletter for how you can help, or maybe someone you know!

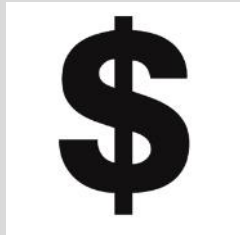
Something else new this year is our One and Done Fundraising. We have heard some families say they wish they could write ONE check for the year and be done. You have always been able to do that but this year we are promoting it more than ever! For our budget if we receive \$70 per family we would be able to fund everything we want to do this year, including helping the Library get a facelift! We know not everyone can donate \$70 and we understand. That is why we have other things that fill in those gaps like; McTeacher Night, Box Tops, Culver's Night and more. Please, do not feel like you need to give \$70, we always want you to feel comfortable giving what you can. \$5 goes a long way in helping us.

Please do not hesitate to contact us at anytime, we like any and all feedback on our events, fundraisers and communication.

We are all here for the students, staff and community of Linn Grove.



BENEFITING ALL AREA STUDENTS



Wow! Did you know last year we received **\$1,824.27** with Hy-Vee's Cash 4 Student program?

Since we know Linn Grove loves goals and we are really good at reaching them, let's raise the bar a bit and set a **goal of \$2200.00** for the 2016/2017 school year!!

We would like to thank everyone who helped by turning in receipts and taking their time to add them up for us!

Cash 4 Students is a simple program based on the collection of Hy-Vee grocery receipts starting May 1, 2016 till March 31, 2017. Customers save their Hy-Vee receipts and turn them into the school of their choice. ANY receipts from Hy-Vee count as long as Hy-Vee is at the top. A few different receipts you can turn in are:

- Gas receipts
- Starbucks receipts (inside Hy-Vee)
- Medication receipts
- Car Wash receipts (Wilson Ave Hy-Vee has a car wash)
- Hy-Vee Dining Room Receipts
- Grocery Receipts

Based on the receipt total, including tax this year, a donation from Hy-Vee will be made to the collecting school. The amount donated will be \$1 for every \$200 in receipts submitted. Schools can use the donated money for whatever needs the school has.

Cash 4 Students Details:

- **Receipt tapes dated May 1, 2016 - March 31, 2017 are accepted**
- **All 14 Hy-Vee Food Stores and Hy-Vee Drugstores are participating in the Marion/Cedar Rapids Area**
- **The top 5 schools receive an additional \$500**
- **Ask grandparents, uncles, aunts, neighbors, anyone willing to help Linn Grove**

Turn your receipts to your class or look for the Hy-Vee Receipt bin in the entry way. You can mark them:

Hy-Vee Receipts
ATTN Linn Grove PTO/Carmen Bell

As always we appreciate when you add them up (with tax this year) for us, but you can also turn them in not already added up!

Questions please contact Carmen Bell at bells4ever@aol.com or the PTO at Linngroveptoemail@gmail.com

Box Tops for Education

Welcome back to school, parents! My name is Kelly Ackley and I'm thrilled to be the Box Tops for Education™ Coordinator for Linn Grove Elementary. Clipping Box Tops is an easy way for you to help our school earn cash. Last school year, we earned \$3,387.40 and used the money to help fund things like ROAR, Movie Nights, Friends & Family Breakfast and our Library. This school year, our school's earnings goal is \$4,000.00

Are you a Box Tops member? Sign up at www.BTFE.com to stay updated on our school's earnings and find a full list of hundreds of participating products. Members also receive exclusive coupon offers and recipes and can learn about extra ways for our school to earn more cash.

There are so many products that have Box Tops on them, here are a few, but you can find them all at: <http://www.boxtops4education.com/participating-products>

And remember, check the expiration date on all Box Tops, if they are past the expiration date we cannot turn them in. Check out Linngrovepto.org for information on upcoming contests.

Current Contest from now until September 30th is our Book Fair Contest!!

For every 5 Box tops you turn in your student's name will be entered in to win a \$5 gift card to our October Book Fair! One child from EACH class will win! One classroom in each pod will also win a \$25 gift card to spend at the book fair for their class, this is based on which class catches the most Pokemon (aka Box Tops).

To get the kids excited we decided this contest would have a Pokemon theme and boy oh boy they are EXCITED!!



Sam's Club Bonus eBox Tops

1. Purchase 3 or more Box Tops for Education products in one transaction at Sam's Club between 8/16/16 and 11/16/16.
2. Snap a picture of the receipt showing the date, UPC code and total purchase amount. Send the picture to samsclub@btfereceipts.com by 11/30/16
3. ENTER YOUR CODE. Go to <https://generalmills.promo.eprize.com/btfesamsclub/> and enter your code by 12/16/16 and our school will get the eBox Tops we have earned!

Here is the chart of how many eBox Tops we earn with the number of products purchased.

PRODUCTS	EBOXTOPS
3	100(\$10 value)
6	200(\$20 value)
9	300(\$30 value)
12	400(\$40 value)

Also check out our NEW Box Top FB Page: **Linn Grove Box Toppers**, you will find contests and bonus information!

Announcing the new Box Tops App!

This is a great way for us to earn additional BONUS Box Tops!
This does not take place of the ones you clip and send in, these are just bonus ones!



NEW BOX TOPS BONUS APP

Earn even more cash to help your school get what it needs through the Box Tops for Education® Bonus App. Turn your everyday receipts into cash for your school. It's free and as easy as 1-2-3. **Here's how it works:**

BUY.

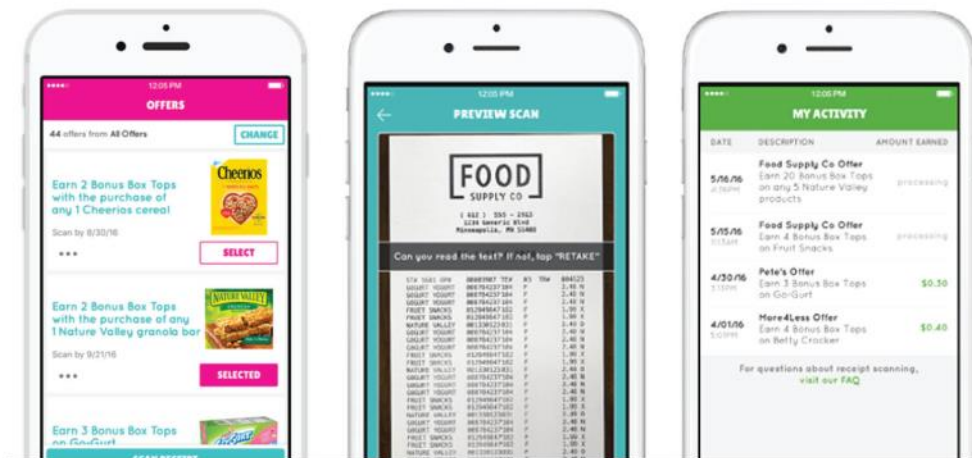
FIND OFFERS.
BUY PRODUCTS.

SCAN.

SCAN YOUR
RECEIPT.

EARN.

WATCH EARNINGS
STACK UP.



You can earn Bonus Box Tops in the Box Tops Bonus App in combination with the on-pack Box Tops clip and any other coupon, discount, store program or promotion.

DOWNLOAD THE APP TODAY!





Pop Tabs & Ronald McDonald House

Did you know that Linn Grove collects pop tabs (aka pull tabs) to donate to Ronald McDonald House?

Collecting the pull-tabs from cans is an easy and fun way to support the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Eastern Iowa & Western Illinois.

The pull-tabs collected at the Ronald McDonald House of Iowa City are shipped to a recycling center for processing. RMHC of Eastern Iowa & Western Illinois receives money from the recycling center based on how many pounds of pull-tabs get delivered.

Annually the pull-tab collection program generates **over \$14,000** to support services for the families and children that RMHC of Eastern Iowa & Western Illinois serves. **Every pull-tab saved helps!**



So save those pop tabs, put them in a ziplock bag and drop them off at Linn Grove! There is bin in the front lobby marked for Pop Tabs.

Want to learn more about RMHC, go to <http://rmhc-eiwi.org/> and read more about what you can do to help and the amazing stories of families helped by Ronald McDonald House.

Our caps YOUR CAUSE

Prairie Farms Our Caps Your Cause is a new program we just signed up for. Linn Grove received 5 cents for every cap code entered in online for Linn Grove. Once we hit 1,000 codes they will send us a check.

How Does it Work?

1. Begin by purchasing Prairie Farms milk in gallon or half gallon sizes
2. Peel off the Prairie Farms cap sticker to reveal a unique, redeemable code
3. Click the Enter Cap Codes Button at <http://www.prairiefarms.com/our-caps-your-cause.aspx>
4. From the drop down menu, select Linn Grove PTO
5. Enter your codes (up to 5 separate ones may be added at a time for quicker entry)
6. Click the Redeem Codes button

That's it!

For every code redeemed, Prairie Farms will give **5 cents** to your selected charity. Small change that makes a big difference.



If you have any questions please contact the PTO at : linngroveptoemail@gmail.com

Upcoming PTO Events



September

September 23rd - Red Black Track Attack Day Event; held during specials. Check our website for more information.

September 23rd - RBTA Family Fun Run/Walk Evening Event 5:30-7:30 pm at Linn Grove. See the website for more info!

September 27th - McTeacher Night at Marion McDonalds (by Walmart) 5:00-8:00 Linn Grove receives 10% back on ALL orders that night! And our Linn Grove staff will wait on YOU!



PTO Meeting



October

October 4th - PTO Meeting 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm in the Media Center, Childcare is provided. Come for all or part of the meeting.

October 18th - NFL60 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm at Linn Grove; kids come and have some fun for an hour!



October 25th - Culver's Night 4:00-Close, come and invite all your friends to eat at Culvers for Linn Grove! We will receive 10% back on all sales during our time

October 29th - TRUNK or TREAT 4:30-6:00 we will have cars lined up in the bus lane for the kids to go around and get some goodies from! We will even have awards for decorated trunks! Look for more information soon!



Volunteers Needed!

We are looking for volunteers to help chair and help out at some of our events this year! Please let the PTO know if you are interested in any of the positions below or if you would like more information. The PTO can not do it all without you, we need help planning and getting volunteers for the events.

We would like all positions to have a Chair and a Co Chair position, especially if we have enough interest! Don't worry if you have never chaired an event, the PTO will help you in any way you need and have materials for you.

Event Chair/Co Chair Positions:

Conference Dinners (Fall and Spring)

Cuddle Up & Read - January

ITBS Snacks - April (could change)

Staff Appreciation Week - May

Breakfast w/Buddies - May

Family Fun Night Co-Chair - May

Family Fun Night Raffle Baskets Chair - May



Please let us know at Linngroveptoemail@gmail.com if you are interested



Red Black Track Attack!!

On September 23rd Linn Grove will be holding their 10th Annual Red Black Track Attack! RBTA is a day of exercise and LOTS of fun! But this year we are going to add more fun by having an evening event! Why should we let the kids have all the fun?

Red Black Track Attack Day Event - Volunteer Sign up @ <http://signup.com/go/q4AQSb>

- All the students at Linn Grove will walk/run around our track during their specials time.
- For each lap the kids are cheered on and rewarded with a jelly bracelet!
- Laps are tracked with the bracelets to determine as a school how far the kids have walked.
- For each 5 laps they walk it equals a mile and then they receive a beaded necklace!
- Mileage goal! Every year we have a goal and this year it is to walk 1140 miles to Yellow Stone!!
- Parents are welcomed and encouraged to come during your child's time to help out around the track! The kids love having parents there to cheer them on. *please make sure you are a registered volunteer with the district if you are coming to help out that day. You can sign up in the office or online at: <http://volunteers.linnmar.k12.ia.us/>

RBTA Family Fun Run/Walk Evening Event - Volunteer Sign up @ <http://signup.com/go/anAXsP>

- Families will run/walk around the Linn Grove community, the route is roughly a mile.
- Cost is a \$3 per person or \$5 for a family.
- Check in will start at 5:30 and runners will start around 6:15 with the walkers starting shortly after that.
- Wagon's and Strollers are allowed for those who have young children!
- Everyone who participates in the evening event can pick up a special RBTA pin when they check in and water at the end of the route.
- The top 5 adult runners and top 5 kid runners will receive a special Dog Tag Medal!
- We will be looking for volunteers to help along the route to guide runners/walkers, hand out water and more.

Every student will be bringing home a letter with more information about RBTA and a donation sheet. This is our FUN fall check writing fundraiser! This year we are raising money for Field Trips & ROAR our Summer Reading Program.

Also new this year will be an **online donation link!** You can also register you and your family for the evening event as well The website is: <http://getmeregistered.com/RBTAFamilyFun>, this link can be shared on Facebook and by email! Make sure you share with friends and family!

Hope to see you at the RBTA day and evening event!

If you have any questions, please contact;

For the Day Event: Sheri snickelfritz72@gmail.com or Kelly kelkel31602@yahoo.com :

For the Evening Event: The Linn Grove PTO at linngroveptoemail@gmail.com

And as always thanks for your support!



LINN GROVE PTO

Fundraising for Linn Grove
2016-2017

Write ONE check and be DONE!

How great does that sound?! **One** time for your child to ask family and friends for donations, one fundraising form to return to school, one corporate match form to fill out, and MORE TIME FOR FUN!

Drop off your **ONE TIME** donation check(s) to the office anytime, or send in with your student!

Our 2016-2017 Goal- \$25,000

Our goal works out to be a **\$70 donation per family** and we hit **all** of our budget goals for the 2016-2017 school year!

Regular Budget Items

#1: Support our Staff: Our School thrives when given the opportunity to introduce new strategies & programs to their students. YOUR fundraising helps them to buy things that will enrich YOUR students' learning. **(\$5830)**

#2: Field Trips: These can include having groups come to the school, such as Old Creamery, or our kids going out to Bruce more. This is a way to tie curriculum into an interactive way for kids to learn. **(\$2210)**

#3: FUN & COMMUNITY: Every month we will try and have some kind of fun event to bring our community together. A strong sense of community helps build strong foundations for our kids. These events are Movie Night, Science Night, Buddies Breakfast, Cuddle Up and read, ROAR, Game Night, NFL60, Trunk or Treat, Homecoming Parade and Family Fun Night. **(\$6350)**

#4: Operational Costs: Yes this is the boring stuff; it's the printing, the website, postage and other things we need to run along with getting communication out to all of you! **(\$2500)**

Project Budget: This can change year to year depending on what we are fundraising for. This year is for our Library and we would LOVE to raise **\$8,000** for the Library.

****Note,** you may receive fundraising materials for the fundraisers during this year. Please just seal it up and send it back to the school with ONE TIME DONATION written on it. With the amount of students in the school they automatically go out to everyone.

LINN GROVE PTO

ONE check and DONE donation form

2016-2017 School Goal \$25,000

Parent #1 Name: _____

Email: _____

Parent #2 Name: _____

Email (if different): _____

Students Name(s) and Classroom Teacher(s):

Donation Amount (please attach check to this completed form): to reach our goal all families would have to donate a minimum of **\$70 per family. Checks made payable to: Linn Grove PTO**

\$70 _____

\$85 _____

\$100 _____

\$140 _____ (thank you for helping out a family that cannot give at this time ☺)

Other \$ _____

CHECK# _____ CASH _____

*Donation forms can be returned at any time, the earlier in the year the sooner it can be used.

***As an extra incentive, for every \$70 your family raises each child will earn a chance to receive a special reward towards the end of the school year! You will not want to miss it!**

*Don't forget about your **company matching donations!** Email us to find out if your company matches donations to our elementary school... We don't want to miss out on that! ****Rockwell matching form can be found on our website****