

September 1, 2009

Dear Argonne parents, guardians & friends:

On behalf of Argonne's PTO - and its Resources and Budget Committee (ReBud) — welcome to the 2009-2010 school year. As you know, Argonne is an amazing school with many terrific and enriching programs that benefit our children. **Our main fundraising effort each year is our "Giving Letter" in which we ask you to contribute financially to Argonne.**

Our suggested annual donation amount is **\$400-\$600 for each child you have at the school.** While we realize this is a large sum of money, it is far less than the cost of many summer camps and/or childcare that many would need to pay if their children were not attending Argonne's year-round program.

*We certainly understand that such a donation may be challenging, particularly in this economic climate. If you cannot donate this amount, please give any amount you can afford. We ask that every Argonne family make a gift, no matter how much. Obviously, if you are in a position to donate more, please do so. If you cannot donate this amount, please give any amount you can afford. If you can donate more, please do so.*

You may be wondering why you are being asked to contribute at all given that Argonne is a public school. It's because our current funding sources do not provide enough for us to continue the great programs we have for our children. These added funds allow us to support specialized instruction in the arts, music, and physical education, for reading and math specialists, a school librarian, a computer specialist and more.

In recent years, our parent-teacher organization (PTO) — has raised money to pay for **a terrific chorus program, a team of reading tutors, dance instruction, physical education instruction, a librarian, arts instruction, a brand new computer lab and computer teacher, office and classroom supplies** (paper can be expensive!!), and other things that we, as a community, have determined to be important to our children's education. In past years, we fully updated the computer lab to 21<sup>st</sup> standards and donated funds to get Argonne ready in case of emergencies with the purchase of earthquake supplies. As we look to the years ahead, we dream about greening our schoolyard and replacing aging play structures. As the State continuously cuts school funding, we must look to parents to help us preserve our vital programs and maybe, even, help make some of our dreams future realities...

**WE NEED YOUR HELP!!** Please complete the attached form and return it to your child's class with your tax-deductible donation (in the envelope provided). We would like to have these forms back by no later than **October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2009**. Even if your donation is small or if you cannot make a cash donation, we ask that you please complete and return the form anyway because each classroom is working toward 100% participation, with every student returning the form. *In addition, if your company or business has a "matching gift" program we encourage you to get the paperwork from your HR representative so that Argonne can receive double the resources!*

If you have any questions, please contact Rebud Chair, Annie Au ([annie\\_chow@msn.com](mailto:annie_chow@msn.com)) or your PTO co-chairs, Adina Safer & Phil Ginsburg ([asafer@iname.com](mailto:asafer@iname.com); [pginsburg@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pginsburg@sbcglobal.net))

Thank you again for your generous support!!  
Annie, Adina and Phil

Argonne '09-'10 Giving Letter Campaign

Family of: \_\_\_\_\_

• Enclosed is my tax-deductible **\$400-\$600** per child donation in support of my child's education at Argonne Elementary School. **(FULL PAYMENT OPTION)**

\_\_\_ check *(Please make check out to Argonne PTO)*

\_\_\_ cash

\_\_\_ credit card (please fill out the information on the bottom of this form)

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• Enclosed is the **first of four \$100-\$150** (or \_\_\_\_\_) tax deductible monthly installments in support of my child's education at Argonne Elementary School. My family commits itself to a total tax-deductible contribution of \$400-\$600 per child. **(INSTALLMENT OPTION)**

\_\_\_ check *(Please make check out to Argonne PTO)*

\_\_\_ cash

\_\_\_ credit card (please fill out the information on the bottom of this form)

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Argonne is especially grateful for amounts exceeding the recommended donation. Please, if it is appropriate, inquire if your employer has a "matching gift" program.

**Please return by October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2009 to your child's teacher**

Thank You Very Much!  
Argonne Resources and Budget Committee (ReBud)

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**Credit card Information**

Type of card (VISA, Master Card) \_\_\_\_\_

Credit card number (including four digits from signature line on the back of the card)

Expiration date \_\_\_\_\_

Billing address: \_\_\_\_\_

Your name exactly as it appears in the card (Please print neatly) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_