



Parent Advisory Council

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# The Discovery PAC Newsletter

## PAC News

### GFS Fun Funds

Shop at GFS and earn money for Discovery! Enroll in this annual rebate program (there is no cost) to receive a membership card, and then use your membership card when you checkout. **The Discovery school code is 2477413.** Any items in the store designated for the Fun Funds program earn a 10% rebate; all other items receive 1%. Buy SCRIP first and earn an additional 4%! Enroll online or via paper (enrollment forms are available in the school office). Questions? Contact Dawn Ekblaw at [bruce.ekblaw@frontier.com](mailto:bruce.ekblaw@frontier.com).

### Winter Program

Calling all bakers! PAC would like to provide refreshments for the winter program, including hot beverages and various baked goods. In order to keep costs down, we are asking Discovery parents to donate 1 or 2 dozen baked goods to share with the winter program attendees. Any and all baked goods are welcome, including special desserts from countries represented in the Tapestry of Traditions. Donations can be brought to school on **Monday, December 19<sup>th</sup>** any time before **2:30 p.m.** Please contact Jeny Burkhart at [jenniferburkhart@rocketmail.com](mailto:jenniferburkhart@rocketmail.com) if you can help.

## Chesterton Feed & Garden

Buy a Christmas tree at Chesterton Feed & Garden Center and they will donate 10% of the sale to Discovery! They have gorgeous locally farmed trees including White Pine, Frazier Fir, Norway Spruce and Blue Spruce live potted trees. Cut trees vary in size and price. Chesterton Feed is located at 400 Locust St., Chesterton. Call 926.2790 or visit [www.chestertonfeed.com](http://www.chestertonfeed.com). Be sure to the coupon so that Discovery can get the proper credit.

## Trees Around the World

Please come and view the holiday trees from around the world. Each grade has decorated a tree in the style of a country they've learned about and its holiday customs. Viewing for parents is 12/14 - 12/16.

Also, we will be decorating an outdoor tree for the birds! Please make an ornament and drop it off at the school office for the bird-tree out by the Discovery sign (Mrs. Pavlovic and Mrs. Hansen will be collecting and hanging them). Here are some ideas for ornaments that will provide a treat for our schoolyard birds:

Spread pinecones with peanut butter and sprinkle with bird seed.

Soften a suet cake (Chesterton Feed and Garden is a good source), and shape it into several small ornaments. You can also find recipes for your own "suet" using beef fat or lard mixed with other ingredients that are healthy for insect-eating birds.

Hang sprays of millet (the millet you can buy for parakeets, etc.).

Make strings of cranberries, raisins or in-the-shell peanuts, or a combination thereof.

Most of the birds that stay with us all winter are seed-eaters and prefer sunflower or safflower seeds. The suet and peanut butter will be attractive to our insect-eating woodpeckers and nuthatches. Fruit-loving cedar waxwings have been spotted around the school in the past, and fruit MIGHT even attract any robins that have stayed around.

Use your creativity with natural materials and the preferred foods listed above to give our schoolyard birds a winter treat.

### SCRIP

Ready, set, shop! Use SCRIP for your holiday shopping in one of the following ways:

1. Send in an order form and payment in your green envelope (due Mondays at 3:30 p.m.).
2. Stop in the school lobby MWF from 7:45 - 8:30 a.m. and see what we have in stock. Pay for any gift cards and take them home with you immediately!
3. Enroll in ScripNow! online to have ecards emailed to you immediately (after completing the registration). You can use them for yourself or have them emailed to your friends and family across the country. Let them choose their perfect gift with eGifts from stores including iTunes, Amazon, Pottery Barn, and more. Additional info will be sent home with students.

Please consider supporting the school through this easy program. Year to date Discovery PAC has made \$686 - we can do so much more! Questions? Contact Tricia Kuiken at [triciakuiken@gmail.com](mailto:triciakuiken@gmail.com).

### 4-H

Our next meeting will be Thursday, 12/8 at the Discovery School Library at 3:30pm. We will be inducting our new officers, creating plant stakes for WTTW and playing some holiday games. Please bring your snack and drink and remind your parents to pick up at 4:30 p.m. SHARP. K-2 grade members are asked to bring their parents.

### Girl Scouts

Girl Scouts of Greater Chicago and Northwest Indiana offers wonderful programs for girls in kindergarten to twelfth grade, and various volunteer opportunities for adults. For more information contact Sheree Barnett, membership specialist, at 219-472-1957 or [sbarnett@girlscoutsgcnwi.org](mailto:sbarnett@girlscoutsgcnwi.org). Visit their website at [www.girlscoutsgcnwi.org](http://www.girlscoutsgcnwi.org).

### PAC Officers

President:	Janine Girzadas <a href="mailto:jgirzadas@hotmail.com">jgirzadas@hotmail.com</a>
Vice President:	Jeny Burkhart <a href="mailto:jenniferburkhart@rocketmail.com">jenniferburkhart@rocketmail.com</a>
Secretary:	Holly Futrell <a href="mailto:hollyfutrell@gmail.com">hollyfutrell@gmail.com</a>
Treasurer:	Eric Hull <a href="mailto:hull.eric@gmail.com">hull.eric@gmail.com</a>

### Upcoming Events

December 13: PAC meeting 7 p.m.

December 14: Coffee Chat 7:30-8:30 a.m.

December 16: December class birthday parties; please arrange times with your teacher

December 19: Tapestry of Traditions winter program 6-8 p.m. at the Portage High School West Auditorium

December 21: Winter holiday class parties; please arrange times with your teacher

December 22 - January 4: Winter Break

January 5: School resumes