

# PAW PRINTS

A C H O I C E S I N L E A R N I N G P T O P U B L I C A T I O N



Dear Choices In Learning Families:

The 2011-12 school year has gotten off to a terrific start! The staff has worked hard to prepare their classrooms and the school for our CIL families. The Boo Hoo Breakfast, sponsored by the PTO, was well attended and many parents were able to support one another during this event. Please join the PTO as they support our school in many different ways!



This will also be a monumental year for our school family as we move into our wonderful new building in late November! If you've driven by you have seen all the hard work and changes that are happening every day. We will be sending information regarding schedule changes due to the move soon, and we truly appreciate your understanding with this exciting process!

We can be proud of what we have achieved at CIL in the past and this excellence in education will continue into our future. The hard work that the students, parents, and staff have put forth has paid off - CIL received a Florida School Grade of "A" and met the Federal NCLB mandates for Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in all areas. We were one of only six schools in Seminole County to meet the AYP requirement! Our school is so successful because a staff of dedicated men and women have common goals - to do what is best for students and to educate them to the highest extent possible. We are always looking for the best ways to achieve these goals, and we can't accomplish them without your help and support! There are many ways to be involved as a parent/guardian at CIL, and I hope that you will feel welcome as you get involved at the school. As a team, we can accomplish our goals!

## Principal's Spot

My goal as principal is to provide each student with a positive, fun, challenging educational experience throughout the academic year. The staff and I will encourage each student to work to his/her fullest potential. Please feel free to call me with any questions or concerns. I look forward to meeting and working with each of you this year as we continue to strive for excellence! It is an honor and privilege to be of service to an outstanding faculty and the wonderful parents and students that make up our Choices In Learning family!

Respectfully,  
Janet Kearney  
Principal



## GETTING TO KNOW...

**Coach Wiggins, CIL'S new P.E. Teacher!**

-interviewed by 4th graders Donovan Alber & Andrew Danford

Q: Were you born in Florida?

**A: Yes, I was born in Miami.**

Q: How long have you been teaching PE?

**A: 3 years**

Q: What made you want to be a PE coach?

**A: For the love of sports and teaching kids.**

Q: Where did you go to school?

**A: Florida State University.**

Q: What is your favorite part about Choices in Learning?

**A: The kids.**

Q: What is your favorite sport?

**A: Baseball and watching football on TV.**

Q: What is your favorite team?

**A: Seminoles.**

Q: Will you get into the dunk tank if we do one on PE night this year?

**A: YES!!**

## From Our PTO

The PTO would like to welcome back all our returning families, and to all our new families - welcome aboard! We are looking forward to a fun and exciting 2011-2012 school year.

Choices in Learning PTO is an active organization whose main purpose is to help our school. We sponsor many events throughout the school year, such as Family Dinner Nights, Skate Night, PE Night, Family Fun Night, Teacher Appreciation Week and our One and Only Big Fundraiser the "No Show Ball". Please remember to rejoin the PTO every year. Your membership helps us support all the great things we sponsor at CIL.

We would love for you to get involved. If you can donate some time and energy to our PTO, please contact us at [PTO@choicesinlearning.org](mailto:PTO@choicesinlearning.org). Please also check out our new website at [www.choicespto.org](http://www.choicespto.org), and get updates on upcoming PTO sponsored events, news, and volunteer opportunities by "liking" Choices in Learning PTO on Facebook.

We look forward to working with you!

## The CIL PTO Board

### THE LUNCH STAFF WELCOMES YOU TO THE START OF THE 2011-2012 SCHOOL YEAR!

\*The CIL menu is the same as the Seminole County Public Elementary Schools with one exception. The 2nd Thursday of each month students will eat a lunch consisting of a sandwich, crackers, fruit, and milk in their classrooms.\*

#### ADVANCED PAYMENT FOR SCHOOL LUNCH IS REQUIRED. Prices are:

Regular lunch	\$2.25 daily	\$11.25 weekly
Reduced lunch	\$0.40 daily	\$2.00 weekly
Pre-K lunch	\$3.00 daily	\$15.00 weekly
Adult/Student lunch	\$3.00 daily	

Payment can be made by cash or check only. Checks are to be made out to Choices in Learning. Please note both the student's and teacher's name on every check/deposit.

**PLEASE BE RESPONSIBLE AND MAKE SURE YOUR CHILD'S ACCOUNT REMAINS CURRENT. IF YOUR ACCOUNT BECOMES DELINQUENT, YOUR CHILD WILL NOT BE ABLE TO PURCHASE A SCHOOL LUNCH.**

Thank you,  
Margaret Wattam, Lunch Coordinator  
(407) 331-8477

# DIVIDENDS

Welcome to a new school year at Choices in Learning! A special "thank you" goes to Tracy Jackson, Dividends Manager, from the SCPS Support Center for speaking at our Dividend Coffee on 8/24. It's exciting to see so many parents attend the coffee and want to get involved in activities at the school. "Together We Shine!"

One of the ways you can be involved in your child's education is to register as a school volunteer (Dividend). I want to encourage everyone who wishes to volunteer at the school or be a field trip chaperone to register as a Dividend as soon as possible.

Currently we have a need for some "extra hands" to help the kindergartners and first graders during lunch. Many of them need help opening juice boxes, crackers, cheese sticks, etc. Please feel free to stop by anytime from 11am-1pm and offer an extra set of hands in the cafeteria with the students. Remember to sign in at the office first and wear a sticker ID at all times.

There will be many opportunities for parents to volunteer at the school this year however, we cannot have volunteers in the classroom during instructional time. Volunteers will be needed during the book fairs, family events, teacher appreciation week, Math SuperStars, and many other events/activities.

If you have any questions on registering online or about volunteer opportunities, please contact me at [dividends@choicesinlearning.org](mailto:dividends@choicesinlearning.org) or at the school at 407-331-8477.

**Sandee Sifrit**  
**Dividend Coordinator**

## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT:



THANK YOU TO **JONI FUSSELL:**  
MATH SUPERSTARS COORDINATOR  
AND NEW SAC CHAIRPERSON!

2011-2012 PTO BOARD MEMBERS ENJOY THIS YEAR'S "BOO HOO" BREAKFAST \*



**COACH WIGGINS, CIL'S  
NEW PE TEACHER**

### CIL PTO is excited about our 3rd Annual "No Show" Ball!

We have only **one fundraiser**, our No Show Ball. Instead of students fundraising with catalog or door-to-door sales, we ask parents (and grandparents!) to purchase "tickets" to an event they won't attend. Rather than just a small portion of catalog sales funding our budget, **100%** of the proceeds from the No Show Ball help PTO fund:

- **\$150 mini grants** to every classroom teacher for educational materials to enhance students' learning.
- **\$250 mini grants** to every PAMM department (PE, Art, Music, and Media) for equipment used to teach every student in the school.
- **Generous donations** to the Choices in Learning school for educational materials and equipment.

Last school year PTO donated \$6,500 to teacher grants and \$1,000 to help purchase new specially bound books for the SFA reading program.

Please look for your Ball invitation in your child's Monday folder and RSVP your donation by October 7th. Please help us meet our minimum goal this year of \$7500!

**Together we can make a difference!**

## No-sweat opportunities to raise funds for CIL and PTO

### ALBERTSONS

Shop using your Community Partner key tag and Choices In Learning PTO will earn 1% of your purchases! Cards from previous years are still good.

### BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

- **Collect** Box Tops from participating products (Kleenex, Ziploc, etc.) and turn them in to your teacher in an envelope with **Teacher's name, Child's name, and number of Box Tops enclosed** written on the front. Each Box Top is worth 10¢. Watch for exciting

## SCHOOL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SAC)

The School Advisory Council (SAC) is derived of parents, teachers and faculty who work together helping improve Choices In Learning in relation to Florida Statues. They meet once a month during the school year to discuss issues that impact our school.

SAC was created by the Florida Legislature to assure continuous progress of Florida's education goals in each school. The purpose of the council is to develop, monitor, and evaluate results of the School Improvement Plan. SAC assists in preparing the school's annual budget with SAC funding. SAC operates within the policies of the School Board and the parameters established by the state legislature.

Should you have an interest in joining this Council, please plan on attending the orientation meeting that will be held at the Seminole County School Board, 400 East Lake Mary Boulevard, Sanford, FL 32773 on October 5, 2011, at 5:30 p.m. Our next SAC Meeting at Choices In Learning is scheduled for October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2011 at 5:45 pm, with meetings following every 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the each month. For more information, please email: [sac@choicesinlearning.org](mailto:sac@choicesinlearning.org).

prizes and incentives for participating students and classes!

- **Visit** <http://www.btfe.com> and enter online contests for a

chance to win bonus Box Tops for our school.

- **Shop** online at participating stores using the Box Tops for Education Marketplace

## PTO MEMBERSHIP DRIVE RAFFLE WINNERS!

**Support our "A" rated school!  
Become part of our Choices in Learning  
Parent Teacher Organization.**

We sponsor:

- \* Family Dinner Nights Out
- \* Skate Night
- \* PE Night
- \* Family Fun Night
- \* Teacher Appreciation Week

- \* We publish the Paw Prints bi-monthly newsletter
- \* We provide mini grants to every teacher in the school for educational materials!

**Dues: \$5.00 per family membership**  
Join online at [www.choicespto.org](http://www.choicespto.org)



at [www.btf.com/Marketplace](http://www.btf.com/Marketplace). By starting your purchase here, General Mills gives a percentage of your purchase to CIL PTO (percentage varies by store).

### LANDS END

**Shop** at [www.landsend.com](http://www.landsend.com) for your child's uniform outerwear. To get the CIL logo put on your outerwear purchase you'll enter our school code - **9001 1983 5**. CIL receives 3% of your uniform outerwear purchase from Lands End!

### OFFICE DEPOT

At checkout, **tell the cashier** your Preferred School is Choices in Learning and 5% of your purchase of certain school supplies will be donated to CIL PTO by Office Depot. Our Preferred School number is **70118519**, but if you don't have the number with you, they can look it up when you mention the school's name at checkout.

### RECYCLE

**Recycle** toner cartridges in the PTO Cart next to the

Teacher Workroom. Recycled items earn points the PE department can redeem for new sports equipment.

### TARGET

- **Designate** Choices in Learning as your school when you enroll in their Take Charge of Education program with your Target Red card. Call 1-800-316-6142 or go to [www.target.com](http://www.target.com) to sign up.
- **Use your Target Red card** when you shop at Target stores or [target.com](http://target.com) and Choices in Learning PTO will receive 1% of your purchases. (You'll also earn Target rewards points toward 10% off shopping passes for yourself!)
- Grandparents, alumni, neighbors and friends can take part, too.
- See how our school is doing at [www.target.com/tcoe](http://www.target.com/tcoe)!



## 2011/2012 PTO BOARD

**PRESIDENT**  
**Holly Alber**

**VICE PRESIDENT**  
**Michele Azme**

**WAYS & MEANS**  
**Katie Campanale**

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**Leslee Barnard**  
**Jayne Fischer**

**ROOM PARENT**  
**COORDINATOR**  
**Shari Danford**

**MEMBER AT LARGE**  
**Deborah Morris**

Thanks to all the students and teachers that attended the Back to School Skate Night this year! Teachers in attendance were: Ms. Kearney, Coach Bogue, Ms. Hinrichs, Mrs. Vogel, Mrs. Kinkopf, Ms. Wells, Mrs. Breen, Mrs. Smurr, and Ms. Wyant.

The winner of the Lands End Jacket was Khristina Moore in Miss Hinrichs' class. Congratulations!!!!

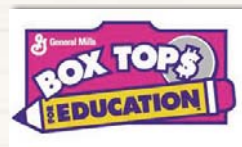
The class with the highest attendance and winners of the popsicle party was Ms. Longway's class! Thanks to all for celebrating with us and supporting Choices in Learning and your PTO.



**JOIN US ON FACEBOOK!** "Like" our Choices in Learning PTO page and receive up-to-date information on PTO-sponsored news, events, and volunteer opportunities!



**VISIT OUR WEBSITE!** We are very excited to invite you to our new webpage: [choicespto.org](http://choicespto.org)! Find helpful information about our organization, including membership forms and links to contribute easily online!



### BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

Collect Box Tops and turn them in to your teacher in an envelope with teacher's name, student's name, and number of Box Tops enclosed written on the front.

Help us “pave the way” on the...

## Cheetah Walk!

Here's a great opportunity to show your Cheetah pride! Order a laser-engraved brick for your current student(s), alumni, future student(s), family, or business. We will install the bricks on the “Cheetah Walk” in the front of our new school.

Each individual brick is 8x4 in size. You have 3 laser-printed lines, with no more than 18 total characters per line, (punctuation and spacing requires a space) for a donation of \$100. Please leave a space between words and print your wording carefully. There are corporate bricks available as well. They are 8x8 with 6 lines (18 characters per line, including spaces and punctuation) and a corporate logo for a donation of \$250. Not only will your donation help the PTO help CIL raise funds for worthy causes, it will also help us create a lasting impression on the school and its many visitors.

We are thrilled to be “paving the way” at Choices In Learning and hope that you join us in creating this lasting tribute to wonderful experiences at CIL. Please complete the attached order form and drop it off at the front office or mail it to Choices In Learning, attn: PTO.

If you have any questions, please contact Holly Alber at: [pto@choicesinlearning.org](mailto:pto@choicesinlearning.org)

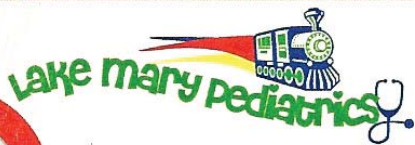
Thank you for your continued support!



### CHEETAH PRIDE!

Be sure to pick up a **Choices in Learning car magnet** for only \$7! Join PTO to receive a special discount!





410 Waymont Court  
 Lake Mary, FL 32746  
 Ph 407-323-3550  
 Fax 407-322-6127

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**PAW PRINTS** is published bi-monthly four times a school year, reaching over 500 students and their families. If you are interested in purchasing advertising space in our newsletter and online, please email the CIL PTO at [choicespto@yahoo.com](mailto:choicespto@yahoo.com).




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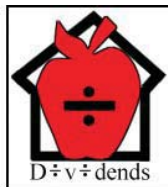


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Paw Prints advertising rates:

Single issue	4 issues
Biz card \$25	\$80 (\$20 per issue)
¼ pg \$50	\$160 (\$40 per issue)
½ pg \$100	\$320 (\$80 per issue)
Full page \$175	\$560 (\$140 per issue)



**School Volunteer Program  
 Seminole County Public Schools**  
*Thank You for Your Interest in Becoming a Volunteer!*

Each year all Dividend volunteers are required to register online as a volunteer. Even if you were a registered volunteer in previous school years, you must reactivate your application online for the current school year. If you cannot register online, you can pick up a paper application at the school office or at the Educational Support Center.

To Register as a Dividend:  
 Go to [www.scps.k12.fl.us](http://www.scps.k12.fl.us)  
 On the left side of the webpage, select "Dividends School Volunteer"  
 On the Dividends page,  
 Click on  
 "Be a Volunteer – Apply Here!"



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# MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

## UPCOMING

SEPTEMBER 13 - OCTOBER 7: **NO SHOW BALL**  
SEPTEMBER 29: **NO SCHOOL**

OCTOBER 9-14: **SPIRIT WEEK**  
OCTOBER 10 - 21: **BOX TOPS COLLECTION DRIVE**  
OCTOBER 17: **SCHOOL IN SESSION!**  
OCTOBER 19: **PTO FAMILY DINNER NIGHT (LOCATION TBA)**

ORDER YOUR ENGRAVED BRICK FOR OUR CHEETAH WALK  
**BEFORE THE END OF OCTOBER!**

NOVEMBER 12: **FAMILY FALL FESTIVAL (TENTATIVE)**  
NOVEMBER 14 - 16: **SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR**  
NOVEMBER 21 - 25: **NO SCHOOL**

**Choices In Learning**  
**Elementary Charter School**  
893 East State Road 434  
Longwood, FL 32750  
(407) 331-8477  
choicesinlearning.org  
choicespto.org