

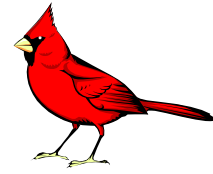
Welcome Kiker & Clayton Kindergartners



Kiker Elementary



Two Schools/One Heart



Clayton Elementary

WEBSITES that may prove helpful:

Kiker Newsletter "Kiker Comments"
Kiker PTA Website:

www.austinisd.org/schools/website.phtml?id=075
kiker-subscribe@yahogroups.com
<http://kikerpta.org/>

Clayton website:
Clayton Newsletter "Clayton Chatter"
Clayton PTA Website:

www.austinisd.org/schools/website.phtml?id=157
claytonweekly@claytoncardinals.org
<http://claytoncardinals.org>

AISD Website
AISD Calendar

www.austinisd.org
www.austinisd.org/academics/docs/calendar_2009_2010.pdf

Special Kindergarten Open House at Kiker Elementary – April 30, 6:30 – 8:00
For parents and their kindergartener. (Please find child care for siblings)
No paperwork will be done on this evening.
(This is in addition to Kindergarten Roundup)



Kindergarten Roundup



(All AISD Elementary schools are scheduled for the same date and time)

May 5, 2009

8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Kiker Cafeteria

According to AISD, these are the documents you **must** bring in order to register your child for school (for ALL grades):

1. Child's Birth Certificate (original w/raised seal)
2. Immunization Record (shots must be current by the first day of school)
3. Proof of residency (if Drivers License is up to date, we can use this)
- for instance a utility bill or a contract of home purchase
4. Child's Social Security Card
5. Parent/Legal Guardian Drivers License

In order to receive all updates as they become available, you may want to sign up at the Kiker e-mail group: kiker-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

The 2009-2010 school year begins

August 24, 2009

Arrival time 7:20 – 7:30

(Assembly begins 7:35, Class begins 7:45)

Departure time: Kindergartners - 2:40, all others at 2:45

Submitted by a parent who had her first Kindergartner begin at Kiker in 2003. (This newsletter is not submitted or contributed by Kiker. Just me.) Any questions or comments? Write to aschuckle@earthlink.net

When I was a first time Kindergarten Parent 6 years ago to Kiker, I felt so lost and confused. If not for the gracious help of close friends who had children already at Kiker, it would have been very frustrating. I hope you find the following information enjoyable and helpful. I have items listed mostly in order of when they happen. Your child is in for a wonderful year. Best of luck!

Kindergarten Roundup: Kinder Roundup takes place at all AISD Elementary schools annually, the 2nd Tuesday of May. This is typically your first exposure to the school and **the paperwork!** Kindergarten Roundup (KR) invites upcoming Kindergartners and their parents to come to the school to fill out paperwork and have a tour. Make sure you have all your documentation when you arrive to do your paperwork. Things will run much more smoothly for you. The list of documentation you will need is on the Kindergarten Roundup page at the beginning of this document. **BEGIN GATHERING THESE DOCUMENTS NOW.** Whether you register at KR or later, you'll still need all of the listed documentation. If you don't have a birth certificate for your child, please order one immediately, as it takes 6 – 8 weeks in some cases. Have all shots updated and bring a copy of the shot records. These must be presented before the child can be admitted the first day of school. You'll also be asked to have "proof of residency", which could be as simple as a recent utility bill. This typically is the determining factor that your child is attending the correct school unless there are special situations like we have for the 2009/2010 school year. There will be volunteer parents and staff on hand to answer any questions you have. The Principal typically speaks briefly and then the tours begin. It is VERY busy, lots of people and lots to learn, although if you are reading this NEWSLETTER, you are far ahead of the pack already. The tours can also be taken care of at the special "Kindergarten Open House".

If you are unable to attend the special "Kindergarten Open House" and you have other children, you may want to consider asking someone watch them on the morning of KR. This will allow you to focus on your kindergartner and the info you are being given. If you wish to concentrate on the talks, tours and paperwork, it would be fine not to even bring your Kindergartner at this time.

Kindergarten school supply list: In the paperwork you receive at Kindergarten Roundup, there is a **School Supply List** for your convenience. If you do not attend the Open House or KR, check our school website. You will also notice that many stores like Office Depot, Wal-Mart and Target have folders at their store with schools supply lists for your convenience. Stick to the list – you won't need anything other than what is on your list. Each grade has a list customized for that grade. (HINT: when the list calls for WASHABLE Markers – get WASHABLE markers! Some markers are cheaper, but believe me; WASHABLE is there for a reason!) You may notice at KR that the PTA has forms available to purchase PREPACKAGED school supplies. These are only offered for a short time and they do save time and effort, if needed.

Library Summer Reading time: Our wonderful librarian, Ms. Smith, began a program a few of years ago to help encourage summer reading. She graciously opens the Kiker library on Fridays during the summer (see the school marquee or information at KR). All Kiker & Clayton Kinders are welcome! This is an especially GREAT opportunity for your Kindergartner, as the library is usually a quiet, relaxed, organized place to visit. You get to explain the "quiet" concept before they have to come and do it "for real". Kindergartners can even check out books! It's a privilege that makes upcoming Kindergartners feel "big". My little boy was apprehensive about the entire "school thing" until he met Ms. Smith. She is magic when it comes to the children and knowing what they would like to read. She tapped William as being a "Lego Boy". When we went home after visiting Ms. Smith and the library, he began COUNTING THE DAYS until he could start Kindergarten!! Sometimes Mrs. Smith offers summer story time, too!

Back to School Supply Sale: The School Supply Sale will be held in August, about 2 weeks before school begins. It will be located in the Kiker cafeteria. (If you are on the Yahoo group, you will receive an update.) If you ordered pre-packaged school supplies previously, this is the time to pick them up. The Supply Sale day is yet another opportunity to come to the school before school actually starts. During this time you can come by to pick up the NEW KIKER T-SHIRTS – they go FAST! There are adult sizes available also. (You can wear yours when you volunteer!). There will also be water bottles and a few new school items. Please stop by the PTA MEMBERSHIP table when you're there to sign up for YOUR PTA – beat the crowd!

Kindergarten class list: A few days before school is to begin, teachers will post class lists on the front doors of the school. This will show your child's teachers name, the classroom number and all the names of the children in your child's class. These lists are typically posted a few days prior to the first day of school.

Meet the Teacher: Typically, the teacher will phone the students a few days before school starts. This way you will know when you may bring your child's school supplies in during the "Meet the Teacher" time. This also gives you and your child a sneak-peak at his or her own classroom! "Meet the Teacher" usually occurs the Friday before school starts.

First Day of school – remember, there is no Assembly on this first day. Please walk your child to class.

Transportation Info: As at many schools, the automobile situation has been the source of some frustration for many years. Start your Kindergartner off right by mirroring the best behaviors. They are often PROUD of themselves and their parents when that light bulb of safety goes off over their little heads. Parking in the designated areas, using the crosswalks every time, obeying drop-off and pick-up guidelines all exhibit behavior that the children will hear about in assembly. The children are PROUD of themselves as they follow those guidelines.

Morning Drop off: PATIENCE is the key word during these hectic times – especially the first few weeks of school. Use common sense and courtesy, even when you may not want to. You will notice in the front of the school there is a circular driveway. This is strictly used for drop-off and pick-up of children only. Don't park here and leave your car....not even for "5 minutes".

Afternoon pickup: The kindergartners typically let out a couple of minutes before the rest of the classes. The teachers shake the hand of the little ones when they see the person responsible for picking them up. This is a safety check. There are 3 sidewalks that lead to the front door of Kiker. Sometime during those first few days, your teacher will let you know where you can expect to pick up your child each day. Please be on time. Teachers use time following pickup for planning so they can get home to their own families on time. Some guidelines to remember:

- **Always cross at the cross walks. ALWAYS!**
- **AT NO TIME** should anyone be on a cell phone while in line or even in the school zoned areas.
- Wait patiently in line. Do not attempt to go around stopped traffic if you have already dropped off your child.
- At drop off, as you drive up, give your children a "20 second countdown" that you are about to stop so they can say goodbye and grab their backpacks. No one feels rushed and everyone gets to say goodbye and keep traffic moving smoothly.
- Watch for children and adults crossing at the crosswalk.
- There will be a "greeter" to open your door and help the child out. Greeters are 5th grade students who have earned the privilege of this position. They wear the bright orange "crossing guard" type of sashes. They are kids you'll want to point out to your child; another positive opportunity for your child to look forward to as they get older!
- When going through the circular drive at pick up time, do not leave your car to socialize or for any other reason. The circle drive is an emergency lane during normal times so it may need to be cleared **at a moments notice**.

Parking info: If you park along the street and walk up to the school, please make sure to check the signs around you. There are some designated "DO NOT PARK" or "5 minute loading and unloading" areas. The police DO come our way from time to time and, while they hate to do it, they will enforce the signs.



When it rains: the school understands that there are extenuating circumstances like rain that may cause us to run a little late. Try to plan for such occasions though and pad a little extra time into the morning schedule. The drop off and pick up at this time becomes very busy so bring your sense of humor, along with patience and your umbrella.

Assembly: This is a nice time during which your child will begin their new daily routine at Kiker each morning. The first day of school there is typically no assembly. You will just take your child to class (remember to leave as quickly as you can to make the transition easier on the child!). After that, each day you may walk your child to assembly, which is held in the cafeteria. All tables are put away so as to create an "auditorium" type room. Each teachers name is on a piece of paper which is taped on the floor down the middle of the auditorium. Find your child's teachers name and lead him or her over to sit in a line parallel to the stage which is at the front of the room. **This location will never change** ☺. The class lines remain the same. The Kindergartners all sit close to the front. At assembly each morning, there is the Pledge of Allegiance to the US and TX flags, then a moment of silence. The Principal or Assistant Principal will typically talk to the children, give any updates or reminders before being dismissed. The teachers will ask the children to stand and they all walk to their classrooms.

A few notes that are hard at first but get easier (ask any parent with a former Kindergartner. I know I didn't like hearing this part. ☺):

- Don't walk your child to the classroom after assembly.
- Please wait to have lunch with the children until after the first two weeks of school. This gives them an opportunity to build their confidence and get used to the routine of going to the cafeteria with their classmates. They will LOVE showing you how it's done. (So cute!)
- Walk your child to assembly and leave them in their "class" line. If you wish, enjoy assembly as you stand at the back of the auditorium. (I confess – I did this for the first year and a half!) All parents should refrain from talking as it makes it hard for the older children sitting in back to hear the speakers on stage. Try to leave promptly upon dismissal of assembly so your child won't look for you. It really does make it easier for THEM. (I remember how harsh this sounded to me as a new Kindergarten Parent. I hope you'll forgive me eventually.)
- At the beginning of school, your child will be given a special "code" to use if they purchase food in the cafeteria. Do help your child learn this. The code will be theirs for the entire time they are at Kiker all the way through 5th grade. The code will be sent home in their folder on a "phone keypad" looking piece of paper. The purpose of this is for you to help your child begin to learn to "punch in" his/her own number when they purchase lunch. You may choose to send money with your child or you may want to check out <https://mylunchmoney.com/index.asp>. This website enables you to put money on an account and keep track of the account, as well as add money any time.
- Do volunteer as much as you want to for school and/or class activities. You'll get to know other parents, the staff and teachers so much more quickly. You'll get to see how the school runs and make suggestions for programs, changes in current ones, etc. The library is a GREAT place to volunteer and they are always in need of dependable parents. See the "volunteer" section for suggestions of just SOME of the opportunities. You will receive more information when school begins.

Weekly Information Sheet "Kiker Comments": The "Kiker Comments" newsletter was also known as "The Blue Sheet" (simply because, until a few years ago, it came home on blue paper). **January, 2008**, the school began to send only an electronic copy in an ongoing effort to "Go Green". If you are on the Kiker Yahoo Group you'll receive timely updates as they become available. For Clayton families, you may also want to join the Clayton weekly newsletter. Information on how to join is at the beginning of this document.

Sun block: this is probably a no-brainer for locals but in case you're new to TX, you'll want to put sunscreen on your child each and every day they come to school – at least until the November time-frame (or maybe then also!) You'll begin again as early as February. The Kindergartners are outside sometimes twice a day and the Texas sun can be brutal.

Sneakers: as in preschool – always send your child to school in sneakers. Not sandals, not heels, not flip-flops. They'll be doing a lot during the day and will need to have stable shoes to keep them safe. I know my little girl wants to wear her little "Mary Janes" sometimes but I just tell her "It's the schools rule" and that makes it ok. (And you might not want to send them in "designer clothing" either, as some days tend to be very messy. This, of course, is totally up to you.)

Bottles of Water: help your child become responsible for remembering to ask for a bottle of water to take to school each day. You don't need a lecture – you know the reason. Ha

Responsibility: You are going to see your child BLOSSOM with confidence during the first few months of Kindergarten. Much of the reason is that they are given responsibilities at school that make them feel like a "big kid". Over the summer (if you don't already) you will want to begin giving your child tasks at home like:

- cleaning off the table with a cloth
- putting their jackets away
- putting their own dishes in the sink
- sweeping the floor, pack lunch, unpack backpacks- just like at school
- putting their backpack in the place it will be when school starts

These are all things the children will do at school. The Kindergartners have tables in their classroom. These are sometimes called "centers". The children do their tasks and school work there. The children are responsible for cleaning these classroom tables. They also clean off and sweep under their table in the cafeteria. Each morning when they enter the class, they put their backpacks and jackets away in cubbies or cabinets. Letting them get used to doing this helps the teacher, your child and, at home, YOU. It really does make the children feel like "big kids".

Great Idea: One mom who had been reading these articles was kind enough to e-mail me with a GREAT idea from a teacher – since the children have a limited time in which to eat their lunch, it would be GREAT if you could take them to “cafeteria style” places for lunch or dinner a few times this summer before school begins. Let them get used to taking a tray, making choices, moving along in a line – this will be good preparation for them as they go through the lines in the cafeteria at school...even if they are only getting milk. Wish I’d known THAT tip before William started Kindergarten. It took him more than 6 months before he was brave enough to try lunch at school all because he was intimidated at the fact that they have a time limit.

Speaking of the lunchroom (aka cafeteria) – your child will have a choice to bring a lunch from home or eat in the lunchroom. My friends and I found that it much easier on our new kindergartner to bring lunch for the first 6 months – at least. The school day is scheduled very tightly and the lunchroom is no exception. The kindergartners go to lunch as early as 11 in the a.m. and have about 30 minutes to eat...this includes going thru the line and throwing away their items after eating. Bringing their lunch enables them to go right to their table and begin eating. A little less stress in their new scheduled days is always a good thing. (Make sure to read the nutrition part of the AISD handbook to see what items may be allowed or not allowed).

Responsibility: You’ll hear this A LOT in elementary school. Kiker and Clayton both encourage it. It bears repeating – let your up-and-coming kindergartner have more responsibility at home this summer – you’ll be AMAZED at how he/she will rise to the occasion! It does wonders for their self-esteem and confidence. The added bonus will show up during the first few weeks of kindergarten. Our little ones are expected to do many things independently. If they’ve been doing it all summer in a place they know well, they are MUCH more likely to do well and feel even better about themselves in a new environment. The more coordinated they are, the better they’ll feel about tackling those tasks in the classroom and the lunchroom. Holding doors; yep, another confidence booster! Your child will have turns at school being a door holder, a line leader, a table washer, a sweeper and have many other neat, responsible duties. They LOVE this stuff! Make good choices – another theme they’ll come to know!

Rest time: When we were new to the kindergarten world, I was relieved to find out that the little ones get some “rest time” each day for the first few weeks/months. Each classroom varies but the kindergarten teachers understand the transition to full-day kindergarten from pre-school, along with getting to know their new schedules and routines, can really wear a child out. So rest assured (no pun intended!) that your child will get some “down-time”. Also, you already know that children at this age need from 10 – 12 hours of sleep a night. You’ll see the difference if they don’t get it – and SO WILL THEIR TEACHER. (The quicker a “school year” routine is established, the better for everyone involved.)

Interruptions: We will hear this over and over again and yet you’ll STILL see people who will insist on “dropping by” or “popping in just for a minute” during the school day. Please please please train yourself EARLY and resist the temptation to go see the teacher during the school day. Write her/him a note, send them an e-mail, call them and leave a voice mail but try hard NOT to come by in person. It takes a long time to settle the younger kids and get their little minds re-focused once there is an interruption. And you won’t know if you’re the first or the FIFTH one they’ve had in the last hour. “SHOW RESPECT” is another thing your child will be learning at school. If you have to drop off an item (folder, backpack, book, lunch, etc) for your child, take it to the office. The office staff will take the item and make sure it gets to your child. Please don’t think this means that teacher DOESN’T want to hear from you...always feel free to communicate via the methods suggested above first. The teacher will appreciate you so much.

Visiting the school – HARD & FAST RULE – For the safety and security of all of our children, ALL VISITORS ARE REQUIRED TO CHECK IN AT THE OFFICE DURING EVERY VISIT.

If you decide to take on one of the MANY fun and OH SO NEEDED volunteer jobs, or need to visit the campus for any reason, make it a habit to always check in at the office first. Even if you are just going to be a minute, it is REQUIRED. (Say, you didn’t park out front in the FIRE LANE, did you? ☺) There is an electronic kiosk where you will sign in or be signed in. Bring your Drivers License. The kiosk will print a sticker that you will wear while on campus. IF this kiosk is not working, you will be helped by the office staff.

Important Note: A month before school starts, begin establishing the new “bed-time routine”. Ease in slowly by backing up the bedtime by 15 minutes each week. As the commercial says “You’ll be GLAAAAD you did!”

General Note: Don’t worry too much about what your child “does or doesn’t know”. You’ll hear all kinds of opinions from people about what they “should” already be able to do etc. Talk to the teachers. They are the ones who’ll tell you “if they know these things; great, if not, they’ll learn them in kindergarten”. Sure, it WOULD be good if they knew their colors, basic shapes and some of the alphabet. If they know how to spell their NAME – bonus. Some children learn these things when they are two, others take a while. And still others KNOW these things but just aren’t interested in SHARING until they feel good and ready!

Reading: This is something that will come in time also. Again, all children do things at their own pace but ONE underlying theme that seems to be there is that CHILDREN LOVE TO BE READ TO. I think we are BLESSED to have so many parents who just automatically DO that. You'll hear this over and over again when the children start school; read every night for at least 15 minutes to your kindergartner. That's the mantra at Kiker and Clayton. In most of the classes the children will get what's called a "reading log". Each evening when your child reads or you read to them, you initial a box. This is your communication to the teacher that reading is being done. Reading to your children is so important and will ensure that they have a strong foundation in recognizing and comprehending words in the near future

Dexterity: If you haven't let your child use scissors that much (with my first one, I didn't know this was something I had to think about! Ha) go ahead and get a kids pair of scissors and some scrap paper and let them go to town. It's great for their fine motor skills. Draw large simple shapes such as boxes, circles, triangles for them to cut out at first. If that seems TOO easy, move up to flowers, sail boats, etc. You get the picture. (Hint – take it from one who knows – watch them closely, as HAIR becomes another item of interest to cut. Yes, you guessed it - my sweet child number 2. ☺) Tying shoes is expected and appreciated by some teachers by 2nd semester kinder...

Writing: If your child already knows how to write the alphabets, it's probably in caps, right? Teach them lower case also. Practicing their letters is probably nothing you want to "make" them do...let it continue to be "big boy/girl" privilege stuff. They feel SO good about themselves when they are approached that way, don't they? I printed a page and just hung it on the refrigerator so my children would get a visual. There are posters at teacher's stores and others places also which are colorful and large. Nice for hanging down low on a playroom or children's room wall. Kiker teaches writing using the "No More Tears" method. Google that topic for more info.

Prepare YOURSELF: I remember the mixed feelings of being proud, amazed and saddened that my "baby" was old enough to go to kindergarten already – wasn't he just born yesterday? I learned a good lesson from some of my most grounded friends. Their children transition to things so easily because the parents approach everything with a positive attitude and open mind. They don't gush or over talk the situations. They are just calm and let the child enjoy the moment. Then they cry in private if they need to! Ha And many of us do need to. Just try your dar n dest not to do it (or SAY IT) in front of your child. Why would mommy (or daddy) cry is this "kindergarten thing" is supposed to be "good" for them, right? Of course, with my 2nd child, I cried because I was told "It's OK, Mommy, you can LEAVE now" ...as she headed for the class alone with no hug or kiss for me. Thank goodness for a sweet parent who took a picture of her as she walked in so I'd at least have a VISUAL. Oh well, I'll get over it.

Volunteer Opportunities

Below are just some of the opportunities for which you may use your talents. If you have an idea or a special skill/talent you want to share and don't see it here, let your Volunteer Coordinator know. Your help will be a treasure!

Now for some FUN stuff: Please allow me to give you one small piece of advice from someone who knows (Yep, been here, done this.). You are excited that your child is in school now. You'll want to volunteer and help...ease into it. Give yourself time for the new "pace"...don't let yourself get burned out. The typical "new parent" routine is that we do a bunch in the first months, then after the winter break, we come back tired, burned out. Do yourself that favor and keep it fun. (Don't tell a soul that I told you to say NO to anything! ☺)

Volunteer Opportunities: So, now that you have your new 2009 - 2010 school T-SHIRT, you'll need someplace to wear it; **Volunteer!** You'll get to know the school better and see how things work. It's opened my eyes and given me information into why and how things work. It's also given me an opportunity to express my opinion if I see how things may run better. I feel the same way about volunteering as I do voting; if I don't do something about it, I have no right to complain, right?

General Volunteering: At Kindergarten Roundup (KR), you will receive a sheet with many volunteer opportunities available at school. Check any and all of the spaces that you would be interested in. You don't have to take on ALL of them, but when you are called you'll have the opportunity to pick and choose. If you were not able to attend KR, there will be a brochure available when school begins. Some of the opportunities that are available are:

Camp Read Volunteer: (this program is called SOAR at Clayton) You already have the skill to do this. It's very similar to when you read with your child at home. This is an opportunity to help children who are having a little trouble with their reading in areas of either fluency or comprehension. They may just need a little extra time with someone who can listen to them read and read to them. You would listen and perhaps guide the children when needed. Don't worry or be intimidated about trying this. You will be given training and guidelines on what to do. Please consider giving an hour of your time each week for this wonderful, rewarding, successful opportunity. When you see how proud the child is when that "light bulb" comes on, it will be more rewarding than anything else you can do. This program typically begins in October.

Library Volunteer: At both Kiker and Clayton alike, when you meet the librarian and her crew, you will want to work in the library immediately. They are very kind and knowledgeable and they KNOW OUR KIDS! They can use help in putting the returned books back on the shelves, straightening the shelves, putting labels on new books, repairing damaged books, etc etc etc. They can use HELP! If you have an hour (or two) once a week that you could dedicate to "shelving", you'll be a hero – ok, nearly a hero. The library staff always try to keep the books on the shelves so the kids can find them easily. The library also has Audio Visual equipment, videos, games and software that the teachers use. Volunteers help to find these items for the teachers. If you have some basic computer skills, you can help the children look for books on the computerized "card catalog". There is also the occasional "Book Fair" and "Inventory" positions for the library which are great fun. The biggest plus – no matter what their age, your child will LOVE seeing you there!!!

Teachers Workroom: At both Kiker and Clayton, this is a fun and happening area! ha We make copies, die cut, laminate, glue, staple - just about anything we can do to help our teachers, we do it. The teachers appreciate this room so much because it allows them to keep working with our children and know that they are receiving a little help with their projects by our volunteer parents. We parents enjoy it because we know this allows the teachers to do what they do best – work with our children.

Box Tops for Education Coordinator or Co-Coordinator: For a very organized person, this at-home volunteer opportunity would be a very rewarding way to become involved. The coordinator from the previous year is typically available to answer any questions you may have.

Parents as Partners: This is a relatively new opportunity at Kiker that started in 2005 by a wonderful parent, Sarah Hahn, at the request of the Principal. This program trains parents in such things as how to follow a lesson plan, what school procedures are, etc, in order to work in the class room for a short period of time....two hours or less, usually once per semester. This allows the teachers to meet with each other or the administration DURING school hours, rather than having to come in early or stay late. This program is a rewarding and great way to know teachers and other students.

Classroom Volunteer: When you attend "Back To School Night" (BTSN) you'll get to go to the classroom (and sit in those TINY little chairs your kindergartener sits in! ha). If you haven't already gotten a volunteer sheet from your classroom before this night, you may receive it at this time. You'll be given information on what classroom-specific "volunteer opportunities" are available...including being a Room Parent. These sheets are separate from those you'll be asked to fill out for general SCHOOL volunteering. (Back to school night is typically held about two weeks after school begins – this gives you an opportunity to see how the routine works and ask questions about anything you've been wondering about. Note: this is another one of those times when you'll need to find child care...start NOW!!! ha BTSN is for the adults only.)

AT HOME VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES: Yes, Virginia, there are even things you can do AT HOME! Watch the "Kiker Comments" & "Clayton Chatter" for these opportunities.

Your PTA: Your PTA is a good source of experienced parents who will be there to help you. Please join your PTA as soon as you enroll your child in school. Your **PTA Membership Coordinator** will be on hand to give you a list of all the things your PTA Membership does to help your child's school. This also information is typically available on the school website.

When you have time to sit and really concentrate, please read all the info in the AISD Handbook and the packet that will receive from Kinder Roundup. You'll find a lot of really useful information. It will make your child's transition (and yours! Ha) a smoother one.

I appreciate your time and effort getting through this information. It is my sincerest hope that this information will make your transition into kindergarten a little easier on your heart – emotionally that is.

If you have any suggestions (or want to let me know of spelling, grammatical errors, how something could read easier??) or comments, please contact me. I'd certainly welcome any feedback for future reference!

Most Sincerely,
Angela Schuckle
e-mail: aschuckle@earthlink.net