

no ballot

**learning community charter school**

One Canal Street, Jersey City, NJ 07302 phone (201) 332-0900 / fax (201) 332-4981 www.lccsnj.org

**THURSDAY THOUGHTS (4/9/09)**

- 1) LCCS is closed tomorrow, 4/10, and will be closed for **SPRING BREAK** from Monday, 4/13 – Friday, 4/17. School resumes Monday, 4/20.
- 2) This is the home stretch of this year's **READ-A-THON** reading period! There is still time to catch up on those minutes over the weekend. The reading ends on Sunday 4/12 but you can still reach out to those aunts, uncles, grandparents, neighbors, friends and co-workers to pledge. Please help us reach our school wide goal of \$15,000! Send in log sheets and collected pledges to your child's teacher by **Thursday, 4/30**. Prizes will be awarded at the **MAY 15<sup>th</sup> Celebration of Reading** for the most minutes read, greatest class participation, most money raised, etc. **READ ON LCCS!**
- 3) **VOTE for LCCS BOARD MEMBER:** At the end of this Thursday Thoughts there are bio/statements from two candidates running for one open seat for Parent Board Member on the LCCS Board of Trustees. Following the statements is a **STAMPED "b" VOTING BALLOT**.
  - Please vote for one of the two candidates.
  - Cut off and return the ballot in the attached envelope stamped with a "b" to your child's teacher or the front desk by 6pm on Wednesday 4/22.
  - **ONE BALLOT per FAMILY** has been sent home with the youngest sibling in a family.
  - If there is no ballot & envelope attached it is because this flier was given to an older sibling.
- 4) **LCCS PTO FAMILY FUN EVENT:** Thursday, 4/16 from 7pm to 11pm: Family Arcade Fundraiser at RACK'N ROLL Family Fun Center in Passaic, NJ. Unlimited game play, win tickets to collect prizes, rides for kids, pool tables, food, ice cream. All proceeds go to LCCS. *Attached flier has details.*
- 5) **SIMON FOUNDATION MATCHING FAMILY FUNDRAISER:**
  - We've raised over **\$3500** in the first three weeks!
  - The deadline for matching money raised is **5/15**: Only five weeks to go.
  - If you are planning your own fundraiser for the family challenge with which you need help, please contact Director of Development Shelley Skinner at x330 or [shelley-skinner@lccsnj.org](mailto:shelley-skinner@lccsnj.org).
- 6) **JUNE-A-PALOOZA 4** is coming! Attached is a copy of letter that is being mailed to all families that checked the spring fair on their family volunteer form at the beginning of the year. **EVERYONE** is welcome to volunteer using the attached form. We can use all the help we can get. Join the fun and get involved. It's the brightest, biggest bash on downtown's spring calendar!
- 7) **LCCS PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION (PTO)** is sponsoring the second 2009 PTO Family Fun Event: Bowling Fundraiser at Hudson Lanes on Friday, 4/24. *Flier attached to 4/3 Friday Flier, available at the website, [www.lccsnj.org](http://www.lccsnj.org).*
- 8) **SPRING WINE TASTING** at Madame Claude, Monday, 5/11. Enjoy appetizers, dinner, and dessert from our friends at Madame Claude while being informed about a sampling of fine wines by expert sommelier, John McClement. \$90 per person/ \$170 for two. Sign up at the front desk or email Dana Winfield at [danawinfield@verizon.net](mailto:danawinfield@verizon.net). *Order form and info. attached.*

9) **THANK YOU** to:

- Parents and friends who sent in Postcards protesting Charter Schools budget cuts.
- Parents and families who attended the Middle School orientation meeting.
- Parents who chaperoned on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> grade trips.

10) **FREE LEGAL WORKSHOP:** On Wednesday, 4/29 attend Court Night in the Justice William J. Brennan, Jr. Courthouse at 583 Newark Avenue, in Jersey City. This is a community education program featuring individual interactive workshops presented by esteemed judges and attorneys who will cover topics such as; Landlord/Tenant, Divorce, Child Support, Immigration, Juvenile Offender Prevention, and Expungement of a Criminal Record. Parking is available after 5:00 pm.

- The main purpose of the program is to educate the community concerning the roles of the courts, staff, and attorneys; and foster a greater understanding of community accessibility to the court.
- There will be two sessions that you can register for: 5:30 – 7:15 and 7:30 – 9:15.
- The workshops will be followed by a question and answer segment.
- Please call Cariann Rizzolo for more information and to register at 201-217-5109.

11) We hope to see everyone back in September, but if your child is not returning to LCCS next year, please contact Sheila Bratton at x338 so we can make the space available to another child.

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## LCCS Parent Board Member Nominees

**Nominees: JASON RENKER  
LONNIE SOBEL**

### BIOS/STATEMENTS + BALLOT

#### JASON RENKER

I am the parent of Sophie (sixth grade) and Malcolm (second grade) and I have been an LCCS Board Member for the past three years. I have been an LCCS parent for the past seven years, and a resident of Jersey City for sixteen years. Before my children were enrolled at LCCS, they were at the Garden Preschool Cooperative, where I was a Board Member for two years, including my last year there as Board President, and where I learned the value of parent involvement in our schools.

Over the course of the past year, the LCCS Board has undertaken the school's most ambitious project since the school's founding--the outright purchase of a new facility that will have immediate benefits for the students' experience as well as provide a home for the future of the school for many years to come. I am really proud of the school's progress and accomplishments, and appreciate the opportunity I've had of being part of such a hard working and dynamic group on the Board of Trustees. As the school moves forward into its new location, the Board will face the exciting challenge of making a the new building truly serve the best interests of the students, the teachers, and the families in the LCCS community, and I would appreciate the chance to continue working toward that goal. I truly believe in the "C" part of LCCS--the school truly is a Learning Community--and so I will work to make sure that we can use this new facility to strengthen our connection with our children's education and each other, perhaps through expanded after school programs, cultural events hosted at the school, and summer programs.

When I am not shepherding my children to school or to soccer, baseball, or fencing practice, I am head of the Editorial Department at The Century Foundation, a progressive policy research foundation, where I have worked for sixteen years.

#### LONNIE SOBEL

I'm Lonnie Sobel, the grandfather and guardian of Jesse and Jonathan Janson, who are currently in Kindergarten at LCCS. I have been at many of the LCCS board meetings this year and I would be happy to help and serve by becoming a trustee next year if you would like to have me. I was very impressed by the sincerity of all the board

members at truly wanting to make this school the best it can possibly be. I want the best education possible for my boys and I think that the LCCS board is providing that currently, and I would be glad to share with all of you my experience and knowledge to help continue this stupendous education my children are getting at LCCS. I plan to be here for the next nine years.

My educational background consists of a BA in Psychology from Temple University and a Masters degree in Rehabilitation Counseling from Michigan State University. My working background is that I have been an entrepreneur all my life in 5 different businesses. I was retired for 15 years but I recently went back to work due to the extra expenses of now being the permanent guardian for Jesse and Jonathan. During my retirement I traveled for pleasure all around the world about 6 months out of every year. I visited 63 different countries during this time, a few of them over a dozen times. My other big hobby besides traveling is magic!

I have been very involved in policy-making in local politics over the years. I was a commissioner on Jersey City's Zoning Board of Adjustment for about 10 years and I was also the Chairman of this board for the majority of the years that I was there. I have been a commissioner on the Parking Authority for about 13 years now and I am still a current commissioner. Over the years I have been the Treasurer, the Vice Chairman and the Chairman at the Parking Authority also. I have also been a consultant for the City of Jersey City for quite a while in the area of Economic Development.

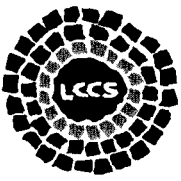
I have been to almost every fund raiser that LCCS has had this year. And by the way, while we are on the subject, a week ago I took back a business that I sold 12 years ago. It is a game room, also known as a Family Entertainment Center, in Passaic. (A somewhat similar concept to Chucky Cheese, but only 7,000 square feet. It also has a pool table section in the back.)

I am donating the space to have the PTO do a fund raiser there on Thursday, April 16th, from 7 to 11 PM. I am doing it now so that we can receive the matching money amount from the Simon Foundation. I will be providing LCCS the space for free so we can raise some well needed additional money for the new LCCS we will be purchasing on Kennedy Blvd. in the very near future. (The fund raiser will be something similar to the ice skating event we recently attended at Pershing Field, but I think the kids and the whole family will enjoy the evening a lot more! (Everyone could play all the games and also play the pool tables for free and get some free prizes too.) I will also be giving every attendee free soda, ice cream, and hot dogs!

I mention all this here not only because I want you all to attend and I know that everyone who comes will enjoy themselves a lot. But I also bring this up here because I believe that fundraising is an important function that every board member should try to help out with. Fundraising is one of my finer skills as I have raised over \$50,000 by myself for Bret Schundler when he ran for Governor. (And tens of thousands of dollars in his mayoral campaigns)

To end I just want to add that I'm very excited about our move to our new location. LCCS is great as is, but with these new facilities the sky is truly the limit.

Sincerely, Lonnie Sobel



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April 7, 2009

Hello Fellow Parents,

**JUNE-A-PALOOZA 4 is on Saturday June 6<sup>th</sup>, from noon – 5 pm.** We hope it will be the biggest and best fair yet! It is always a fun event for LCCS families and the community. It is a festive way to end the year.

Let me start out by introducing myself to those of you who are new to LCCS: My name is Wendy Tom. My husband, James Yuen and I are the parents of Miles (Kindergarten) and Russell (2nd Grade). This June will be the second year I am volunteering to head up June-A-Palooza, the LCCS Annual Spring Fundraiser.

I'm proud to say that last year's event was very successful and our net income was close to \$10,000 after expenses. With your help and commitment we'd like to make over \$10,000! All proceeds will go towards preparing the new school on Kennedy Blvd. for the fall, 2010 opening.

At the beginning of the year you checked off June-A-Palooza on the LCCS Volunteer Form. I hope you can volunteer to help with some of the many tasks needed to make JUNE-A-PALOOZA 4 the most successful fair yet! **Attached is a sign-up sheet for different jobs from which to choose.**

- Starting now and during the next month I need volunteers to canvas local businesses for donations.
- I'm hoping that I can count on you now to commit to at least a 2 hour slot on Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup> from 10 am to 6 pm to do set up/clean up, run games, arts & crafts, man the bounce house, sell 50/50 raffle tickets, and much more.
- After the spring break we will have our first June-A-Palooza meeting the week of April 27<sup>th</sup> (A specific date will be in next week's FF). At that meeting we can brain storm and firm up committees for each activity. In the meantime, please check off any activities with which you could help.
- We welcome any ideas and suggestions to help make June-a-Palooza a great and profitable event!

We have contacted parents who have been in charge of these activities in the past to see if they would like to be a "captain" again. Whoever leads the activities will need help, so please indicate which activities interest you and whether you would be willing to be a captain if necessary. Most of these activities have been run successfully before so there is a lot of information and even some equipment and supplies from years past. Check off as many as you can help with.

Thanks for your support. I'll really need it!!

Wendy Tom (and sidekick Charlotte)

For more information and answers to questions please contact Wendy at [wendyjames@aol.com](mailto:wendyjames@aol.com).



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**JUNE-A-PALOOZA 09: Volunteer form** (return to teacher or front desk)

child \_\_\_\_\_ grade \_\_\_\_\_

Parent \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_ best phone \_\_\_\_\_

- Canvas local businesses for donations (starting right after Spring Break)
- Arts & Crafts Tables (find and work with crafters to create 5 – 6 activity tables) Some are all ready to go; we just need a few more.
- Kids Games (Jennifer Hughes, captain) work on set up of 8 – 10 kids games – i.e “pick a duck”, bowling, ring toss, etc.) Some are all ready to go; we just need a few more.
- Cake bakers for the Cake Walk (Sharol Jenkins, captain)
- Silent Auction (Dana Winfield, captain) Help create 30 – 40 auction items: Baskets, trips, gourmet food, gift certificates, summer houses, etc.
- Play music, help set up
- Flea market (Steve Krinsky–captain) (Help organize donations on June 5<sup>th</sup> and/or clerk on June 6<sup>th</sup>)
- Food preparation and help serving food (We have a captain for this one)
- Ticket booth and merchandise sellers
- Set up / Clean up
- Available with truck to haul stuff on June 6<sup>th</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ or day before \_\_\_\_\_ or day after \_\_\_\_\_
- No preference, will help where needed (pick a time period)
- I have another idea!!! \_\_\_\_\_.

Times available, e.g. “Sat. 2pm – 4pm”: \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_.

Save the date!



## Spring Wine Tasting Benefit at Madame Claude



Monday, May 11, 6:30 p.m.  
Limited to 35 guests!  
All proceeds to benefit LCCS

Enjoy appetizers, dinner, and dessert at Madame Claude while sampling fine wines with an expert sommelier.

Our guest sommelier, John McClement is well know to many of you as the knowledgeable wine expert that guides us through tastings at the Lorentz-Spillman's every fall. He has graciously agreed to join us this spring.

**Appetizers, full dinner, desert, and as much wine as you can manage without ruining your palate  
all for \$90 pp (\$170 for two)**

For additional information please call Dana Winfield at 201-792-4143 or email at [Danawinfield@verizon.net](mailto:Danawinfield@verizon.net)

**RSVP by tearing off below and returning to school along with your check make out to: LCCS**



NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ check one below:

just me for \$90 \_\_\_\_\_

me and a guest for \$170 \_\_\_\_\_

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Total enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

**Checks payable to LCCS!**

\* ticket price includes a full meal at Madame Claude restaurant as well as wines to taste and enjoy. A bargain at almost any price!

# The LCCS Parent Teacher Organization (LCCS PTO)

*Sponsors a*

## **PTO Family Fun Event: Game Room Fundraiser at Rack'n Roll Family Fun Center**

**Thursday, April 16<sup>th</sup>**

**YOU WORK HARD, NOW PLAY HARD!**

**from 7:00 – 11:00 p.m.**

**\$10.00 per person / \$25 per family (no drop-offs)**

**RACK'N ROLL FAMILY FUN CENTER**  
(973) 365-0020

212 WASHINGTON PLACE  
PASSAIC, NJ 07055

[www.racknroll.org](http://www.racknroll.org)

**Meet other parents and students!  
Have fun! Be there or be square!**  
ALL PROFITS GO TO LCCS

**Unlimited game play!**

**135 games!**

**Win tickets to  
collect PRIZES!**

**Pool tables!**

**Video games!**

**Kiddie rides!**

**Free tickets for 1 soda,  
hot dog, ice cream for  
each attendee!**

