



## Everybody Counts!

I have a friend who went to work for the Census Bureau last year. She is trying to bring awareness to the Asian Community on the importance of being included in the Census. Recently, Frances was at our Plano PTA Council Meeting answering questions.

Did you know that they got rid of the long form? The current questionnaire has only 10 questions to be answered. Did you know that regardless of where you are from, citizen or not, legal or not, that you need to be counted? Better yet, did you know that the information collected in the questionnaire cannot be shared with any other government department or anyone for 72 years?

Why do we want to be counted? Why does it matter? All the funding coming from the Federal Government is dependent on the amount of population in the area and state. How many representatives we have in Congress are dependent on the total population. These are just two of the many reasons why you should be counted.

Besides, don't we matter? Shouldn't we be counted just because of all that we do for our children and our community? We have parents, community members, and students doing so many different things in and out of our school. Some organize the Copy Room (Linda Rosen) or the Attendance Office (Tami Stewart) others put together the teachers' luncheons (Kenda Draper and her Committee) or keep us on budget (Janet Fabian). Community members help out by donating or discounting food and other items. We have a group of students that are busy too. They held their first service project toward the end of the first semester – helping Jackson Elementary School. Read their article later in this newsletter. They are starting out small but hope to grow and have a larger number of students participating from Shepton. They are ready to make a difference in their community and want all their friends to help!

In March, take 10 minutes to answer 10 questions – because we all count!

### PTSA President Jamie Hanna



## Education Candidates Meet and Greet Know who you are voting for!

**February 16, 6-8 pm  
SMU in Plano**

This event is a meet and greet for Education Candidates for State Board of Education, Collin College Trustee and Plano ISD Trustee. It is an informal, come and go as your schedule allows, opportunity to talk informally with candidates that will affect education in our community and state. This is your chance to get to know the candidates, ask questions and share your concerns and priorities with future decision makers. The event starts at 6 and ends at 8. At 7 pm, we'll give each candidate an opportunity to talk for three minutes at the microphone. Refreshments will be served and it is OK to bring your kids if they are interested in meeting the candidates.

Council will also be co-hosting the PISD School Board Candidate Forum on April 15 with the Key Communicators group.

## Council Event Dates

Feb. 1 - How to work with the Media training, 12-2, PISD Admin #309

Feb. 16 - Education Candidates Meet & Greet, 6-8 pm, SMU in Plano, building 3 Great Room

Feb. 22 - Life Member Celebration, 6:30 pm, Plano West Auditorium

Feb. 26-28 - *All Hands On Deck* — Texas PTA Convention, Corpus Christi

March 27 - PTA Council SAGE Camp Fair, Haggard Middle School

April 10 - PTA Council Vendor Fair, Jasper High School

April 14 - PTA Council Reflections Award Ceremony, Sockwell Center

April 15 - PTA Council & Key Communicators Candidate Forum, PISD Admin building, 7 pm

April 20 - PTA Council regular meeting, 10-12, PISD Admin building

May 11 - PTA Council Annual Meeting, Award Ceremony & Officer & Chairman Training, 9 am, Sockwell Center

Moonwalk Back in Time to Plano West Theatre's production of

## The Awesome 80's Prom

**February 4-6, 2010, 7 pm, \$8  
Plano West Senior High School,  
Auditorium**

Travel back in time to 1989 to join in the celebration of Wanaget High School's Senior Prom. All the characters you remember from your high school days will be in attendance and vying for your vote for Prom King or Queen. Anything can happen in this interactive show where audience members may receive a pass from the Captain of the Football Team, be cheered up by the Head Cheerleader, swap binary code with the Class Geek, or try in vain to communicate with the Asian Exchange Student.

The Awesome 80s Prom by Ken Davenport, produced with special arrangement from Samuel French. It is directed by teachers Carla Ford-Rich and Norv Sykes and students Natalie Rinehart and Molly McMichael.

While many audience members will come as they are, everyone is encouraged to get into the spirit of the event by dressing for the '80s. You may also want to work on your dance moves because the dance floor will be open for breakdancing and moonwalking.