

PIE lends helping hands to Holyoke schools

Written by Sharlene Hart

- After a year of events and fund raisers the PIE (Partners in Education) organization is going strong. PIE was created to get more parents, teachers and the community more involved in the school system. PIE is modeled after Parent Teacher Association (PTA), but is more inclusive of other community members.
- A group of parents who wanted to become more involved in the schools came up with the idea to organize meetings to bring parents together.
 - PIE serves several purposes. It provides a venue for parents and community members to become more involved with their children's education. It also acts as a support group for teachers and parents, especially for parents of transfer students. It is also a great way to get involved and volunteer.
- Right now PIE is focusing on coming up with new ideas for activities and getting new people interested.
- So far this year PIE has created fund raisers and sponsored many school events. One of PIE's fund raisers is the spirit shop. PIE members sell various spirit items such as green hair dye, spirit beads, pom-poms, suckers and scrunchies at all home games for the energetic Dragon fans. PIE has also offered caramel apple tasty treats at football games.
- The money raised goes back into events for the school. PIE has donated books to both Holyoke school libraries for Christmas. Inkling Book Store and PIE also gave out 50-cent coupons for the book store for students.
- PIE has supported the local fourth graders by paying for a year of subscriptions to educational magazines. At their last meeting Jan. 5, PIE watched a New York Life presentation about raising sensible children.
- PIE meets on the first Monday of every month in the HHS commons area. Their next meeting is Feb. 2 at 7 p.m. There are currently about 50 members. Misti Redman is president of the club, Jennifer Kral and Crystal Stapleton are co-vice-presidents, Dennis Herman is treasurer and Stephanie Krogmeier is secretary.
- PIE is in current need of new fresh ideas. So if interested in getting involved, contact Misti Redman at 854-2837 or visit the PIE link that is coming soon to the Holyoke school website <http://holyoke.schoolfusion.us/>.