

October 15th, 2008

Dear TOPS parents,

TOPS is an extraordinary school. Many of us literally feel that we have “won the lottery” when we learn our child got in. We are thrilled that our kids have the great privilege of earning a TOPS education. So many things about this place are amazing: The commitment to social justice. The richness and creativity of the educational electives from Big Choice to Topics to Young Playwrights. The dedication of teachers who provide a challenging intellectual experience for our children.

We’ve chosen TOPS for our children because we believe that education makes all the difference for their future. We have confidence that it will turn them into good citizens and humane individuals. This school offers us all hope that they can make the world a better place.

Public school systems around the country and especially here in Seattle are facing severe financial shortfalls. The School District provides the basics, but if we want an enriched program we have to roll up our sleeves and do it ourselves. That’s why we volunteer in classrooms, teach Topics, and it’s why we *need to open our pocketbooks for the No-Bake Sale*. School fund raising enriches the curriculum in some of the following ways:

- ❖ Tutoring
- ❖ Writers in the Schools
- ❖ Artist in residence
- ❖ Drama
- ❖ Literacy Block
- ❖ Music – choir program/band/strings

Unlike other schools, TOPS doesn’t want to inundate you with car washes, raffles and all the other year round fund raising activities you’ll find elsewhere. Instead, we come to you once a year for the No-Bake Sale in the Fall and the Auction in the Spring). This is your opportunity to demonstrate how much you value the education your children are getting.

Each year, TOPS families donate an average of \$200 to the No Bake Sale. *Please do your best to give **\$250 or more** this year.* Some of you give \$1,000 and

some of you give \$25. We encourage you to give generously, as the more you give the more we can do for our children.

One of our most important goals is 100% parent participation and no gift is too small. Your gift, of course, is tax-deductible. Please use the attached form to accompany your donation.

With appreciation for all the ways you contribute to make TOPS special,

Wilma Angell

No-Bake Treasurer

Marlies van Bergeijk

No-Bake Chair

TOPS NO-BAKE DONATION FORM please donate by Dec. 31, 2008

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ E-mail _____

We would like to donate: \$1000 \$500 \$200 \$100
 \$50 \$25 \$10 \$5 Other \$ _____

Method of payment

Check (made payable to Friends of TOPS) Visa Mastercard

Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature _____

I would like to pay in 3 monthly installments (credit card only)

Send checks to: TOPS No Bake, 2500 Franklin Ave. E., Seattle, WA 98102

Please consider giving your family and friends an opportunity to give to Friends of TOPS. Provide information below and a letter will be sent.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

We'd like to thank your family by listing you as a donor in the TOPS Newsletter. Dollar amounts will not be listed.

Please check the box if you do NOT want your family's name published.

My employer will match my donation.

Company _____

Please include signed company matching form.

Friends of TOPS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.
Tax ID #94-3142402. All donations are tax deductible.

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