

## **Farragut Elementary raises \$6,000 at Fiesta Bingo Night to benefit art, computer and music programs**

250 attendees from Farragut families joined in the fun Friday night February 8<sup>th</sup> at the Farragut Elementary Cafetorium for an evening of bingo, bingo prizes, raffle baskets, authentic Mexican tacos and tamales, piñatas, bubble gum blowing contests and tortilla tossing. The Farragut Choir, directed by Mrs. Patty Eskridge! , 1<sup>st</sup> grade teacher, entertained the crowd singing a medley of nursery rhymes much to the enjoyment of everyone. "It was adorable" said one parent.

The children enjoyed buying light-up toys at the kids "store". The hands down favorites were light up laser pointer fingers and light-up twinkling teeth you insert in your mouth. Suzi Joi Thomason, parent and store manager said, "The kids just love the store. Where can you buy something so fun for just \$2? We sold out of the laser pointers in half an hour."

Dina Wahlert, raffle basket organizer, said, "We had over 60 raffle baskets, so your chance of winning was very high. The American Girl, Lego Exoforce and WebKinz baskets were the most popular. The three combined raised \$408!"

"We were so excited to exceed our profit numbers from last year by \$1,000! Fiesta Bingo Night was a terrific success. Our kids and parents look forward to this event all year. It's just a whole lot of fun for everyone and builds an even stronger family community here at Farragut." Said, Bonnie Wacker, Fan Club President and Fiesta Chair.

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The children participated in two fun-filled events. The annual bubble gum blowing contest and the tortilla toss. Both children and parents chew bubble gum and within a specified time have to blow the biggest bubble on stage in front of the audience. For the tortilla toss the children toss tortillas into the center of hula hoops placed on the floor and the top 4 contestants have a toss off. Winners get to chose something from the bingo prize table.

A special surprise guest showed up to do the bingo calling, Lee Arenberg, who played a pirate, "Pintel" in the "Pirates of the Carribbean" movie.

Barbara Brown, Principal said, "Our Fiesta Bingo Night is just a wonderful event to not only make money for our art classes, computer lab and music appreciation classes, but brings the Farragut family together in a unique way. Our very active parent group here at Farragut plays a vital role in making Farragut a great place for families and creating a sense of community."