INTRODUCING:

THE PURDUE PARENTS NETWORK: A resource for Purdue employees with kids

Working parents face a unique set of work-life balance challenges: working on an unpredictably limited amount sleep, attempting to maintain high productivity while attending to the various facets of parenting/family responsibilities, and balancing complicated time and financial budgets. While as a Purdue University community we cannot help parents address all their work-life challenges, we can support each other by sharing information, resources, and opportunities to network with others in similar situations.

The Purdue Parents Network (PPN) is a resource created by parents (and their concerned friends) **for parents.** The overall goal is to provide an avenue for parents within Purdue University to network, share information, and find support within the Purdue community. Recognizing that many Purdue employees do not have family in the area, and that many new parents do not have access to insider information sources, our two **most immediate objectives are:**

1) to compile and distribute information on local resources such as daycare, recommended babysitters, Purdue HR, lactation rooms, pediatricians, school systems, shopping, and kid friendly events.

2) to connect new and established parents alike by organizing play dates, stroller runs, parent-to-parent sales and exchanges.

We hope that the PPN will develop into a useful tool. We invite all Purdue employees with families (and those thinking of starting a family) to join the PURDUE PARENT NETWORK listserve by sending an email with the word "SUBSCRIBE" (without the quotes) as the subject heading to <u>PPN-request@lists.purdue.edu</u>, or emailing Maja Makagon (a new parent in the community) at <u>mmakagon@purdue.edu</u>

Please note: no one likes to have their in-box flooded by emails. The list serve will be used to send periodic consolidated announcements about resources and upcoming events.

Maja Makagon and Dave Barbarash