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**NEWS RELEASE – “LAKE PARK ELEMENTARY HOLDS ANNUAL WALK-A-THON”**

The students, staff, and families of Lake Park Elementary School (LPE) are hosting the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Walk-A-Thon at the school this Saturday (January 28). Check-in for all walkers begins at 7:30 A.M., followed by the walk beginning at 8:00 A.M. The route will follow a stroll through the Naples Zoo, the Conservancy of Southwest Florida, and then back through the Lake Park neighborhood to the school, for the event’s silent auction and carnival.

LPE students have been working for the past five weeks to collect pledges for their walks. Money raised will be used to purchase classroom supplies, supplemental teaching tools, technology, printer cartridges. Funds will also go towards student incentives and other school events.

In addition, the LPE Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) has received donations from local Naples businesses, as well as LPE families, for the silent auction. Some items up for bid include golf outings, fine dining, backwater fishing charters, tennis lessons, hotel stays, hand painted art projects made by each class, and gift baskets collected by each grade. You can also bid on several special events with teachers, staff, and Lake Park families.

This year, the PTO has added a Winter Carnival to the Walk-A-Thon event. The field activities will begin at 10:00 A.M., with games, face painting, bounce houses, pony rides, dancers, a “cupcake” walk, and even a visit from the City of Naples Fire Department. While the walk is free for all Lake Park families, admission to the Winter Carnival is \$5 for anyone over three years of age.

The Walk-A-Thon is open to the public. Join in on this family event for a great cause – the students of Lake Park Elementary School. To learn more, please contact the school at 377-7200.