

# HES PTA News

January 22nd Edition



## Events

### **PTA General Membership Meeting February 25 at 6:30 p.m.**

Mark your calendar for our next PTA General Membership Meeting which will be held in the Media Center. Mrs. Smith, the HES Reading Specialist, will present information on PARCC, the new assessment system.

### **Basket Bingo - Saturday, February 21 in the HES Cafeteria**

Save the date! There will be over a dozen fabulous baskets, bags, and prizes to win. Advance ticket prices are \$5 per child age 12 and under, \$15 per adult, or \$25 per household; ticket order forms will be sent later this month. For each bingo game played, there is an adult winner and a child winner. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. and dinner and dessert will be available for purchase. Hope you and your family will join us for all the fun!

#### Basket Bingo donation request

Baskets and bags have been donated to the PTA, but we need your help to fill them! Every student who brings a donation will receive a Tuffy ticket! Sign up links for each class's two baskets are below to help with donation ideas:

\* Kindergarten: \*Bath/Spa\* \*Toys\*:

[www.SignUpGenius.com/go/409054FA8AE2EA20-kindergarten](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/409054FA8AE2EA20-kindergarten)

\* 1st Grade: \*Italian/Pasta\* \*Coffee/Tea/Chocolate\*:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/409054fa8ae2ea20-first>

\* 2nd Grade: \*Ravens\* \*Men's Man Cave\*:

[www.SignUpGenius.com/go/409054FA8AE2EA20-2ndgrade](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/409054FA8AE2EA20-2ndgrade)

\* 3rd Grade: \*Baking/Kitchen\* \*Movie Night\*:

[www.SignUpGenius.com/go/409054FA8AE2EA20-3rdgrade](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/409054FA8AE2EA20-3rdgrade)

\* 4th Grade: \*Beach\* \*Pet Love\*:

[www.SignUpGenius.com/go/409054FA8AE2EA20-4thgrade](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/409054FA8AE2EA20-4thgrade)

\* 5th Grade: \*Family Game Night\*:

[www.SignUpGenius.com/go/409054FA8AE2EA20-5thgrade](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/409054FA8AE2EA20-5thgrade)

Please send donations to school by Monday, February 2. Thanks for your support!

### **Spring Fun Run - Saturday, April 25**

Mark your calendars for Hammond Elementary's spring Fun Run. The event is a fundraiser for the HES PTA. Participants will be able to choose between a 5K or one mile run through the school grounds and surrounding neighborhood. This family-friendly event will be fun for kids and adults of all ages. Stay tuned for registration and race details closer to the event date.

### **Volunteers Needed**

#### **Volunteers Needed for STEM Night - Thursday, April 23rd from 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.**

We Need You! Do you have a job or hobby in a STEM related field. What is a STEM related field? STEM stands for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. This year we are once again having a combination STEM Night/ Science Fair. We need parents who have a job or hobby in a STEM field to a host a session about their job or hobby. This session should include an interactive activity for the students. Activities can be simple and only last a half hour. Here are some examples from last year: A parent from NASA made small air-powered rockets with the students. A parent who worked with conveyors taught students about conveyors and then the students built model conveyors. If you are interested or need more information please contact Mr. Walsh by emailing [greg\\_walsh@hcpss.org](mailto:greg_walsh@hcpss.org)

#### **Girls on the Run - Coach Needed**

Are you interested in helping to coach Girls on the Run? Girls on the Run is a great program for girls in grades 3-5. The program isn't just about running but about positive self-image, positive talk, being a good friend and all sorts of great topics.



There's more information on their website: <http://www.gotrcentralmd.org/html/>

#### **HES Talent Show- Volunteers Needed**

Volunteers are needed to review acts one day in March from 4:00-6:00 p.m. Please contact Yael Goldwater, [yharris72@gmail.com](mailto:yharris72@gmail.com), for more information.

### **Reading with Students**

Mrs. Smith, the HES Reading Specialist, is starting a program for students to work on reading fluency. We are looking for volunteers to read with students one on one. It requires an adult to read aloud with a child for 15 minutes a day to model good fluency. A description/training of the simple research based method will be reviewed with volunteers in advance. We are looking for volunteers who can give an hour of their time one day a week. They will work with four students for fifteen minutes each during this time. Use the following link to sign up- [www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C0C48AFAB2DAAF85-reading/4906890](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C0C48AFAB2DAAF85-reading/4906890)

### **News**

#### **Mitten Tree**

Hammond Elementary is starting a mitten tree! Students can donate new or gently used mittens or gloves by bringing them to school and dropping them off in the 4th grade pod. Students will have their name displayed on a certificate! These mittens/gloves will be donated to LARS for the needy right here in Laurel. If you have any questions please email [larae\\_guide@hcpss.org](mailto:larae_guide@hcpss.org) and/or [greg\\_walsh@hcpss.org](mailto:greg_walsh@hcpss.org).

#### **Birdseed Needed**

It's freezing out and the poor birds are hungry! Would you be willing to donate some birdseed for the feeders at the entrance and the courtyard? We have sunflower seeds that the squirrels are enjoying but birdseed mix is really needed. Some elementary-level books about birds or even a squirrel-resistant feeder that isn't being used would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Laura Valente at [laura\\_valente@hcpss.org](mailto:laura_valente@hcpss.org) if you'd like to help.

#### **Box Top Information**

The next Box Tops collection is at the end of February. Please send in your Box Tops with your student! The collection box is in the front lobby under the glass showcase. We've collected \$437 toward our goal of \$1,000. Your participation is greatly appreciated!



### **Please label coats and clothes:**

Hammond Elementary's Lost and Found grows very quickly, especially throughout the winter months. Please label your children's coats, sweatshirts, hats, etc., with their last name and if there is room, their first name as well. This will help ensure that we can return lost items.

### **PTA-Sponsored Performance**

On December 23rd, the PTA sponsored two Classical Hip-Hop performances. The program featured progressive hip-hop artist and Grammy-nominated Christylex Bacon (pronounced chris-styles) and six-string electric cellist, Wytold (William Wytold Lebing). They blended traditional elements of hip-hop such as human beatbox, rhyming and storytelling with classical compositions of composers such as Bach, Vivaldi and Pachelbel. Thank you for your support, which allows us to bring opportunities such as this to our students.

### **Tuffy's Pride**

The December recipient will be announced in our next newsletter. We want to keep it a surprise until they are presented with their award during morning announcements.

If you know of a teacher or staff member goes above and beyond to make a child's day brighter please consider nominating that person for the January Tuffy's Pride Award. Nominations can be made [here](#) and only take few minutes of your time. The teacher or staff person selected will receive a certificate of appreciation and a small gift card.

## **PTA Council of Howard County News**

PTACHC voted to send a resolution to the Board of Education and Department of Education asking that:

1. Principals be allowed to make exceptions to the portion of the wellness policy that requires that food brought into school for celebrations comply with IOM standards,
2. Food brought into school for these celebrations not be required to be commercially packaged,
3. The Board review the policy as soon as possible and delete the requirements that food brought into school for celebrations comply with IOM standards.

In addition, the wellness policy called for supervision of how the policy was being implemented in the schools, and PTACHC will follow up with the Department of Education to see how that is being done, and if PTACHC could assist.

## Reminders

### Facebook

Like Hammond Elem PTA on Facebook.

### Grocery Store Rebates

There's still time to sign up!

Register your Harris Teeter VIC card at [http://www.harristeeter.com/community/together\\_in\\_education/link\\_to\\_your\\_school.aspx](http://www.harristeeter.com/community/together_in_education/link_to_your_school.aspx). Current earnings are \$913.02 thanks to the 98 participants already registered! Plus, through Harris Teeter's new school bonus dollar program, we now receive 10% of all sales through their Express Lane.

Register your Target REDcard at <https://www.target.com/redcard/tcoe/home>.

Register your Giant Food card at <http://giantfood.com/aplus/register-card/>.

### Help your PTA while shopping with Amazon Rewards

Are you an amazon.com shopper? Shop through our link and your school's PTA will earn money! Yes, it's that easy! Make all your usual purchases using this link: <http://www.amazon.com/?&tag=hp0e9c-20&linkCode=wsw&>.



**Click on the black portion of the Amazon box**

You can also help by adding the following information to your email signature line so friends, family members, and co-workers can support HES PTA:

Support Hammond Elementary PTA by making all of your Amazon.com purchases through this link:

<http://www.amazon.com/?&tag=hp0e9c-20&linkCode=wsw&>

## **2014-2015 PTA Board of Directors**

President - Kerri Ukstins

VP, Membership - Christine Hyun

VP, Communications - Anne Braun

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