

HES PTA News

February 5th Edition



Events

Staff Appreciation Conference Dinner

On Thursday, February 12, the PTA will host a dinner for the staff who are staying late for parent-teacher conferences. All requests for donations and volunteers are filled for this event...thanks so much!

Basket Bingo - Saturday, February 21 in the HES Cafeteria

Tickets now on sale! Look for your ticket order form in today's folder or visit hespta.org. 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. 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!

Donations for basket bingo extended through Friday, February 13

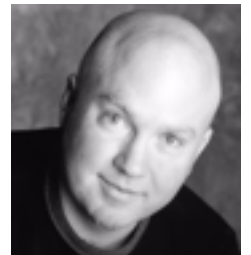
Did you want to donate a gift card or other item to your child's class basket? There's still time! Students who bring a donation will receive a Tuffy ticket.

PTA General Membership Meeting on Wednesday, 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.

Author Aaron Reynolds to Visit HES on Wednesday, April 15, 2015

Continuing the tradition of bringing fun and exciting authors to Hammond Elementary, we are proud this year to welcome author Aaron Reynolds. Students will be familiar with Aaron's popular graphic novel series *Tiger Moth*, as well as his many picture books, including the 2013-14 Black-Eyed Susan award winning book~ *Creepy Carrots!*



Your PTA will team up with Barnes & Noble for book sales. Look for an order form in students' folders next week. Your order and payment will be due no later than Monday, March 23.

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

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.

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. For more information, visit <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, for more information.

Reading with Students

Mrs. Smith, the HES Reading Specialist, has started a program for students to work on reading fluency. Volunteers are needed to read aloud with students one on one to model good fluency. Training will be reviewed with volunteers in advance. If you can give an hour of your time one day a week, you'll work with

four students for fifteen minutes each session. Use the following link to sign up: www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C0C48AFAB2DAAF85-reading/4906890

News

Spelling Bee

During the month of January, Hammond Elementary students in grades 1-5 participated in a school-wide Spelling Bee. Many students showed great promise. The winners are as follows: Grade 1: Ryan Shin; Grade 2: Yadiana Diaz Cruz; Grade 3: Julia Chen. These winners from grades 1-3 will be recognized at the Howard County Public Library System Spelling Bee on March 13th at Reservoir High School. From grades 4 & 5, the winner Aiai Calmer will move on to participate in the HCPLS bee and Doaa Elhassan will serve as alternate. Congratulations to all winners!

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 and/or 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 if you'd like to help.

Box Top Information

The next Box Tops collection is at the end of February. Please bring in your Box Tops when you visit for your conference next week. 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!



Lost & Found

Has your child lost something? Plan to visit the lost and found collection in front of the HES gym when you come in for next week's parent-teacher conferences.

Tuffy's Pride

The December and January recipients will be announced in our next newsletter. We want to keep it a surprise until they are presented with their awards 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 February 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.

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. Current earnings are \$1,015.51 thanks to the 99 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=wsu&>.



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=wsu&>

2014-2015 PTA Board of Directors

President - Kerri Ukstins

VP, Membership - Christine Hyun

VP, Communications - Anne Braun

Treasurer - Randy Baldini

Recording Secretary - Christine Sledge

Communications Secretary - Maggie Kennedy

Delegate - Mike Schmeckpeper