Spring has sprung and it’s time to plant some seeds. In April, we elect our PTA Officers for the 2013-14 school year and start making “plans” for the next school year. NOW is the perfect time to think about how you may want to contribute to your child(ren)’s school to make it the best it can be now and in the future. Do you have the time and the energy to lead? I can only HIGHLY RECOMMEND it as a terrific way to spend a day. Please consider “signing up” as a Committee Chair or Event Lead and prepare for an exciting time.

Much like the exciting & educational Event that was STEMmerDay 2013. With a tremendous volunteer base and great participant turnout out, this STEMmerDay was outstanding! With so many Teacher volunteers, it is particularly fitting that we will be celebrating Teacher Appreciation Week a little early this year from April 29th thru May 3rd. Let’s be sure to THANK our Teachers for all they do for all our students!

Gina Fink, PTA President, gina.fink@verizon.net

Save the dates!

April 10 – Gen. PTA Mtg. @7pm to 8pm *Elections
April 12 – Family Movie Night-Rio @6:30pm to 8pm
April 16 & 17 – Kule-Yo’s Yogurt @4pm to 8pm
April 18 – SEAC Town Hall @6:30pm to 8:30pm
April 22 – Outdoor Classroom Ribbon Cutting @6pm
April 24 & 25 – McDonald’s Dining Nights @ 5pm to 8pm

April 29 thru May 3 – Teacher Appreciation Week (*new dates)

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Treasurer’s Report
By Lisa Teetz
lisateetz@verizon.net

Hello Liberty Families! It has been another good financial month for the PTA. The PTA was thrilled to be able to provide the dome theater at STEMmerday—we hope everyone got a chance to check it out! We have earned over $1,700 from all our dining nights throughout the year so please keep supporting those. Also ensure your store card for Target, Giant, Harris Teeter and Food Lion are linked to Liberty. We earn money on every dollar spent. We just received a check for $338 from Harris Teeter and more are on the way. We had a great spring spirit wear sale and profits were right on target. We were able to support Odyssey of the Mind, which is wrapping up this month. Also, the new sign will be installed soon! At the March PTA meeting we voted to support the purchase of 64 new 4th grade textbooks (+3 sets of Teacher materials) out of our classroom request budget. They are called “Our Virginia” to support the Virginia history SOL. Also we funded an in school assembly scheduled to take place on April 5th. We just wrapped up the spring fundraiser “Art to Remember” and next month’s report will have an update on that...stay tuned!

We’ve been asked to share ...

Several of our Liberty Teachers are participating in the Relay for Life Event to raise $ for cancer research. They will be walking on June 1st and it would great and greatly appreciated if our Liberty families wanted to pledge a supporting donation. The Team page (where you can donate) is: http://main.acsevents.org/site/TR?fr_id=53246&pq=team&team_id=1276471.

Events – Movie Night

VP Events is James Milam.
jamesmilam@gmail.com

Save the date for a family movie night featuring “Rio” at Liberty on Friday, April 12th @ 6:30pm.

Fundraising

VP Fundraising is Anaheeta Minwalla.
acminwalla@verizon.net

April Yogurt & Dining Nights

Kule Yo’s

Join us for a yogurt at Kule-Yo’s - 43114 Peacock Market Plaza – for a healthy snack and support Liberty at the same time.

Tuesday, April 16th (Pre-K - 2nd).
Wednesday, April 17th (3rd - 5th).
The time is from 4pm to 8pm.
Come on out on either night and be sure to mention “Liberty.”
McDonald’s

Take 2! Join us for what are traditionally our largest Dining Nights of the Year at the McDonald’s, South Riding location only (43250 Defender Dr.) on either Wed., April 24th (pre-K thru 2nd grade) or Thurs., April 25th (3rd grade thru 5th grade) from 5pm to 8pm. (Dates rescheduled due to weather.)

Dine-in or drive-thru!

PTA Committee Work

VP Committees is Chris Jackson Coates. chrisjacksoncoates@yahoo.com

Open Positions/Help Wanted

We are in need of PTA member(s) to step up to lead the following:

Executive Board of Officers 2013-14

Nominations, including self-nominations, for the 2013-14 school year are being solicited and accepted by our Nominating Committee members of Linda Textoris, Rebekah Cox and Kimberly Turner.

If you are interested in leading next year, by serving as a PTA Officer, please contact Mrs. Textoris: Linda.Textoris@lcps.org (or any Nominations Committee member) with your name, phone number, e-mail, desired position(s) and your ideas for leading. ASAP!

The 2013-14 Slate of Officers:

President – Anaheeta Minwalla
VP Committees - OPEN
VP Events – Tom Parker
VP Fundraising - Harsh Govind
Treasurer – Lisa Teetz
Rec. Sec. – Chris Jackson Coates
Coord. Sec. – Taryn Henderson

Elections will be held at the PTA General Membership Meeting on Wed., April 10th from 7pm to 8pm. Please plan to attend to vote in and support our new Officers!

Committee Reports

SEAC - Town Hall Meeting

The LCPS Special Education Advisory Committee is pleased to host a Town Hall Meeting on Thursday, April 18th at 6:30 pm for parents and students with IEPs or 504s. This is an opportunity to provide constructive feedback about systemic issues within the LCPS special education processes. You are welcome to provide public or
written comments. Participants include Superintendent Dr. Edgar B. Hatrick and Mary M. Kearney, Director of Special Education. Panelists include staff from Diagnostic and Prevention Services; a Secondary Special Ed. Supervisor, an Elementary Special Education Supervisor, and the Parent Resource Center.

Town Hall Meeting will be held at: LCPS Administration Building 21000 Education Ct. Ashburn, VA

The venue is accessible, but please let us know if you require additional assistance by contacting the LCPS Department of Education at 571-252-1011 at least five (5) days prior to this event.

An interpreter for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and a translator for Spanish speaking attendees will be available.

Additional information is available at www.lcps.org. PARENTS, Special Education Advisory Committee, 2013 Town Hall.

Thank you to our SEAC Chair, Paula Augenstein, for keeping us “in the loop” on SEAC matters!

Outdoor Classroom

Celebrate Earth Day on Monday, April 22nd, by joining us for the Outdoor Classroom Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at 6pm.

Odyssey of the Mind (OM)

Congratulations to all our OM Student participants and THANK YOU to the Parents who served as Coaches, Judges and Volunteers.

We are pleased to announce three of our Div. I (competitive) OM Teams placed in their Problems.

Coach - Shashank Reddy. Co-coach - Ritesh Khandelwal

Problem Tumble-wood, Third place winning Team: Aarav Mahajan, Rebecca Cherian, Trisha Kamdar, Sneha Rajaraman, Shivani Rajagopal, Abhidyu Kumcha & Heman Burre.
Coach - Rajagopal Srinivasan
Coach - Priti Dave
Co-Coach - Sheetal Rawat

A special Thank you to Dheepa Balasubramanian for serving as our 2012-13 OM Coordinator and for agreeing to Chair again for the 2013-14 school year.

If any Parents are interested in Coaching or “leading” next school year, please contact Dheepa Balasubramanian at dheepaprakash@yahoo.com so “plans” can be formed sooner as opposed to later.

School Supply Kits

We are thrilled to announce that we have a new Chair, Anne Corej, so the 2013-14 School Supply Kits from Staples will be a go.

Keep a “look out” for the Information Forms and Submission Deadlines (TBD soon) in the April/early May time-frame. When the forms come home, fill them out quickly and return with your payment. This is a Program that is a big hit with our parents and makes “back to school shopping” so much easier and much less stressful.

Dads Club / Eagle Eye Program

Calling all Dads! If you would like to volunteer for one full day at Liberty and experience the Eagle Eye program yourself, contact our Dads Club/Eagle Eye Chair – Phil McKinney at phil@fxcc.org to set-up and confirm a date.

Only one (1) Dad may volunteer per day. Check for open dates via the Eagle Eye Calendar at the Liberty website, under PARENTS tab, drop down EAGLE EYE DADS at: www.lcps.org/domain/13654

Reflections

Congratulations to all our PTA Reflections participants!

Special recognition to three students who placed at the District level: Megan Tanoto (1st place Visual Arts (3-5)); Virginia Tam (1st place Music Composition (3-5)); and Manasvini Iyer (1st place Music Composition (K-2)).

And let’s all give a Cheer for a Liberty student who advanced to the State Level – Wow!

Congratulations to Virginia Tam!

Thank you to our Reflection Co-chairs Danielle Clay and Mrs. Parker for making this terrific program a reality for so many of our students!
Teacher Appreciation Week (TAW)

Due to Liberty’s testing schedule in May, we have been asked to celebrate early for Teacher Appreciation Week.

Not a problem! We enjoy “appreciating” our teachers every chance we get. Save the “special” dates of April 29th thru May 3rd for Liberty’s TAW!

A “details” flyer will come home via the Thursday folder on April 25th, but you can expect things like our traditional “fruit day” and “notes day,” and K-cup drive, etc.

Shout Outs!

A big Shout-Out to the following people for their extra efforts:

A huge thank you to Linda Textoris, Rebekah Cox, & Kimberly Turner for serving as our 2013-14 PTA Officer Nomination Committee and for continuing the search for volunteers to be a part of the PTA Executive Board.

A hip-hip-hooray for our newest Chair, Anne Corej, who is coordinating the 2013-14 School Supply Kits order & distribution.

Volunteer Raffle Winner for February: Kelly Gray!

We can’t thank enough our large STEMmerDay Team of Volunteers for all their hard work over the last few months, especially Laura Ganley, Kim Dempsey, Kelsey Sapp, Bonnie Burnheimer, Diane Insari, Amelia Ebel, Emily Parker, Liz Langan, Carrie Correia, Linda Textoris, Principal Paul Pack and John Hovell. In addition to the STEM Leader Team, Vivienne Woon, Chrissy Koeneke, Jolie Hudson, Taryn Henderson, Lisa Kelly and Lisa Strother ordered, gathered, organized and did everything else that was needed for an Event of this size. As this is a truly collaborative effort, we also want to thank all of our fantastic volunteers.


Thank you to our STEMmerDay Sponsors: BAE Systems Inc., Mathnasium and Glory Days Grill!

Thank you Cub Scout Pack 910 for making sure the Liberty grounds were returned to tip-top shape with your 3rd annual STEMR Trash Pick Up day! Our thanks to Heman and Sidhardh Burre, Ian & Jenna Byrd, Reece Caton, Noah and Joshua Canody, Michael and Mary Corej, Kennedy and Jon Fink, Tom Gaffney, Noah Hull, Jakob Jovel, Joshua Judge and Jazmine Sebastian, Cal Keller, John Kleinsmith, Sohill Kothakonda, Hunter Leonard, Mitchell Lueders, Josie and Will Mansfield, Robert McNierney, Tony Owens, Shreepa Parthaje, Aiden Richey, Joey Sessoms, Pranav Singh, Jacob and Mason Taylor, and Adam Yun.

If we inadvertently missed adding your name, please know that we appreciated your help!

If you know of a PTA member that deserves a Shout-Out, please email Taryn Henderson at tahender@aol.com.
Liberty PTA April Box Tops Collection

Please tape, glue or staple one Box Top to each “April showers” umbrella and send in via backpack by April 30th to enter the class contest. Box Tops prizes will be awarded to the top three (3) classes that can be redeemed at Family Fun Blow-out Night (FFBN) on Friday, May 10th.

Student Name: ___________________________ Total # of Box Tops: _______

Teacher: ___________________________ Grade: _______ (* K – indicate AM or PM)
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