THE LIBERTY FLYER

Letter from the PTA President

Dear Parents, Guardians, Teachers, and Liberty Community,

The start of the school year has made me feel so proud to be part of the Liberty community. Parents are getting involved in the classrooms and beyond to support our teachers and our students. The After School Enrichment Program has begun; our students are enjoying the variety of offerings, and we hope to have even more available in the spring. I am especially proud of this year’s Laps for Liberty. It was the best yet! I want to thank each and every single parent that helped out, supported the event, cheered on our students, and tallied laps. It was so smooth this year and I cannot thank you enough. Even the parents who came in the day of were asking us how they could help out. It was incredible and such a sense of community.

Here are some ways that you can stay involved this month:

Join the PTA

It’s not too late to join the PTA! Membership is just $12 for the year for a parent or $20 for the year for a family. The largest portion of dues ($8.25) stays at Liberty to help us fund activities, programs, and worthwhile “extras” to help support our students and teachers in the classrooms. A portion of dues ($2.25 to National PTA and $1.50 to Virginia PTA) supports advocacy efforts at all levels: local, district, state, and national. Our goal is 100% PTA membership, and we need YOU to make that happen. This is a goal we can achieve TOGETHER!

Get Involved in Children’s Diversity Night

Children Diversity Night is Thursday, October 18 from 6-8 p.m. The music teachers are working with our students on some songs for the event. Students can volunteer to perform a talent piece from another part of the world or fill out a posterboard that shares how they are unique. We are also in need of parent volunteers to help out with workshops. More information can be found on page 3 of this newsletter.

Stay Connected

In addition to this monthly newsletter, Liberty PTA shares information on our Facebook page, Twitter page, and the Remind app. PTA information is also available on the LCPS website and on Liberty’s new Google site.

Thank you for all you do to make Liberty the best it can be!

Sincerely,

Jen Robinette
PTA President 2018-2019
president@liberty-pta.com
Scenes from Digital Integration Night
Top to bottom: PTA President Jen Robinette at the After-School Enrichment table; a student tries the Code-and-Go Mouse; students fly drones in the library; a student codes with Osmo tools.
Photos courtesy of twitter.com/LCPSLiberty.

Treasurer's Report by Lisa Geurin
Hello Liberty families! I am delighted to announce that the PTA is off to a fantastic financial start this new school year. We have brought in over $3,000 in membership dues, of which 60% stays here at Liberty. If you have not already done so, please consider joining the PTA.

Laps for Liberty was a great success! Thank you for the over $34,000 in donations! We will be able to fully fund STEMmerday, Teacher Appreciation Week, teacher welcome lunch, Eagle Eye Dads, assemblies, and numerous other programs that benefit our children.

It’s not too late to pay your students’ Laps for Liberty pledges! Please click this to make a payment or donation to support your students: https://squareup.com/store/libertyes-pta. Don’t worry; you can make a note of the student and grade you are supporting.

SEAC Notes by Alisha Vaughn
The October meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) featured two presentations.

The first presentation was on how LCPS Addresses Dyslexia and Specialized Reading Instruction. The presentation defined specialized reading instruction, professional development provided to LCPS staff, and the roles of the Specialized Reading Instructional Facilitators (SIF-R) and Dyslexia Advisor. The 2018-2019 focus will be on Specialized Reading Instruction for Secondary Schools. On October 10 and October 16, there will be workshops at the LCPS Administration Building that will demonstrate real life examples of Specialized Reading Instruction such as Orton Gillingham and Language Live. These workshops are provided through Parent Resource Services. Please visit their website at http://lcps.org/ParentResourceServices.

The second presentation was on Career and Transition – Planning for Life After High School. The Transition Team goal is to provide a full and efficient continuum of transition services empowering all students to make meaningful contributions to the world. LCPS has received a 3 year grant from VCU to create a middle school career development program to align with research and state initiatives around school counseling and career planning.

October is Disability History and Awareness Month! Everyone is encouraged to wear red on October 15 for dyslexia awareness. On October 13, there is a Mental Health and Wellness Conference located at Briar Woods High School. You can register at www.navigatethepath.com. In addition to the workshops listed above, on October 24 and October 30, there will be workshops on Executive Functioning (LCPS Administration Building). Last, on October 25, there is a seminar on Bullying Behavior and Cyberbullying provided by LCPS and the Loudoun County Sheriff’s Office (LCPS Administration Building). If you are interested in this seminar please register by calling 571-252-6540 or go to the Parent Resources Services website.

Lastly, Rock Ridge High School Performing Arts is offering a Relaxed Performance of Shrek the Musical on Saturday, October 27 at 11:00 a.m. Tickets can be purchased at www.RRPA.BOOKTIX.com.

The primary role of the LCPS Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) is to advise the School Board on unmet needs of special education students. Please contact the Chair of SEAC at SEACChair@lcps.org with any questions.
Children’s Diversity Night by Sandy Toor

This year, Children’s Diversity Night will be held Thursday, October 18th, 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Our objective is to share, understand, and appreciate our children’s diverse backgrounds, cultures, and traditions. Your participation is critical to the success of this event. Please consider participating in one or more of the following ways:

1. **Poster Display** – Students can fill in either a “My country” poster or an “I am unique” poster that will be provided by PTA prior to event. Once completed return them (Oct 15) to school and posters will be displayed in the halls.
2. **Talent** – Show us your diversity by participating in our talent portion of the night. Can you sing, play an instrument or recite a poem from another part of the world? If so, we’d love to see it. Due to time constraints, 5 volunteers will be selected on a first come first serve basis. You will be notified via email on Oct 6.
3. **Group Dance** – 3 groups of student volunteers will be selected on a first come first serve basis, to perform a short (3-4 minute) dance reflective of their heritage and/or background. You will be notified via email on Oct 6.
4. **Closing Procession** – Students dress in their ethnic clothing and participate in a short procession at the end of the music portion of Children’s Diversity Night.
5. **Parent Volunteers** – Help with various activities such as: set up, monitor a workshop, or clean up at Children’s Diversity Night.

To participate, please fill out this Google form: [https://goo.gl/forms/EVdJ0pz38L5A73ap1](https://goo.gl/forms/EVdJ0pz38L5A73ap1)

Please submit your Google form by **Monday, October 8**.

If you have any questions about Children’s Diversity Night, please feel free to contact me at sandy.toor@gmail.com or Smitha Tumuluri at events@liberty-pta.com.

Creative Competition Programs by Tez Nettimi

Last month the PTA hosted a very successful information night for Liberty’s creative competition programs: Odyssey of the Mind (OOTM), Destination Imagination, VA Science Olympiad (VSO), and PTA Reflections.

**Odyssey of the Mind** is an international educational program that provides creative problem-solving opportunities for students from kindergarten through college. Teams are still being formed, and we need parents to volunteer to coach.

Teams are also forming for **Destination: Imagination**. The program’s mission is to engage participants in project-based challenges that are designed to build confidence and develop extraordinary creativity, critical thinking, communication, and teamwork skills.

The **Virginia Science Olympiad** is a school-based program for students from third grade through their senior year in high school. It offers students the opportunity to improve their understanding in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) and to work together in teams to learn new skills. The Virginia Science Olympiad will take place on Saturday, October 13 in Herndon.

The **PTA Reflections** program is currently accepting submissions in several categories including Literature, Visual Arts, Film, Dance, Music, Photography, and Special Artist. This year’s theme is “Heroes Around Me.” The deadline for submissions is October 31.

For more information about these programs, please email Meenal Manikandan at smeenal81@yahoo.com or me at correspondingsecretary@liberty-pta.com.
Box Tops Contest
Our first Box Tops for Education contest is nearly finished!

Contest 1:
August 23-October 19
Prize: Pajama Day for the top 3 classes!

The top 3 students submitting Box Tops during Contest 1 will get a small surprise!

Please no expired Box Tops.

Please download and print the August-October Box Tops certificate here: http://bit.ly/boxtopsfall18

To see more ways to earn money for Liberty through the Box Tops program, plus coupons and free sample offers, please visit this link: http://btfe.com

Thank you and good luck to our A+ Box Tops clip-pers!

Free Money for our School
Have you linked your grocery cards yet or started saving your restaurant receipts? If not, here is a friendly reminder to please help us get earn free money for our school.

Link Your Grocery Rewards

Giant
http://giantfoodstores.com/savings-and-rewards/rewards-program/aplus
Liberty school code 05654

Harris Teeter
http://www.harristeeter.com/community/together_in_education/link_to_your_school.aspx
Liberty school code 7219

Box Tops for Education

Collecting box tops is a fun and easy way to earn money for our school! Look for this logo on the front of products you buy. Clip the Official pink Box Tops for Education coupons (be sure to include the expiration date!) and send it in to your child’s teacher. Each one sent in earns Liberty $.10!

Amazon Smile

You shop. Amazon gives.

Use this link when you shop at Amazon, and Liberty will receive 0.5% of your purchase.
http://smile.amazon.com/ch/30-0479782

Glory Days

Save your Glory Days receipts. Anytime you eat at Glory Days, please ask your server for a copy of your guest check. Send the receipt in an envelope to the school addressed to the PTA. Liberty receives 10% of food and non-alcoholic drink purchases.

Red Robin

Add Liberty to your Red Robin Royalty Card in the “Burgers for Better Schools” section of your online account.
http://royalty.redrobin.com

Office Depot

Shop at
https://www.officedepot.com/a/content/back-to-school/5percent/
Liberty school code 70217870

Spirit Nights

Please join us for our Liberty Spirit Nights! These are opportunities to socialize with your fellow Eagles, show your school spirit, and help the school raise money! Liberty receives a portion or each nights’ sales. See our webpage and event calendar for more information.
Congratulations to Liberty students, families, teachers, and staff on a successful Laps for Liberty! We hope you enjoy these pictures of the big day. Photos courtesy of twitter.com/LCPSLiberty.

Scenes from Laps for Liberty
About the Liberty Elementary School PTA

The Liberty Elementary School PTA works to develop between educators and the general public such united efforts as to secure for all children and youth the highest advantages in physical, mental, social, and spiritual education.

Last school year, with the help of our dedicated and engaged parents, staff, and community, the PTA helped contribute over $87,000 directly to Liberty. These funds go toward the purchase of new classroom and school technology, special events and speakers, STEM curriculum and events, teacher appreciation and staff development, and much more.

Everything you do to support Liberty Elementary directly supports our students and community. With your help, we can work together to help every child discover and reach his or her full potential.

Thank you for your time, dedication, and support!

Keep In Touch!

Liberty Elementary PTA Webpage
Visit our webpage for current events, spirit night dates and locations, and complete PTA information:
www.liberty-pta.com

Facebook
‘Like’ our Liberty Elementary PTA South Riding, VA Facebook page
https://www.facebook.com/libpta1

Remind.com
Use remind.com to receive PTA event reminders directly to your phone!
www.remind.com/join/91433a9

Twitter
Follow our Liberty Elementary PTA Twitter
www.twitter.com/pta_liberty

Liberty Elementary PTA
25491 Riding Center Drive
South Riding, Virginia 20152