THE LIBERTY FLYER

Letter from the PTA President

What a wonderful show of support!
Thank you to all our families who came out to cheer and volunteer at Laps for Liberty. It was a perfect day to be outside and the event went on without a hitch. Thank you to all our sponsors who helped cover the cost of the Laps shirts, and to Bach to Rock for spending the day outside providing music to keep our kids pumped up and running. We’re still accepting donations, so please send them.

Our Donuts with Dads event this year was so successful that we had to add an additional day. It was fantastic to see so many dads and father figures spend a little time at school. We have already planned for two Donuts with Dads days next year.

Parent Information Night on September 25th was a wonderful opportunity to learn more about Odyssey of the Mind, Math Olympiad, Virginia Science Olympiad, Reflections, and Girl Scouts. If you have any questions about these programs, please don’t hesitate to send me an email.

We also held our first PTA general meeting of the year on September 3rd. Our audit and budget were adopted. The current PTA budget is located on our home page at liberty-pta.com. Please join us at our next meeting on Tuesday, October 1st at 3pm.

Looking Ahead

Reflections – The PTA Reflections program encourages students to explore the arts and express themselves. This year’s theme is “Look Within”. We will have two divisions at Liberty: preschool through 2nd grade and 3rd through 5th grade. Students can select from any (or all) of the following categories: dance choreography, literature, musical composition, photography and visual arts. Additional information and rules for each category will be forthcoming. Entries will be collected the week of November 11-15. Late entries will not be accepted. Student winners from the local level have the opportunity to move up through their district and state PTA programs to the national level.

National PTA School of Excellence – our survey will be coming out this month. Please take a few minutes to complete either the online or paper form. The more input we have the better we can make changes that serve you.

Spirit Nights – Please join us for two spirit nights this month. The first will be held at Velocity Wings on Thursday, October 3rd from 4-8 p.m. and the second is at Thrill Zone on Monday, October 14th from 4-6 p.m. Advance signup is required for Thrill Zone’s laser tag. Families can sign up here: https://forms.gle/Nk5MypMAHkGqPdAd9

It’s Never Too Late to Join the PTA!
The Liberty PTA is a voice in our school supporting our students. The more members we have, the louder the voice. If you haven’t already, join the PTA now! You can join immediately online at https://liberty-pta.memberhub.store. PTA benefits include reduced price of and early access to bingo and matball tickets.

Sincerely,
William Perry
PTA President 2019-2020
president@liberty-pta.com
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 $2,500 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! So far, we have collected over $21,000 in donations! Thank you for those who have donated already. It’s not too late to pay your students’ Laps for Liberty pledges! Please send them into your student’s teacher or click this link to make a payment or donation to support your students.

With your pledges, the PTA is able to fund STEMmerday, Teacher Appreciation Week, teacher welcome lunch, Eagle Eye Dads, assemblies, and numerous other programs that benefit our children. THANK YOU!

Any questions or concerns about the budget can be directed to me at treasurer@liberty-pta.com.

MSAAC Notes by Natalia Beardslee

MSAAC held a General Membership Meeting on Wednesday, September 19. This meeting was very informative. Here are a few highlights:

Jamie Almanzan from Equity Collaborative spoke about the results of the equity assessment they performed in LCPS.

MSAAC’s 9 focus areas for the upcoming year shared by Chairperson, Katrece Nolen. See slides from the presentation. We are encouraged to find ways to incorporate one or more of these focus areas into the work we do in collaboration with the school administration. Examples include enrichment for families, educators and students to move beyond barriers and biases; diverse hiring; and community awareness.

MSAAC asks that we all be a “collective voice for change” - united, vocal and change agents.

There was also a panel discussion with Dr. Eric Williams, LCPS Superintendent; Lottie Spurlock, Director of Equity; Katrece Nolen, MSAAC Chairperson; Brenda Sheridan, School Board Member; and Pastor Michelle Thomas, President, NAACP Loudoun Branch. The conversation focused on discussing the LCPS Equity Assessment, next steps, and answering community questions. Superintendent LCPS, Dr. Williams reminded us to call out what is not acceptable; racial insults and slurs are not tolerated.

Lastly, the Equity Assessment document was issued in June 2019 by the Equity Collaborative. It is hard to read, but it is a reality in our county and even our district - Dulles South. As shown in this report, our families and especially our students are experiencing the effects of racism and we need to stand up for our students and be change agents in the community.

The next meeting is on October 16, 2019 and the topic is “Addressing Race and Trauma in the Classroom”.

The Minority Student Achievement Advisory Committee (MSAAC) is dedicated to partnering with Loudoun County Public Schools (LCPS), parents, and the community to acknowledge and promote the needs of minority students. MSAAC is also dedicated to building a school system that is culturally and socially competent and positioned to provide fair and equitable learning experiences for all students. General Membership Meetings are held the third Wednesday of the month from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the LCPS Administration Building, 21000 Education Court, Ashburn, VA. For more information, please visit the MSAAC home page at https://www.lcps.org/domain/102.
Eagle Eye Dads Update

The Eagle Eye Dads program is off to a great start! There are still a couple open spaces available for 2019, as well as several dates open in 2020. The schedule and sign-up is available here.

Liberty’s Eagle Eye Dads Program strives to involve fathers and father figures in our school’s learning environment. The Eagle Eye Dads work with Liberty teachers and administrators to maintain a safe and secure school, act as a role model or mentor, assist in classrooms, experience positive interactions with students, and spend time with your child during the school day.

Eagle Eye Dad hours are a full school day, from 7:25am to 2:35pm. Eagle Eye Dads are welcome to volunteer as frequently as your schedule allows as long as Liberty can fairly distribute the volunteer opportunities among all interested Eagle Eye Dads.

Please consider volunteering for Liberty’s Eagle Eye Dads program to make a difference in our students’ lives. We look forward to including you in our Liberty community.

If you have questions about the program, please visit eed.liberty-pta.com or contact Will Smith, Eagle Eye Dads Coordinator, at eagleeyedads@liberty-pta.com.

National PTA Launches New Podcast

National PTA is proud to announce “Notes from the Backpack: A PTA Podcast”. This is a podcast for parents, by parents.

Who answers your questions about homework, bullying, school discipline, the transition to middle school?

Listen to this podcast for the answers to questions you have about how to best support your child’s education and development. Families have a lot to keep up with at home and throughout the school year and these episodes will support you every step of the way!

Each 30-minute podcast will give you the inside scoop on how to help your child succeed in and out of school.

Hear unique perspectives from experts, parents and educator guests who will give you real-life advice and ideas you can use!

This podcast is hosted by LaWanda Toney, Director, Strategic Communications, National PTA, and Helen Westmoreland, Director, Family Engagement, National PTA.

“Notes from the Backpack: A PTA Podcast” is available on Apple Podcasts, Google Play, Stitcher, Spotify, and Tune In.

Upcoming Events

All events are held at Liberty unless otherwise noted.

Please click here for the full year’s calendar.

October

1, 3:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. General PTA Meeting
2 Custodial Staff Appreciation Day
3, 4:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Spirit Night: Velocity Wings, 25360 Eastern Marketplace Plaza, South Riding
10 Field Day
14 School Holiday
14, 4:00-6:00 p.m. Spirit Night: Thrill Zone 13905 Metrotech Drive, Chantilly. Advance signup required for Laser Tag.
15 School Pictures (Pre-K-2)
16 School Pictures (3-5)
23 Bus Driver/Attendant Appreciation Day
28 Student Holiday
Box Tops Contest 1
Our first Box Tops for Education contest closes this month!
Contest 1:
August 22-October 18
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.
A copy of the August-October Box Tops certificate is available on our Box Tops website.

The collection sheet includes instructions on how to get credit for your digital box tops.

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 clippers!

Reflections Program by William Perry

The Reflections Program provides an opportunity for students to express themselves and to receive positive recognition for their artistic efforts. The theme is “Look Within”.

Entries are due the week of November 11-15. Neither early nor late entries will be accepted.

There are two divisions: “Primary”: Pre-K through 2nd grade, and “Intermediate”: 3rd through 5th grade.

Liberty Elementary PTA will host entries in five categories:
- Dance Choreography
- Literature
- Music Composition
- Photography
- Visual Arts

Rule Highlights:
- Each entry must be the original work of one student only.
- An adult may not alter the creative integrity of a student’s work (except for the special artist category).
- Each entry must include an Entry Form including a title and an artist statement. The artist statement must be at least one sentence and no more than 100 words. In the artist statement, students should tell us about their work and what it means to them.
- Art entries are judged by a panel of local professional artists. Student names are hidden for judging.

SEAC Representative Needed!

Liberty Elementary is searching for a Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) representative. The SEAC representative should have an interest in special education and should be able to attend monthly meetings on behalf of our school.

SEAC meetings are held on the first Wednesday of every month from 6-8 p.m. at the LCPS Administration Building, 21000 Education Court, Ashburn, VA. All are welcome to attend.

October’s SEAC meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 2. The topics will include the function of SEAC; a review of the top special education areas of concern; SEAC’s business meeting; and an update on restraint and seclusion.

To volunteer as our school’s SEAC Representative, please e-mail William Perry, Liberty Elementary PTA President, at president@liberty-pta.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.
Free Money for Liberty

There are many easy ways to help Liberty earn free money by shopping, eating, and submitting receipts in the ways shown below!

Please email fundraising@liberty-pta.com if you know of any more free money programs that would benefit our school.

Harris Teeter VIC Card
Link your card to Liberty Elementary at the beginning of every school year.
Liberty school code: 7219

Shoparoo
Download the app and select Liberty Elementary, South Riding, VA as your school. Purchase items, scan your receipts, and the school gets credit!

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!

This year, Box Tops is going digital! Download the Box Tops app. Purchase items, scan your receipts, and the school gets credit. It's that easy!

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

CertifiKID GIVES!
Sign up for free on Certifkid.com, and use promo code “LIBERTY” at checkout for up to 50% off farms, festivals, holiday events, activities, camps, classes, restaurants, unique gifts, entertainment, and more! For every purchase of $20 or more, $5 will be donated to Liberty Elementary PTA. Valid through June 15, 2020.

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
Make a purchase of qualifying school supplies, provide Liberty's school's ID of 70217870 at checkout (in store and online) and we will receive 5% back in credits for FREE supplies!

Giant Community Food Bag Program

We are excited to share that Liberty Elementary PTA has been selected by Giant Food store leadership as the benefiting non-profit in the Giant Food Community Bag Program for October 2019!

Liberty Elementary School will receive a $1 donation for every reusable $2.50 Community Bag purchased at the Giant Food store located at 25050 Riding Plaza, South Riding, VA 20152.
About the Liberty Elementary 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/libpta/

Remind.com
Use remind.com to receive PTA event reminders directly to your phone!

www.remind.com/join/9143a9

Twitter
Follow our Liberty Elementary PTA Twitter:

www.twitter.com/pta_liberty

Mail
Liberty Elementary PTA
25491 Riding Center Drive
South Riding, VA 20152

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Golden Eagle

The Curious Minds
thecuriousminds.org

The REYNOLDS TEAM
rnsells.com

PowerWorx
powerworxdance.com

Bald Eagle

Huntington Learning Center - Ashburn & South Riding
http://center.huntingtonhelps.com/lp/south-riding/tutoring-4

Propel Swim Academy
propelswimacademy.com

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