Hello Liberty Families!

I hope you had a wonderful winter break and that this newsletter finds you healthy and safe. Our school and PTA have been going strong because of volunteers like you. Thank you for your dedication and time for your child. I urge everyone to volunteer, either in class or for our bigger events. Have your children join you and show them the impact volunteering can make.

Contests

A reminder that the PTA has two contests that we welcome everyone to enter. The Citizenship Essay contest allows students to express their views and opinions on character or citizenship. This year’s selected theme is “What Does It Take To Be A Good Citizen?” Essays are due to the Liberty PTA by Friday, January 24th. This is a week later than previously communicated. The Virginia PTA Power Plates Program is designed to encourage students to practice healthy eating habits by creating their own recipes. Recipes are due to the Virginia PTA, not Liberty, by Monday, February 3rd.

Looking Ahead

Note that we will not be holding a PTA General meeting in January. Join us at the Ashburn Ice House on Friday, January 10th and enjoy ice skating with other Liberty families at a great price. Ready for a great night out? Bingo night is Friday, January 24th. PTA members will have early access to the main room tickets. Overflow seating will be in the cafeteria. And if your class hasn’t made a basket yet, please volunteer to put one together. Finally, make sure your calendar is marked for the annual matball game on Thursday, March 19th.

After School Enrichment Program

Our spring after school enrichment program will begin on Tuesday, February 17th. Our portal to view classes opens on Friday, January 10th. Registration will begin on Friday, January 17th at 3:00 p.m. and close at midnight on Sunday, February 9th. I’m excited to bring back most of our favorite classes and introduce a few new ones.

Join the PTA!

Single and family memberships are the same price: $10. Head to our MemberHub site to join and support the Liberty Elementary PTA.

Here’s to a fantastic 2020!

Sincerely,

William Perry
PTA President 2019-2020
president@libertypta.com
Treasurer’s Report by Lisa Geurin

Hello Liberty families! Quite a bit has been happening behind the scenes with regards to PTA Funds. The PTA taxes have been completed and filed for the 2018-19 tax year! We received a check from Amazon for $48 and another check from Benevity Fund $155 for corporate matching.

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

Volunteers Needed by Poonam Upadhyaya

We are in need of volunteers for bingo in January. We need bingo basket coordinators and volunteers the night of the event. Please consider donating a little bit of time.

Please visit Liberty’s PTA volunteer homepage or use the links below for signups.

Bingo Basket Coordinators
https://signup.com/go/psooQnC

Event Volunteers
https://signup.com/go/PKidAPV

Scenes from December Events

Top to bottom:

Students enjoy a reading reward in the library.

Students shine brightly during their chorus concert.

Liberty’s first-ever percussion ensemble provides the perfect accompaniment to singing at the chorus concert.

Kindergarten students, teachers, and aides march their Polar Express needs and wants train around the school.

Photos courtesy of Stephanie Worthley.

VIRGINIA PTA
STUDENT PROGRAMS
VIRGINIA PTA 2019-2020

DO YOU HAVE A BUDDING CHEF?

The Virginia PTA Power Plates Program is a competition designed to encourage students to practice healthy eating habits.

Students can enter their original, healthy recipes in three easy steps:

1. Write down their recipe.
2. Fill out the student entry form.
3. Take a picture of their dish.

Students in grades Pre-K to 12 can enter their recipes in one of five categories:

BREAKFAST | DINNER | LUNCH | DESSERT | SNACK

DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 3, 2020

Student entry form can be found at https://vapta.org under “Programs.” For more information, contact healthandsafety@vapta.org.

www.vapta.org
Thank a Teacher Art Contest

In partnership with Virginia PTA and The Supply Room, Virginia Lottery encourages students, parents and the general public to send thank-you notes to Virginia’s deserving public school teachers every year during Teacher Appreciation Week. In its first four years, Virginians distributed more than 100,000 thank-you notes as part of the Thank a Teacher campaign.

For the third year, we’re looking for three student artists to have their artwork featured on thousands of thank-you notes distributed across the state as part of our Thank a Teacher Art Contest. The contest is open to K-12 public school students, and one top-prize winner will be selected from each level (elementary school, middle school and high school). The three winners will not only get to see their artwork featured on the 2020 thank-you notes, they’ll also receive individual cash prizes and win money for their school’s art department.

Online submissions will be accepted at thankateacherva.com from January 2-31, 2020.

Upcoming Events

All events are held at Liberty unless otherwise noted.

Please click here for the full year’s calendar.

January

1-3
School Holiday (Winter Break)
10, 7:40-9:10 p.m.
Spirit Night: Ashburn Ice House
21595 Smith Switch Road
Ashburn, VA 20147
17
End of Second Grading Period
20
School Holiday (Martin Luther King, Jr. Day)
24, 6:30-9 p.m.
Bingo Night
31
NFL Jersey Day

February

African American History Month

3-7
National School Counseling Week
4, 3-4 p.m.
PTA General Meeting
12
Crossing Guard Appreciation Day
17
School Holiday (Presidents’ Day)
17
National PTA Founders’ Day
17, 3-9 p.m.
Spirit Night: Chuck E. Cheese’s
2465 Centreville, Ste. J9
Herndon, VA 20171
18
STEMmerday Supplies Collection Begins

Liberty PTA Spirit Night at the Ashburn Ice House

Friday, January 10, 7:40-9:10 PM

❄ Admission: $8 (includes skate rental)
❄ No advance tickets will be sold.
❄ Please let them know you are from Liberty Elementary.
❄ This event is open to the public.
No chaperones will be provided and all children must be supervised.

21595 Smith Switch Road, Ashburn
**Box Tops Contest 3**
Our third Box Tops for Education contest is now under way!

Contest 2: January 6-March 6, 2020
Prize: Extra recess for the top 3 classes!

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

Please no expired Box Tops.

Please visit our [Box Tops webpage](http://btfe.com) for more information.

---

**Liberty Elementary PTA Presents**

**Bingo Night!**

Friday, January 24, 2020
Inclement Weather Date: Friday, January 31, 2020

*Doors open at 6:30 p.m.*
*Games take place from 7:00-9:00 p.m.*

**Location:** Liberty Elementary Gym

Hosted by our very own Alex Gray with guest emcees during the event!

**Admission:**
- $5 per person - presale for PTA members
- $7 per person - presale for non-PTA members
- $10 per person - at the door

**Early access presale begins January 6**
**for Liberty PTA members only**

**General presale begins January 13**

Concessions: Chips, candy, soda, water for sale

50/50 raffles

Tiered gift baskets for BINGO winners donated by each classroom! Special GRAND PRIZE!

All proceeds go directly to Liberty PTA and our school!

*Please follow our Facebook page for updates!*
Please click here for the complete application.

Virginia PTA is committed to promoting a sense of citizenship and responsibility in the lives of our children – tomorrow’s leaders. To demonstrate the value that Virginia PTA places on good citizenship, we are proud to sponsor, support, and encourage Virginia students to write an essay for the 2020 Citizenship Essay Contest. This year’s selected theme is “What Does It Take To Be A Good Citizen?”

WHO CAN ENTER?

All Virginia students in grades K through 12 presently enrolled in schools with active PTA/PTSAs in Good Standing may enter. A non-graded Special Writer Division is available and limited to students whose physical, cognitive, or mental health challenges meet ADA guidelines. Qualifying students entering this division create their own essay but may receive non-artistic accommodation and assistance from an adult.

CRITERIA:

In all categories, adherence to the theme as it relates to CITIZENSHIP, originality, clarity, thought and skill in standard written English will be judged. The theme must be used as the essay title and may not be altered in any way.

Students in grades 3 through 5 may submit a maximum of 250 words, typed or handwritten.

Students in grades K through 2 may submit a maximum of 100 words, typed or handwritten.

Special Writers may submit entries typed or handwritten.

AWARDS:

Students who place first in their category will be notified in the Spring. They will be featured in Virginia PTA’s official publication, The VOICE, and on the Virginia PTA website. First place winners in each division will also receive a CASH PRIZE and will be recognized at a Virginia PTA Awards Event.

DEADLINE:

Liberty Elementary essays are due to the Liberty PTA box in the front office by Friday, January 24, 2020. Essays and completed applications will then be submitted to our District Director.

QUESTIONS? Please contact the Virginia PTA State Office at info@vapta.org or (804) 264-1234 or 866-4vakids.
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!

Thank You to Our Business Sponsors

Crowned Eagle

Golden Eagle

Bald Eagle

Eaglet

Chromebook Cases Sponsors