Hello Liberty Families!

We're already more than halfway through the school year but have some of our biggest events are coming up, STEMmerday and Matball. However, let's take a quick look back at Bingo.

Bingo

What a wonderful event! Thank you to all the parents who contributed items, money, and time to help put the baskets together. I am in awe of all your support and the creativity of each basket. Thank you to everyone who joined us on Bingo night. It was an electric atmosphere and I hope you enjoyed it just as much as I did. A special thank-you to Misty Ocean for chairing bingo and for all her hard work. Thank you for the support of Paul Pack and Alex Gray. Bingo would not be the same without you. Finally, thank you to our callers: Mrs. Faul, Ms. Potter, Ms. Eichner, Ms. O’Connor, Mrs. Varachi, Ms. Thomas, and Mr. Benjamin Gray.

Contests

The Virginia PTA Power Plates program entries are due to the VA PTA, not Liberty, by February 3rd. The Power Plates program is designed to encourage students to practice healthy eating habits by creating their own recipes.

After School Enrichment Program

Registration is now open for our After School Enrichment Program. Registration will close at midnight on Sunday, February 9th but don’t wait, classes fill up fast. Classes begin Tuesday, February 18th. I’m excited to bring back most of our favorite classes and introduce a few new ones. More information can be found at asep.liberty-pta.com.

Looking Ahead

Our next PTA General meeting is Tuesday, February 4th from 3-4pm. Interested in a position on the PTA board? Nominations will open soon. We have a spirit night at Chuck E. Cheese’s on February 17th. Then there are two big events in March. STEMmerday is March 7th and our annual Matball game is March 19th.

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.

Sincerely,

William Perry
PTA President 2019-2020
president@liberty-pta.com
Eagle Eye Dads Update by Will Smith

Hello Liberty dads and father figures! The kids need your help!

Due to cancellations, we have several available dates for Eagle Eye Dads that include the following February dates: Monday, February 3rd and Monday, February 24th.

If you’re interested, please fill out the form in the link eed.liberty-pta.com and I’ll get you on the schedule!

2020/2021 PTA Leadership

We are looking ahead to the 2020/2021 school year, and we want to invite our Liberty families to get involved!

If you’re interested in chairing a program or event, now is a great time to jump in as a chairperson. A full list of chairperson vacancies is on the PTA Leadership webpage.

Elections for next year’s PTA Executive Board will be held at the PTA General Meeting on Tuesday, April 14 from 3:00-4:00 p.m. for all board positions. We have seven positions on our board: President, three Vice Presidents (Volunteer Coordinator, Events/Committees, and Fundraising), two Secretaries (Corresponding and Recording), and one Treasurer.

We would love for prospective leaders to shadow us in events and ask any questions you may have about roles you are thinking about. We have a lot of fun working together on the board. Any amount you can volunteer in leadership is appreciated.

Please contact William Perry at president@liberty-pta.com with any questions about getting involved in Liberty Elementary PTA leadership.
MSAAC Notes by Natalia Beardslee

The featured topics of the January MSAAC general body meeting were Culturally Responsive and Competent Teaching & Learning Experiences and Equity in the 2020-2021 LCPS Budget.

Speakers spoke with families, educators and community members about culturally responsive and competent teaching and learning. Learn more about culturally responsive teaching from experts: Dr. Gloria Ladson-Billings, Geneva Gay, and Zaretta Hammond.

Tara Hewan, LCPS Equity Specialist, discussed how LCPS is building a culturally responsive network and raising racial awareness in LCPS. Tara asked for feedback about culturally responsive teaching and learning. Recommendations included a focus on building awareness of diverse groups in our community throughout the year and internally associating a specific group of people with a single event in history. Minoritized people have many contributions and accomplishments across all content areas that need to be shared and celebrated. Members also suggested unconscious bias training and discussions about racism for all stakeholder groups to include families, educators, community leaders and students.

Neel Saxena, AALEAD (Asian American Youth Leadership Empowerment and Development) Executive Director, spoke about challenges faced by Asian American students and available resources to develop skills as leaders, succeed academically and advocate for their educational development. AALEAD serves a multi-ethnic Asian community and their mission is to "support low-income and underserved Asian Pacific American youth with educational empowerment, identity development, and leadership opportunities through after school, summer, and mentoring programs."

Tiffney Laing, Founder of Bevy & Dave, spoke about learning through play. Bevy & Dave is a toy company committed to changing the narrative of black history and building leaders. Their educational toys are instruments to educate, inspire and empower children to be their best selves. One of their products specifically "honors the creativity and contributions of African American inventors while connecting young children to history and STEM". Toys can serve as both mirrors and windows for all children in our academic community.

Lottie Spurlock, LCPS Director of Equity, shared how equity is the focus of the 2020-2021 LCPS budget. The budget focused on meeting the needs of students with disabilities, English learners, and students from economically disadvantaged families, plus additional equity staff to actively further the LCPS mission on equity while supporting other LCPS initiatives.

Want to get more involved or know a student that wants to be a voice for change? Here are some opportunities:

• Are you an educator or administrator getting ready for Black History Month? Click here to read about how to honor and celebrate black history month in February and throughout the year AND click here to learn about what not to do for Black History Month.
• Become an MSAAC Student Representative: Contact the Initiative Lead: Kellee Jenkins.
• Provide input to the LCPS/Law Enforcement Memorandum of Understanding (MOU): Contact the Initiative Lead: Kenya Savage.
• Elementary Gifted Information Sessions: Visit the Liberty Gifted Information website for a referral form and Gifted Information Session schedule. Questions? Email Liberty ES Gifted Resource teacher, Mrs. Houston. Deadline for referral forms is February 7th.
• Diversity Recruitment Experience Weekend: Calling all educators interested in learning more about LCPS. Join LCPS on February 21-22 for an opportunity to experience Loudoun County through networking, information sessions, and a career fair with school administrators. Register at bit.ly/LCPSRecruits. Email questions to recruitment@lcps.org.

The next MSAAC meeting is on Wednesday, February 19, 2020 from 7-9 pm at the LCPS Administration Building. The topic of discussion will be "Culturally Competent Workforce and Diverse Recruitment".

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.

Upcoming Events

All events are held at Liberty unless otherwise noted.

Please click here for the full year’s calendar.

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

March

Women’s History Month
National Reading Month
2
Read Across America Day
3
Student Holiday
10, 3-4 p.m.
PTA General Meeting
17
Nugget Tray Pickup
Chick-fil-A
43310 Defender Drive
Chantilly, VA 20152
19, 6-8 p.m.
PTA Staff/MiniBall Game
Freedom High School
25450 Riding Center Drive
South Riding, VA 20152
26, 5-8 p.m.
Spirit Night: McDonald’s
43250 Defender Drive
Chantilly, VA 20152
27
Student Holiday
Box Tops Contest 2

Winners

Congratulations to our A+ Box Tops clippers! Our Contest 2 winners are:

Top 3 Classes (Winter Stackable Pencils)
1. Burnheimer (Kindergarten)
2. Carlin (2nd Grade)
3. Davis (3rd Grade)

Top 3 Students (Small Surprise Winners)
1. Grayson H. (Burnheimer's class)
2. Manav D. (Carlin's class)
3. Claire C. (Toner's class)

Contest 3 is under way until 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 for more information.

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.

After-School Enrichment Program

Liberty's After School Enrichment Program is excited to kick off the spring semester!

Registration is open through February 9th at midnight. Please click here for the registration site.

Classes are from 2:40pm – 3:40pm.

Transportation home will need to be provided by the parent/guardian. Walking home without adult supervision is not allowed. If the student is enrolled in CASA/YMCA, the child will be escorted back to CASA/YMCA at the end of the session.

All classes are on a first-come, first-served basis. Refunds will be only be issued if the class is full or cancelled due to lack of enrollment.

Classes with an asterisk "*" are offered by our own Liberty staff members.

MONDAY 2/24-4/20
*Board Games with Friends, Grades K-5. Instructor: Mrs. Skeins.
*Chess Program, Grades 1-5. Instructor: Stuart Marguelis, PhD., of Prodigy School of CHESS and STEM.
*Gymnastics and Tumbling, Grades K-5. Instructor: Mrs. Wrighte.
*Introduction to Computer Science & Coding, Grades 1-5. Instructor: STEM exCEL.
*Memories Created, Grades 3-5. Instructor: Mrs. Foley.

TUESDAY 2/18-4/21
*Basketball, Grades 2-5. Instructor: Mrs. Davis.
*Mad Scientist Experiments, Grades 2-5. Instructor: Mrs. Donaldson.
*Painting Masterpieces, Grades K-5. Instructor: Mrs. Eichner.
*Percussion Ensemble, Grades 4-5. Instructor: Ms. DeMember.
*The Scribble Society, Grade 1-3. Instructor: Ms. Ricci.

WEDNESDAY 2/19-4/15
*Spanish for Beginners, Grades K-3. Instructor: Mrs. Ramirez.
*Minecraft Modding, Grades 1-5. Instructor: STEM exCEL.
*USTA Youth Tennis Program, Grades 3-5. Instructor: USTA-Mid-Atlantic Section.

THURSDAY 2/20-4/16
Comic Book Illustration, Grades 1-5. Instructor: STEM exCEL.
Drama Kids, Grades K-5. Instructor: NOVA Drama Kids.
Kinder-Tech, Grade K. Instructor: STEM exCEL.
Minecraft Modding, Grades 1-5. Instructor: STEM exCEL.
Mudskippers Pottery, Grades K-5. Instructor: Mudskippers Pottery.
USTA Youth Tennis Program, Grades 3-5. Instructor: USTA-Mid-Atlantic Section.
Spiritswear Webstore

Store is open now - Thursday, February 20th, 2020
(No orders may be placed after store is closed)

https://lesboosters2020.itemorder.com/sale

For more information contact:
weborders@hardhits.net
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!

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