Hello Liberty Families!

March? It’s hard to believe there’s only three months of school left. We have an exciting March with two of our biggest events: STEMmerday and Matball.

**STEMmerday**

We hope all our families join us for STEMmerday on Saturday, March 7th from 10:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m. On this 10th anniversary, STEMmerday goes Hollywood! This FREE event allows families to be immersed in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math). There will be many fun and educational activities, highlighted by the Battle Bots competition! Be sure to check out the Hollywood Hallway. The PTA will have snacks and lunch for sale in the cafeteria. Help make this event a success by sending in needed supplies. You’ll find the list on page 4 of this newsletter.

**Matball**

Mark your calendars for Thursday, March 19th, starting at 6 p.m., for our annual staff matball game played at Freedom High School. Come root for your favorite staff as they try to score in a game usually played by students. Ticket sales will be online soon. Online tickets include an entry into a drawing for a 4-pack of Disney 1-Day Park Hopper Tickets! There will be no raffle tickets sold for the Disney tickets drawing, so be sure to purchase your matball tickets early. We will also have some awesome raffle prizes that include: 2 tickets to Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince in concert, an American Girl doll, 2 tickets to a Washington Nationals game, 2 general admission tickets to International Spy Museum, a birthday party for 15 kids provided by The Fitness Equation, and more! Students will have the opportunity to kick the ball during an intermission. Food and drinks will be available for purchase at the game.

**Want to Make a Difference?**

Join the PTA! Single and family memberships are the same price, $10. Head to our MemberHub site to join and support the Liberty PTA. Interested in doing more? Join the Executive Committee. Our committee positions are Treasurer, VP of Events and Committees, Corresponding Secretary, VP of Volunteers, VP of Fundraising, and Recording Secretary. If interested, send Lisa Geurin an email with your name and in which position you are interested. Lisa is the head of the Nominating Committee and will present a slate of officers to be voted on during the April General PTA meeting.

**Looking Ahead**

Our next PTA General meeting is Tuesday, March 10th from 3-4 p.m. in the Liberty library. This is a week later than usual, since school is closed on Tuesday, March 3rd. Don’t worry about making dinner on Thursday, March 26th; our spirit night is at McDonald’s that night from 5-8 p.m.

Sincerely,

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

As you know, in January, we held our annual Bingo night. It was such a success, and we made just over $4,000 in profit, more than we budgeted for!

In February, we started our spring after-school enrichment session, and since a good amount of the classes are now led by Liberty teachers, we were able to keep more of the money here at the school. We profited just over $13,000 for the spring session, and just over $20,000 for the year! That’s fantastic!! The PTA also spent about $1,000 on an assembly that our kids got to enjoy this month.

I only have a few months left until I am no longer able to hold the Treasurer position, per PTA guidelines. If you like money and have a couple of hours a week to help the PTA, please let me or one of the PTA officers know you’re interested.

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. We have an immediate need for a School Supply Kits Coordinator and an After-School Enrichment Program Coordinator. A full list of chairperson vacancies is on the PTA Leadership webpage.

Nominations for Executive Board are now open. 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. If you are interested in running for one of these roles, please e-mail the Nominating Committee Chair, Lisa Geurin, at treasurer@liberty-pta.com with your intentions.

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.

PTA executives 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.

Volunteers Needed by Poonam Upadhyaya

Volunteering is a fun way to give back to our school community and socialize with other parents and teachers. This month we have some of our popular events like STEMMerday and Matball. We have two links for STEMMerday volunteer signup; one is for volunteer breakfast, and another is for selling concessions. We also need volunteers for spring pictures and kindergarten registration.

Please visit Liberty’s PTA SignUp page to volunteer. Let’s go Liberty Eagles!!
MSAAC Notes by Natalia Beardslee

The featured topic of the February MSAAC General Body meeting was Culturally Competent Workforce & Diversity Recruitment.

Dr. Scott Ziegler, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources and Talent Development and his team spoke with families, educators and community members about attracting and selecting diverse candidates for all LCPS positions but specifically licensed positions. Dr. Ziegler touched on the national teacher shortage, portrait of a Loudoun educator, lack of diversity among licensed teachers as compared to our student population, early hiring initiatives, strategic actions to build a highly performing, diverse staff and the Diversity Champions Network. Couldn’t make it to the February MSAAC Meeting? Here is the link to the 2019-2020 MSAAC General Body Committee Meeting video.

MSAAC Gala is coming soon! Submit your nomination based on the three categories by Friday, March 20th. Click here for details on the three different awards (Wendall T. Fisher Award for Administration, Teachers and Support/Classified Staff; Student Award; and the NEW MSAAC Delegate Award), selection criteria, and the nomination process.

MSAAC elections will be held in May. A nominating committee was elected at the February meeting. Reshaunda Willburn, Wendy Caudle Hodge, and Natalia Beardslee are on the committee and welcome nominations for the three “elected” positions on the Executive Board for the 2020-2021 school year:

- Chairperson - Presides at all meetings of MSAAC and shall coordinate the work of the officers and committees. They will represent the committee in all matters of business or appoint a member of the Executive Committee to do so as needed.
- Vice Chairperson - Presides at all meetings of the committee in the absence of the Chairman and shall serve as chairman of the Programs Committee.
- Secretary - Tasked with recording and maintaining the Minutes of all meetings of MSAAC as well as be the principal record keeper of the committee.

To declare your candidacy for one of the elected positions please email your resume and a one-page letter of intent to Natalia Beardslee. The deadline is noon on Monday, April 13th.

Lottie Spurlock, LCPS Director of Equity, gave an Equity Update.

The Ad Hoc Committee on Equity was approved by the school board to become the Committee on Equity with an indefinite end date. The committee will continue to make recommendations to the school board regarding all matters related to equity in our school system.

Conversations with local law enforcement and SROs are occurring to create a more safe and supportive academic community for our scholars. The existing Memorandum of Understanding with local law enforcement is being revised by organizations like MSAAC, the Equity Committee, and LCPS.

Attention LCPS educators: Did you know there are learning opportunities in the school on topics related to race, critical conversations and social justice? Educators should check their My Learning Plan for opportunities to develop skills that support a culturally responsive framework. There is also a Diversity Training Seminar on March 12th from 4:45 p.m.-7:00 p.m. at the Loudoun Education Association Office. The seminar is open to MSAAC Committee members and LCPS Employees. Register at http://bit.ly/LEADiversity

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

Become an MSAAC Student Representative! The next virtual meeting is February 24 at 7 p.m. Contact the Initiative Lead, Kellee Jenkins, for more details.

Provide input to the LCPS/Law Enforcement Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Contact the Initiative Lead, Kenya Savage.

The next MSAAC meeting will be Wednesday, March 18th from 7-9 p.m. at the LCPS Administration Building. The topic is “Increasing Diversity in the STEM Pipeline”. The featured speaker is Dr. Beverly Watford, PE, Professor of Engineering Education and Director of the Center for the Enhancement of Engineering Diversity at College of Engineering, VA Tech.

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.
Box Tops Contest 3
Our third Box Tops for Education contest ends soon!

Contest 3: 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 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.

Virtual Book Fair by Alicia Coleman
Liberty Elementary School will be hosting a Bookworm Central Virtual Book Fair March 5-27, 2020, to coincide with STEMmerday on March 7 and guest author visit by Laura Murray on March 16 for grades K-3!

Families can order via bookwormcentral.com and enter Organization Code: libertyes at the top of the page. Expect a flyer in students’ backpacks with more information.

The Online Book Fair will be through the Bookworm Central Website featuring new titles for the spring. Books will be delivered to Liberty Elementary School and distributed to the students by Friday, April 3, 2020 in time for spring break.

Material Donations Needed for STEMmerday 2020
We need an unlimited supply of the following items (especially bolded ones):

**Empty cracker, cereal, cookie, tissue boxes**
**Paper towel/toilet paper rolls**
**Masking tape**
Pipe cleaners  
Aluminum foil  
Scotch tape  
Duct tape  
Plastic Straws

Disposable travel coffee cups  
Plastic cups  
Balloons  
Popsicle sticks  
Cotton balls  
Toothpicks  
Dry erase markers  
Egg Cartons

Please send all items in with your student from February 21-March 6.

THANK YOU, as always, for your help and support in making the 10th STEMmerday the best one yet!

**STEMmerday is a FREE event for Liberty families!**

Please join us Saturday, March 7 from 10:00-2:30!
"The 2020 Matball Games"

Liberty

Thursday, March 19th, 2020
6:00-8:00 p.m.

Freedom High School Gym

Matball is to be played by Liberty staff only. It is like kickball, but the runners run to large mats for bases. The students play this game in P.E. class.

Admission: $5 per person or $20 per family (immediate family members only, please!). Click here to purchase tickets in advance!

Did you purchase a shirt? Your t-shirt purchase includes 1 admission ticket! Please remember to wear your shirt to the game!

Advanced ticket & t-shirt purchase only: Entry into a drawing for a 4-pack of Disney 1-Day Park Hopper Tickets!

NEW in 2020! Raffles for items including:

(1 winner) American Girl Doll
(1 winner) 2 Tickets to a Washington Nationals Game
(1 winner) 2 General Admission Tickets to International Spy Museum
(4 winners) Birthday Party for 15 Kids at The Fitness Equation
...and more!

Food and drinks will be available for purchase at the game!

Get your face painted to support your favorite team!

Intermission performances: Teacher Dance Skit and PowerWorx Dance routine!
Students will have a chance to come down and take their turn at kicking the ball!

All proceeds go directly to Liberty PTA and our school!
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/91433a9

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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