We had a busy and hugely successful February with not just one, but two PTA Events – our entertaining and delicious International Festival and Potluck Soiree (pushed to Feb.1st by weather) and our spirited and widely attended Staff Matball Game on the 12th. Both Events were HUGE success stories, with full attendance, lots of volunteers (thank you!) and students, teachers and parents demonstrating wonderful community spirit, resulting in what can only be described as a Fantastic February.

With just a bit of the “Irish” luck, March looks like it will usher in more educational and fun Events like STEMmer Day on Sat., March 16th and multiple opportunities to support Liberty PTA, including Dining Nights and our Spring fundraiser of Art to Remember.

Help us create a little of our own “luck” by participating in as many School and PTA Events as your calendar permits.

Gina Fink, PTA President, gina.fink@verizon.net

Save the dates!

Feb. 22nd – March 1st – Book Fair
March 1st – Spiritwear Deadline
March 4th – School Picture Day
March 6th & 7th – McDonald’s
Dining Nights @ 5pm to 8pm
March. 13th – Gen. PTA Mtg.
@7pm to 8pm *Nominations
March 16th – STEMmer Day (Sat.)
@9:30am to 2:30pm
March 20th & 21st – Kule-Yo’s
@ 4pm to 8pm
March 20th – OM Celebration &
Demonstration @ 6:30pm

March 25th through April 1st –
Spring Break & Teacher
Planning Day - No School

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Hello Liberty Families! It has been a busy month financially for the PTA. Since my last report we have had a successful International night - earning $582; a fun, exciting and profitable Staff Mattball Game - currently showing over $5,000 in profit! Our actual profits and losses are only finalized once all receipts and bills are paid so please ensure you get your reimbursements into the PTA as soon as possible. We earned over $2,200 from our snowflake for the sign campaign. Those earnings, plus the approved adjustments in the PTA budget that were made on February 12th, give us enough money to complete the school sign project!! In the next month we will be looking at the budget to prepare to realign funds in areas over or under our initial projections so we can determine what additional classroom items can be purchased to support our wonderful teachers and students. Stay tuned...

We’ve Been Asked to Share ...

J. Michael Lunsford M.S. - PTA Officers Needed

Attention parents of rising 6th graders! Do you want to have a voice? Become involved in your child’s Middle School Education!

Lunsford is currently seeking nominations for the following PTA board positions for 2013-2014: President, Recording Secretary, VP of Events, VP of Committees & Volunteer Management, Treasurer, VP of Fundraising, and VP of Communication & Outreach.

We are looking for widespread involvement and interest and are committed to an open process as we seek, recruit, and develop new leaders. Advanced nominations are encouraged. To make a nomination, complete the nomination form located on the J. Michael Lunsford Middle School PTA webpage.

Additional information, as well as proposed VP Officer Roles and Responsibilities, may be found by following this link: http://www.lcps.org/Page/40094 or by visiting the school website/parents/pta/bylaws and nomination.

Questions or concerns regarding job responsibilities and nominations may be addressed to the Nominations Committee at jmlunsfordofficial@gmail.com.

Thank you!

JML Nominations Committee

Neil Slevin, Tricia Haneghan, and Kat Reed.
Freedom H.S. Athletic Boosters (FEABC) Annual Mulch Sale

The Freedom Eagles Athletic Booster Club (FEABC) is sponsoring its Annual Spring Mulch Sale on Sat., March 16.

*3 Cubic Ft. Bags of Shredded Hardwood Bark Mulch
*$4.50 per Bag – Tax Deductible Donation of $2.20 per Bag
*Pickup at FHS between 8:30 – 4:00 on March 16th OR have delivered to your driveway
*Free delivery (w/in 5 mile radius of FHS) for orders of 20 or more
*Download an order form at: http://www.freedomeagles.org

OR pay on line at: http://www.pay4schoolstuffonline.com

*Email questions to mulchmadness@ymail.com

If you would like to donate a bag or two (or more) of mulch to Liberty PTA, then use a separate, hard-copy form and enter “LIBERTY PTA” in the “Name:” portion and “Liberty ES” in the “Address:” portion of the form and mail (or hand-deliver) to address on the form by March 8th. The mulch will be delivered directly to Liberty (no delivery fee) for use around our new Liberty Sign (once installed) and/or around the school.

News You Can Use

PTA Coordinating Secretary (and Keurig Lead) is Taryn Henderson. tahender@aol.com

Keurig Brewing Machine

The new Keurig brewing machine has been installed for the teachers and staff. Thanks to all who donated K-cups during American Education Week. The teachers and staff have enjoyed their cups of coffee, tea, hot chocolate, and hot cider.

We will be celebrating the Ides of March (Friday, March 15th) with a “Top of the Morning to You” K-cup solicitation drive.

If you would like to send in K-cups for the teachers and staff (they would be so appreciative), some of their favorites are: French Roast, Hazelnut, Blonde Roast, Caramel Toffee, French Vanilla, Mocha, and Green Mountain coffees; Chai (Latte) Tea, English Breakfast Tea and Apple Cider.

Please send in K-cups on March 15th (via backpack) and they will be placed in the Teacher’s Lounge for a Happy Friday celebration.

...
PTA Recording Sec. (and Spiritwear Ch.) is Melissa Golden. mellieg@verizon.net

Spring Spiritwear

Last day to order our Spring Spiritwear is Friday, March 1st.

PTA Events

VP Events is James Milam. jamesmilam@gmail.com

STEMmer Day

Join us for Liberty's third annual STEMmerday! STEMmerday is a Saturday dedicated to exploratory STEM learning! Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math are integrated into fun, hands-on activities that kids will love! Come program a robot, dissect an owl pellet, build a lunar lander, make a telescope, watch a planetarium show, launch a rocket, meet a mad scientist, and so much more!

If you have them, send them in!
We need Alcohol Gel Pumps, Aluminum Foil, Bubble Wrap, Coffee Stirrers, Cotton Balls, Craft Feathers, Craft Pom Poms, Disinfectant Hand Soap, Dixie Cups (small), Hole Punches, Index Cards, Kleenex, Masking Tape, Newspapers, Operation Game, Popsicle Sticks, Plastic Cups (small), Plastic Spoons, Paper Towels, Pennies, Pipe Cleaners, Paper Clips (large and small), Scotch Tape, Straws from Giant, Styrofoam Cups (small), Scissors, Screwdrivers, Sugar 1 pound, String or Thread, Toothpicks, Tongue Depressors, Vinegar (1/2 gallon bottles), Waxed Paper, Yarn, Ziplock Bags (large and small).

Label them “STEM” and send in via backpack.

Mark your calendars because on Saturday, March 16th from 9:30-2:30, Liberty will be the place to be! You won’t want to miss it!

Movie Night

Save the date for a “family” movie night at Liberty on Friday, April 12th @ 7pm to approx. 8:30pm.

Staff Matball Game Wrap-Up

It was a tie! As a preschooler has pointed out, EVERYONE WON!
And, she’s right! We can put this one in the win-win column as everyone did WIN!

A royal thank you to our Teachers and Staff and to our many volunteers (who checked in). If we missed your name, we still LOVED the hand – thank you!


* Lunsford Student, sibling attends Liberty.

Fundraising

VP Fundraising is Anaheeta Minwalla.
acminwalla@verizon.net

March Dining Nights & Yogurt

McDonald’s

Join us for what are traditionally our largest Dining Nights of the Year at the McDonald’s, South Riding location only (43250 Defender Dr.) on either Wed., March 6th (pre-K thru 2nd grade) or Thurs., March 7th (3rd grade thru 5th grade) from 5pm to 8pm.

Dine-in or drive-thru!

Kule Yo’s

Join us for a yogurt at Kule-Yo’s - 43114 Peacock Market Plaza – for a healthy snack and support Liberty at the same time.

Wed., March 20th – Pre-K to 2nd. Thurs., March 21st 3rd thru 5th. The time is from 4pm to 8pm.

Come on out on either night and be sure to mention “Liberty.”
Art to Remember

A great way to support Liberty PTA is via our Spring Fundraiser of Art to Remember.

On or about Feb. 28th, the packets will come home via the Thursday folder. Take the opportunity to preview your student’s artwork and make a keepsake that you can treasure for years to come.

Orders are due back to school by March 7th.

Delivery of the final art products will be the beginning of April.

Thank you to Ms. Stine (our Art Teacher) and Kristy Jones (Chair) for coordinating this artistic and fun fundraiser!

International Fest Sponsors

We want to THANK our 2013 International Fest sponsors!

Union Tae Kwon Do

Kravitz Orthodontics

Your support was instrumental in our hugely successful and well-attended Event!

The Union TKD big finale was something to see! And the international potluck food tasting was delicious ... Thank you Dr. Kravitz for the dinnerware!

Staff Matball T-shirt Sponsors

We want to THANK our 2013 SMG t-shirt sponsors!

Kravtiz Orthodontics

CDC (Creative Dance Center)

Top Kicks TKD

Dutz

Glory Days Grill/Fanfare Eatery

South Riding Dance

Buck Simpson Prosperity Realty

Please support these local businesses and thank them for sponsoring Liberty Events the next time you visit them!

PTA Committee Work

VP Committees is Chris Jackson Coates.

chrisjacksoncoates@yahoo.com

Open Positions/Help Wanted

We are in need of PTA member(s) to step up to lead the following:
School Supply Kits (Fall 2013)

The contract with Staples for the 2013-2014 school year supply kits has been signed. We need a Lead to coordinate the supplies ordered (kits by grade-level), run the sale, and lead the distribution in the Fall (next year).

Executive Board of Officers 2013-14

Nominations, including self-nominations, for the 2013-14 school year are being solicited and accepted by our Nominating Committee members of Linda Textoris, Rebekah Cox and Kimberly Turner.

If you are interested in leading next year, by serving as a PTA Officer, please contact Mrs. Textoris: Linda.Textoris@lcps.org (or any Nominations Committee member) with your name, phone number, e-mail, desired position(s) and your ideas for leading. ASAP!

Positions include: PTA President, VP Committees, VP Events, VP Fundraising, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, and Coordinating Secretary.

Committee Reports

Liberty Sign

We are looking forward to the installation of our Liberty Sign.

Thank you for all the individual donations, Snowflakes for the

Sign, “Big Spender” contributions and more!

Dads Club / Eagle Eye Program

Calling all Dads!

If you would like to volunteer for one full day at Liberty and experience the Eagle Eye program yourself, contact our Dads Club/Eagle Eye Chair - Phil McKinney at phil@fxcc.org to set up and confirm a date.

Only one (1) Dad may volunteer per day. Check for open dates via the Eagle Eye Calendar at the
Liberty website, under PARENTS tab, drop down EAGLE EYE DADS at:  www.lcps.org/domain/13654

Steve Sebestyen (above) serving as an Eagle Eye Dad – and clearly supporting “the Knights” at our Staff Matball Game.

Reflections

Congratulations to all our PTA Reflections participants!

Special recognition to those students who advanced to the District level: Alex McClintic, photography; Lin Sahu, literature; Megan Tanoto, visual arts; Virginia Tam, music composition; Julia Tubridy, dance choreography; Briana Maggio, photography; Manasvini Iyer, visual arts; Harish Viswanathan, literature; and Manasvini Iyer, music composition.

Congratulations to Mrs. Allen (nee Lee) and Mrs. Parker for having the most students participate in Reflections (tied at 23 students each) and Ms. Schumacher (19 students).

Thank you to our Reflection Co-chairs Danielle Clay and Mrs. Parker for all their hard work on making this terrific program a reality for so many of our students!

OM – Odyssey of the Mind

Liberty is sending 10 Teams to the OM tournament on March 9th.

The Catoctin Region 14 (our region) Tournament will be held at Tuscarora High School, 801 N. King St.; Leesburg, VA 20176.

We welcome students and parents, teachers and administration, that would like to observe, especially those that might be interested in participating in OM next school year.

Thank you Dheepa Balasubramanian and Ravi for serving as our OM Leads and all the Parents who have stepped up to serve as OM Coaches! This is a terrific program that can only exist when a large number of parents volunteer their time as coaches & judges - for the students! Totally appreciated!

A “demonstration & celebration” of OM 12-13 will be held on Wed., March 20th @6:30pm in our Gym.
Shout Outs!

A big Shout-Out to the following people for their extra efforts:

A huge thank you to the International Festival Committee Members & Volunteers: Melina & James Milam, Anaheeta Minwalla, Gina Fink, Mrs. Insari, Ms. Enninga, Mrs. Foley, Mrs. Parker, Mrs. Correia, Mrs. Assetto and all the Liberty Students, Teachers, & Administration who worked so hard on the hallway projects/displays and to make this wonderful event happen!

What a night! Thanks to the Committee Members & Volunteers who made the Staff Matball Game a huge success and all the Teachers and Staff who made the game exciting to watch. Thank you Steve Sebestyen (Chair) and family, Anaheeta Minwalla and family and Tom & Gina Fink and family for leading!

A special thank you to Youssef Metwally, who is a 6th grader at Lunsford M.S. (and older brother to Yasseen Metwally, an AM kindergartner here at Liberty) for volunteering the ENTIRE Staff Matball Game event from Set-up to Clean-up and truly being the kind of volunteer we DREAM of!

Thank you Joaquin Rodriguez, our Head Custodian, and the Custodial teams at Liberty and Freedom, for stepping up more than can ever be asked – and specifically for making International Fest & Staff Matball Game true successes! We know we couldn’t accomplish this without your help.

Volunteer Raffle Winner for January: Mansi Mody won a $25 Visa gift card. Congratulations!

Thanks to all of the Library Volunteers, who, since the beginning of the school year, have put in countless hours in helping put books back onto the shelves including Rania Swamy and Molly Turcotte. Your time and commitment are tremendous!

Thanks to all! If we inadvertently missed adding your name, please know that we appreciated your help!

Shout Outs! is a standard part of our newsletter used to recognize the hard work, effort, and time our members dedicated to bring us the great programs and events that enhance our school.

If you know of a PTA member that deserves a Shout-Out, please email Taryn Henderson at tahender@aol.com so we can include them. We will publish “shout-outs” in the newsletter for the month following the activity.
**Liberty PTA March Box Tops Collection**

Please tape, glue or staple one Box Top to each four-leaf clover and send in via backpack by March 28th to enter the class contest. Box Tops prizes will be awarded to the top three (3) classes that can be redeemed at the Liberty PTA Movie Night on Friday, April 12th.

Student Name: ____________________________ Total # of Box Tops: ______

Teacher: ___________________ Grade: _____ (* K – indicate AM or PM)

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Advertising to Support this Liberty PTA Newsletter by a Liberty Parent.

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*Nicky’s pops are 2 to 3 bites of a delightful combination of cake and icing with your choice of toppings or special decorations to make every occasion unforgettable.*

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