Letter from PTA President

Dear Liberty Families,

I hope everyone enjoyed what I hope was the last of our snow days! Time to thaw out and get ready for two our biggest events! Staff Matball Game featuring Pack’s Pirates vs Insari’s Parrots is Tuesday, March 10th! Come out and support your favorite team! STEMmer Day is Saturday, March 14th! We also have two dining nights scheduled for this month! I hope to see you all at one or all of these events!

Warm Regards,
Anaheeta Minwalla,
Liberty PTA President, libptapresident@gmail.com

PTA Executive Board Officers & Email Contact Info:

President: Anaheeta Minwalla, libptapresident@gmail.com
VP Fundraising: Kimberly Turner, libptavpfundraising@gmail.com
Treasurer: Lisa Teetz, libptatreasurer@gmail.com
Recording Secretary: Chris Jackson-Coates, libptarecordingsecretary@gmail.com
Correspond. Secretary: Jen Robinette, libptacorrespondingsec@gmail.com

Calendar of Events

**March**

- 10th Staff Game – Freedom High School
- 11th PTA General Membership Mtg. – 7:00 PM
- 11th Art To Remember Order Packets Go Home
- 11-12 Spirit Night – KuleYo’s 4:00-8:00 PM
- 14th STEMmerday 9:30 AM – 2:00 PM
- 18th Spring Picture Day
- 25th Spirit Night – Subway (Both SR locations)
- KG – 2nd Grade 4-8pm
- 26th Spirit Night – Subway (Both SR Locations)
- 3rd – 5th Grade 4-8pm
- 30-3rd Spring Break

**April**

- 6th Student Holiday
- 8-9th Spirit Night – KuleYo’s 4:00-8:00 PM
- 9th Fifth Grade Panoramic Picture
- 10th April Newsletter Published
- 15th PTA General Membership Mtg. – 7:00 pm
- 16th 2nd Grade Musical – 7:00 PM
- 22nd Spirit Night–McDonalds
- All Grades 5-8pm
- 30th Spring Chorus Concert – 7:00 PM
Treasurer’s Report—Lisa Teetz

Hello Liberty Families! It has been a quiet few months financially for the PTA; thanks in most part to all of our snow days! We did have a successful international night event and are looking forward to our Staff Matball game in March! The staff game is a big moneymaker for the PTA, so please come out and cheer on your favorite team. Thanks to all of your generous support of our events, The PTA will be able to provide a few exciting activities at upcoming STEMmerday; please come check them out! Be on the lookout for upcoming spirit nights, which are great opportunities to get a quick bite and support the PTA. We also have a few more Topkick parent night outs on the horizon, which is pure profit for the PTA. At the next two general PTA meetings will be looking at the budget to assess overall funding and making recommendations and decisions on money realignments. Please come out and have your voice heard!

PTA News

PTA 2015-2016

If you are considering serving as a Liberty PTA Officer for the 2015-2016 school year, you can send your name, e-mail, phone number and desired position(s) to Anaheeta Minwalla, libptapresident@gmail.com and your information will be forwarded to the Nominations and Elections Committee for further follow-up.
The four (4) Officer positions are:

- VP Fundraising
- VP Events
- VP Committees & Volunteer Coordinator
- Recording Secretary

School kit order forms for the 2015-2016 school year will be going home in Thursday folders on 3/12 and the online ordering portal will be available that day to take orders. The last day to order via paper order form or online will be 4/10. Kits will be delivered to the school the week of 8/16 and will be placed in classrooms for the 28 Aug Open House. Please make any checks payable to Liberty Elementary PTA. Questions – contact Anne Corej at thecorejs@earthlink.net. If you have a current 5th grader, please be sure to check the Mercer or Lunsford websites for school supply information. Do not order from Liberty. Thank you.
Liberty Events

Liberty Spirit Nights

March 11th, KG – 2nd Grade, 4:00-8:00 pm
March 12th, 3rd – 5th Grade, 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm

March 25th, KG – 2nd Grade, 4:00-8:00 pm
March 26th, 3rd – 5th Grade, 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Celebrate 5 years of STEMmer Day

Saturday, March 14th 9:30 am to 2:00 pm

Donuts & Coffee will be available for purchase in the morning.
Pizza, chips, candy, water and soda will be available for purchase from 11:30 am—1:30 pm
MSAAC Meeting on March 4th covered the following topics:

- Approved meeting minutes from November 19, 2014
- Previous MSAAC chair spoke about the need for mentors at Rock Ridge High School. Some students are having a hard time getting motivated. Perhaps there is a need in other schools as well.
- Provided an outline of MSAAC delegate responsibilities
- Heard three presentations:
  - First two presentations focused on qualities that make an effective teacher. What teacher qualities can help close the achievement gap? As a group we discussed the qualities of an effective teacher. Dr. Ryan Taylor reviewed research on this topic and identified some themes: provide feedback, build trusting relationships, encourage engagement, connect culturally with students. Mr. Tim Flynn summarized the qualities in one word, “efficacy”. This term refers to the power to pursue a desired effect/result. Teachers determine student effectiveness and so we need teachers with high efficacy. Mr. Flynn discussed how to identify high efficacy in our teachers. Example: Student comes to teacher and expresses concerns over their performance. A teacher with high efficacy will not only work with child to help them change their behaviors, but will also reflect on herself and evaluate whether her instructional strategies and/or techniques are working with this student and also consider other influences as well. A teacher with low efficacy may only say, what can you do differently?
  - Presentation 3: LCPS Human Resources presentation by Dr. Kimberly Hough. She shared LCPS employment statistics, staffing plans and interview process details. LCPS has a 7.5% attrition rate (retirement and resignations) and 5.7% resignation rate. There was no discussion around what this data means relative to other schools or whether this was a concern. Dr. Hough showed pie charts with the ethnic breakdown of our student and teacher populations. It appears that the student population is very diverse, but the teacher population doesn’t reflect the student’s ethnicity. What can be done to increase ethnic diversity of our teacher populations? She discussed how LCPS fills teaching jobs: targeted advertising on radios, job fairs, school and internal job fairs. She then shared an interview question with the group. She asked the group to suggest what a good answer should look like. Our group, the “Freedom Cluster”, first discussed the question itself. The question was about creating a diverse instructional strategy for an ethnically diverse group of children. First of all the question was hypothetical which is not appropriate. The question should be based on actual experience (example of a behavioral interviewing question). A lot of participants (including the Freedom Cluster) took offense to the question because it assumed that we should teach students differently because of their ethnicity. The question really should have focused on how a teacher adapts her instructional strategy to meet the diverse needs of her classroom (e.g. ELL, special disabilities, learning needs, cultural differences, gifted & talented, etc.). We all recommended that the question be reworked. Dr. Hough also discussed the background of future teachers based on what schools are requesting: bilingual, various teaching experiences (to include teaching at urban schools), culturally responsive experiences, ELL experiences, collaborative, assessment experience, etc. The speaker also discussed a survey they send out to newly hired minority teachers to solicit feedback regarding the teaching experiences at LCPS. They also conduct focus groups with minority teachers. Ended with a question about how parents can better support minority teachers. There wasn't enough time to finish discussing these aspects of the presentation.

MSAAC Report—Natalia Beardslee

Odyssey of the Mind and Reflections Celebrations

Please join us to celebrate the creativity of the children through Odyssey of the Mind and Reflections programs on April 9th 6:00PM – 8:30PM at Liberty Gym. Refreshments will be provided after the awards distribution.

Agenda:

6:00 PM - Welcome
6:10PM - Reflections certificate and medal distribution
7:00PM - OM trophy distribution
7:45PM – Refreshments
8:15PM - Disperse
Odyssey of the mind 2015 was a huge success! All our 6 teams worked hard and gave their best!

Team Vishwanathan & Radha won the Regionals and have moved on to State. Team members include:
Anvikh Parava, 2nd grade, Mrs. Agi
Laasya Ravipati, 4th grade, Mrs. Fisher
Prisha Sing, 4th grade, Mrs. Parker
Siri Chandolu, 3rd grade, Ms. Davis
Sreenivasu Revada, 3rd grade, Mrs. Houston
Vedanth Yallayi, 2nd grade, Ms. Austin
Vishvag Veeramachanane, 3rd grade, Ms. Pancio

Big shout out to our winners and best of luck at State!

Team Kalpana, came fourth overall and second in their Long Term Problem!! Kuddos to them too.

Our 2 Primary Teams Team Sanjana & Team Shailee Sharma rocked!!
Our Division 1 Teams Jason Ivarone & Team Chaitanya were awesome!

Congratulations to everyone for a successful year!
Free Money for Liberty

Link your Giant, Harris Teeter and Target store cards to our school - do this at the beginning of each school year - click on each store to link

Liberty Code 05654  Liberty Code 7219  Liberty Code 149682

Get Connected to Liberty PTA:

Like us on Facebook!  Bookmark the PTA website!  Receive text reminders!
Are you ready for Matball??????????

Tuesday, March 10th @ Freedom High School
Doors Open at 6:00 pm
Sponsored by
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROGRAM</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>AGES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baby Storytime</td>
<td>Mondays</td>
<td>10:00 am</td>
<td>For ages 0–18 months.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toddler Storytime</td>
<td>Tuesdays &amp; Thursdays</td>
<td>10:00 am</td>
<td>For ages 18–36 months.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preschool Storytime</td>
<td>Tuesdays &amp; Thursdays</td>
<td>11:30 am</td>
<td>For ages 3–5.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading Buddies Storytime</td>
<td>Tuesdays</td>
<td>4:30 pm</td>
<td>For Preschool–Grade 2.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Musical Storytime</td>
<td>Tuesdays</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>For all ages.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baby Storytime</td>
<td>Wednesdays</td>
<td>11:00 am</td>
<td>For ages 0–18 months.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Musical Storytime</td>
<td>Wednesdays</td>
<td>1:30 pm</td>
<td>For all ages.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Storytime</td>
<td>Saturdays</td>
<td>10:00 am</td>
<td>For all ages.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baby Storytime</td>
<td>Saturdays</td>
<td>11:00 am</td>
<td>For ages 0–18 months.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Celebrate Dr. Seuss!</td>
<td>Monday, Mar. 2</td>
<td>4:00 pm</td>
<td>For all ages.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Duct Tape Art Class</td>
<td>Monday, Mar. 2</td>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
<td>For all ages.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nonfiction Book Club</td>
<td>Wednesday, Mar. 4</td>
<td>4:00 pm</td>
<td>For Grades 2-3.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEGO® Builders</td>
<td>Wednesday, Mar. 4</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>For Grades 2-5.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Magic Tree House Book Club</td>
<td>Thursday, Mar. 5</td>
<td>4:00 pm</td>
<td>For Grades 2-3.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children’s Book Club</td>
<td>Thursday, Mar. 5</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>For Grades 4-5.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Busy Parents: Library Playdate</td>
<td>Fridays, March 6, 13 &amp; 20</td>
<td>10:00 am</td>
<td>For all ages.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish Storytime with Hola Kids</td>
<td>Friday, Mar. 6</td>
<td>4:15 pm</td>
<td>For Preschool-Grade 2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Builders</td>
<td>Saturday, March 7</td>
<td>2:00-4:00 pm</td>
<td>For Preschool-Grade 2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martial Arts Class for Kids with Master Jun Kim</td>
<td>Monday, March 9</td>
<td>4:00 pm &amp; 7:00 pm</td>
<td>For Grades K-5.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>123 Math &amp; Science Jr. Edition</td>
<td>Tuesday, Mar. 10</td>
<td>4:00 pm</td>
<td>For Grades K-2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Picturing America: Georgia O'Keeffe</td>
<td>Wednesday, Mar. 11</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>For Grades 3-5.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My First Book Club</td>
<td>Thursday, Mar. 12</td>
<td>4:00 pm</td>
<td>For Grades K-1.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Open Door Sensory Storytime</td>
<td>Saturday, Mar. 14</td>
<td>3:00 pm</td>
<td>For Preschool &amp; up.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shamrocks &amp; Leprechauns</td>
<td>Monday, Mar. 16</td>
<td>4:00 pm</td>
<td>For all ages.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tween Club: Craft Connection</td>
<td>Wednesday, Mar. 18</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>For Grades 5-6.</td>
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<tr>
<td>123 Math &amp; Science: Brain Awareness with Neuroscientist Jeremy Freeman, PhD</td>
<td>Thursday, Mar. 26</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>For Grades 3-5.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Busy Parents: Fun With Weather Crafts</td>
<td>Friday, Mar. 27</td>
<td>10:00 am</td>
<td>Crafts are for ages 2-4.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brain Games</td>
<td>Saturday, Mar. 28</td>
<td>2:00 pm</td>
<td>For all ages.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Movie Matinee: The Lorax (Rated PG)</td>
<td>Monday, Mar. 30</td>
<td>2:00 pm</td>
<td>For all ages.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spring Break Make &amp; Take</td>
<td>Tuesday, Mar. 31</td>
<td>2:00-4:00 pm</td>
<td>For all ages.</td>
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For more information call 571-258-3838 or visit library.loudoun.gov.
To request a reasonable accommodation for any type of disability, please call 703-777-0368. Three days notice is requested.
Freedom High School (FHS) Athletic Boosters are sponsoring its Annual Spring Mulch Sale on Saturday, April 11, 2015

- 3 Cubic Ft. Bags of Shredded Hardwood Bark Mulch
- 2 Cubic Ft. Bags of Color Enhanced Black Mulch
- $4.75 per Bag – Tax Deductible Donation of $2.45 per bag
- Pickup at FHS between 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. on April 11th OR have delivered to your driveway
- Free delivery (w/in 5 mile Radius of FHS) for orders of 20 or more bags. $10 Fee for all other deliveries.
- Email questions to mulchmadness@ymail.com

MULCH SALE ORDER FORM
ORDERS MUST BE PLACED BY SUNDAY April 5

Name: ____________________________________________________________
Address (Incl. Subdivision): ____________________________________________
Telephone #: ___________________________ e-Mail: _______________________

Please check preferred mulch color:          ________ 3 cubic ft. bags of shredded dark brown hardwood bark mulch
                                              ________ 2 cubic ft. bags of color enhanced black mulch

# of Bags __________ x $4.75 = $___________ + Delivery Fee $__________ = $______________ Total

Specify delivery point on or near driveway (optional): ____________________________

Circle Form of Payment: Cash, Check

If paying by credit card, go to PAY4SCHOOLSTUFFONLINE.COM AND PAY FOR YOUR ORDER.

Make checks payable to: “FEABC” (Freedom Eagles Athletic Booster Club).

Mail or deliver order forms with payment to:
FEABC (Mulch Sale)
Freedom High School
25450 Riding Center Drive
South Riding, VA 20152

Thank you for supporting Freedom High School Athletics