Letter from the PTA President

Dear Liberty Community,

Wow! Is it already November? October was a busy month with the wrap-up of Laps for Liberty, field day, Children’s Diversity Night, two spirit nights (Panera and McDonald’s), and the VA529 College Savings Plan parent presentation. Thank you all for your participation in the events—either attending, volunteering, or helping to organize. We couldn’t do it without your help.

The final tally is in for Laps for Liberty - we raised over $34,000 after expenses! This money has been used so far to fund more Chromebooks, Family Literacy Night, teacher and classroom supplies, and the Wild Kingdom assembly. Thank you for your continued support!

Our McDonald’s dining night was a great success. We were able to earn $500 in free money just for eating out for dinner.

Please help support American Education Week, Nov 13-17. Education has been a huge determining factor in my life and I do not take it for granted. Education comes in many forms – classroom, travel, culture, time with family and in nature, to name a few. Take this as an opportunity to learn something new and take your child(ren) along for the experience. Everyone wins as a result.

I am sure everyone is looking forward to the extended weekend coming up. Please enjoy your time off from school and don’t forget to vote.

The entire executive board joins me in wishing you and yours a safe and Happy Thanksgiving.

Warm Regards,
Lisa Morales
Liberty PTA President | libptapresident@gmail.com

“Striving for excellence, together.”
**Treasurer’s Report**
Hello Liberty families! We made just over $34,000 from Laps for Liberty, which means that we will not have any additional fall or spring fundraising events.

- At our October PTA meeting, additional funding ($250) was approved to supplement parent snack donations for the monthly teacher/staff meetings.
- We are also happy to report that, thanks to generous Liberty community support, we were able to buy $10,000 worth of new Chromebooks and technology that will be used by Liberty students.
- The October McDonald’s Spirit Night brought in over $500.

Lisa Geurin | PTA Treasurer | Liberty Elementary School

**Children’s Diversity Night**
Children’s Diversity Night is an opportunity to focus on all of the students who make up our Liberty community. It gives them a chance to share their unique skills, stories, and circumstances. The night started off with students of all grade levels singing traditional and cultural songs from around the world, dance performances, and feats of skill. Lastly, attendees were invited to participate in various craft and learning activities that included sign language and visual impairment workshops.

A special thank you goes to Ms. Assetto and Ms. Scott who worked diligently to get student performers ready to go so early in the year and all volunteers (students, parents, and staff) who contributed to make the night a success.

**VA529 College Savings Plan**
VA529 representatives came to speak to Liberty parents on October 26th. They covered the various options available to Virginia parents, guardians, and anyone interested in saving for future college expenses.

Specifically, there are three plans to choose from:
- Prepaid 529 – buy & pay for tuition per semester at a locked-in rate
- Invest 529 – direct-save program that allows you to choose a portfolio and save at your own pace
- College America – Partnership with American Funds

For more specific information, please go to Virginia529.com
Parent Point of View

By Lisa Morales

As we enter into the last two months of 2017, I know that the time will speed by with all of our upcoming holiday activities and celebrations. I will try to face this whirlwind of activity with a thankful and joyous attitude. Some of the things I am especially thankful for this year:

- All of the funny, hard-working, kind, and creative people I’ve met during my time at Liberty
- The challenges I have faced that have made me discover skills and strength I didn’t know I had
- A safe and thriving school where I can send my children
- Modern technology that helps me get to where I am going (thanks, GPS!) and remember where I need to go in the first place...

Thank you for all that you do! Wishing you and yours a safe and Happy Thanksgiving!
Lend a Hand: Volunteer Opportunities

Liberty’s PTA is made up of talented and dedicated volunteers who are interested in making the school and community at large a better place. All of our activities are accomplished by volunteers like you gifting their time and energy to the school. Thank you!

The PTA sponsors school programs and events like:
- Extra money for new classroom and school technology
- Teacher appreciation activities or extra classroom supplies
- Special assemblies and speakers
- After School Enrichment Program
- Family Literacy Nights
- STEMmertime
- Professional Development for Staff
- DARE program
- Eagle Eye Dads
- And so much more!

If you are looking for a way to get involved, learn a new skill, or simply need to get out of your house for a while, stay tuned! We will be organizing a volunteer appreciation and recruitment breakfast soon.

Specifically, we are looking for a few good volunteers for:
- VP of Fundraising (Board position)
- Recording Secretary (Board position)
- Muffins with Mom (May)
- Liberty Store (as needed)
- School Kits (December & August)
- Teacher Appreciation Week (May)
- 5th Grade Celebration (May & June)

If you would like to be added to our general volunteer list, please e-mail Jen Robinette at volibertypta@gmail.com

Thank you for your support!

2nd Box Tops Contest

We’re collecting Box Tops for Education. Look for the Box Tops logo on products you already buy, clip them, and send them to school in your child’s backpack. It’s really easy! We get 10 cents for each Box Top. **We’ll have a new contest every 7 weeks and Box Tops can be sent in at any time.** Please double-check that the Box Top is not expired!

**October/November Contest (10/16 – 12/8)**
**Top 3 Classes Win a Special Prize!**

You can send clipped Box Tops in a sandwich bag with your child to school via backpack by December 8th to enter the contest. The top 3 winning classes get special prize!

The winning class from the 1st contest will get to take care of the new Box Top Eagle stuffed animal until the next winner is announced in December!

**And the winners of the 1st contest are...**
1st: Nykorchuck 410
2nd: Pelak 226
3rd: Masters PM Kinder 209
4th: Austin 121 & Masters AM K 118

Top 3 classes won a Pajama Day!

Keep up the good work!
American Education Week (AEW) is November 13th through 17th, 2017

This is a PTA-planned event. Participation is optional and not required. Grade-level activities are also planned for the classroom.

**Suggested appreciation ideas:**

Bring your teacher’s/specialist’s favorite K-Cups. Extra K-Cups will be gathered in the teacher’s lounge to be shared by all teachers.

**Awesome!** Design and cut-out an “awesome-gram” (below) letting your teacher/specialist know how amazing they are!

Bring STEM supplies for your classroom.

Have extra books or classroom supplies lying around? Donate it to the classroom!

*Lunch for the teachers and staff is sponsored by the PTA on Friday*

You Are An **Awesome!** Teacher because

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__________________________________________________________

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__________________________________________________________

Student Name: __________________________