Letter from PTA President

Dear Parents, Guardians, Teachers and Liberty Community,

Welcome back for another amazing year of learning! Our calendar is full of fun events, and we are kicking it off with an ice-cream social on Friday, September 5th at KuleYo’s (South Riding Location) from 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm. This is a PTA sponsored event for students to meet with their friends and trade stories about surviving the first week of school. Liberty PTA has been very concise with our goals since day one! We request 2 things from you each year…..join the PTA and be involved in your child’s school by volunteering!

PTA Membership is $10 per parent. The largest portion of dues ($6.75) stays at Liberty to help us fund worthwhile “extras” like supplemental texts that bring SOL concepts into better focus, enough IPADs® for an entire class of students, reading incentive program and the list goes on and on. A portion of the dues ($2.25 to National PTA and $1 to VA PTA) supports advocacy efforts. Please return your membership form via backpack to the front office. For the past 3 years we have had 100% membership by parents and staff and this year we are striving for the same! We need YOU to join and make that happen.

Find ways to be involved that make sense for you. Email your name, phone number and e-mail address to vclibertypta@gmail.com to be added to our General Volunteer e-mail list. We have so many ways to be involved: classroom helper, library, school store, fundraising events, etc.

Like us on Facebook, bookmark the PTA website! PTA Calendar can be accessed here.

Liberty has the best staff, students and parents and it would only be-fitting that we have the best PTA! Please feel free to contact me or any of the officers/committee chairs with questions, concerns, suggestions or just to say hi :). I look forward to seeing everyone and getting better acquainted with the new faces at Liberty!

Anaheeta Minwalla
PTA President, libptapresident@gmail.com

Calendar of Events

September:
5th    Ice Cream Social – KuleYo’s 4-8pm
11th  Patriot Day Assembly – 8:15 AM
12th  Fall Fundraiser Kickoff
17th  Spirit Night – Moe’s South Riding
   KG-2nd Gr. 4:00-8:00 PM
18th  Spirit Night – Moe’s South Riding
   3rd – 5th Grade 4:00-8:00 PM
24th    Fall Picture Day
26th    Fall Fundraiser Ends

October:
1st  PTA Exec Board Meeting – 7:00 PM
4th     Fall Fest 4:00 – 6:30 PM
8th     PTA General Membership Mtg. – 7:00 PM
9th     Field Day 1st Grade -5th Grade
13th    Holiday – Columbus Day
17th    Parents Night Out – TopKick South Riding
18th    StoneRidge 5k
22nd    Spirit Night – Subway (Both SR Locations)
   KG – 2nd Grade. 4-8pm
23rd    Spirit Night – Subway (Both SR Locations)
   KG – 2nd Grade. 4-8pm
Treasurer’s Report

The 2014-2015 school year PTA Budget is available online at Liberty’s website under the PTA tab. After General Membership Meetings, the Budget and Actuals are updated and shared via the website.

Any questions or concerns about the budget can be directed to
Lisa Teetz, libptatreasurer@gmail.com or Anaheeta Minwalla, 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

Membership Goal – 100% - Join PTA Today

Our goal – each school year – is for 100% PTA membership. That equals 1 parent or teacher member for each student. Membership dues are $10.

We encourage both Mom and Dad to join ($20).

We have a strong tradition of 100% Teacher membership. We hope to achieve this same level from our parents. Please join Liberty PTA today, so that we can reach this goal together. To be a current member you need to join each school year. The 2014-2015 PTA Membership Form can be printed here

Although we accept members on an on-going and year-round basis, we have our "membership drive" during August/September/October.

Help Wanted / Open Positions

We are in need of PTA members to step up to lead the following:

- VP Events
- American Education Week
- Bingo Night
- Copy Committee
- Directory: Please note if we do not have a volunteer to compile the directory, we will not have one this year.
- Fall Festival Prize Booth
- Fall Festival Food
- Fall Festival Volunteer Coordinator

- Green Team
- Jingle Bell Jog
- LEAP Liaison Alternate
- Outdoor Classroom – Maintenance
- PTA Historian
- Room Parent Coordinator
- SEAC Representative
- Staff Game Volunteer Coordinator
- Teacher Appreciation Week

If you are interested in leading by serving as a 13-14 Committee Chair, please contact Anaheeta Minwalla, vclibertypta@gmail.com
Liberty Events

Ice Cream Social at Kule-Yo’s—Friday, Sept. 5th from 4 pm to 8pm.

Join us for a frozen yogurt at Kule-Yo’s, 43114 Peacock Market Plaza, for a healthy snack and support Liberty at the same time. Celebrate “surviving” the 1st week of school on Friday, Sept. 5th from 4 pm to 8pm.

Wear your Spiritwear or red, white and blue and be sure to mention “Liberty” when you pay the cashier.

Patriot Day Assembly – Thursday, September 11th @ 8:15 am

Liberty will celebrate Patriot Day with an Assembly outside in the bus loop grassy area (weather permitting). Liberty Parents retired and active in uniform (including e.g. military, firefighters, police and all patriots) are invited and encouraged to attend. If you would like to participate please check-in with Luanne Nichols by 8:00 am. All parents are invited to attend and should gather in the area between the bus loop and drop off/parking lot. If required, the event will be moved to the gymnasium.

Fall Fest – Saturday, October 4th 4pm to 6:30pm

We are excited to begin another year of wonderful Events at Liberty! We are already busy preparing for our Annual Liberty Fall Fest. Mark your calendars for Saturday, October 5th at 4 pm with more information to come.

This is a fun event for the whole family. Planning is well underway, but we would love to have you join our team. Please email Anaheeta Minwalla, vclibertypta@gmail.com if you are interested in being on the Fall Fest committee or have an idea for the event! If you would like to be our red/white blue sponsor, sponsorship is $300 and $100 for our spirit sponsors.

The Stone Ridge Race for Education!

Lace up those running shoes. The Stone Ridge Fun Run & 5K is scheduled for Saturday, October 18th at 9am. The more volunteers, runners and walkers Liberty has, the more money we raise for the school, so we want YOU to volunteer and/or sign up for the either the 5K race or 1K Fun Run. Please click here to sign up as a volunteer and/or click here to register for the race. Don’t forget to designate Liberty as your school when you register. We’ll need a set number of volunteers to make the race a success (& to qualify to receive our share of the net profits).

See you there!!!
Committee Reports

Odyssey of the Mind

Our Liberty Elementary Odyssey of the Mind teams will be forming soon! Odyssey of the Mind is an international education program/competition that encourages students to work on their creative problem solving and team skills. It is also great fun! If you are interested in having your child participate, being a coach or assistant coach, or just want more information about the program, be on the look-out for the Odyssey of the Mind flyer in your child’s Thursday folder coming home soon. You can also check out the website http://www.odysseyofthemind.com/ or email our Liberty Elementary OM coordinators, Meenal Manikandan and Alicia Susalla at libertyodm@gmail.com

The 2014-15 Reflections theme is “The World Would Be A Better Place If….”

Membership in the Virginia PTA provides the opportunity to participate in the National PTA Reflections program, which encourages students to explore the arts and express themselves by giving positive recognition for their artistic efforts. Since it was founded in 1969 by Mary Lou Anderson, millions of students have benefited from this program.

Reflections Awards Program Students in Pre-K through grade 12 create theme-based artwork in dance choreography, film production, literature, musical composition, photography or visual arts. Look for a Reflections flyer in your student’s Thursday folder soon or click here for more information!

LEAP:

The Loudoun Education Alliance of Parents (LEAP) is a non-partisan network that promotes interaction between parents, teachers, School Board members and members of the Loudoun County Public Schools (LCPS) Administrative Team.

It’s mission statement is:
• To provide a forum for the discussion and sharing of common educational concerns and ideas
• To serve as a network for interaction among local parent groups, students, teachers, administrators and the LCPS System
• To secure for all students in the LCPS System the highest advantages in academic, vocational, physical and social education.

The mission and objectives of LEAP are promoted via monthly meetings held during the school year on the second Wednesday of the month. Meetings are held in rooms 102 A and 102 B at the LCPS Administration Building in Ashburn, Virginia. Discussion of agenda topics commences @ 7:00 pm.

SEAC:

The Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) is composed of parents, educators, administrators, business representatives, and other interested community groups concerned with the education of students with disabilities. The purposes of the committee are as follows:
1. Advise the local school system of the needs in the education of children with disabilities.
2. Assist the local school system in the development of long-range plans, which will provide needed services for children with disabilities.
3. Submit periodic reports and recommendations regarding the education of children with disabilities to the local school board.
4. Review annually the school system’s updated special education plan and application for federal funding.
It’s time to turn in your

Box Tops!

Liberty Elementary PTA is 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 is really that easy! We get $0.10 for each box top, so if you fill the dollar below, PTA gets a dollar from General Mills.

Each month we will have a contest and a collection sheet. You are always welcome to send in your Box Tops in a sandwich or snack baggie.

September Contest

Top 3 classes win

Popcorn at the Fall Festival

Please tape, glue or staple ten Box Tops to the “dollar” below or place in a snack baggie and send in via backpack by Sep. 26th to enter the contest for September. Every child in the three classes with the most Box Tops submitted will receive a coupon for a free small popcorn at Liberty’s Fall Festival on Saturday, October 4th.

Student Name: __________________________ Teacher: _______________
Grade: _________ (* Kindergarten – indicate AM or PM)
Committee Chairs:

- After School Enrichment Chair, Beenish Durani
- Art To Remember: Kristy Jones
- Beautification: Jamie Ziemann
- Box Tops Chair: Lynn Hood
- Box Tops Co-Chair: Alicia Susalla
- Eagle Eye Dad: William Perry
- Facebook: Anaheeta Minwalla
- Fifth Grade Promotion Ceremony (Parent): Kristy Jones
- LEAP Liaison: Eric Amrhein
- Membership Data Entry: Chris Jackson-Coates
- Membership: Anaheeta Minwalla
- Minority Achieve. (MSAAC) Representative: Natalia Beardslee
- Newsletter: Payal Jain
- Odyssey of the Mind: Dheepa Iyer
- Reflections: Dheepa Iyer
- Supply Kit: Anne Corej
- Spiritwear: Kimberly Turner
- Staff Game Coordinator: Alicia Susalla
- Stone Ridge 5k: Katie Shedeck & Jennifer Street
- Teacher Welcome Back Lunch: Beth Cattafesta
- Website (PTA Portion): Cyrus Minwalla

Thank you to the following businesses who placed an ad in our 2014-2015 monthly desk planner!

A huge thank you to our Welcome Back Lunch Team of Beth Cattafesta (Chair) with Michael, John & Greg Cattafesta. Anne, Michael & Mary Corej and Lynn Hood (Co-chair).

Thank you Picante at 14511 Lee Jackson Memorial Hwy. B., Chantilly for the delicious Welcome Back Lunch food!

A hip-hip-hooray for our School Supply Kit distribution Team of Anne Corej-Chair (Michael & Mary), Kelly Gray (Collin & Finley), Anaheeta Minwalla (Amy & Naomi), Megan Morse (Abbey), Silvia Muller (Sofia & Alejandra), Kristen Reed (Alex), Jen Robinette (Bradley, Natalie & Kiley), Alicia Susalla and Beverly Weatherly (Andrew, Nathan & Lucas).

Thank you to those who assembled the 1st Day packets: Zeerak Kureshi, Phong Liu, Nita Patel and Chrissy Underwood.

If we inadvertently missed adding your name, please know that we still very much appreciated your help! If you know of a PTA member that deserves a Shout-Out, please email Jen Robinette, libptacorrespondingsec@gmail.com
A huge THANK YOU to all the businesses below for sponsoring our calendar!