



The Swan

PTA Newsletter

February 2017

Important Dates

February 8th- UNOs at Columbia Mall
February 17- Jump Rope For Heart Due
March 10th- Game Night/Silent Auction/Ice Cream Social
March 13th- Chipotle at Columbia Mall
March 31st 7:00pm- Paint Nite
April 6th- STEM Night
April 19th- Ledo's Pizza in Oakland Mills
April 26th- PTA Meeting
May 1-5- Staff Appreciation Week/Book Fair
May 5- Bike-to-School Day
May 12- Field Day
May 18- Field Day (Rain Date)
May 19th- School Dance
May 24th- Three Brothers Italian Restaurant

PTA Board Members

Mariah Tavary *PTA President*
president@swansfieldpta.org
Julie Hellmer *Vice President – Membership*
vicepresident2@swansfieldpta.org
Diana Tucker *Treasurer*
treasurer@swansfieldpta.org
Amy Bittinger *Corresponding Secretary*
corresponding@swansfieldpta.org
Emily Steele *Recording Secretary*
recording@swansfieldpta.org

From the President

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a safe and happy holiday season. Once again I find myself wondering how half the school year has already passed. I want to say thank you to the PTA volunteers who helped make the events such as Swansfield Swings and Multicultural Night a great success. We have been so busy the past six months but with that said - we still have so much more to accomplish before we get to June and we can't do it without your continued support through volunteering.



I also want to acknowledge the families that came out for dinner and supported the school at our restaurant nights. Our fundraising goal for those events was \$600. Because of your support we have made \$464 and still have 5 more restaurant night events to go!

Finally I would like to say congratulations to Hope Dzuray, 5th grader, who submitted the winning design for the school spiritwear t-shirt. Way to go Hope! It's great seeing so many students proudly wearing the shirt! If you didn't get yours when we placed the order back in December, you still have a chance. Just send me an email at president@swansfieldpta.org.

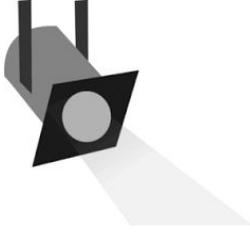
Thank you again for supporting the Swansfield PTA.

Membership

Make your voice heard! Joining the PTA shows the community that parents are involved and want to make their children's school the best it can be. If you can attend PTA meetings, you will have the opportunity to voice your suggestions for a better school. If you haven't already, please consider joining the PTA. You can either follow this link <http://swansfieldpta.org/about-us/membership/> or return the membership form at the bottom of this newsletter with payment in your child's Monday folder.

We thank everyone who has already shown their support by joining and we hope to see membership grow with you! If you have any questions about membership, please contact Julie Hellmer at vicepresident2@swansfieldpta.org

Staff Spotlight



Ms. Trish Borowski has been with HCPSS for 14 years. She began at Atholton ES as a prep cook then was the night chief custodian at Stevens Forest before coming to Swansfield as the day chief custodian, six years ago. Students greet Ms. Borowski in the hallways and cafeteria, where she interacts with them students the most. She encourages everyone in the Swansfield community to “respect your school like you respect your home” and likes to help students understand how their actions affect her job and the school. Ms Borowski, who works year-round, has been busier than ever with the school renovation project. She was recently seen in a fancy black dress participating in a very special performance at Swansfield Swings this past fall dancing with her boyfriend. When she is not working, or dancing at Swings, she enjoys taking long walks, going to the gym, watching movies, and shopping. She hopes to one day to own her own floral shop and to travel the world- hopefully to Liberia where her boyfriend is from. We thank Ms. Borowski for her service to the school!

Volunteer Opportunities

We need your help! The PTA can not run without people stepping forward and helping us out. Right now we need people to fill these positions: Spring Dance, Swansfield Swings, Striders (next fall if construction allows), Spirit Wear, Schoolkidz, and 5th Grade Chairperson. If any of these sound like something you might be interested in please e-mail me at president@swansfieldpta.org .

Carson Reading Room

If you enjoy connecting young readers to good books please consider volunteering for Swansfield's Carson Reading Room. It only takes thirty minutes a week! Founded by the Carson Scholars Fund and organized by our PTA, the CRR encourages leisure reading by bringing small groups of students to an interesting and varied collection of books. Volunteers will escort a group of students from their homeroom to the CRR for a twenty-minute reading period. Depending on the age of the students, volunteers can read books aloud, assist young readers with their books or help older students browse the collection and supervise their independent reading. If you have further questions, please contact Amy Zezula at carsonreading@swansfieldpta.org

To volunteer with students or in the school you must complete the HCPSS volunteer training packet and sign and turn in the completed form to the front office. Information is available on the school website at <http://ses.hcpss.org/support>

Staff Appreciation

Parent-teacher conferences are coming up, and the PTA is providing dinner for our hard-working teachers on the first night of conferences, March 9. We need your help! Calls for contributions will be forthcoming.

Fundraisers

As of mid-January, Swansfield has collected more than **6,000** boxtops! We are able to use all the funds from redeemed Boxtops to help keep our Swansfield teachers supplied with valuable classroom materials. This year it is more important than ever that everyone collect as many Boxtops as possible so our teachers don't have to spend their dollars on supplies. To make things fun, we have a class contest to see which homeroom can contribute the most Boxtops. The winning class each week receives "Smencils!!" The winning class each quarter receives the Golden Box Tops Trophy and a popsicle party! Please keep turning in your Boxtops by placing them in a baggie labeled with both your child's and teacher's name or attach them to the BoxTops Sheets sent home previously and send them back to school in any Monday communication folder. Help your child's class win the competition and help your child's teacher receive the classroom supplies he or she needs!



Restaurant Nights

Restaurant Nights are events at area restaurants in which a portion of the proceeds from the event are donated to the school PTA. Reminders will be sent home along with additional information in Monday communication folders. The following events have been planned for the rest of the year:



- February 8th- UNOs at the Mall in Columbia
- March 13th- Chipotle at the Mall in Columbia
- April 19th- Ledo's Pizza at 6955 Oakland Mills Rd, Columbia, MD 21045
- May 24th- Three Brothers Italian Restaurant at 7090 Deepage Dr, Columbia, MD 21045

Thanks to Corner Bakery for hosting our December restaurant night. The PTA raised over \$50.00. Thanks to those of you who participated in this event- every dollar raised helps.

Shoparoo

We've raised over \$100 with Shoparoo so far this year! Amazing! Keep snapping your receipts and tell your friends and family. The more receipts we snap, the more we earn!



Joe Corbi's

The PTA raised over \$2,500 in the fundraiser. Thanks to all of you who participated.

Upcoming Events



Jump Rope for Heart

It's time for Jump Rope for Heart again! Forms were sent home in Monday Folders in January and are due back to the school no later than Friday, February 17. If you have any questions please contact PE Teacher Mr. Berry at Jamie_Berry@hcpss.org

Game Night, Silent Auction, and Ice Cream Social

Game night is coming! We had a great time last year, so we're doing it again! Join us March 10th for a night of fun with Gamewright Games. We'll have games to play and games will be available for purchase, too. The PTA earns 50% of all purchases. Take a break from the games to bid on silent auction items and to enjoy some ice cream as well. Volunteers are needed to help with the evening. Please contact Emily at recording@swansfieldpta.org for more information.

Paint Nite

Inviting all creative spirits! Explore your inner artist while raising money for Swansfield PTA. We're hosting a Paint Nite, where a local artist will assist and inspire us while we mix and mingle. Paint Nite is March 31, 2017 at 7:00 pm. Childcare will be available. Tickets are available now at <http://paintnite.com/pages/events/view/baltimore/1145924>. Tickets are limited, so don't delay! Get yours now!

STEM Night

April 6, 2017- S.T.E.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) Night at Swansfield Elementary School. Look for more information in upcoming Monday Folders.

PTA General Meeting

April 26, 2017 at 6:30pm the final General PTA Meeting will be held at the school. Childcare will be available.



Bike to School Day

Friday, May 5 will be bike-to-school day. More details will be sent home in future newsletters and Monday Folders.

PTA Election

The PTA Election is in May. We will be looking for at least 3 people to help with the election. And we will be looking for people to consider filling the positions that are up for election. Positions that will be opening up at the end of this school year are president, VP of school relations, and corresponding secretary. If you are interested please email any member of the PTA board.



Membership/Donation Form

Parent/Guardian Name 1: _____

Parent/Guardian Name 2: _____

Address _____

Amount Enclosed: \$10.00 \$20.00 Annual dues: \$10 per person, paid by cash or check (payable to "Swansfield PTA") Donation _____

Student(A) _____ Grade(A) _____ Homeroom Teacher(A) _____

Student(B) _____ Grade(B) _____ Homeroom Teacher(B) _____

Student(C) _____ Grade(C) _____ Homeroom Teacher(C) _____

Email address _____ Phone _____

Please return form with your payment in your child's Monday Folder. Thank you for your support!