



The Swan

PTA Newsletter

September 2016

Important Dates

September 26- October 14- Joe Corbi's Fundraiser
September 27 6pm-9pm- Chick-Fil-A Fundraiser
September 28 6:30pm - PTA Meeting at Swansfield
October 5- Walk-to-School Day (morning)
October 10 6pm-9pm- Panera Bread Fundraiser
November 9- Swansfield Swings Event
November 16 5pm-10pm- Jason's Deli Fundraiser
November 28- December 2- Fall Book Fair
December 9- Multi-Cultural Night

PTA Board Members

Mariah Tavary *PTA President*
president@swansfieldpta.org
Monica Fiegel *Vice President – School Relations*
vicepresident1@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

Welcome from the President

It's hard to believe just how quickly 10 weeks can go by but once again summer vacation has come and gone. The Swansfield PTA would like to welcome back all our returning "Swans" and extend a warm welcome to all our new Swansfield families. Our motto here at Swansfield Elementary is "**Once a Swan, Always a Swan**". My name is Mariah Tavary and this is my second year as the Swansfield PTA President. I'm very excited to work with dedicated PTA members who tirelessly devote many hours to make many of the school activities such as the spring dance, school assemblies, and field day possible for our students. School Year 2016 – 2017 will be an exciting time as we are welcoming a new Assistant Principal, Lauren Beaman. We will share more about Ms. Beaman in the Staff Spotlight. We will also be sharing more about the exciting renovations taking place at our school. Be sure to check your child's Monday communication folder weekly for future updates on events. WELCOME BACK SWANSFIELD ELEMENTARY!!



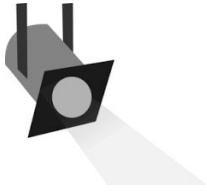
Membership

We hope that you had an awesome summer and are ready for the many fantastic events the Swansfield PTA has planned. Whether you're new to our family or returning, the PTA strives to provide many educational and memorable events for your family to enjoy. We are asking you to become part of Swansfield - Join the PTA!

Our goal is to have 100% Membership in every classroom with each student represented. The PTA offers parents and members of the community an opportunity to help make Swansfield the best school for our children. Any family member can join the PTA – invite grandparents, aunts, uncles, even your neighbors to join. All are welcome to attend the PTA meetings. These meetings are informative and outline what the PTA has planned. We appreciate those who can volunteer, but even if your schedule prohibits volunteering, your membership helps. Membership is \$10 per adult. Please find the membership form at the end of this newsletter. Please check our website www.swansfieldpta.org and Facebook page to stay connected as to upcoming events and news.

Thank you, in advance, for your support!

Volunteer Spotlight



Shannon and Jennifer Toole have supported the Swansfield community for more than ten years. The Tooles organized the first Walk-to-School day on the first Wednesday in October in 2006. This year will mark the 10-year anniversary of Swansfield participation in the program. Mr Toole taught the first bike safety classes at SES as a volunteer and then worked with the PE teacher to have a Bike-to-School day the first Wednesday in May as well as to have bicycle safety part of the PE curriculum. The Tooles also devised the Swansfield Striders program and worked with the county to get the ¼ mile path that circled the school's back property. They also worked with the county to implement a safer car loop procedure that was put into place last year. In addition to leaving a significant impact on the school's transportation strategy, the Tooles read to students in the Carson Reading room, showcased their Irish heritage at the Multi-Cultural Night, and participated in the classroom and on field trips. The Tooles no longer have a student in SES but their mark on our community will continue well into the future.

Volunteer Opportunities

The PTA is always looking for volunteers to assist with PTA-sponsored programs and activities. If you would be interested in helping out or have any questions please contact any PTA board member. Specific opportunities are below.

We are currently seeking someone to oversee the following programs:

- Spring Dance
- Staff Appreciation
- Cash Back Programs
- Silent Auctions – Helping to solicit donations

Volunteer! Here are a few opportunities to help out:

- Monday Folders – Compile folders in conjunction with teachers and paraeducators.
- Fundraisers – Help the fundraising chair with orders and distribution when orders are delivered.
- Multi-Cultural Night – Volunteers are needed to organize a presentation of a country, to help with the parade of nations, and to provide plates, napkins, cutlery and cups for that evening.
- Staff appreciation – Help the chair organize staff appreciation events.

Carson Reading Room

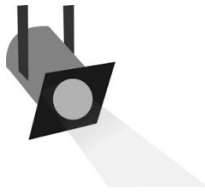
If you enjoy connecting young readers to good books please consider volunteering for Swansfield's Carson reading room. It only takes thirty minutes a week! Founded by the Carson Scholars Fund and organized by our PTA, the CRR encourages leisure reading by bringing small groups of students to an interesting 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 signed and turn in the completed form in the front office. Information is available on the school website at <http://ses.hcpss.org/support>

Donation Requests

Kindergarten Team is in need of primary pencils. If you can donate some please contact any PTA Board member.

Staff Spotlight



Ms Beaman is the new Assistant Principal at Swansfield but her time with HCPSS began years ago as an elementary student. It was during this time she saw the influence teachers had on students and this motivated her to want to become a teacher herself. After teaching six years she decided to go into school administration to have an opportunity to positively impact students on a greater scale. Ms Beaman looks forward to working with new students, parents, and staff at Swansfield to grow and learn and to bring what she has learned to our school. She hopes to work to improve student growth and to see students enjoy coming to school each day. Outside of education, Ms Beaman enjoys Starbursts, Skittles, sugar cookies, and cupcakes with rainbow chip icing. She also enjoys running, reading, spending time with her friends and family, and supporting the Baltimore Ravens football team. Welcome to Swansfield Ms Beaman.

Fundraisers

Did you know that each year we are able to use all the funds from collected and 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 will have a class contest to see which homeroom can contribute the most Boxtops. The winning class will receive "Smencils!!" Please place your Boxtops 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!



Who doesn't love Joe Corbi's pizza!!!!? This year our fall fundraiser will feature Joe Corbi's delicious line of food. It will begin September 26th and run through October 14th. Funds raised by the kindergarteners through 4th graders will go into the general PTA fund for use on all school activities throughout the school year. However, the monies raised by the 5th graders will solely be used to support their end of year activities. Let's get ready to sell some great pizza and make lots of money for our exciting school activities. Pickup will be November 21st.

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 so far:



- September 27th 6:00pm - 9:00pm at Chick-Fil-A inside the Columbia Mall.
- October 10th 6:00pm - 9:00pm at Panera Bread inside the Columbia Mall.
- November 16th 5:00pm - 10:00pm at Jason's Deli located at 8874 McGaw Rd, Columbia, MD 21045



Shoparoo

It's time for a new fundraising year with Shoparoo. Last year, we earned over \$150 with Shoparoo! If you haven't already, download the Shoparoo app from the App store or on Google Play - and tell your friends and family too! Swansfield earns money for each shopping receipt you snap a picture of using the app. It's so simple and a great way for us to earn extra funds to support our school! Also make sure to follow the Shoparoo Facebook page for monthly contests that earn our school more points. Questions about Shoparoo? Email Emily Steele at recording@swansfieldpta.org. Happy snapping!

Upcoming Events

PTA Meeting September 28th

We would love to have you join us to learn more about how you can be involved with the Swansfield PTA. Our first meeting is September 28th at 6:30pm at the school. Childcare will be available. Meet the officers, vote on the PTA budget for the year and learn about what the PTA does and how you can be involved. We know everyone has a busy schedule but if everyone can spend just a little time – together we can all make a big difference for our Swansfield students.

Please Join Us for the
September
PTA Meeting!

YOUR VOICE IS IMPORTANT.

Walk to School Day October 5th



October 5, 2016 is Walk-to-School Day. For students who cannot walk to school, their school bus will drop them off in the Swansfield Park parking lot across the street from school so that they can walk across the pedestrian bridge to participate in this event. Those students who can safely walk from their homes are encouraged to do so. This is a good opportunity to discover the walkability of our community, remind drivers that there are walkers in their community, and to meet and greet your community members out and about.

Swansfield Swings November 9th

Please mark your calendars for an entertaining evening of live jazz performances on November 9th. This year's performance will feature a local band with vocals by a former student and teacher. Please be on the lookout for more information in the upcoming Monday folders.



Fall Book Fair November 28 - December 2nd

This year the Fall Scholastic Book Fair will be held November 28th through December 2nd. Parents will have an opportunity to help their children create a wish list during the Book Fair preview event that will happen the week of November 21st. More details will be available as we get closer to the event.

Multi-Cultural Night December 9th

Please mark your calendars for Multi-Cultural Night on December 9th! This year's theme will be "Holidays Around the World". If you are interested in participating, please contact Erin Mitchell or Theresa Bobier at multicultural@swansfieldpta.org



After School Activities at Swansfield

Spanish Immersion Class

The Language and Cultural Club is back offering a fall session. Classes will be held on October 10, 17, 24, November 14, 28 and December 5. For more information and to register for the class please go to <http://www.languageandculturalclub.com/Registration.html> More information will be in the upcoming Monday Folders.

Klotz Karate Class

Klotz Karate is back for a fall session. Classes will be held on September 16, 23, 30, October 7 and 14. More information will be in the upcoming Monday Folders.

Bricks4Kidz LEGO® After School Life Science

Explore the fascinating science of living things while building models of creatures from caterpillars to dinosaurs! Topics include: how the human body stays cool, the amazing life cycle of a butterfly, and the Venus Fly Trap- a plant that eats bugs! If you love creatures, this class is for you. Register for another session this fall of Bricks4Kidz LEGO® After School Exploring the Everglades for a discounted price of \$185 for both classes. Bricks4Kidz is a STEM-based program that teaches science and technology concepts using LEGO® bricks. Info: www.bricks4kidz.com/ellcottcity-md (www.bricks4kidz.com/central-md for RP3379.111-114) or Adam Wienckowski, 410-313-4714 or awienckowski@howardcountymd.gov

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!