

TEAMING UP FOR
AN ALL STAR
YEAR



LMES

Volume 6, Issue 1



September 2013

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UPCOMING EVENTS

September 26 -
Back to School Night
October 2 - Walk-to-
School Wednesday
October 8 - Watch
D.O.G.S. Pizza Night
October 17 - Math Night
October 22 - 
Spirit Night
October 25 - Picture Day



Dear Parents and Laurel Meadow Staff,

Welcome back to school!!!

We would like to welcome all of the new families and staff members who are joining the LMES family. If you are returning, you may notice the new look of our newsletter! We are "Teaming up for an All Star Year"! I don't know about you but I am ready to get back to my routine! I hope you all had a great summer and are ready to dive in to a new school year.

We hope that you will join the **PTA**! Our goal for this year is 100% membership. We are also looking to increase our male membership. Remember that memberships are for individuals, so Moms and Dads can join, as well as other family members and friends. Please help us reach our goal this year!

The LMES **PTA** has been hard at work planning exciting activities and programs for this year. We hope that you will join us for our Snowflake Breakfast, our Family Dinner and Dance, and Family Fun Run and 5K – just to name a few! We also encourage all Dads or other male role models to participate in our Watch D.O.G.S. program. For more information, please visit our **PTA** PAWS reception at Back to School night.

You will notice that this year's Back to School night will look a little different. We will be having only one night this year instead of two. Please arrive on time so that you do not miss any of the important information you will receive in your student's classrooms. We are also encouraging everyone to volunteer whenever possible. Please make sure that you fill out and return your **PTA** volunteer form as well as the Hanover County volunteer form. You will be contacted when opportunities arise.

The LMES **PTA** looks forward to working with you all and is looking forward to another great year!

Sincerely,
Sara Matthews
PTA President

★★★ PRINCIPAL'S CORNER - MS. KAREN CARPENTER ★★★

Welcome to the 2013 -2014 school year. We are extremely excited to celebrate the 6th year as a school community!

This school year, our school theme is "Teaming Up for an All-Star Year." As a school community, we plan to work together to guarantee that each student has a winning year. We invite parents to be a part of the team by partnering with their child's teachers and the PTA. As a cohesive team, we can collaborate as partners to ensure that all LMES students grow to their fullest potential both academically and socially.



This year we are welcoming a lot of new students and staff members. A warm welcome goes to all of our new students and to the following



new staff members: Karen Dubiel, Assistant Principal, Sonja McGinnis (Grade 5), Victoria Mullin (instructional assistant), Nicole Richardson (Administrative Assistant), Jennifer Utz (academic resource teacher), and Sarah Sullivan (academic resource teacher). The new staff members are excited to join the Laurel Meadow Team and are looking forward to working with you and your children.

If you have any questions or concerns during the school year, be sure to contact your child's teacher or the school office at 723-2040. We are happy to answer your questions.



Please read the following information to ensure a smooth transition to the school schedule for your family.

Attendance – Regular attendance is critical for academic progress. However, we know that emergencies occur and that children get sick during the school year. Please call the school clinic at 723-2046 if your child is going to be absent from school. You may leave a message on the nurse's voice mail prior to school opening in the morning. When you call please give your child's name, teacher's name, and a reason for the absence. In addition, a written note for the teacher when your child returns would be appreciated.

Tardy – Regular school hours are 8:00 - 2:30. A student is considered tardy if he or she has not reported to the classroom by 8:05 a.m. Students arriving to school after 8:05 must come to the main office to sign in and receive a tardy pass.

Building Hours – Students are permitted to enter the building at 7:30 a.m. Students entering the building between 7:30 a.m. – 7:45 a.m. are supervised in the cafeteria until it is time to report to classrooms. The main office closes at 3:30 each day.

Student drop-off – In the morning students may be dropped off in the front loop. Please have your child ready to exit the vehicle when you stop. A staff member is on duty until the tardy bell rings at 8:05 a.m. to supervise children as they enter the building.

Student Pick-up – A student may leave the school premises during the day only with the permission of the parent or legal guardian. We require written permission if anyone other than the student's parent or guardian picks them up at school. We will show photo identification of the person signing out the child for safety reasons.

After school, pick up occurs in the school cafeteria. You will need to sign your child out and be prepared to show a photo id. This process will help to ensure the safety of our children. The best place to enter the cafeteria will be via the side cafeteria door.

Medication – Hanover County's medication policy prohibits the transfer of any type of medication (prescription or over-the-counter) by your child. All medications must be brought to the clinic by an adult. Any medication taken at school for 10 days or more requires a doctor's written order.

Toys/Valuables – Toys, trading cards and valuables such electronic devices are not permitted at school unless the teacher has given special permission for them to be brought to school for a special activity or project.

Student Dress – Students are encouraged to wear comfortable shoes and clothing. However, student attire must not be a distraction to the learning environment. Messages on clothing that relate to sex, drugs, alcohol, tobacco, vulgarity, violence, or that reflect adversely upon persons because of their race, creed or national origin will not be permitted in school. Shorts, skirts and dresses should be mid thigh or longer. Midribs, spaghetti strap tank tops, and wide arm muscle shirts are not appropriate for the learning environment. Tank top straps should be the width of two adult fingers. Flip flops, crocks and high heeled shoes present a major hazard on the playground equipment and stairs. Children wearing inappropriate footwear will have limited access to some of the outside equipment.

INTRODUCING KAREN DUBIEL - LMES ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL



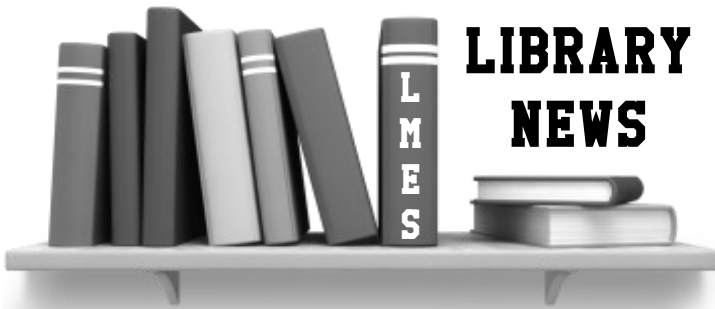
Hello Lions! I am thrilled to join the Laurel Meadow family and serve the children of this fine community as assistant principal! I am humbled to join such a caring and dedicated staff that continually strives to provide the best learning opportunities for all students.

My career in education began in Hanover County as a first grade teacher at Henry Clay Elementary in 2000 after earning my B.A. in Sociology, Early Childhood Education, and Dance from JMU. During my tenure as a classroom teacher, I earned my M.Ed. in Reading Education from UVA. This led me to serve the children of Colonial Heights in five schools as the Division K-12

Instructional Specialist-Reading Coach for the past six years. With the dream of returning to one elementary school, I completed my Ed.S. in Administration & Supervision from UVA. I am ecstatic to come back home to Hanover County and to be a Laurel Meadow Lion!

I am a native of Hampton, VA and currently reside in Midlothian, VA with my husband, Jeff, 4-year-old daughter, Mollee, and 2-year-old son, Will. We love going to the beach, playing outside, reading books together, and cheering for the Red Sox!

Thank you so much for the warm welcome! Please feel free to email me at kdubiel@hcps.us or call me at 723-2040 if I can assist you with anything. I look forward to "Teaming Up" with you "for an All-Star Year" at LMES!



LIBRARY NEWS

Kinsley Arkesteyn, a fourth grader took on Mrs. Kaloski's summer reading challenge by doing more than just a Summer Reading Program. She collected 4,569 books that were sent to Moore County, Oklahoma that will help to rebuild their school libraries. Moore County was thrilled to receive such a large donation.

Volunteers Wanted:

- Book Shelters
- 4th and 5th grade Reading Olympic Coaches
- Book Fair - November 18th - 22nd

Contact: Michele Kaloski: mkaloski@hcps.us

Beth Webel: ewebel@hcps.us

Access the library catalog from home. Find out more about our library collection, read an ebook, or use research links and reference tools. Just go to destiny.hcps.us.



Thanks to the community for supporting this special project!

Find [Reset All](#)



Laurel Meadow Elementary



Join Today! Only \$5.00 per member!

First and last name: _____

Phone number: _____

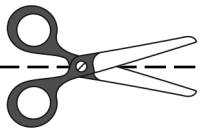
E-mail: _____

Child Name attending LMES	Grade	Teacher

_____ Check here if LMES Staff Member

*** * * Make checks payable to LMES PTA * * ***

Teachers, please return to the PTA Membership Chair, Jennifer Livesay (jlivesay1@msn.com)



Reflections Program

The 2013-2014 Theme: "Believe, Dream, Inspire"



Dance Choreography



Film Production



Literature



Musical Composition



Photography



Visual Arts

We want YOU to be a part of the 2013-2014 PTA Reflections Program this fall! Think about a dream or something that inspires you and create an entry in one of the six categories shown above. This is your time to shine! All 1st place entries will win a prize and move on to the next level. Look for more details in your Tuesday folders. Deadline for entries is October 16th.

2013-2014 Executive Board, Standing Committees and Chairpersons

Laurel Meadow Elementary

PTA

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President – Sara Matthews, bsnmatthews@aol.com, (229-4169)
Vice President – Dana Hughes, daveanddanahughes@comcast.net, (399-7181)
Treasurer – Jen Puleo, jenpuleo@comcast.net
Secretary – Kristy Verlander, lexarinne@yahoo.com



Arts in Education ***OPEN Position*******

Coordinates PTA Reflections Program, helps to arrange Theatre IV and other performances, and assists Music & Art Departments various activities.



Buildings and Grounds *David Ercolano, Committee Chair, dercolano@xteriorspavers.com/dercolano7863@comcast.net*

Will coordinate with teachers, students, and parents to develop, maintain and implement landscaping plans.



Bylaws, County Council, Legislative *Heather Heckel, Committee Chair, h.l.heckel@gmail.com*

Advises PTA of necessary legislative actions, advises Board on proper PTA procedures, assists with Bylaws compliance.



Community Programs *Michelle Taylor, Box Tops Committee Chair, mltaylor004@aol.com*

Amy Schvenski, Spirit Night Committee Chair, amyschvenski@yahoo.com

Coordinates Box Tops for Education, Campbell's Labels for Education Program, and Tyson Foods Project A+. Assists with Spirit nights and other community and retail programs.



Family Dinner and Dance *Leigh Davis Rooke, Co-Committee Chair, leighdavisrooke@comcast.net*

This committee is designed to help manage logistics for the Family Dinner and Dance.



Fundraising *Lee Beasley, Committee Chair*

Oversees and communicates fundraising initiatives along with the PTA President.



Garden Committee *Rhonda Tyler, Committee Chair, RTyler@hcps.com*

This includes the development of an on-campus garden and creation of an outdoor classroom.



Health & Safety ***OPEN Position*******

Committee designed to inform LMES of health & safety issues, coordinates programs and distributes information on pertinent topics – including Safe Routes to School Grant.



Historian *Leigh Davis Rooke, Committee Chair, leighdavisrooke@comcast.net*

Collects and maintains related information on Laurel Meadow Elementary School, staff, events, etc. and records special activities for the school in the school "scrapbook."



Hospitality *Amy Schvenski, Committee Chair, amyschvenski@yahoo.com*

Committee designed to help organize special events, ceremonies, and socials. (ex. open house, 5th grade graduation ceremony, lemonade and ice cream socials in garden, etc.)



Membership *Jennifer Livesay, Committee Chair, jlivesay1@msn.com*

Organizes, encourages and monitors membership for the Laurel Meadow PTA.



Newsletter / Communication Design *Cindy Beasley, Committee Chair, lmesNewsletter@gmail.com*

Prepares monthly newsletter thru compiling and creating articles. Also serves as the newsletter editor. Creates and designs all marketing and publicity material for the PTA.



Room Parent Coordinator *Jaime Miller, Committee Chair, jgmiller77@hotmail.com*

Coordinates all Room Parents and provides information to help streamline and bring information to each class through the Room Parent.



Snowflake Breakfast *David Ercolano, Committee Chair, dercolano@xteriorspavers.com , dercolano7863@comcast.net*

This committee is designed to help manage logistics for Annual Snowflake Breakfast. Includes business donations, entertainment, decorations, vendors .



Staff Appreciation *Nikki Deal, Committee Chair, hokiedeals@comcast.net*

Acknowledges teachers and staff on a regular basis through appreciation weeks, birthday baskets, meals, etc.



Volunteer Coordinator ***OPEN Position*******

Coordinates volunteers for PTA and school sponsored activities, supports and appoints Grade Level Coordinators, monitors volunteer hours, and recognizes volunteer time and commitment.



Watch D.O.G.S. *David Stewart, Committee Chair, DavidS1@hotmail.com (337-0899)*

A committee designed to help bring positive male role models into our school and children's lives.



5K Run *Bryan Deal, Committee Chair, ironrealdeal@comcast.net*

This committee coordinates the logistics of the annual 5K including course set up, registration, and t-shirt design, etc.

SEPTEMBER 2013

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 <i>Labor Day</i>	3 1 st Day of School	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17				21
22	23	24				25
29	30	COMING IN OCTOBER:	2 nd - Walk to School Wednesday 3 rd - Coffee & Chat (K & 1 st) 8 th - Watch D.O.G.S. Pizza Night 10 th - Early Release 14 th - No School (Columbus Day)	17 th - PTA Meeting / Math Night 22 nd - <i>Cricket</i> Spirit Night 25 th - LMES School Pictures 29 th - Granola with Grandparents		



Laurel Meadow Elementary

PTA

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LMES PTA board meetings are held monthly. If you have any questions, concerns, or ideas and would like to attend a board meeting, please e-mail Sara Matthews at bsnmatthews@aol.com for dates and times. Our next meeting is Sept. 26th @ 5:30pm.



Calling all fathers and male role models to help us fill every school day this year with a "Watch D.O.G." More details will be coming home about Watch D.O.G.S. Pizza night and how to get involved. Please contact David Stewart at davids1@hotmail.com if you have any questions or are interested in volunteering.

BOX TOPS
FOR EDUCATION

LAST YEAR WE EARNED

\$6240!

Just by purchasing **BOX TOPS** products, clipping the **BOX TOPS**, and sending them into our school, we earn **CASH** that can be used to help purchase items for our school. We look forward to surpassing last year's total!