

Choose  
Kind

LMES  
PTA

Volume 11, Issue 1

September, 2018

## Inside this issue

Letter from the President

Principal's Corner

Calendar & News

## Upcoming events

- Sept 4 First Day of School
- Sept 7 LMES Spirit Day
- Sept 14 Goodies with Grandparents
- Sept 18 Stevi B's Spirit Night
- Sept 19 Early School Closing
- Sept 21 Reading Olympics Forms Due
- Sept 27 Back to School Night
- Sept 27 PTA Meeting
- Sept 27 Watch Dog Meeting
- Oct 4 Picture Day-Grades 3,4,5
- Oct 5 Picture Day-Grades  
PreK,K,1,2
- Oct 5 Early School Closing
- Oct 8 Student Holiday
- Oct 25 Variety Show



Dear Parents and Laurel Meadow Staff,

Welcome to the start of another exciting school year at LMES. I hope you all enjoyed your summer and time with your loved ones. Our theme this year is 'Choose Kind'.

The PTA is looking forward to helping you and your children have an enjoyable year. We have been working hard planning activities and programs again this year. Old favorites are coming back, such as, Goodies with Grandparents on Friday September 14<sup>th</sup>. This event is always a huge turn out because the kids want to show their grandparents their school and new teachers. Be on the look out during the year for information on the Snowflake Breakfast for dinner and the Family Dinner and Dance.

We are super excited to partner with LMES again this year for the Boosterthon fundraiser in October. We have so much fun each year and it is such a huge success. Be sure to look for more information in the next few weeks. We are also going to continue our monthly spirit nights at our community restaurants, such as; Riverbound, The Giambanco's Italian Grill, and Panera.

We have new t-shirts for sale this year. I hope you had a chance to see them at the Open House, but if you didn't, don't worry because they will be available at many school events. Also, new this year is an opportunity to 'Go Green' with our electronic newsletter and sign up for the Remind texts to keep you up to date on school events. More information on how to sign up for both will be at Back to School Night.

There are 2 great ways to support our PTA, joining and volunteering. If you have not already done so, join the PTA today for only \$6.00 per year! Your membership helps support our school activities, requests from the grade levels and resources, and technology upgrades. We also help purchase books for the One Book program and shirts for Reading Olympics. Volunteering and becoming involved not only benefits your child, but also their classmates, the community, and you!

As always, be sure to look in your child's Tuesday folders for all the exciting events, offers and news that are happening at LMES! We hope you will join us for our first General PTA meeting on Thursday September 27<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm in the library. Dad's please consider attending the Watch Dog info meeting at the same time.

The LMES PTA is looking forward to working with all of you and to a great 2018-2019 school year!

Sincerely,

Kristin Konopka

PTA President



# Principal's Corner - Ms. Sandra Crowder



Welcome to the Laurel Meadow Family! We are very excited to begin the 2018-19 school year! The following tips will help families make the transition into school routines.

**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 so the absence is appropriately documented.



**Tardy** – Regular school hours are 7:45 -2:30. A student is considered tardy if they have not reported to the classroom by 8:00 a.m. Students arriving to school after 8:00 must come with their parent 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. Staff members are on duty until the tardy bell rings at 8:00 a.m. to supervise children as they enter the building. After 8:00, parents should park in the lot and escort their students into the office to sign in.



**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 ask for a 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 photo identification. 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 as 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.



**Cell Phones** – They are allowed at school; however they must remain in your child's backpack and turned off during the school day and on the school bus.

**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 reflects adversely upon persons because of their race, creed or national origin will not be permitted in school. 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.

If at any time you have any concerns or questions, feel free to contact the school administration at 723-2040.

### KROGER CARD

LMES is now enrolled in Kroger's school fundraising program – Community Rewards –and we need your help earning funds for the school! Each year, Kroger donates \$3.5 million to nonprofit organizations that participate in Community Rewards. Earning funds for LMES is as easy as swiping your Kroger Plus Card every time you shop! To get started, follow the steps below to link your Plus Card to our school.

How to link your Kroger Plus Card:

Visit [www.Kroger.com/CommunityRewards](http://www.Kroger.com/CommunityRewards) and click Sign In

Once logged in, select I'm a Customer/View Details

Search for your organization by name

Select your organization and click Enroll

## Health & Safety

Riding the school bus for the first time is a big step for your child. Help your kids get a gold star in school bus safety by following these tips.

The Hard Facts about School Bus Safety:

School buses are the safest way to get children to and from school, but injuries can occur if kids are not careful when getting on and off the school bus.



Walk with your kids to the bus stop and wait with them until it arrives.

Top Tips for Riding the Bus:

- 1.Walk with your kids to the bus stop and wait with them until it arrives. Make sure drivers can see the kids at your bus stop.
- 2.Teach kids to stand at least three giant steps back from the curb as the bus approaches and board the bus one at a time.
- 3.Teach kids to wait for the school bus to come to a complete stop before getting off and not to walk behind the bus.
- 4.If your child needs to cross the street after exiting the bus, he or she should take five giant steps in front of the bus, make eye contact with the bus driver and cross when the driver indicates it's safe. Teach kids to look left, right and left again before crossing the street.
- 5.Instruct younger kids to use handrails when boarding or exiting the bus. Be careful of straps or drawstrings that could get caught in the door. If your child drops something, they should tell the bus driver and make sure the bus driver is able to see them before they pick it up.
- 6.Drivers should follow the speed limit and slow down in school zones and near bus stops. Remember to stay alert and look for kids who may be trying to get to or from the school bus.
- 7.Slow down and stop if you're driving near a school bus that is flashing yellow or red lights. This means the bus is either preparing to stop (yellow) or already stopped (red), and children are getting on or off.

## LIBRARY NEWS

Welcome to the LMES Library! We would like to invite you to access the Virtual Library at <http://hcps.lmes.us>. Click Resources and Library.

Through the Destiny Library Catalog, you can browse the collection, read an ebook, or use online reference sources.

Would you like to be a part of our library program? We are looking for Book Shelters, Mystery Readers, and Book Fair Volunteers.

(Fall Fair-November 12-16th/Spring Fair April 15-19th) Look out for more details in student folders on September 11th.

Reading Olympics-4th and 5th grades only. Invitations will be sent home on September 11th and are due September 21st. Teams and titles will be announced at the Kickoff Friday, October 5th at 8:20am

We look forward to seeing you in the library.

Michele Kaloski-Librarian: [mkaloski@hcps.us](mailto:mkaloski@hcps.us)

Beth Webel-Library Secretary: [ewebel@hcps.us](mailto:ewebel@hcps.us)



## ART NEWS



Congratulations to Ms. Hairston on receiving a Hanover Education Foundation's Creative Instructional Grant for the 2018 - 2019 school year. The grant will provide supplemental iPad Osmo classroom Creative Sets and Genius Kits. Ms. Hairston looks forward to incorporating iPads and Osmo technology into lessons and projects in Art. Thank you to the Hanover Education Foundation for supporting creative instruction at Laurel Meadow!



The PTA Reflections Program gives students the opportunity to create theme-based artwork in dance choreography, film production, literature, musical composition, photography, or visual arts.

This year's theme is "Heroes Around Me". Student submissions are due to the office by November 1, 2018. Visit the Virginia PTA website for complete rules and entry forms. <https://www.vapta.org/arts-and-education/reflections>

Contact our Arts & Education Chair, Angela Parsley ([amp42200@yahoo.com](mailto:amp42200@yahoo.com)) with questions about the Reflections Program.

