



# LMES PTA

Volume 11, Issue 7

March, 2019

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## Upcoming events

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- Mar 14 FULL Day of School (Change from 1/2 Day)
- Mar 21 PTA Meeting 5:30 PM
- Mar 21 1st Grade Musical 6:30 PM
- Mar 22 Reading Olympics Competition 8:20 -11:30 AM
- Mar 26 Papa John's Teacher Delivery Night
- Mar 29 End of 9 Weeks/ Early School Closing/FULL Day of School (Change from 1/2 Day)
- April 1-5 Spring Break
- April 12 Report Cards

Dear Parents and Laurel Meadow Staff,

I would like to thank all the parents and students who attended our Luau Family Dinner and Dance! It was such a fantastic evening with over 200 students, siblings and parents dancing and enjoying dinner. We would especially like to thank Cris Morgan for donating her time to DJ this year's dance! Plus, an extra THANK YOU to Mimmo's Restaurant, 360 Pizzeria, and The Giambanco's Italian Grill for donating the spaghetti and salad! Lastly, I want to thank Amanda Ogden for coordinating such a great event.

Be sure to join all the fun this March. As we kick off One School One Book on Monday March 4<sup>th</sup>. Next up is our 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Musical on Thursday March 21<sup>st</sup> along with our general membership meeting at 5:30pm. Rounding out the month is our Papa John's Teacher Delivery Night on Tuesday March 26<sup>th</sup>.

I know this time of year gets so busy with spring sports kicking off and many fun activities for the whole family. This is also the time of year when we begin thinking about our leadership for the next school year. Some of our committee chairman will be returning and some may not. Some of the committees we are looking to fill:

Arts in Education  
 Building and Grounds  
 Secretary  
 Historian

Membership  
 Box Tops  
 Family Dinner & Dance  
 Staff Appreciation

Health & Safety  
 Watch D.O.G.S.  
 Garden  
 Volunteer Coordinator

Please consider joining our board and helping us plan new exciting things for the 2019-2020 school year! If you would like more information on any of the above, please contact me [mergyrx@aol.com](mailto:mergyrx@aol.com)

Sincerely,  
Kristin Konopka  
PTA President



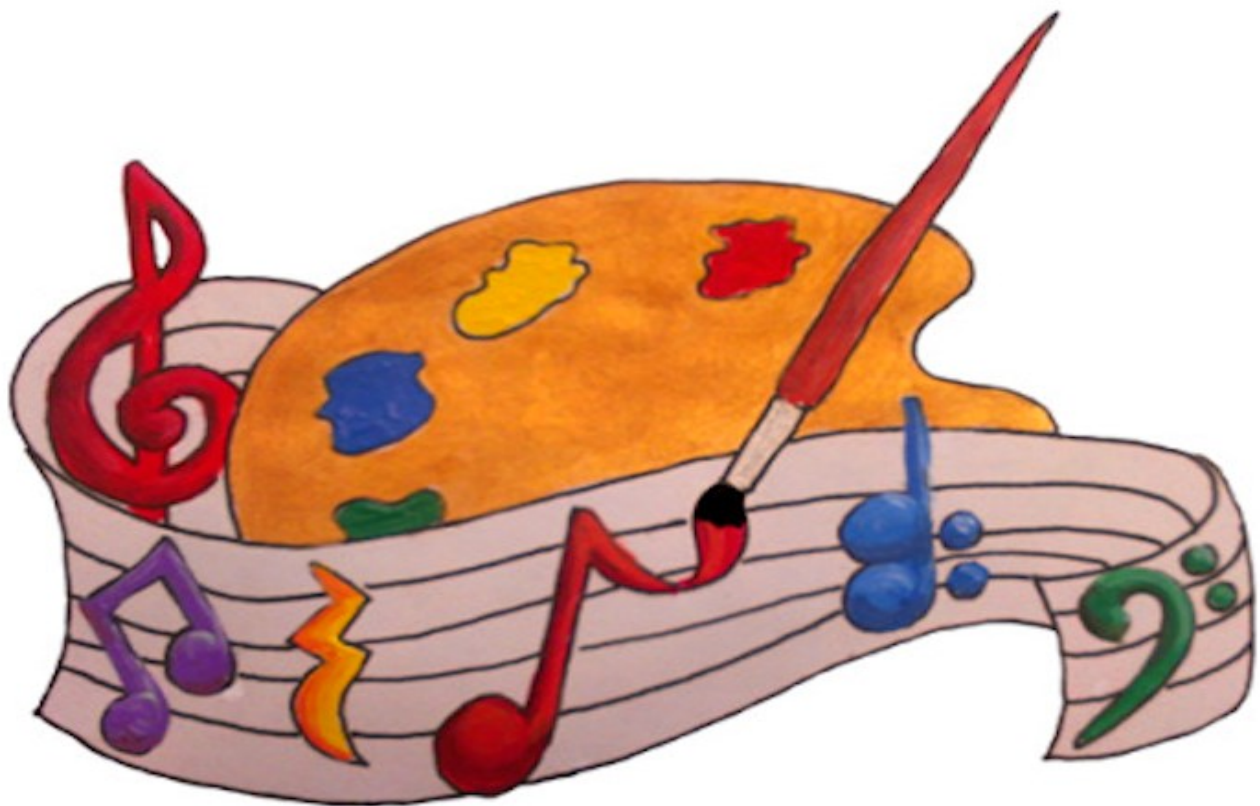


March is National Music in Our Schools Month and National Youth Art Month

Did you know there is a rich body of evidence that suggests that education in art and music boosts children's academic performance? Children learn better when music and art are part of the curriculum. Memory and spatial learning, as well as literacy and verbal intelligence have been shown to strongly benefit from musical training. Art helps with spatial learning, fine motor development, and critical thinking.

Both art and music education have also been shown to increase students' self-confidence and creative thinking. Students who are actively engaged in music and art curricula are more likely to stay in school and stay focused on learning. Arts programs also help students with decision making, focus, and impulse control. Perseverance, collaboration, and accountability are all strengthened when students participate in the arts.

Not to mention...music and art help us all express things that cannot be expressed otherwise.



Thank you to Mrs. Talley and Ms. Hairston for helping our students develop their artistic abilities, as well as memory, focus, and literacy through music and art education!



March is Youth Art Month (YAM). **The theme for the 2019 YAM is “Your Art, Your Story”.** Youth Art Month is a month of promoting art and art education in the United States. It is observed in March, with thousands of American schools participating, often with the involvement of local art museums and civic organizations. At Laurel Meadow we kicked off Youth Art Month with the PTA's Family Art Fest! Every week during the morning announcements, student art will be highlighted and displayed and quotes from famous artists will be shared. Posters for Youth Art Month will also be on display in the hallways. The HCPS Art Department is going to take over during Youth Art Month on Tuesday, March 12, 2019. Be on the lookout for social media postings on the HCPS media pages of LMES "art stories". Thank you for supporting art education at LMES! **Pablo Picasso** summed it up well; **“Every child is an artist.”**



One School One Book kicks off Monday, March 4th for the second year! This wonderful reading program allows the entire school community to join together in a shared reading experience.

Each LMES household will receive one copy of the book and a special book mark which includes the daily reading calendar.

Trivia and other fun activities related to the book will take place at school all month.

Thank you LMES PTA and Hanover Education Association for sponsoring this exciting event.

## Spotlight on Executive Function

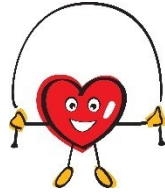
Being able to pay attention is more complex than just sitting still and listening. Think about driving a car; when you drive a car you are not just paying attention to the bumper in front of you. You are looking at your surroundings, noticing your speed and other dials on your dashboard, thinking about what turns you need to make, and keeping in mind your final destination. There are many things we need to do in order to focus on the task of driving.

For our kids, paying attention is a very complex task. It involves many steps of noticing one thing after another, requires keeping in mind what we saw or heard, and ignoring other sights and sounds that may be distracting. It also involves regulating our emotions so we can be clear headed when paying attention.

Here are some things to keep in mind when working with your child on attention:

- Help them with getting organized, prioritizing and getting started on tasks
- Focus on what needs to be done, continuing to focus and shifting focus as needed
- Regulate sleep and alertness and keep up efforts to finish things on time
- Manage emotions so they don't take over too much

Use short-term [working memory](#) to keep multiple things in mind, recalling as needed



## News from the GYM!

Our Kids Heart Challenge was a great success. LMES raised \$4,847.00 for the American Heart Association. The students did a fantastic job learning interesting facts about the heart and the importance of healthy living. Well Done!

Spring Run Club will be starting this month (March 19<sup>th</sup>) for interested students in grades 2-5. We meet each Tuesday and Thursday morning at 7:30am. Any parents wishing to get an early workout in are welcome to join us. Please sign in at the office before meeting us at the track. This Spring we will actually be running until June 6<sup>th</sup>!

Reminder: Field Day is a one day event this year held on Friday, May 3rd. Grades PK-2 will take place in the morning hours 8:30-10:30. Grades 3-5 will participate from 12-2:00pm.



The PTA is currently accepting applications for the Karen R. Carpenter Scholarship. Applicants must have successfully completed elementary school at Laurel Meadow Elementary School, and be graduating from one of the four Hanover County high schools, Maggie L. Walker Governor's School, the Center for Trades and Technology, or the Georgetown School to be awarded this \$500.00 scholarship.

Please download the application at the link below:

<https://lmespta.files.wordpress.com/2019/02/karen-r.-carpenter-scholarship-application-packet-18-19.docx>



# Thank You



**for your generous donation  
of food to the  
Family Dinner and Dance!**

# MARCH 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 LMES Spirit Day Interim Report Day RO Meeting 7:50-8:20 A.M. Read Across America Day	2
3	4 Read Across America One School, One Book Kick-Off  Chapter 1	5  Chapter 2	6  Chapter 3	7 Picture Day 3rd—5th  Chapter 4	8 Picture Day PreK—2nd	9
10 Daylight Savings Time Begins	11  Chapter 5	12  Chapter 6	13  Chapter 7	14  Chapter 8	15	16
17	18  Chapter 9	19  STEM Fair Blue Forms Due  Chapter 10	20  Flying Squirrels Nutzy Bookmarks Due	21 1st Grade Musical 6:30 PM—7:30 PM  PTA Meeting 5:30 PM  Chapter 12	22 Reading Olympics Competition 8:20-11:30 AM	23
24/31	25  Chapter 13	26 Papa John's Teacher Delivery Night	27	28	29 Early Closing/ End of 9 Weeks  Theatre IV OSOB Finale	30



Boys vs. Girls Box Tops Bonanza!

Let's make our last collection of the year a friendly competition! Who can turn in the most Box Tops? The BOYS or the GIRLS? Collection boxes will be near the library. Let's make this our biggest submission ever!