

Volume 11, Issue 9

May, 2019

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### Upcoming events

- May 1 Walk to School Wednesday
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- May 3 LMES Spirit Day
- May 4 Rock N Roll 5K
- May 6-10 Teacher Appreciation Week
- May 7 PTA Teacher/Staff Breakfast  
7:30 AM-8AM
- May 8 Nurse Appreciation Day
- May 10 Interim Day
- May 10 Muffins for Mom 7:30 A.M.-  
8:00 A.M.
- May 13 SOL Testing begins
- May 15 Panera Spirit Night
- May 27 Memorial Day-No School
- May 31 Library Books Due

Dear Parents and Laurel Meadow Staff,

Teacher Appreciation Week will be held May 6<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup>. I encourage each of you to take the time to recognize your child’s teachers for the outstanding job they have done all year! Don’t forget the wonderful job our resource teachers have done with Art, Music, PE, and Library!

I can’t believe the end of the year is right around the corner! It is going to be a busy and exciting May starting off with **Field Day on May 3<sup>rd</sup>**! This year all grades will be on the same day; K-2<sup>nd</sup> will be 8:30-10:30am and 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> will be 12-2pm. Ms. Matthews always has fun and exciting games planned for this event. Can’t wait to see everyone at the 5<sup>th</sup> annual LMES Rock ‘n Roll 5K and Color Splash one-mile dash on Saturday May 4<sup>th</sup>. Our last two spirit nights of the year are Wednesday May 15<sup>th</sup> at Panera from 4 to 8pm and new this year is Mod Pizza Tuesday June 6<sup>th</sup>, take a night off from cooking. Then we are excited to see all the Mom’s again this year for “**Muffins for Mom**” on Friday May 10<sup>th</sup> from 7:30-8:00am!

I am excited to announce the 2019-2020 Executive Board that were approved during the April 16th meeting:

- President – Kristin Konopka**
- Vice President – Jen Puleo**
- Treasurer – Leigh Ferrell**
- Secretary – Sarah Willard**

As always, please feel free to contact me at [megyrx@aol.com](mailto:megyrx@aol.com) if you have any questions!

Sincerely,  
Kristin Konopka  
PTA President





As the temperatures continue to rise outside, the level of school activities still continues to blossom. May is an extremely busy month with SOL Testing being a part of the school environment beginning on May 15, 2019. Our students and teachers have worked hard to prepare for these annual assessments. Parents can help during this testing season by reviewing the schedule and being sure that your child has plenty of rest the night before each testing day. Also, talk about the each test with your child in a positive manner, be encouraging and remind your child to "do their best." Parents will receive individual results with the final report card. If you have questions about your child's results then please feel free to call the administrative team.

Related to warmer temperatures is a friendly reminder that flip flops are not considered appropriate footwear for students due to safety concerns. They are not a safe option for the playground equipment and may present a safety hazard on the stairs. Flip flops tend to break easily and many times require parents to make an unplanned trip to school with a replacement pair of shoes during the day.

A warm congratulations goes to Mrs. Amy Kuti for being named Laurel Meadow Elementary School Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Kuti is a first grade teacher at LMES. We certainly appreciate how she works hard to implement innovative instruction in her classroom each and every day. In addition, Diane Rodriguez has been named Laurel Meadow Support Employee of the Year. She works as our front office administrative assistant and registrar. We all appreciate her calm demeanor and ability to make everyone feel welcome at LMES.

## Spring 2019 SOL Schedule

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>
<b>May 13</b>	<b>May 14</b>	<b>May 15</b> 4th Reading Part 1 5th Reading Part 1	<b>May 16</b> 4th Reading Part 2 5th Reading Part 2	<b>May 17</b> Make-Ups
<b>May 20</b> Make-Ups	<b>May 21</b> 3rd Reading Part 1	<b>May 22</b> 3rd Reading Part 2	<b>May 23</b> 4th Math Part 1 5th Math Part 1	<b>May 24</b> 4th Math Part 2 5th Math Part 2
<b>May 27 Memorial Day</b>	<b>May 28</b> Make-Ups	<b>May 29</b> 3rd Math Part 1 6th Math	<b>May 30</b> 3rd Math Part 2	<b>May 31</b> 5th Science 4th VA Studies
<b>June 3</b> Make-Ups/ Expedited Retakes	<b>June 4</b> Expedited Retakes	<b>June 5</b> Expedited Retakes	<b>June 6</b> Expedited Retakes	<b>June 7</b> Expedited Retakes
<b>June 10</b> Expedited Retakes	<b>June 11</b>	<b>June 12</b>	<b>June 13</b>	<b>June 14</b>

\*testing will begin at 8:30 on SOL testing days in order to accommodate late buses, late students, and computer issues.



Thank you to the following sponsors who supported this year's race!



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## PTA News and Notes

### Membership Dues

☆ In the April 1, 2019 Virginia PTA newsletter- The Voice; it was mentioned that the National PTA was proposing to increase their dues by \$1.50. Currently, Laurel Meadow dues are \$6.00. Of those \$6.00; \$1.50 is Virginia dues, \$2.25 is National dues, and Laurel Meadow keeps \$2.25. If the National dues increase by the proposed \$1.50, Laurel Meadow would keep \$0.75 of the \$6.00 dues. At the Laurel Meadow PTA meeting on Tuesday, April 16, members discussed raising Laurel Meadow dues for the 2019-2020 school year to \$8 per member or \$15 per family (two adults in the same household). Raising the dues for Laurel Meadow will allow the PTA to continue to support our teachers and many programs at Laurel Meadow such as One School One Book, Field Day, STEM night, Fitness Night, Art Night, Library, Art, Music, Physical Education, reading resources, etc. The PTA will have a meeting on Wednesday, May 29th at 2:45 in the Library to vote on the membership due increase. If you have any questions please contact Kristin Konopka, President at [mergyrx@aol.com](mailto:mergyrx@aol.com) or Jen Puleo, Vice President at [jenpuleo@comcast.net](mailto:jenpuleo@comcast.net).

- ☆ The LMES PTA Newsletter will be all electronic for the 2019-2020 school year. You can receive the newsletter link in an email by signing up for e-connect for Laurel Meadow. The newsletter will be posted on the Laurel Meadow PTA website as well as a link on the PTA Facebook page.

Did you know....



During the 2018-2019 school year, the Laurel Meadow PTA was able to provide money to help support:

- Art Night
- STEM Night
- Fitness Night
- Reflections Contest
- All classroom teachers and SPED teachers received reimbursement for up to \$75 to use in their classroom to provide additional resources for their students
- Resource Teachers (Art, Music, Library, Physical Education, Gifted, Reading) were reimbursed \$200 for resources to benefit all students at Laurel Meadow.
- Additional technology used throughout the school
- Goodies with Grandparents
- Donuts with Dad
- Muffins with Mom
- AND many more worthwhile events and activities!

Please consider being part of the PTA for the 2019-2020 school year and help us to provide many resources and activities for all students at LMES! The PTA has 23 board positions and 7 of those positions are OPEN for volunteers for the 2019-2020 school year. There are also several committees that would love a co-chair.

Our Executive Board for the 2019-2020 School year is below. Please let us know if you would like to help! We would love to have you!

President – Kristin Konopka; [mergyrx@aol.com](mailto:mergyrx@aol.com)

Vice President – Jen Puleo; [jenpuleo@comcast.net](mailto:jenpuleo@comcast.net)

Treasurer – Leigh Ferrell; [merryleigh04@yahoo.com](mailto:merryleigh04@yahoo.com)

Secretary – Sarah Willard; [swillard@hcps.us](mailto:swillard@hcps.us)

## **Laurel Meadow Teacher and Staff Breakfast**

May 7, 2019

The LMES PTA will be coordinating breakfast for our awesome teachers and staff on Tuesday, May 7th!

Please consider donating breakfast items such as breads, muffins, casseroles, fruit, yogurt, juice, etc. to help make this breakfast a success. Hot Casseroles are a favorite!

Please send/bring your donations to school on

Monday, May 6th if it does not need to be refrigerated or

heated OR on Tuesday, May 7th beginning at 7:30 a.m. Thank you in advance for your support of our wonderful teachers and staff. Contact Elizabeth Elza at [elzaelizabeth@yahoo.com](mailto:elzaelizabeth@yahoo.com) with any questions.

Please use the following link on **SignUp Genius** to sign up for various breakfast items or send your items in the morning of May 7th.



<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c094caea82fa0fc1-maystaff>

## **ART NEWS AND NOTES**

- ☆ Ms. Hairston and LMES artists would like to thank Mr. Eric Cofer of Horace Mann (Richmond, VA) for funding the Adaptive Art Project from DonorsChoose.org. Mr. Cofer's support will fund the purchase of adaptive art supplies for students with special needs to create art.

Thank you, Mr. Eric Cofer of Horace Mann Insurance

"The Horace Mann Companies, founded BY educators FOR educators, offers a variety of insurance and retirement products with special educator discounts. Proud partners with Donors Choose, we are excited to support your efforts in the classroom."

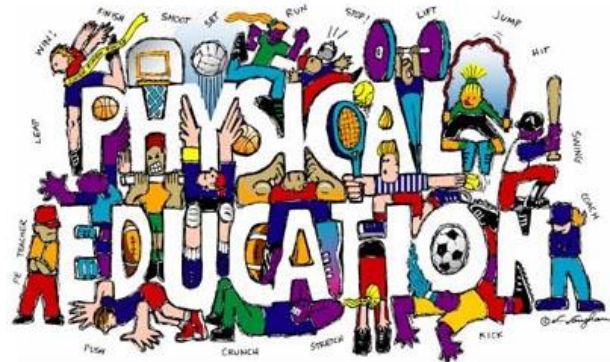


The Boys vs Girls Box Tops Contest wraps up May 8th. The race has been very close so far! If the boys win, Ms. Crowder will have to do something silly or embarrassing. If the girls win, Mr. B will be our willing volunteer! We can't wait to hear the results!

## From the School Counselors:

The LMES counselors offer two programs designed to help students who sometimes struggle to either attend school or arrive to school on time. Both programs are based on a reward system and are not punitive in nature. The HERO (Here, Every Day, Ready to Learn, On Time) program is for students who struggle with consistent attendance. The On-Time Arrival program is for students who struggle with arriving on time. In both programs, students meet with the counselor to brainstorm ways to overcome obstacles that might hinder the goal of getting to school on time each day. Students check in on individual calendars in the counseling suite on days they are here on time. When they have arrived on time for a specified number of consecutive days, they are invited to have lunch with a friend in the counseling suite. We play games and color if there is time after students finish their lunch. Last year's data indicated a 100% success rate with students who participated in the On-Time Arrival program. If your child struggles with arriving to school on time or consistent attendance, please contact Dr. Ziolkowski at 723-2051 to discuss either of these programs.

## News around the Gym



Our Spring Run Club is off and moving! After 3 weeks, runners have already accumulated 320.7 miles! Well done! With the warm weather fast approaching, remember to hydrate every day.

Inside the gym, we have finished a small golf unit. The students practiced putting with the older students also pitching and chipping. Our wonderful resources for this unit come from The First Tee program located in Richmond. Look it up and see how you and your child can get involved!

Fitness Testing is here! Scores will be posted on [focusedfitness.org](https://focusedfitness.org). The user name is the students ID number and the password is the lastname. This is for grades 3-5 only.

Enjoy the wonderful Spring and get outside to PLAY!



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Walk To School Wednesday	2	3 LMES Spirit Day  Field Day	4 
5	6 Teacher Appreciation Week  —————→	7 PTA Teacher/ Staff Breakfast 7:30-8:00 A.M.	8 Nurse Appreciation Day	9	10 Interims  Muffins for Mom	11
12	13 SOL Testing Begins	14	15 Panera Spirit Night	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27  School Holiday	28	29	30	31 All Library Books Due	

## Field Day Note

Please note that Field Day for all students will be held on one day this year, May 3rd. PreK, Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd Grade will have Field Day from 8:30 A.M. –10:30 A.M. 3rd, 4th and 5th Grades will have Field Day from 12:00 P.M. –2:00 P.M. If you are attending both Field Day sessions, please depart LMES at the end of the morning session and return for the afternoon one.