
Cougar PAWPRINTS



Newsletter of the Ruby F. Carver Elementary School PTA

June 2010

PTA Officers

President

Jennifer Spangler

1st Vice President, Programs

Kimberly Dawson

2nd Vice President, Membership

Chris White

Secretary

Kelly Shaffer

Treasurer

Betsy Fodor



Ruby F. Carver Elementary School

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Principal

Joanne Gutkin

Resource Teacher

Maureen Harris

Pawprints Editor

Melinda Whitehead

Carver PTA Website

www.carverpta.org

President's Message

by Jennifer Spangler, PTA President

Happy Summer Vacation (almost!) As the year comes to a close and I finish out my 2nd year as PTA President, I want to thank everyone for making this experience so rewarding and enjoyable. A lot of people comment to me, "How can you do all that you do?" or "Wow, you do so much." Although some days it feels like that, most days it doesn't. I feel very fortunate to be part of a school and PTA where so many people pitch in to make all the jobs easier. Frankly, I'm a delegator who gets credit for everyone else's hard work!

Looking back on the year, Fundraising, Sock Hop and Flower Festival are big jobs - Joy Bowes, you have done a great job with these things for 2 years and I know being president next year will be E.A.S.Y compared to those areas! Chris White, everything you touch always turns out fabulous. We had one of the best membership drives in the county - once again landing Carver in the coveted 100% PTA membership position. And, you do so much to make Brunswick Stew, Box Tops & Flower Festival huge successes. Kimberly Dawson, your work with Programs has been terrific. The little touches you added like water and refreshments made everyone smile. Your work with Jennifer Ricketts on the Science Night was amazing - that was a fabulous night. Thanks Jennifer! Dan Jobe, I thank you so much for agreeing to start real M.A.N., I'm excited to see where we go with this program next year! It really brought some new faces into the building.

I'd also like to thank Shelly Morris (After-School Enrichment), Angela Hope, Jenn Jobe & Michelle Peck (Hospitality) Caroline Estrada (Yearbook, Original Works AND 5th grade party, along with other 5th grade parents) & Cindy Kiefer and Jennifer Childress (Room Parents.) Every one of these ladies was in a new role and they brought new ideas and energy to their positions, with fabulous outcomes. It's hard to remember you all were newbies at your jobs!!

There are many positions that work throughout the year to support other committees and I'm so thankful to these folks for their tireless help all year long. Kelly Shaffer, secretary - thanks for being so reliable and helpful all year long. Betsy Fodor - wow, will you be glad to not have to "check your folder & get checks signed?" Betsy works all year, every day, making deposits and writing checks. Often on moments notice, but always with a smile! Melinda Whitehead, Pawprints & our website - I really take Melinda for granted. She does it all, I'm not even sure how! There will be a huge void with you "graduating" from Carver. Robyne Bridgman - for running our fall legislation vote and always stepping in with baked goods and lending a hand. Jill Lemon, thanks for being our Facebook guru - we will miss you as you redistrict to Gayton! Lisa Munno - you have been such an asset to the school, coordinating and recognizing volunteers all year long and showing up everywhere to help out - events, school store, programs & meetings. The Stanton's & EmbroidMe in Carytown - thanks for all your help with spiritwear and field day t's - they all looked great and you were very easy & reliable to work with.

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Principal's Corner

We have created a delicious "Recipe for Success" this year. By working together, our children have grown in many ways. We have celebrated numerous accomplishments. To highlight just a few recent events... Our last pep rally in May included the whole school and it was held outside. What a glorious day! Teacher Appreciation Week was a wonderful time with breakfast and lunch feasts for our well-deserving teachers! Flower Festival was a true community event with fun for all. Field Day and Field Trips and, of course, SOL and HAT testing also come at the end of the year. We are thankful for our fabulous PTA and community. You make a difference and help make a very good school become a great one! Thank you! You are a very special and important ingredient!

As summer approaches, we feel proud of our accomplishments and look forward to a slower pace. I hope you enjoy the time with your family and friends. Many thanks for your support. As always, if you would like to talk about a question, concern, or a great suggestion, please feel free to contact me. We are open in the summer Monday through Thursday from 7:00 A.M. to 5:30 P.M. My email is jzgutkin@henrico.k12.va.us

Have a safe and happy summer!

Joanne Gutkin
Principal

Carver PTA is on Facebook

By Jill Lemon, Community Committee

We're excited to have another way to share current events, network and develop deeper relationships with other Carver Cougars! Questions? Email me at jillslemon@hotmail.com.

Thank You!!!

By Joy Bowes, Ways and Means Committee Chair

Thank you so much to all our parents who have helped us meet our Ways & Means goals!! Volunteering at events, buying a roll of wrapping paper from the fall catalog or an 'Original Works' from our art fundraiser, sending in items for our silent auction, joining us at Chick-Fil-A for spirit nights, bringing your children (and yourselves!) to our Sock Hop and Flower Festival – it's all of these little things, combined as a whole, that allow us to accomplish our goals for Carver Elementary! We have once again, received boxes and boxes of brand new PE equipment simply from all of you linking your Kroger Plus Card to our school's unique bar code! Thanks again to all of our wonderfully involved Carver parents. You are the reason our school ROCKS!

President's Letter (continued from front)

And, thank you also for being around with Real M.A.N. & all our programs & events, helping out wherever needed. Amy Hardy, you are always volunteering when there is a need, and for that, I thank you.

Finally, I would like to thank Mrs. Gutkin, Mrs. Harris, Mrs. Yakim, Mr. Adams, Mrs. Webb, Mrs. Hamlin & Mrs. Ambrose, Mrs. Davis and Carla & Patty, as well as Valerie, Bashim & Randy for being so supportive of PTA. We are ALWAYS asking for something! And, you always deliver with a smile! To the teachers, thank you for your support and willingness to be our "middle man" in communication. We couldn't do anything without you. And, we really appreciate your attendance at events, Chick-Fil-A & dinner with teachers. Thank you so very much. And of course, Carver Parents & Families - I really noticed a difference this year - lots of new faces everywhere. We always had plenty of volunteers and I just feel like things ran smoothly because of so many volunteers!

See you this fall!

Chick-Fil-A Spirit Night

Join us on **June 14th** from **3PM to 9PM** at the Chick-Fil-A in Short Pump for our very last Spirit Night of the school year. Come and see our own Carver teachers' spinning the prize wheel or serving up ice cream behind the counter. Keep your eyes open for a special Bovine visitor in our school who will be reminding everyone to "Eat More Chicken" to help our school!



Box Tops for Education

By Chris White, Box Tops Coordinator

Through your clippings and online shopping, Carver made \$1,714.33. Please keep clipping all summer and turn them in next year. We value our Box Tops. They are a huge part of the budget and allow the PTA to fund many wonderful programs at Carver.

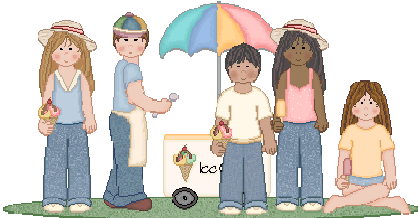


PTA Membership

By Chris White, Membership Chair

Thank you to all who supported our PTA through your membership dues. Our school was recognized as one of few elementary schools in the county who met our goal of 100% membership with 522 members. A special thanks to all of you who joined your extended family members, grandparents, aunts, uncles, etc., in order to help us meet our goal. You sent Mrs. Gutkin, Mrs. Yakim and Mrs. Harris to the school roof. That was a school highlight of the year! If you didn't chose to join anyone in your family (just over 150 families), I sincerely hope you will next year. This is a minimal fundraiser for our PTA because we take more than three quarters of the dues you pay and pay them to our local and state chapters' dues. But achieving our goal is more important than the dime or quarter we might make on each membership. It's the strong message that we have a partnership between adults and children. Next year, please help us link an adult member to every child you have at Carver.

Have a Great Summer & Remember to Read



10 Tips for Choosing Books for Children of All Ages:

~Have children choose their own books as soon as they start showing a preference for one over another.

~Find the children's section of your local library. Get to know the librarian, who can be a great resource.

~Find out what your child is interested in, and help choose books that are related to his or her interests.

~Ask friends, family, and teachers what books their children have enjoyed; try a book swap.

~If your child does not like a book you are reading together, put it away. Reading is a fun time to share, not a time to fight.

~Again, Again, Again! Children may want to read the same book many times, even if you think they have outgrown it.

~Use book lists generated by various literacy organizations; they usually have good suggestions. For example: American Library Association, International Reading Association, Children's Book Guild

~Look for books that you will like reading aloud. Your enjoyment will shine through and become contagious.

~Try out different kinds of books to see what appeals to your children.

~Have fun! Show your children the joy of reading and how it can open up a brand new world!

Treasurer's Report – Year End 2009-2010

By Betsy Fodor, Treasurer

Balance as of 8/1/09 (Checking) \$ 5,330

YTD Income:

After School Enrichment	\$ 269
Golden Gift Program	\$ 119
Interest	\$ 11
Membership	\$ 563
Ways & Means*	\$17,212
Yearbook	\$ 2,058

Total Income

\$20,232

YTD Expenses:

Bank Service Charges	\$ 23
Copies/Supplies/Misc	\$ 359
Insurance/Legal	\$ 477
Programs/PTA Projects**	\$10,707

Total Expenses

\$11,566

Balance as of 5/21/10 (Checking) \$13,996

***Ways & Means Income** includes Box Tops, Cougar Fund, Original Works, Great American Opportunities, Sock Hop, Flower Festival and the School Store to name a few.

****Programs/PTA Projects Expenses** includes 2nd-5th Grade planner/folders, teacher's classroom supplies & gifts, Pep Rallies, Accelerated Reader, Field Day, Hospitality, Guidance/Library materials, Room Parents, Pawprints, Scholastic Weekly Readers, School Directory and PTA Program expenses, 5th grade year-end celebration and more.

Balance as of 8/1/09 (Money Market) \$ 4,510

Interest Earned YTD \$ 6

Balance as of 5/21/10 (Money Market) \$ 4,516

Please note there are some anticipated expenditures (approx. \$5,000) still to be paid out for projects in the 09-10 school year. These are expected to be completed by our fiscal year end of June 30th.

It has been an honor to serve as your Treasurer for the past two years. Thanks to everyone who helped make this such a fun and successful year for the students, teachers and PTA. After this school year ends, I pass the PTA laptop off to Caroline Estrada who will serve as your Treasurer next year. I am confident she will do a fantastic job! I wish everyone a safe and relaxing summer break.



Cougar Calendar



June 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 Primary Election in Cafeteria	9	10	11 All Library Books Due Today	12
13	14 Flag Day Spirit Night at Chick-Fil-A 3-9 PM (bring flyer*) * available on website	15	16 8:30 a.m.—3rd Grade Recognition Assembly 9:15 a.m.—4th Grade Recognition Assembly	17 8:30 a.m.—5th Grade Recognition Assembly and DARE Graduation 11:00 a.m.—5th Grade Celebration	18 Last Day of School Half-Day	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 Father's Day	28	29	30			

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!

Helpful Websites:

- www.carverpta.org
- www.hccepta.com
- www.vapta.org
- www.pta.org
- www.henrico.k12.va.us
- www.henrico.k12.va.us/ES/Carver/