

President's Corner

I think that the school year is off to great start at Northwood! The energy around the school during this first month has been contagious. It started at Sneak Preview when students met their new teachers and has gained momentum during the first weeks of school as students have gotten settled and volunteer activities have gotten underway.

Thank you for coming to Curriculum Nights August 23 and/or August 24. Of course, the primary objective those evenings was for you to meet your child's teacher—and that portion of each evening went off without a hitch. But, we also held our first PTA meeting of the year those evenings, and those of you who came just the second night did not get to hear that presentation. A technical glitch prevented us from replaying the presentation I'd made the night before as we planned. I apologize, and I'd like to fill you in on what you missed! I started by thanking all the volunteers already so active at Northwood this year—my fellow Board members, committee Chairs for Northwood's 30 committees, and our almost 100 Room Parents. Next, I reviewed the PTA activities slated for this fall—if you read this newsletter "cover-to-cover," you will be up-to-date on this information! Finally, I presented the PTA budget for vote. The budget posted in each hallway for vote both evenings had one change from that which had gone home for review the week before. During the budget review process, we had found that the figure used for "Original Art" did not reflect the expenses we pay to the company that produces the artwork. In the revised budget, the figure for Original Art was reduced to reflect that expense as was the corresponding figure for the Art Department funding that flows from this fundraiser.

Given that overview of my presentation, I would like to report the results of our budget vote from Curriculum Nights. The Northwood Elementary School PTA Budget for 2004-2005 did pass. A simple majority is all that is called for in our By-Laws—the vote tally was 372, "yes"; 2, "no." Thank you for participating in this process and ensuring that our school year starts smoothly despite our technical hiccup! (One final note about the budget. The audit of last year's books was just completed. Based on this audit, the beginning balance for the PTA budget was adjusted to \$16,609.44.)

Before I close, I would again like to thank the many volunteers who make the PTA and other school activities possible at Northwood. Besides the Board, Committee, and Room Parent volunteers I named above, I would also like to offer thanks to two people who have given us special help in the past few months: first, Fanny Munoz worked with us this summer to translate the "back-to-school" letter, PTA membership and VIPS forms into Spanish; second, Grace Pate just completed the annual audit of the PTA financial records. Neither of these jobs is elected or within the confines of a committee. But, both jobs needed to be done, and we all benefited from these ladies' willingness to

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Gift Wrap Fundraiser

Thank you for all of your hard work for our fall gift wrap fundraiser with Southern School Services. Even if your child sold one item, he/she will receive a prize!! Though orders were due September 8th, you, your families, and friends can still order on-line at www.ezfundraising.com. Pickup for the items ordered by September 8th will be as follows:

- ◆ October 5: 7:30 am-7:30 pm in the gym (a full day for pick-up!)
- ◆ October 6: 5:00 pm-7:30 pm in the Cafeteria
- ◆ October 7: 3:00-5:00 pm in the Cafeteria

Remember—you need to collect money when you deliver your orders. The prizes students earned will only be given when orders are paid in full. If you choose to pay your order in full at the time you pick your order up at school, your child's name will be entered in a drawing. Again, thank you for your support for this fundraiser! If you have any questions, please call a Gift Wrap Committee Chair member.

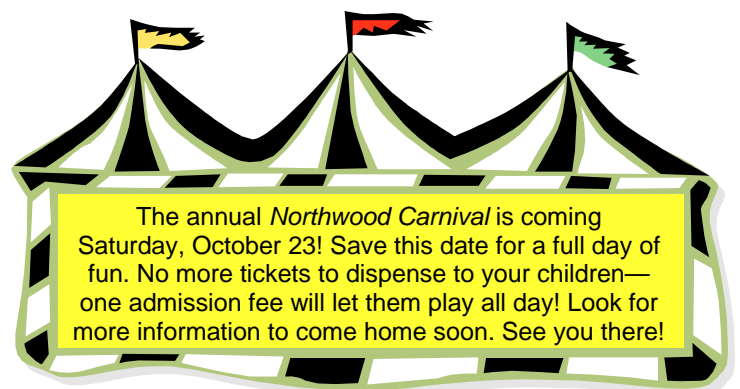
There is still time to join...

Join Northwood's PTA and receive a directory with certain memberships. Forms are available at the front desk in the office. Also, the best deal on this year's yearbook is available through the one-stop shopping on the membership form. Joining the PTA is a wonderful way to support your child's educational experience at Northwood, but did you know that there are added benefits for your family? These include:

- *Discounts at the Atlanta History Center*
- *Discounts at Atlanta Hawks, Atlanta Thrasher and some Phillips Arena events*
- *Discounts at Honey Bank Ham stores*
- *Discounts at Barnesandnoble.com, ConsumerFIRST and FedEx/Kinko's*

Details about how to use your PTA membership to realize these benefits are available on www.PTA.org.

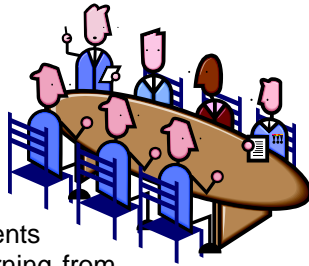
Let's reach 100% PTA membership AGAIN this year!
Questions? Contact Ann Cox, Membership Committee Chair



Your Northwood PTA at Work For You!

School Store

The PTA-sponsored "School Store" will be open to all students every Tuesday and Thursday morning from 7:15 to 7:40 am. Children can purchase basic school supply items such as pencils, erasers, markers, pens, and folders at competitive prices. Please send extra change if your child needs supplies as we do not want them using lunch money. If you would like to assist in staffing the School Store on occasion, or have any questions, please contact Kim Dean, School Store Chair.



Room Parent News

Thanks so much for all the hard work of all the Room Parents so far this year! Your time and talents are vital to the classrooms and the PTA. If you're not a Room Parent this year, please remember to support them in any way you can—they do so much around the school to make your child's school experience a positive one. Questions? Contact Beth Litterer, Room Parent Chair.

Do You Wanna Dance?

Put on your Dancin' Shoes and come to Music Night on Friday, September 17 from 6:30-8:45 pm. 4th and 5th grade Northwood students (no outside guests please) will enjoy a night of their favorite music with one of Atlanta's best DJs. Join your friends for great music, games, and lots of fun. Look for more information to come home soon. Any questions, call Cathy Rowe, Music Night Committee Chair.

Hearing and Vision Testing

Northwood Elementary in concert with Fulton County will test the hearing and vision of 1st, 3rd, and 5th graders the week of October 25th. Testing will take place over the course of four days, Monday through Thursday. First graders will have their hearing tested, third graders will be tested for both hearing and vision, and fifth graders will have their vision tested. Please mark these dates on your calendar! If you have any questions, contact Cathy Dougherty, Hearing & Vision Chair.

Big G Box Tops

Once again we are participating in the Box Tops for Education program sponsored by General Mills. It is simple to contribute—just clip off the "Big G" label from any General Mills product (e.g., Pop-Secret Popcorn, Betty Crocker cake mixes, Green Giant frozen vegetables), collect them for your child to turn in to his/her teacher, and Northwood will receive money from General Mills. Box Tops will be collected at the end of each month, and the class that collects the most Box Tops each month will earn a cookie party. If you have any questions, please contact Cathy Kleiber, Big G Box Tops Chair.

Media Center

We are so fortunate to have such a well-stocked Media Center where our avid readers have the opportunity to check out books any day they wish. Unfortunately, there is no way for Ms. Corrigan and Ms. Tillison to keep up with this volume without help from our parent volunteers. Volunteers keep things running by helping with checkout and check-in, re-shelving books, helping children find things, wrapping books for circulation (a task that can be done from home), and so on. If you can help out weekly, bi-weekly, or even monthly, please contact Donna Conn, Media Center Chair. And remember, drop in help is always appreciated!

Reflections

Have you ever dreamed of having your drawing or one of your photographs framed and hung in a special art exhibit at Northwood? Every Northwood student can participate in the Reflections Program sponsored by the National PTA each year. The theme for this year's program is "A Different Kind of Hero." You can think about the theme and talk with your family and friends about what it means to you. Then, create a piece of artwork, take a photo, write a song, or write a story about it. The deadline for submission is October 29, 2004. For more information about the Reflections program please contact the Reflections Chair, Carmen Evers, or visit the Reflections website at www.pta.org/reflections.

Important Dates to Remember



SEPTEMBER

Thurs, 2—Spirit Day, Skate Day at The Cooler, 3:30-5:15 pm

Fri, 3—Media Center Training Tea, 10:00-11:00 am, Media Center

Mon, 6—No School

Wed, 8—Gift Wrap Sales End!

Tues, 14—New Parent Coffee, 7:30-9:30 am, Media Center

Fri, 17—Team Meetings, 8:00 am Cafeteria and Gym

Fri, 17—Music Night, 6:30-8:45 pm, Cafeteria, grades 4th & 5th

Tues, 21—Reflections Workshop, 2:15-3:15 pm, Cafeteria

Thurs, 30—Domino's Pizza Night

OCTOBER

Fri, 1—Spirit Day

Sat, 2—Hands-On-Atlanta Day, 9:00 am-1:00 pm

Tues, 5-Thurs, 7—Gift Wrap Pick-Up 5th, 7:30 am-7:30 pm in Gym; 6th, 5:00-7:30 pm in Cafeteria; 7th, 3:00-5:00 pm in Cafeteria

Thurs, 7—Skate Day at The Cooler, 3:30-5:15 pm

Mon, 11—No School

Fri, 15—Movie Night—"A Bugs Life," 6:45 pm, Cafeteria, grades K-3rd

Fri, 22—Team Meetings, 8:00 am, Cafeteria and Gym

Sat, 23—Carnival, 11:00 am-5:00 pm

Thurs, 28—Domino's Pizza Night

Please remember to record your volunteer hours!
Questions? Contact Dana Dowdy, VIPS Committee Chair

Do You Have The Spirit?

If you don't have your 2004-2005 Northwood Spirit Wear yet, it's not too late! All items are still available for purchase. This year we have a red/blue team theme and have added soft fleece shorts for girls and basketball shorts for boys. In addition, we also have fleece 1/2-zip pullovers and fleece full-zip vests for order. They are already a huge hit with both kids and parents! All items have our Northwood logo and are typically worn on spirit days. Also, don't forget to purchase your Northwood "N" magnet for your car and/or our Northwood cookbook filled with scrumptious recipes. You can pick up order forms at the front office, and we will deliver your items to your child. Questions? Call Debbie Lommen, Spirit Wear Chair.

T-shirts—\$10 Magnets—\$5
Shorts—\$12 Cookbooks—\$10
Pullover—\$25 Vests—\$22

Looking for a way to volunteer at Northwood?! We are looking for three committee Chairs. We have one experienced Chair for Field Day but would love to recruit a co-Chair for this event. Since Skate Day has grown, we are looking for a Chair for this new committee. Also, we need a co-Chair to help with the yearbook. If you are interested in exploring any of these opportunities, please call Katie Mazzuckelli or any Board Member!



Skate Days and Pizza Nights!

Thanks to you, our August Skate Day and Pizza Night were great successes!

These events generate revenue for Northwood's PTA budget at the same time providing activities Northwood families can enjoy together.

Skate Days at The Cooler are usually the first Thursday of each month. Domino's Pizza Nights are usually the last Thursday of each month. Check the calendar in this newsletter (or weekly in the, "Best of Northwood") for the specific date each month, and join the fun!!!

Hands On Atlanta Day



Please join us Saturday, October 2nd from 9:00 am -1:00 pm for Hands on Atlanta Day at Northwood. If you have been looking for a volunteer opportunity and can't get to the school during regular school hours, this is a great chance to help make our school look "The Best." In past years, Hands on Atlanta has provided us with as many as 100 volunteers. This year they have only 20 committed volunteers. So more than ever before, we need parents, grandparents, relatives, and neighbors to come and help. If your child can weed, bring them as well! If you cannot volunteer your time, you can provide food and beverage for breakfast and lunch. We also need landscaping supplies such as rakes, shovels, spreaders, weed eaters, limb loppers, and other pruning equipment (please make sure your name is clearly marked on these items).

Goals for this year (dependent on volunteer support):

1. Paint the clinic bathrooms
2. Weed, mulch, and plant ground cover in the fifth grade garden
3. Aerate and overseed with a drought-tolerant grass seed
4. Fertilize and amend all grass areas with lime and gypsum
5. Replace and fill in junipers
6. Weed and limb up the outdoor classroom
7. Weed and mulch the dry riverbed.

This is a great opportunity to volunteer and to be able to watch your volunteer investment grow over time! If you have any questions, please contact Liz Barton, Landscaping Committee Chair.

Staff Recognition

This new committee will recognize non-classroom teachers on their birthday and during teacher appreciation week. Each volunteer will sponsor about six staff members. Most of this work can be done at home! If you are interested in helping, please contact Kim Boyd, Staff Recognition Committee Chair.

Thanks!

We would like to extend our thanks to the retailers listed below who have made contributions to our school through Northwood's PTA since the last PTA newsletter was published:

- ◆ **The Cooler**
10800 Davis Drive
- ◆ **Curves**
1580 Holcomb Bridge
- ◆ **Domino's Pizza**
Haynes Bridge & Old Alabama
- ◆ **Hot Nails**
1580 Holcomb Bridge
- ◆ **Kroger**
Haynes Bridge & Old Alabama
- ◆ **Publix**
Haynes Bridge & Old Alabama
- ◆ **Sam's Club**
10600 Davis Drive
- ◆ **Target**
6000 North Point Pkwy
- ◆ **The Ultimate Nail**
1530 Old Alabama Road
- ◆ **Wal-Mart SuperCenter**
970 Mansell Road

Again, we thank these retailers for their support of Northwood. And, we encourage our families to support these businesses that have so generously shown their support for their community through their contributions to our school. If you know of new contacts for our Contributions Committee Co-Chairs, please contact either Bari Calais or Joyce Hosseni.

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serve Northwood when asked to share their expertise.

Finally, if you would like to explore ways to get involved with Northwood volunteer activities, and you were not able to join us for the New Parent Coffee on September 14th, please contact a PTA Board member or committee Chair. We would be happy to help you find a way to put your talents to work for Northwood!

Katie Mazzuckelli

2004-2005 Northwood PTA Executive Board and Committee Chairs

President

Katie Mazzuckelli 770/664-6307

First Vice President

Beth Litterer 770/343-6227

◆ Room Parents

Beth Litterer 770/343-6227

◆ Hearing and Vision

Cathy Dougherty 770/664-5635

◆ Spirit Wear

Debbie Lommen 770/754-9202

◆ Music Night

Cathy Rowe 770/992-9237

◆ Contributions

Bari Calais 770/641-9383

Joyce Hosseini 770/640-1887

◆ Caring and Sharing

Andrea Bourgeois 770/772-4981

Christy Pincheon 770/754-9796

◆ Carnival

Lisa Anderson 770/552-8055

Second Vice President

Cathy Riley 770/667-3287

◆ Original Art

Diane Nelson 770/569-0989

Tara Osborne 770/751-7005

◆ VIPS

Dana Dowdy 770/642-0117

◆ School Store

Kim Dean 770/664-7673

◆ Gift Wrap

Cathy Riley 770/667-3287

Michelle Thompson 770/772-0141

Grace Pate 770/587-2870

◆ Publicity

Wendy Jackson 770/569-9215

◆ Reflections

Carmen Evers 770/667-1131

◆ Big G Box Tops

Cathy Kleiber 770/998-0301

Third Vice President

Catherine Ingersoll 770/640-0108

◆ Bingo Night

Bari Calais 770/641-9383

Joyce Hosseini 770/640-1887

◆ Staff Recognition

Kim Boyd 770/552-8437

◆ Media Center

Donna Conn 770/410-0203

◆ Landscaping

Liz Barton 770/751-6885

◆ Hospitality

Marty Young 770/410-1336

◆ Accelerated Reader

Sandy Williams 770/664-0667

Mary Beth Bierbaum 770/442-5306

◆ Field Day

Carl Washburn 770/552-9891

Co-Chair Open

Fourth Vice President

Shelley Avant 770/619-9097

◆ Movie Night

Delonica Brennan 770/641-7418

Betty Dobroski 770/649-8006

◆ Membership

Ann Cox 770/475-5981

◆ Directory

Margaret Cash 678/319-0021

◆ Big Creek Park

Margaret Cash 678/319-0021

◆ Book Fair

Katie Mazzuckelli 770/664-6307

Mary Kay Flett 770/664-8459

◆ Yearbook

Laurie Ferry 770/667-4910

Co-Chair Open

◆ Newsletter

Shelley Avant 770/619-9097

Secretary

Ann Cox 770/475-5981

Treasurer

Cathy Rowe 770/992-9237

Parliamentarian

Joyce Hosseini 770/640-1887

Think of Northwood!

We all visit local businesses, and an increasing number are offering to match some of the money we spend with them in contributions back to Northwood. We will list these various arrangements in this column each issue. Next time you shop at any of the following, maybe some of the money you spend anyway can directly benefit Northwood!

Office Depot (any store)—mention "Northwood Elementary" (ID # 70026559) when you check out, and 5% of the value of your purchase will be donated to the school.

Pike's Nursery (any store)—bring your receipt from any Pike's purchase into the Northwood office. Dig out old receipts if you have them—there are not date restrictions! Once we reach a certain threshold, Pike's will give Northwood 7% of the total, pre-tax, value of these receipts in store credit that Northwood can use for landscaping projects.

Target (any store)—if you get a Target store credit card or Target Visa and register Northwood Elementary as the "beneficiary", the school will receive 1% credit back on all of the purchases you make on that card. To register a new card (or a card you already have), call 1-800-316-6142 and ask to enroll Northwood Elementary as the designated beneficiary of the "Community Giving Program." (The School ID is 1720).

ShapeXpress Fitness for Women (3000 Old Alabama Rd)—Northwood Moms can get a one-time discounted enrollment fee of \$69 (enrollment fees are regularly \$149), and a portion of this fee will be donated back to Northwood. Call 678-297-9900 to schedule a tour and free trial workout.

If you know of any other retailers who offer arrangements such as these, please let us know! We would be happy to research them and add them to our list.



PTA Explorer
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