



## President's Letter

It hardly seems possible, but Labor Day is past, summer is a distant memory, and here we are well settled into another school year!

This is the first of four PTA newsletters you will receive this year. In this issue, you will find information to guide you through the 2007-2008 school year—another year filled with fun activities that enrich students' lives as well as fundraisers that provide monies to Northwood's teachers and departments. Before you read about these activities, though, I want to take the opportunity to thank the volunteers whose work will make these events possible.

Let me start by recognizing my fellow Board members: Co-President, Stephanie Duffy; Treasurer, Darina Yankey; Secretary, Susan Harper; Parliamentarian, Julie Human; and Vice Presidents, Angela Blackwell, Kathy Thomas, Tara Osborne, and Denise Healy. The Board works very closely with the forty-plus committee Chairs who lead Northwood's 32 committees. Committee Chairs are listed on the last page of the newsletter, alongside the name of their committee. I encourage you to read through this impressive list! Board and committee Chairs have been hard at work already—some throughout the summer—to organize events for this school year. I'm sure you already know many of these folks, and you will get to know others well as the school year progresses.

As soon as school began, another group of volunteers went to work—Northwood's Room Parents. Once again, there are almost 100 Room Parents serving Northwood's room-based teachers this year. This group of volunteers works directly with teachers and students, making sure students' birthdays are recognized and other holidays are observed appropriately. They also ensure that the needs of Northwood's wonderful teachers are met.

As we move into the school year, there will be many opportunities for you to join the volunteer ranks! If you are interested in exploring ways you could lend your time and talents to Northwood, please talk to any Board member or Committee Chair, or visit the PTA website ([www.NorthwoodPTA.com](http://www.NorthwoodPTA.com)) to read detailed descriptions of each Northwood committee as well as information about upcoming activities.

Now, if you read through the rest of the newsletter, you will learn about all the wonderful activities on tap for this fall as well as get a flavor for what lies ahead for the spring semester. We hope you will add these events to your calendar and plan to join us.

Finally, a big, "thank you" to those of you who came to our first General PTA meeting of the year. This meeting was held twice, before both Curriculum Nights in late August. During those meetings, the membership voted to approve the PTA budget for this school year—always a critical milestone in the PTA year.

Thanks to everyone for helping Northwood get off to a wonderful start! If you have any questions or wish to offer input at any point this year, please do not hesitate to contact me or any PTA Board member. Lisa Anderson

## Gift Wrap Update

Thank you for participating in our Sally Foster Fall Fundraiser. We had a terrific turnout for the prize raffles - we hope the kids enjoyed listening to see if they won!. We will announce the additional prize winners in the coming weeks - thank you again to all the Northwood parents and children! **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!** Sally Foster Gift-wrap orders will be available for pick-up after school on **October 4 & 5**. Please plan to come by on one of these two days to pick up your orders! Reminder flyers will be sent home in late September. We'd like to thank Joe's Crab Shack for hosting our upcoming Limo Lunch for students who sell 40 items. We appreciate their generosity and look forward to having a fun lunch with the winning kids! This fundraiser is the cornerstone of the PTA budget, so thanks again for your support! If you have any questions, please contact Stephanie Summers, Cathy Dougherty, or Karen Brown

## Important Dates to Remember

### September

**Thurs 27– Domino's Pizza Night**

**Fri 28– Movie Night, K-3,6:30-8:45, Cafeteria**

### October

**Mon 1– Spirit Day**

**Thurs 4 and Fri 5– Gift Wrap Pick Up after school**

**Fri 5– Music Night, 4-5, 6:30-8:30, Cafeteria**

**Sat 6– Hands-On-Atlanta Day, 9am-1pm**

**Fri 12– NO School– Conference Day**

**Sat 20– Carnival, 11am-4pm**

**Thurs 25– Domino's Pizza Night**

**Fri 26– Family Portraits 5-9pm**

**Sat 27– Family Portraits, 9am-6pm**

### November

**Wed 1– Spirit Day**

**Thurs 2 Book Fair Opens**

**Mon 6– Family Night Dinner**

**Tues 7– NO School– Election Day**

**Wed 22-24, NO School**

**Thurs 30– Domino's Pizza Night**



Mark your calendars! The annual Northwood Carnival will be on **Saturday, October 20<sup>th</sup>** from 11am to 4pm. One admission price will provide a day of fun for the entire family! There will be obstacle courses, slides, moonwalks, bungee jumps, games, prizes, food, and a few new surprises. Look for a flyer to come home soon telling you how to reserve your admission pass. We hope to see you there! If you have questions or would like to volunteer, please contact Michelle Anderson or Jennifer Zanine, Carnival Committee Co-Chairs.

## Your Northwood PTA at Work For You!

### Join Hands-On Atlanta in Making Northwood Elementary an Even BETTER Place to Learn!

Grab your friends, family or co-workers and come out to Northwood for Atlanta's largest day of community service! On Saturday, October 6, 2007, from 9:00AM – 1:00PM, some 15,000 Atlantans will revitalize our neighborhoods and give others a helping hand for the 17th annual Hands On Atlanta Day. HOA is a non-profit community service organization that helps individuals, families, and corporate and community groups find flexible volunteer opportunities at more than 400 service organizations and schools. Join us at Northwood for the morning project, then join all volunteers at Centennial Olympic Park for a Celebration of Service party afterwards! This year at Northwood, we are undertaking a project to plant new landscaping around the trailers and beautify other areas around the school. We need your help! Please bring work gloves, water, and your favorite garden tool (be sure to label your tools). We will have some tools available but could always use an extra shovel, spreader, weed eater, dirt rake, garden tool, and/or wheelbarrow. Don't forget to bring your enthusiasm and school spirit! There are also other ways to help this effort. We need volunteers to bring refreshments and water to fuel our workers that day. We could use any hardy landscape plants that need a new home or monetary contributions to help with landscaping supplies needed for this project. Let's show the Northwood spirit on October 6th and give a helping hand! To volunteer, return the Hands on Atlanta Day sign up form, or contact Jud Shumway at 770-992-6013.

### We are launching the 2007-2008 Box Tops for Education fundraising for Northwood.

With your help, we can earn more cash for our school than ever before! **CLIP!** Simply clip the Box Tops coupons from hundreds of your favorite General Mills products. Send them to school with your child or drop them in the collection bin in front of the Media Center (in a baggie or envelope with your child's teacher indicated). The class with the most box tops wins a pizza party each period and Northwood could earn up to \$20,000!

**SHOP!** Did you know you can also earn cash for Northwood when you shop online? Start every online shopping trip at the Box Tops Marketplace at [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com). You can shop at over 200 stores and our school earns up to 8% of every qualifying purchase—all at no additional cost to you!

**JOIN!** You can join the "Box Tops Booster Club" and select Northwood as the school you support. It's completely free and easy to join! You will receive many benefits including mealtime solutions, and online coupons for products that earn money for our school. Northwood receives bonus box tops for every new Booster Club member. To join the Box Tops Booster Club, visit: [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com). Thanks for making a difference for Northwood! If you have any questions, please contact Barbara Drexler.

**Have You Joined Yet?!** There is still time to join the PTA and receive a directory with certain memberships. Forms are available at the front desk in the office or on the PTA website ([www.NorthwoodPTA.com](http://www.NorthwoodPTA.com)). Remember, the best deal on this year's yearbook is available through the one-stop shopping on the PTA membership form! Let's reach 100% PTA membership again this year! Questions? Contact Kelly Hudson, Membership Committee Chair.



**MUSIC NIGHT: Calling all 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders** for a night of fun and games just for you! Join us **Friday October 5<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-8:45** in the cafeteria for a night of dancing, contests, games, snacks and more led by our favorite DJ, Matt who did last Spring's event. Parents, **this is not a dance**, but rather a special night of age-appropriate fun geared toward Northwood's older students. Questions or like to volunteer, if you have not already, contact Jenny Bramel, Music Night Chair @ (770) 643-7932.



**Pizza Anyone?!** Domino's Pizza Night is a PTA-sponsored event that is held on the last Thursday of every month that school is in session. The day of the event, each child will bring home a flyer and a sticker as a reminder. Your pizza purchase on that night will help the PTA. In addition, the classroom with the most participation will earn a free pizza party, and the teacher in that class will be given a School Box gift certificate. Thanks for your participation, and if you have any questions, please contact Allison Smith, Pizza Night Committee Chair.

**[www.NorthwoodPTA.com](http://www.NorthwoodPTA.com)** Have you visited the Northwood PTA website yet?! You can get PTA Board and Committee contact information there, get the dates of school events, learn about what individual committees do, pull up any/all forms that may have been "lost" somewhere between school and home, and more! We hope you will become familiar with this important source of information. And, this site continues to grow. If you have any feedback about the site, please contact Kathryn Begg or Laura Hemauer, Newsletter and Website Co-Chairs.

**Arthur and The Invisibles are Coming to Northwood!** Northwood's Kindergarten-3<sup>rd</sup> graders are invited to join us on Friday, September 28th for Movie Night. Meet in the cafeteria for pizza, popcorn and a movie from 6:45 until 8:45 p.m. If you have questions or would like to volunteer, please call Annie Wehr or Denise Healy, Movie Night Co-Chairs.

**Wear your school spirit with pride!** This year, we have cotton t-shirts with the Northwood Explorer bi-plane logo. Different sizes are available for children and grown-ups alike. Pick up an order form in the school office or order forms are available online at <http://www.northwoodpta.com/forms&flyers.htm>. Place your form and payment in an envelope marked "PTA--SPIRIT WEAR" and return it to your child's teacher. You may also visit our table at the Northwood Carnival. Any questions may be addressed to Sandy Lashley 770-664-9289 or [sanloras@aol.com](mailto:sanloras@aol.com)

**Reflections Deadline is Oct. 5** 'Let Your Talent Shine' as you express your creativity in any of these six categories: visual arts, literature, photography, dance, music or video production. This year's theme is "I can make a difference by...". Weekly prizes for entries will be awarded. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, please contact Stacy Raymond, Reflections Committee Chair.

**It's Time For A Family Portrait!** Friday, October 26<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, October 27<sup>th</sup> is our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual family portrait PTA fundraiser. Family Focus Photography is offering one 11 X 14 canvas family portrait for just \$25.00 and the PTA will receive a donation of \$20.00 per family. Reorders will be back before Thanksgiving break, great for gift giving. Please complete the form your child will bring home and return it to school. Contact Kathy Thomas at 770-777-1914 with any questions.

**Please Log Those Volunteer Hours!** Now that the new school year has begun and you are busy volunteering for Northwood, please remember to record your volunteer hours. When you are in school, be sure to log on (and—before you leave—off!) the computer in the front office. If you do anything for Northwood outside the school, just keep track of your hours and log them on a VIPS (“Volunteers in Public Schools”) card in the file near the computer in the lobby—those hours get added into the system by hand. Not only does volunteering benefit students and teachers (and you!), but Northwood earns funding credit for the hours we capture. Questions? Contact Jamie John, VIPS Committee Chair.



**Thank you for your support of Northwood Communities** by lining the hallways with your can food donations for our annual food collection benefiting NORTH FULTON COMMUNITY CHARITIES Monday, Sept. 24 to Friday, Sept. 28. Specific needs include Canned tuna/meats, peanut butter, canned sauce, canned vegetables, fruits and soups Caring & Sharing Committee Chair Becky Erickson 770-609-2634 Special surprise for the class who collects the most cans!!!

**Lunch & Learn at Haynes Bridge Middle School** Friday, September 28 11:45 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Please join us on Friday, September 28, from 11:45 a.m.-1:00 p.m., when HBMS's Counselors, Billie Bob Hoskyn, Chris Martinez, and Carol Meyer will present, "Experiencing Middle School & Loving It." The Counselors will provide some valuable insight into your child's routine in the classroom and throughout the process of daily life at Haynes Bridge Middle School. Even if you have attended this session in the past, we encourage you to come again—the Counselors discuss expectations of all three grade levels. Besides, it is a wonderful way to network with other parents of middle-school age children. Bring your own lunch; drinks will be provided. If you have any questions, please contact Nikki Dobbins, Lunch & Learn Committee Chair, atldobbins@yahoo.com <<http://us.f379.mail.yahoo.com/ym/Compose?To=atldobbins@yahoo.com>> or 678-566-1047.

**Math Forums Highlight New State Curriculum** Parents can learn more about the new Georgia Performance Standards math curriculum at six forums during October. Fulton County Schools Director of Math Curriculum Lori Fanning will give a presentation followed by a question-and-answer session. Each meeting begins at 7 p.m. in either the auditorium (high schools) or gymnasium (middle school).

- Creekside High School, October 4
- Milton High School, October 8
- Banneker High School, October 15
- Sandy Springs Middle School, October 22
- Roswell High School, October 25
- Chattahoochee High School, October 29

Kindergarten through second grade, and sixth and seventh grades, are already using the new math curriculum. This year, students are seeing changes in grades third through fifth and eighth. High school students begin the new math standards in 2008-09.

**School Store Open for Business!** The PTA school sponsored store is open most Tues and Thurs mornings in the cafeteria from 7:15-7:45. We offer inexpensive pencils, pens, erasers and other school supplies. If you have questions or would like to volunteer, please contact Kim Dean at (770)-664-7673.

**2007 - 2008 Yearbook !! MEMORIES IN COLOR!** The 2007 - 2008 Northwood Yearbook will have a brand new look this year! It will be printed entirely in COLOR!! We have brought back the art contest for the front and back covers. We are asking students to submit their artwork by October 5. The theme for the art work is “Building Character, One step at a time”. We will print the 1<sup>st</sup> place winner on the cover and 9 second place winners on the back cover. We are asking students to use bright colors and highlight all figures and drawings with dark lines. We are also adding several new 5<sup>th</sup> grade pages. We will have a double-page spread of all 5<sup>th</sup> graders standing in the shape of “08”. We are also offering dedication pages to 5<sup>th</sup> graders. The early bird price is \$25. After November 30, the price will be \$28. To order a yearbook, send an envelope to school with your child's name and teacher on front. Label it “Yearbook order”. Include a check for \$25. You don't want to miss these memories!! Questions? E-mail Jennifer Pugh at [Jennpugh@yahoo.com](mailto:Jennpugh@yahoo.com) or call (770) 667 - 0956.

## Kroger and Publix Scan Card Updates

Here is how your weekly trip to the grocery store can benefit Northwood Elementary and your child's class:

**Publix** (both the store at Haynes Bridge and Old Alabama in Alpharetta as well as the new store at 1425 Market Boulevard in Roswell)—you simply use your Publix Scan card every time you check out. Both wallet and key ring versions of the Publix Scan card are available by the volunteer computer in the front office if you need one or more!

**Kroger** no longer has a separate scan card. Instead, you need to take the Northwood “bar code” into the store to be scanned along with your KrogerPlus card when making a purchase. Once you have done this once, every time you use your KrogerPlus card, four percent of your purchase will be credited toward Kroger's “Earning Plus Learning Fund.” Northwood will then be eligible to earn a share of that fund dependent upon total earned contributions attributable to Northwood. If you need a copy of the flyer with the Northwood's bar code, please pick one up at the front office by the volunteer computer or get one on the PTA website ([www.NorthwoodPTA.com/Forms&Flyers](http://www.NorthwoodPTA.com/Forms&Flyers)). We hope everyone will enroll in this program this year! The monies earned by the PTA through these “Scan Card” programs each year are significant. Please help us by enrolling early!

## The Media Center Needs Your Help!

Northwood's Media Center is run by Cheryl Corrigan, Media Specialist, and Claudia Tillison, Media Para Professional. They work daily with classroom teachers to instruct students in media skills, research skills, and literature appreciation. Their goal is for everyone who comes to the Media Center—student, teacher, and parent—to find what s/he needs and to leave with a smile!!! Because their schedules are so busy, they are in constant need of **volunteers**. These volunteers assist students in checking books in and out, shelving books, and repairing books, just to name a few tasks. Any amount of time you can volunteer—small or large—is of value. If you are interested in volunteering in the Media Center, please contact Lyn Shealy, 770-649-7503 or [msshealy@bellsouth.net](mailto:msshealy@bellsouth.net)

# Northwood PTA Board and Committee Chairs

## CO- PRESIDENTS

Lisa Anderson 770/552-8055  
Stephanie Duffy 678/339-0033

### ◆ 5th Grade Graduation

Joyce Hosseini 770/640-1887

### ◆ Newsletter/Website

Kathryn Begg 770/594-7981  
Laura Hemauer 770/642-2415

### ◆ Walk-A-Thon

Sherrie Board 678/366-2254

## SECRETARY

Susan Harper 770/754-0239

## TREASURER

Darina Yankey 770/643-9475

## PARLIAMENTARIAN

Julie Human 770/740-1977

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Jennifer Zanine 770/410-1317

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### ◆ Membership

Kelly Hudson 770/740-1267

### ◆ Accelerated Reader

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Susan Harper 770/754-0239

### ◆ Yearbook

Jennifer Pugh 770/667-0956

### ◆ Media Center

Lyn Shealy 770/649-7503

### ◆ Publicity

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### ◆ School Store

Kim Dean 770/664-7673

## SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

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### ◆ Business Partner Liaison

Amy Poteet 770/642-6328

### ◆ Spirit Wear

Sandy Lashley 770/664-9289

### ◆ Hearing and Vision

Cathy Dougherty 770/664-5635

### ◆ Reflections

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### ◆ Bingo Night

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### ◆ Legislative

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## THIRD VICE PRESIDENT

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Tara Osborne 770/751-7005

### ◆ Caring and Sharing

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### ◆ Gift Wrap

Karen Brown 770/410-9004  
Cathy Dougherty 770/664-5635  
Stephanie Summers 770/343-8273

### ◆ VIPS

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### ◆ Hospitality

Andrea Bourgeois 770/772-4981  
Christy Pincheon 770/754-9796

### ◆ Music Night

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### ◆ Pizza Night

Allison Smith 770/667-0884

### ◆ Spanish Liaison

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## FOURTH VICE PRESIDENT

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Christine Obijeski 770/772-6553

### ◆ Staff Recognition

Semmes Calvert 770/696-1968

### ◆ Big G Box Tops

Barbara Drexler 678/393-8371

### ◆ Movie Night

Denise Healy 770/754-9005  
Annie Wehr 770/667-3433

### ◆ Field Day

Jenny Storey 770/232-9004

### ◆ Hands on Atlanta

Jud Shumway 770/992-6013

### ◆ Family Dinner

Sandy Andrews 770/410-0513

### ◆ Family Fun

Kathy Kitzmiller 770/343-6465



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

### **Domino's Pizza**

Haynes Bridge and Old Alabama

### **Kroger**

Haynes Bridge and Old Alabama

### **Publix**

Haynes Bridge and Old Alabama

### **Publix**

1425 Market Boulevard, Roswell

### **Wal-Mart SuperCenter**

970 Mansell Road

Again, we thank these retailers for their support of Northwood Elementary School. And, we encourage Northwood families to support these businesses that have so generously shown their support for their community through their contributions to our school.

## Remember Northwood When You Shop!

Visit the Northwood PTA website ([www.NorthwoodPTA.com/Sponsors](http://www.NorthwoodPTA.com/Sponsors)) to learn how money you already spend at retailers like Office Depot, Pike's Nursery, Target and Staples, can benefit Northwood! As always, 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**

A Publication of the Northwood PTA

10200 Wooten Road  
Roswell, Georgia 30076

[www.NorthwoodElementary.com](http://www.NorthwoodElementary.com)

**President**—Lisa Anderson

**Principal**—Sheila Michael.

**Assistant Principal**—Ritu Ahuja

**Editor**—Kathryn Begg