



The Lil Warrior Beat



The Williams Township PTA Newsletter
November 2016

The President's Pen



Dear Williams Township Elementary School Families,

With a successful, brisk WTES Halloween celebration complete, we continue to prepare for and enjoy another fun holiday season here at Williams Township Elementary! The costumed children, adults, and vehicles at our Trunk-or-Treat were Spooktacular! Many, many thanks to Cathy Mueller and Kelly Danielson and the Halloween Party committee who organized all our awesome participants and volunteers that made this event Trunktastic! Next up will be our award winning Holiday Bazaar and Winter Carnival. All the various PTA fundraisers such as the KidsStuff Books, A+ Giant Program, Scrip Program, Family Dinner nights, Box Top Collections, etc. are crucial to funding these wonderful events for our children. Your superior participation in these various fundraisers makes "the fun stuff" happen!

As the Thanksgiving Season is upon us, I would like to take this moment to say THANK YOU to our many parent volunteers that do so much for our school! Your generous donation of time emulates the very essence of what this Giving season is all about! We can't thank you all enough for your support of our PTA and school. I am so proud to be a part of a school in which parents are so dedicated to the children. If you would like to join in the volunteering fun, please visit our website at www.williams.my-pta.org and click on the Security Clearance tab for more information. For all our current clearance updated volunteer needs, please check the "volunteer" tab at the top right hand corner of the home page regularly. Our Lunch Duty and Spring After School Enrichment Programs are always in need of daily volunteer participation whenever you have the time to help.

Please don't hesitate to contact myself or any of our board members if you have any new ideas, questions, or concerns. See you all at the next General PTA Meeting on Tuesday, January 10, 2016 at 6:30 pm in the Cafeteria. (Childcare will be provided)

Many Happy Holidays ahead!

Sincerely,

Sara Aquino, WTES PTA President

jnsaquino@rcn.com



2016-2017 PTA Board Members

Sara Aquino,
President

Melinda DiBartola,
Vice-President

Julie Burkart,
Secretary

Kimberly Kressman,
Treasurer

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Dear Williams Township Elementary School Families,

The school year at Williams Township Elementary School has been moving along swiftly. We are already at the conclusion of the first quarter. Parent-Teacher conferences will be occurring shortly. First marking period report cards will be available to parents on-line in Skyward at 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday November 23, 2016. Please be sure to schedule a time with your child's teacher to meet and discuss their progress.



Our students have also been working hard to "Earn their Feathers." Many students have been recognized for following the Warrior Ways; going above and beyond in regards to behavior and academic effort. "Little Warriors of the Month" have been selected. Please be sure to check out their "Little Warrior" pictures in the lobby trophy case.

Be sure to mark your calendar for the upcoming classroom Visitation Day. Parents can come in to view their child's classroom in action on Monday November 21st from 9:00 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. for grades kindergarten through fourth grade. I hope to see all of you here! Early dismissals will also take place on November 21st, 22nd, and 23rd. Students will be dismissed at 11:55 a.m. for conferences; please be sure to make appropriate plans for your children.

Williams Township Elementary School and the Wilson Area School District are always striving to increase student achievement. Recently, the state of Pennsylvania released School Performance Profiles (SPP) that indicates how a school is performing according to state criteria. Included in the SPP are results for our state achievement testing, P.S.S.A. scores. The information below was presented to the Wilson Area School District School board by our Superintendent Mr. Doug Wagner. While we are proud of these results, we know that we have to continue to work hard to ensure that all of our children can achieve to their highest potential.

Please take the time to read the results for our school and district:

The Pennsylvania Department of Education last week released the 2016 School Performance Profile (SPP). We are pleased to report all schools in the Wilson Area School District earned SPP results that were at proficient levels and above. Below is a summary of the scores.

- Wilson Area High School – 93.4
- Wilson Area Intermediate School – 72.3
- Avona Elementary School – 78.4
- Wilson Borough Elementary School – 86.8
- Williams Township Elementary School – 88.8

Some highlights of this year's results are as follows:

- The High School had the third highest score in the Lehigh Valley and second highest in Northampton County.
- Williams Township Elementary School had the second highest elementary school result in the Lehigh Valley.
- Williams Township Elementary and Wilson Borough Elementary had the top two SPP results for elementary schools in Northampton County.
- In regards to P.S.S.A. scores of our elementary schools the following should be noted:
 - In ELA, Williams Township Elementary and Wilson Borough Elementary were schools that had the top five results in the County.
 - In Math, all three elementary schools were among the top five results in the County.
 - In Science, Williams Township Elementary and Wilson Borough Elementary were schools that had the top five results in the County.
- Wilson Area High School, Wilson Borough Elementary and Williams Township Elementary School exceeded the goal in closing the achievement gap for all students in all three subjects.
- Wilson Borough Elementary School exceeded the goal in closing the achievement gap for historically underperforming students in all three subjects, while the Wilson Area High School exceeded the goal in two of the three subjects. Williams Township Elementary School exceeded the goal in both ELA and Math, but did not have enough students in the category of Science to be measured.

In the category of closing the achievement gap for historically underperforming students the following should be noted:

In ELA, Wilson Borough Elementary School had the second highest number of students that earned proficient or higher on the P.S.S.A. in the Lehigh Valley and Avona Elementary School was also in the top five P.S.S.A. performers in the County.

In Math, Wilson Borough Elementary School and Avona Elementary School had the first and second highest P.S.S.A. results in the Lehigh Valley.

In Science, Wilson Borough Elementary School had the second highest P.S.S.A. results in the Lehigh Valley.

Wilson Area High School had the highest number of students scoring proficient in the Literature and Biology Keystone Exam in the Lehigh Valley among public school districts.

Our success demonstrates that all students can achieve when the school community is committed to high achievement. We are especially proud that our District is able to meet the needs of our changing student demographics, especially our students that are Economically Disadvantaged. A breakdown of our student population is highlighted below:

YEAR	<u>2005</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>
Total Students	2,212	2,185	2,214
American Indian	4	6	7
Asian	47	51	56
Black	115	189	194
Hispanic	104	398	434
Multi-Racial	-	145	159
White	1,942	1,396	1,364
Economically Disadvantaged	389	1,041	1,089

A quick analysis of our student population shows that forty-nine percent (49%) of our students are classified as Economically Disadvantaged. Once again, the Wilson Area School District's commitment to high expectations with no excuses demonstrates that all students can achieve when provided a quality education. Congratulations to everyone on a job well done!

Mr. Wagner's comments stress all the hard work that our students, staff, and families put in order for our schools to be successful.

In closing, be sure to enjoy the upcoming Holiday Season with your family and friends. The "Williams Family" is an important part of all of our lives, and we would like to extend Seasons Greetings and a Happy New Year to all of you. Thank you again for all the support you give your children and the staff at Williams Township Elementary School. Together let's continue to make our school "up on the hill" a success. I look forward to continuing to work with all of the students, staff, and families of Williams Township Elementary School!

Warmest Regards,

Kevin Steidle

Principal



Words from the Reading Specialist, Mrs. Binn



At Williams Township Elementary School, we are highly committed to providing reading instruction individualized to our students' needs. Groups are formed based on data. Our intervention groups are progressing well at all grade levels, Kindergarten through Fourth Grade. If your child is in one of our groups you should have received a paper with the skill of instruction checked off and directions for accessing additional resources on our website. Our groups change frequently throughout the year to accommodate the data of all individuals. Your child may not be in a group at this time, but may at anytime throughout the school year. Our goal is for all our students to work up to their highest reading potential and love to read.



Report Cards

In the past, hard copies of student report cards have been provided and sent home quarterly. You will now have the ability to access and print your child's report card at the end of each marking period by utilizing Family Access, through Skyward. Report cards will be accessible by 12:00 PM on Wednesday, November 23, 2016.

A letter was sent home with directions on how to obtain your child's report card. If you would still like a hard copy of your child's report card, need assistance with login information, or have any other questions please contact the building secretary at 484-373-6170 or dpety@wilsonareasd.org.



On Saturday, October 22nd we held our 3rd annual Trunk or Treat event at the school parking lot. We had over 20 trunks participate in the event. Williams Township Elementary School kids and their families had a spooky fun time visiting all sorts of decorated trunks, dancing with the DJ and collecting all sorts of Halloween treats. Even though it was a chilly October evening, we were all thankful for clear skies.

There were many creative trunks that included games, candy, homemade treats and more! It was a very close contest with all the awesome trunks for our "top trunk" contest. The below trunks were the top winners.

Thank you to all who helped and participated in this event.

Cathy Mueller

#1 was Ghost Busters - Hall family



#2 was Nightmare before Christmas –DeLuca family



#3 was Christmas theme trunk - Domaszewicz family



Reflections — News and Finalists

Reflections update: We had 40 students participate in the National PTA art contest "reflections:" The theme this year was "What is your story". Each student made an amazing piece! Unfortunately, only 3 students from each division could move on. Congratulations to the following students: Sophia Bandi, Samantha Mueller, Halle Washburn, Psalma Campomanes, Julian Bossons, and Violet Hall. These students will be advancing to the next level. Enjoy their artwork!!!

Julian Bossons 2nd Grade "The Photo Album of My Life"



Violet Hall 2nd Grade "My Family is Part of My Story"



Psalma Campomanes 2nd grade "The Move"



Halle Washburn 4th grade "The Story of My Life"



Sophia Bandi 4th grade "Story of My Life"



Samanatha Mueller 4th grade "My Fabulous and Make up Life"



Volunteering

Don't forget that all volunteers (that are volunteering in the school) are required to have their clearances approved and on file in our school office prior to your volunteer date. Plan ahead since some of the clearances cannot be done online and need approval time! See our "Security Clearance" tab on the PTA website for more information.



Lunch Duty

Please consider volunteering for lunch duty at the school. During lunch, you will assist the children in opening lunch items, keeping them in line and helping the staff in any way needed. It's another way you can stay involved in your child's daily school activity.



You must have approved clearances—see the PTA website on the "volunteering" tab to sign up.

TRICKY TRAY!!!

Tricky Tray will be April 8th!! This is always a huge event and really helps us give back to the school and is a community event.

Please contact Shellie Piparato shell3405@hotmail.com or by phone or text at [610-597-1083](tel:610-597-1083)

Please Like and Share our Facebook Williams Township Elementary School Tricky Tray



Apparel

The Long wait is over! Little Warrior apparel is now available for order.



Look for the order form being sent home from school. Can't find it... no worries. Check out our PTA web site and print the form from there.

Orders are being accepted until Monday, November 23rd and delivery of apparel will be before Winter break. Start shopping; you can dress your child from head to toe in Little Warrior apparel. There is also adult Wilson Wear available as well. Lets show our school spirit and support!

Holiday Bazaar

Our annual Holiday Gift Bazaar program is December 6th and 7th (with a makeup day Thursday, December 8th).

All students will have an opportunity to shop for the holidays. Most items will be \$2.00 (with a few items available for \$1). Kids can shop for their parents, grandparents, Aunts, Uncles, siblings, teachers, pets, friends and more.

Look out for a flyer with the specific class schedule that will be sent home with your child close to the date.

Would you like to come help the kids shop during this event? If so, watch out for a sign-up sheet on the PTA website in November.

Any questions? Contact Cathy Mueller



Yearbook Committee

The cover has been selected. This year's theme is Little Warriors, Big Memories. The yearbook sale will run February to Mid-March, look for the sale info at that time.



The yearbook committee will be in and out of the school in the next few months, please tell the kids to give us their best smiles!!!

Please always remember when you are at an event snap off a few pictures that we could use. We always love to get those smiling faces in the book.

Contact Lori Miller if you have any questions

Parkplace035@rcn.com

Winter Carnival

Our annual Winter Carnival event will be held on December 22nd. On the last day before our holiday break, we will help celebrate our short winter break with games, crafts and fun. If all students, teachers and staff are "nice", perhaps we will all receive a special visitor that day!



Would you like to come help out during this event? If so, watch out for a sign-up sheet on the PTA website..

Clearances are required

Treasurer's Report

Our Kids Stuff Fund-raiser raised \$1,712.50 which was simply amazing. Don't forget all those coupons when doing your holiday shopping!!



We wouldn't be so successful without all of your help! Thank you for supporting this fundraiser.

If you need to be reimbursed please submit all expense receipts/requests along with the completed reimbursement form (available on the PTA website) to school in care of Connor Kressman, in Mrs. Silfies' 3rd grade class, Attn: Kim Kressman

Any questions, please email me at kimk@rcn.com

Box Tops

Please consider registering your bonus card for ShopRite and to help earn additional money for our school. Shop for participating products from the advertised promotions for the week during your visit. Earnings are automatically credited to our school's Box Tops account!

ShopRiteForMySchool.com

Box Tops also has a new Bonus Box Tops app where you can upload your receipt for any grocery store and get credit for participating items automatically deposited into the school account as well.

If you would like more information please visit the boxtops4education.com website and follow our school earnings!

Our goal this year is \$2000 and every little bit helps!



Scrip Program

The Scrip program is moving along slowly right now. Please consider purchasing these cards for all of your holiday shopping and gift giving as well as for your every day grocery and gas purchases. Every card purchased results in a profit for the PTA which in turn benefits all the children in our school. There are many popular gift cards that are available any time as ScripNow eCards, i.e. Dunkin Donuts, Sam's Club, WalMart, T.J. Maxx/Marshalls/HomeGoods as well as many, many more. When purchasing cards this way, you receive the e-card immediately, and the PTA still receives the profit. You can order by going to www.shopwithscrip.com. The enrollment code is 9BF8A76712869. This is a great way to purchase last minute gifts or even to purchase cards for any shopping that you do on a daily basis.

For those of you who would like to have cards for grocery and/or gas purchases on a weekly basis, I can pre-order them and have them available for you to purchase as you need them. Please contact me to set this set up.

Any questions on the Scrip program can be sent to Stephanie Koufalis at stephaniekoufalis@gmail.com or call/text me at [610-392-6756](tel:610-392-6756).



Labels for Education

We are also collecting Labels for Education again. Please make sure only UPCs with the "Labels for Education" logo are sent in. This program allows us to order art and athletic supplies for the school.

A list of participating products and more information is available on the website at

labelsforeducation.com



Giant A+ Rewards Program

Register your GIANT card to benefit our school!



We only have 90 enrolled. Remember you can have anyone register their Giant Bonus Card.

PTA receives a percentage of every purchase made between October 7th to March 16th! It's free money and couldn't be easier to help support the PTA.

Please visit: <http://www.giantfood.com/savings-and-rewards/rewards-program/aplus/> to register your card and designate Williams Township Elementary as your benefactor.

You don't lose points they earn for gas or bonus rewards by designating a school. They need a bonus card to designate a school and can register online or by phone 1-888-814-4268

Amazon Smile



Start with a Smile this Holiday Season at smile.amazon.com

Support us and find all of your holiday essentials including gifts, decorations and more

The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible purchases to Williams Township Elem School PTA. At no cost to you.

You shop. Amazon Gives.

Click here to Support WTES while shopping on Amazon

<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7053313>

Please contact Kim Kressman with any questions at kimk@rcn.com



Happy 10th Birthday Grace!

Love
Mom, Dad & Nicholas



Happy Happy 6th Birthday to our Hallie!

Love,
Mommy, Daddy, Jeffrey, and Little Char



Happy 8th Birthday Julian!

We are so proud of you!!
Good Luck with this years comp season!
Smile, sparkle and Shine!!

Love—
Mommy, Daddy, Sadie, Cora and Adrien



The holidays are coming! Becka Bossons can help! Keep the pounds off by joining our holiday weight management group! Only \$15 a week (\$10 for LINC members) Email Becka@tenderempowerment.com

Need gifts? Pampered Chef makes great gifts!
www.pamperedchef.com/pws/beckabossons Host a party and earn FREE gifts!





Early Dismissal
Williams Township Elementary on
November 21, 22, 23
Grades AM K-4 will be dismissed at
11:55am
Lunch will be served



School Closed November 24th—28th
for
Thanksgiving Vacation

Have a safe and fun break. Come back
refreshed!!



Save the date! *The Wilson Area Partners in Education Foundation* and the *LINCS Community Center* are teaming up to sponsor an event to support our students and our community. The "Festival of Flavors" will be held on December 3rd, 2016 at the Meadows in Hellertown, PA. This event directly funds the Summer Reading Program for at risk students at the elementary level.



The Next PTA Meeting is January
10th
Child Care is provided!

Please contact Paula Tadayesky, with any Newsletter suggestions or comments: ptaddy@gmail.com