



Letter from the President



It's official, Fall is here! The kids are back in the swing of school, the weather is changing, and the fall routines have fallen into place.

The same can be said for the Hughes PTA volunteers: spirit wear orders have been taken, bulb orders will soon be delivered, budgets have been passed, and bylaws have been presented. We have many new PTA members, and are welcoming more each day! In addition, we are preparing for our October meeting and our first LHMS skate night. We are very fortunate to have such a great community full of willing and capable members and volunteers!

I hope you'll plan to attend our October 7th meeting, as there is a planned Technology Update which will take place at 6:30 that evening. We will have the opportunity to learn about what technology is available at Hughes, through discussion and teacher and student demonstrations of the equipment that is used at Hughes during the course of a day. As you know, our *Invest in Hughes* campaign is all about raising funds to increase the amount of technology in use at Hughes – so I encourage you to come out and learn more about what is available, and how our donations can help foster 21st century learning in the classrooms here. The main part of the fund drive will be completed by November, which will allow us to provide funding early, so that our students can reap the rewards of our effort for the rest of the year.

As always, we welcome your feedback and encourage you to follow the weekly Keep In Touch updates, this newsletter, our meetings, and to visit our website, www.lhmspta.com for any Hughes PTA information.

Sincerely,

Kathy Joyner, President
president@lhmspta.com



Calendar



Happenings at Hughes

- October 7 6:30 pm
Technology Update
7:00 pm
PTA Meeting
- October 11 Columbus Day, no school
- October 13 Early dismissal (12:50) for students
- October 15 Skate Night
- October 21/22 Picture Day
- October 22 SLHS Homecoming

National PTA Information

The PTA Proposed Legislation Program (PLP) for 2011 is currently available. The document has been posted to the PTA website, www.lhmspta.com, for your review. Votes will be accepted through October 20. The ballot is part of the PLP forms found online. You may print it and send it back to school with your student or vote at the October 7 PTA meeting.

Peer Mediation

Stop Bullying Now

In the month of October, the mediators and Positive Behavior Support are planning Approaches to Learning (ATL) lessons and activities to educate the students, staff, and parents about bullying and cyberbullying. The following links provide information for parents:

<http://stopbullyingnow.hrsa.gov/kids/>

www.bullying.org<<http://www.bullying.org>

One of the myths about bullying is that "Bullying is just a stage, a normal part of life. I went through it my kids will too."

Fact: Bullying is not "normal" or socially acceptable behavior. We give bullies power by our acceptance of this behavior.

Peer Mediators have planned theme days for the following dates to help emphasize the subject of bullying:

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| Monday, October 18th | "Take a Stand, Lend a Hand" |
| Tuesday, October 19th | 80's day (dress up as the 80's) |
| Wednesday, October 20th | "Be a Buddy, Not a Bully" (dress like a twin) |
| Thursday, October 21st | After School Dance "Dance Your way to the Bully Free Zone" (Dress-up formal) |
| Friday, October 22nd | "One Vision, One Direction, All Together One!" (wear School Colors) |



Skate night

Skate night is Friday, October 15th from 7:30 – 9:30 at Skate Quest in Reston. Tickets are \$8. Volunteers are needed from 7:00 – 8:30. If you can help for a portion of the event, contact the skate night committee at:

skatenights@lhmspta.com

Like to Garden?

The Beautification committee could use a few hands to help water, weed or plant bulbs this fall. Work can be done on your own schedule or in a group. Email Trudy McCrea at:

Trudy285@comcast.net



It is not 2 late to join the LHMS – PTA

Enjoy the Benefits ~ The number one reason to join the Parent Teacher Association is to benefit your child. In doing so, you also help your school. But there are more advantages. Here are just a few:

Get Connected ~ There's no better way to know what's happening in your school.

Discover Great Resources ~ The PTA offers a variety of programs designed for parents as well as students.

Tap into a Network ~ Parenting is not easy—it helps to share ideas, concerns and experiences with other parents and educators in the community. PTA functions are opportunities to meet other parents and teachers, building rapport and discussing issues that are on your mind.

Witness Improvement ~ By getting involved at your child's school you'll be part of the solution, helping make positive changes. Local PTAs play an important role in fundraising to provide building improvements, curriculum-based programs, and social events—all vital to a school's success.

Membership will get you great discounts from these companies:

The HP Academy Store, MedicAlert Foundation, MetLife Auto & Home, Sharp Electronics Corporation, Southwest Airlines Vacations and T-Mobile.

Please return your membership envelop with your dues of \$10.00 per member to the school office or go online at <http://lhmspta.com/> and clink and pledge.

And consider a tax deductible donation on top on your membership dues.

A small additional amount can help our school provide better resources.

Langston Hughes Middle

PTA[®]

everychild.one voice.[®]

Be a Role Model.

By becoming a PTA member, you'll be demonstrating to your child the importance you place on their education.

In November, 1980 the doors to LHMS first opened to reveal a state of the art school, ready to meet the needs of modern middle school students.

**Times sure have changed!
So has technology in our schools.**

Invest in Hughes

30th anniversary drive

Invest in Our Future

Then and Now

1980 2010

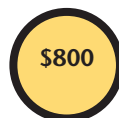
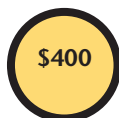
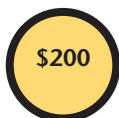
| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Film Strips | DVDs |
| VHS vs. Betamax | PC vs. Mac |
| Trapper Keeper | Flashdrive |
| Battery Operated Calculator | TI-84 solar graphing calculator |
| Purple Mimeograph sheets | Word Documents and pdfs |
| Card Catalog in Library | Online Catalog in Media Center |
| Touch Tone Phone | Cellphones and iphone |
| Notebook and Pencil | Laptop and Mouse |
| Chalkboard | Smart Board |
| Mail | Email |
| Typing | Touch Screen |

**Help bring new
technology to Hughes!**

In 1980, notebooks and pens for a classroom cost around \$17, today Netbook computers for a classroom of 30 students cost \$17,000!

Teachers continually request technology for student use in classrooms. Each donation the PTA receives as part of our Invest in Hughes 30th anniversary drive makes the gift of additional technology a reality. Your contribution will go to support the purchase of more technology to outfit Hughes for the 21st century learning environment.

Help celebrate 30 years of LHMS with this generous gift and move PACMAN to the goal!



Name: _____

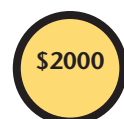
E-Mail/phone #: _____

_____ \$540 (\$3/school day) _____ \$360 (\$2/school day) _____ \$180 (\$1/school day)

_____ \$100 _____ \$50 _____ \$25 _____ \$10 _____ Other - Amt \$_____

Use My Contribution for: Technology Only Any Hughes Program

Gifts of all sizes make a difference !! Please contact us at lhms2vp@gmail.com if you or the company you work for would like to make a corporate donation.



THANK YOU!!!

“Look Ever Upward at the Sun and Stars ...”

“But march ever forward, breaking down bars. Look ever upward at the sun and the stars.”

– *The Negro Mother*, Langston Hughes.

Let these words of Langston Hughes inspire you to **nominate a child to be a Hughes Star!** Throughout the year we will be posting brightly colored stars in the front hall and locker commons highlighting the many and diverse achievements of our students. What makes a child a star? As Langston Hughes suggests, it’s all about marching forward, breaking down bars, and aspiring to be the best you can be! Here are some examples:

- ★ Participation or achievement in athletics at school or out in the community (ex: team sport, individual sport, athletic event)
- ★ Participation or achievement in academics (ex: Math Olympiad, essay contest, spelling bee)
- ★ Participation or achievement in the arts (ex: poetry contest, music competition, art show, theater, literary magazine)
- ★ Something accomplished in conjunction with a school-based club, activity or organization (ex: Odyssey of the Mind, Lego League, chess club)
- ★ Something accomplished in conjunction with an outside club, activity or organization (ex: Boy/Girl Scouts, service clubs, dance teams)

- ★ Something accomplished in conjunction with your family, neighborhood, or community (ex: helped someone in need; organized a neighborhood event; volunteered at RCC to help with Martin Luther King Day celebration)
- ★ Participation in an event devoted to raising money or awareness for a cause (ex: Walked in Relay for life, raised money for hurricane relief)

By the end of the year we would like to have every Langston Hughes student represented by at least one star, and preferably more than one! So whether you are a teacher, a staff member, or a parent – don’t wait! Nominate a LHMS student TODAY for something they did over the summer or since the school year began by filling out the form below or by sending an email with the student’s name, your name, your relationship to the student and a one-sentence description of their achievement to stars@lhmspta.com. (Have a student who is shy about their accomplishments? Instead of using the student’s name, we can print the student’s initials or even “a 7th (or 8th) grade student” — just let us know!)

Thanks in advance for helping us showcase the achievements of our amazing students!

“Langston Hughes Stars” Student Recognition Program

NOMINATION FORM

“But march ever forward, breaking down bars./Look ever upward at the sun and the stars.”

– *The Negro Mother*, Langston Hughes

Let these words of Langston Hughes inspire you to **nominate a child to be a Hughes Star!**

Student names & accomplishments will be posted in the “Hall of Stars” (between the gym & cafeteria) throughout the year.
Our goal is to ensure that every LHMS student is recognized for their accomplishments!

STUDENT NAME (or initials): _____

YOUR NAME: _____

Relationship to child (i.e., parent, teacher, guidance counselor): _____

Short (~ one sentence) description of student’s achievement: _____

Please return completed nomination forms to PTA box in mailroom or mail your nominations to stars@lhmspta.com

Thanks in advance for helping us showcase the achievements of our students!