



Letter from the President

Happy 2011! It is hard to believe that we are at the mid-point of the 2010-2011 school year already. The PTA has accomplished a lot this year, but looking forward there is still more to be done!

February may bring some wintery weather, but it will also be busy with terrific events we are sponsoring for our Hughes students. The 80's themed Dinner and a Movie night planned for January, has been rescheduled as a result of the snowstorm. This event, new this year, now takes place on February 4, featuring a movie some of you might remember, "Ferris Bueller's Day Off", along with a pizza dinner for Hughes students. Later, on February 11, the PTA is sponsoring Skate Night, another Friday evening activity which will provide the kids with more fun. Thanks to all who are able to volunteer some time to make these events happen within our community.

This month is also a time where some will begin to think about the next school year. Both Herndon and South Lakes High Schools will be hosting events for parents of rising 9th graders, and here at Hughes, we will be greeting the families of rising 7th graders. Soon, it will be time for the PTA to begin planning for next year, and the Nominating Committee will be formed as volunteers step forward to lead the way for our next school year.

With so much going on, we will continue to provide information through these monthly newsletters, the weekly KIT, and of course at our PTA meetings held each month in the media center. Whether you have had the opportunity to attend a meeting or you are new to the PTA, I hope to see you at our next meeting on Thursday, February 10!

Sincerely,

Kathy Joyner

Kathy Joyner, President
president@lhmspta.com



Calendar



Happenings at Hughes

- Fri Feb. 4 Dinner and Movie Night
6 pm - 9 pm
- Thurs Feb. 10 PTA Meeting
7 pm
- Fri Feb. 11 Skate Night
7:30 pm - 9:30 pm
- Thurs Feb. 17 Rising 9th Grade IB Information night - SLHS
7 pm
- Mon Feb. 21 **School is in Session!** Snow make-up day



Movie Night Rescheduled



Ferris Bueller's Day Off will be featured at the February 4 Dinner and a Movie Night for Hughes students! Tickets, to be sold in advance during lunch on Thursday and Friday, will include 2 slices of pizza and a drink, costing \$5. Any remaining tickets will be sold at the door for \$6 that night. **Volunteers are always welcome – follow this link to volunteer!** <http://www.volunteerspot.com/login/entry/1623456343790940105>



BUG (Bringing Up Grades)

February BUG drawing for 1st to 2nd quarter. Students who brought up grades by a half or whole grade, or maintained an "A" in a class, have an opportunity to participate in a gift card drawing. The more grades brought up, the more chances students have to win! The drawing will take place daily (12 winners/day) during the week of February 28th.



Sing Strong DC 2011



Sing Strong will be returning again this March 4, 5, and 6! You will not want to miss this international a cappella music festival which is hosted by the South Lakes Choral Department.

Tickets went on sale beginning Tuesday, January 16. Do not delay in getting your ticket for this event. This event will sell out quickly.

Skate Night

Skate night is Friday, February 11th from 7:30 – 9:30 at SkateQuest in Reston. Tickets are \$8. Volunteers are needed from 7:00 – 8:30. If you would like to volunteer for any time between 7 – 8:30, please email: skatenights@lhmspta.com



Hope to see you there!

LHMS Basketball Game



Save the date of **Friday, March 18** for the upcoming annual Langston Hughes Middle School basketball game. On that date, our fantastic 7th and 8th graders, along with our fabulous faculty, will face off against the Herndon Middle School teams. Its a great time for our students and a great way to show school spirit. To make it all happen we'll need lots of people to help out. Contact Mary Shedlock at msreston@yahoo.com or Donna Carrens at carrens@verizon.net to help out. **Go Panthers !!!!**

Support Hughes PTA...without writing a check!

There are two great ways to help just by visiting your grocery store! Last year, we earned over \$1500 through these programs – will you help us earn \$2500 this year?

Grocery Card Rebates

Giant and Harris Teeter are still enrolling new members in their grocery card programs. Simply by linking the grocery card that you already have to LHMS PTA, you will make a donation each time you make a purchase! All you'd need to do is link your card once, and all of your purchases for the rest of the school year will become part of this program.

To register with Giant, visit www.giantfood.com/aplus.

To register with Harris Teeter, visit www.harristeeter.com, click on community, then together in education where you'll find the relink instructions.

Box Tops for Education

We have the opportunity to give to Hughes PTA by saving the box tops from items you regularly purchase. Each Box Top that you cut out and turn in is worth 10¢ to the PTA. It sounds small, but adds up very quickly, and is easy to do. Clip them, save them, and send them in with your student to deposit in the box in the office or in the school library.

The Box Tops box will be on the table in the cafeteria during the change challenge. If you've got some, or think you can find some in your pantry, please send them in with your child and we can watch the dimes turn to dollars for LHMS PTA!



Participating Brands

Desserts

Betty Crocker Cookie & brownie mixes
Betty Crocker Frosting
Bisquick Baking Mix Boxes
Gold Medal Flour

Beverages

Nestle Juicy Juice

Cereal

Cheerios (many varieties)
Chex, Cocoa Puffs Cereals
Cookie Crisp & Kix Cereal
Disney's Cereals
Fiber One Cereals
Cinnamon Toast Crunch
Lucky Charm Cereals
Total & Wheaties Cereals

Meals & Sides

Hamburger Helper
Old El Paso tortillas & taco shells

Refrigerated & Dairy

Pillsbury Rolls
Yoplait Go-Gurt & kids' yogurt

Snacks

Cheerios Snack Mix
Chex Mix Bars & snack mix
Fruit-flavored shapes (Scooby Doo, Shark Bites...)

Frozen

Green Giant Vegetables
Pillsbury Microwave biscuits
Totino's Pizza Rolls

Baby & Child Care

Cottonelle products
Goodnites products
Huggies (wipes, diapers, little swimmers...)

School & Office Supplies

Hi-Liter Highlighters
Avery products
Marks-A-Lot Perm. Markers

Storage & Waste Bags

Ziploc Bags (many kinds)
Hefty waste bags
Hefty Crystal disposable cups

LANGSTON HUGHES MINORITY PARENT ADVOCACY MEETING



You are cordially invited to the Minority Parent Advocacy Meeting.

- . Dinner Provided
- . Childcare Provided

Meeting and Workshops include:

- . Advocating for Your Child
- . After School Support
- . High School Preparation
- . College Readiness

DATE: Wednesday, February 9, 2011

LOCATION: Langston Hughes MS

SCHEDULE 6:30 P.M. - 8:30 P.M.	
Time	Event
6:30p.m.-7:00p.m.	Please join us for dinner provided by the Reston Chapter of the LINKS, Inc.
7:00p.m. -8:30p.m.	Workshops

For more information please contact Amielia Mitchell, Director of Student Services at 703-715-3600 or ASMitchell1@fcps.edu

Nominate a Student to be a Hughes Star!

See page 5 for nomination form

"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!

See the list on the right and on the nomination form (pg 5) for examples.

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 on page 5 of the Hughes News or by sending an email with the student's name, your name, your relationship to the student & 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!

What Makes a STAR?...

School-wide National Geographic geography bee winner
Science Olympiad participation/awards
Virginia League Math Contest participants/winners
Successfully auditioning to participate in District Band/Orchestra/Chorus Auditioning/participation in/rating at Solo and Ensemble competition
Superior/Excellent/Good rating for band/orchestra/chorus at District Festival (for example, one recognition for entire band)
Serving as a section leader in Intermediate/Advanced Orchestra
Jazz Festival awards

Participation in/winning various drama activities:

- ★ Crew/cast member in school play
- ★ Shakeup Shakespeare Festival
- ★ SLHS or RCC theater performances
- ★ Theater Sports Expo performance/award

Participating/winning division of the TJ Odyssey of the Mind Invitational

Participating/winning at Lego League regional competition

Reflections – School level, Council level, District level, etc. (Due to the large number of participants at the school level, only winners were recognized)

Participation in individual and team sports competitions, races, and advancement/certification programs

- ★ Jr. Olympics
- ★ Earning Tae Kwon Do belt
- ★ Triathlons
- ★ Virginia Middle School Championship Wrestling Tournament
- ★ Go-cart racing
- ★ Reston Seahawk Football
- ★ Officiating at youth games
- ★ Babe Ruth Baseball

Art Exhibits and Competitions:

- ★ Creating artwork featured in the Dec 2007 Reston Connection
- ★ Exhibiting/winning at the Regional Scholastic Art Competition
- ★ Winning a Gold Key award in the Scholastic Art competition
- ★ Exhibiting work at GRACE

Designing team Tshirts

Poetry book cover design

Peer Mediators

Political involvement

Gingerbread House

Competition winners

7th and 8th grade basketball teams

ESOL Poetry Contest winners

Top sellers in the Fall School Fundraisers activity (Band, Orchestra, Chorus fund-raisers)

Community service/volunteer activities:

- ★ Students who participated in Embry Rucker project
- ★ HERMANAS for assistance with the Multicultural Fair
- ★ Tutoring Terraset student
- ★ Teaching drumsets to percussion students
- ★ Helping to clean and paint the CCNV shelter in Washington, DC
- ★ Students who helped out at Forest Edge fun fair
- ★ Work camp to assist fixing up a home for a disabled individual
- ★ Playing piano at a retirement home
- ★ Walk-a-thon, Ride-a-thon fundraisers

Yearbook cover design

SCA officers

General sportsmanship

Fun Run winners

PEP Band performance at basketball game

PTA Poetry Contest winners

Washington Post poetry contest

Boy Scout project participation/merit badge

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- ★ 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)



- ★ 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)

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!)



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“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!