



WORKING TOGETHER FOR THE GOOD OF OUR FAMILY

Central Elementary PTA

Dear Central Families...

Our 2017-18 school year has gotten off to a great start, thanks to the dedicated, talented staff at Central and an amazing team of PTA volunteers!

In August, the PTA provided a back-to-school breakfast for Central teachers and staff and provided "House Color" T-shirts for every student. In September, our new beautification committee held a campus clean-up day, and the Pink Cadillac Diner hosted a successful Central Family Night, which raised \$400 for the PTA. **Thank you, Pink Cadillac!**

On October 6, Central families gathered for a great time at our first "Movie under the Stars" with pizza, popcorn, treats and the movie "Sing." We look forward to the Wildlife Center of Virginia educational assemblies on October 17, another family night at Country Cookin' on October 19, the walkathon and fall festival on October 31, and the PTA Reflections Contest in November.

Thank you for all you do to help the Central PTA, including:

- Becoming a PTA member – we're just 33 members away from our goal of 200!

- Collecting Box Tops for Education
- Attending Central family nights
- Donating clothes to the Central Clothes Closet
- Helping when you can at PTA events
- Purchasing "Central Bears" spirit merchandise
- Collecting walkathon donations

We appreciate the opportunity to lead our school's PTA, as well as the family support that helps make Central such an outstanding school. If you have questions, comments or suggestions for the PTA, please feel free to contact any one of us.

Sincerely,

Gaye Johnson, President
Catie Brown, Vice President
Katie Stinnett, Treasurer
Ashley Crutchfield, Secretary



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WANTED—ROOM PARENTS

The PTA Volunteers Committee seeks adults willing to serve as a Room Parent in their student's classroom. Room Parents organize classroom events, like a Valentine's Day Party. More than one Room Parent per class is appreciated, since many hands make light work. Please contact Electra Wentz, ecmwmd@gmail.com, to ask questions about this position and sign-up for your student's classroom.

Meet the PTA Committees: Beautification Committee

First impressions are important. People take as little as 7 seconds to form a strong impression about a person or place depending on what they see, hear, feel, and smell at that first meeting. The Central Elementary PTA wants the Lexington community to have a wonderful impression of our school, our teachers and staff, and our students. We need to make sure our outside is as beautiful as our inside. With that thought in mind, the PTA Board created a Beautification Committee, to help our exterior match our interior.

Danielle Ryan and Lorin Wilhelm co-chair this new committee, supported by Catie Brown, Rachel Clark, Michael Johnson, and Kevin Ryan. The committee already had

one successful campus cleanup day in September. The second campus cleanup day is Saturday, October 14th, from 9:00am to noon. Volunteers are encouraged to show up and lend a hand, no RSVP required. Can't stay for 3 hours? No worries—stay for however long suits your schedule.



On the 14th helpers will continue to weed the flower beds, rake or blow

and collect leaves (as needed), pick-up trash, and trim hedges. Volunteers should bring a water bottle and work gloves for themselves. Also, the Committee would appreciate some volunteers bringing hedge trimmers to use, as the school does not own any trimmers. Questions about Campus Cleanup Day, October 14th, can be directed to Danielle Ryan at, dryan-va@gmail.com.

Looking forward, the Committee will work with Central staff to understand the future needs for garden areas and campus landscaping. Stay tuned to Central Elementary PTA to learn about ways your family can help Central stay beautiful.

2017-2018 National PTA Reflections®-Within Reach

Central Elementary PTA is pleased to have a dedicated group of parents leading our participation in Reflections 2017-2018. Words of thanks are extended to LeighAnn McCoy, Alex Slaydon, Karen Stanley, and Greer Stene for taking charge. This year's theme is ***Within Reach***. Entries are due to the Reflections Committee by November 21, 2017. Central families will receive more information in the coming weeks. Check those Tuesday folders, please! Also, our Reflections Committee plans to host a Family Art Night at Central, so students can make progress on their original art works.

What is Reflections? A program directed by the National PTA to encourage creativity and instill an appreciation for art, in its many forms, at school and at home. Students in elementary through high school are invited to submit original art that speaks to a common theme. The original art may be a choreographed dance, photograph, musical composition, short film, written composition, or other visual art. Each piece of original art is accompanied by the artists' statement which answers:



- How does the art entry relate to the theme?
- What is the artist's personal connection to the theme?
- What did the artist use to create his/her work (e.g. supplies, technology, instrumentation, props, etc.)?
- What/Who was the artist's inspiration?

Winning artists will receive awards or prizes at the local, regional, state and national levels.

Learn more by visiting the National PTA website, <https://www.pta.org/programs/reflections>

Annual PTA Walkathon is October 31!

To support the educational goals of our school, Central's PTA provides volunteers and funding for important programs and events, including:

- Educational field trips to Boxwood
- Educational assemblies, including The Wildlife Center of Virginia
- In-school theatrical performances
- House Color T-shirts for every student
- Classroom materials and equipment
- Teacher appreciation meals and treats
- Central Clothes Closet
- Family fun and movie nights
- Fall Festival and Spring Picnic
- Valentine's Day classroom parties (K-2) and social (4-5)
- Campus beautification (new project for 2017-18!)
- Special projects and purchases

Our annual walkathon, on October 31, helps fund these programs. In past years, this event has been successful due to the support from Central families, friends and staff, as well as area businesses. Students don't need to sell anything, but simply ask family and friends for donations. **Every donation – no matter the amount – helps!**

Contributors may support Central students by donating online at www.centralelementarypta.com or by submitting cash or checks payable to Central Elementary PTA. Questions about fundraising may be directed to Samantha Hoke, PTA Fundraising Chair, at sdlayne1@yahoo.com.

Electra Wentz, PTA Volunteers Chair, will organize around 15 volunteers for the walkathon. A volunteer sign-up sheet will be sent out soon. Electra can be reached at ecmwmd@gmail.com.



Students enjoying a beautiful day outdoors, raising money for Central!

2017
WALKATHON



“The more that you read,
the more things you will
know. The more that you
learn, the more places
you'll go.”

Dr. Seuss

from
<https://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/quotes/d/drseuss597901.html>)

Reading opportunities
abound...

The Scholastic Book Fair
is coming to Central.

Mark your calendars for
November 6-10, 2017.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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RCPS is on the Web!
<https://www.rockbridge.k12.va.us/Page/1>

PTA: Did you know?

The National Parent Teacher Association has existed for 120 years! First called the National Congress of Mothers, it was created in February of 1897.

The National Parent Teacher Association is the largest volunteer child and youth advocacy group in the United States. At last count, National PTA had over 5 million members.

The National Parent Teacher Association is credited with the creation of:

Kindergarten classes
Child labor laws
Public health service
Hot and healthy lunch programs
Juvenile justice system
Mandatory immunization
Arts in Education
School Safety



At the local level, Central Elementary PTA works with teachers and staff to nurture student well-being. We raise money to pay for educational field trips and assemblies, purchase classroom supplies and materials, and support campus beautification. We recruit volunteers to organize and run safe family-friendly events like movie nights and picnics. We show appreciation for our teachers and staff by serving periodic breakfasts, dinners, and treats.

October Reminders

- Participate—Fall Campus Cleanup, Saturday, October 14, 9:00 am to 12:00 PM
- Remember—no school for students Monday, October 16. It's a Teacher Workday!
- Student Assembly—Wildlife Center of Virginia educational assembly, Tuesday, October 17
- Attend Central PTA Board meeting, Wednesday, October 18, at 5:30pm
- Eat & Enjoy—Dine Out Event October 19th at Country Cookin', 4:00 to 9:00pm
- Promote Central; Collect Donations—Annual Walkathon, Tuesday, October 31