

HBMS Eagle Eye



February 2008

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Principal—Debbie Reeves
PTA President—Katie Mazzuckelli
Editor—Katie Mazzuckelli
Design—Shelley Avart

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length, and interest to our readers.

Haynes Bridge Middle School
10665 Haynes Bridge Road
Alpharetta, Georgia 30022
770-740-7030 • Fax 770-667-2842

www.HaynesBridge.com
www.hbmspta.com

News From the President

It's that time . . . time to start thinking about what you would like to do at Haynes Bridge Middle School next year! Throughout this semester, we will work to fill both our slate of officers for the 2009-2010 HBMS PTA Board as well as open committee Chair positions for the coming school year. At the February 5th General PTA Meeting, we elected our Nominating Committee. Our HBMS PTA By-Laws dictate the formation of this ad hoc committee and its composition of three members. This year, Ann Cox, Angie Morris, and Tara Osborne have agreed to serve as HBMS PTA's Nominating Committee, and they are already hard at work.

There are several open Board positions as well as a variety of committee Chair opportunities. If your child will be at HBMS next year, won't you consider volunteering? Please contact one of the Nominating Committee members to learn more; their contact information is:

- Ann Cox: annmccox@aol.com or 770-475-5981
- Angie Morris: bamorris1@yahoo.com or 770-649-7997
- Tara Osborne: taaosborne@bellsouth.net or 770-751-7005

Feel free to contact any current Board member or committee Chair to learn about current positions as well. Volunteering for one of these important roles is a wonderful way to get to know HBMS and stay involved in the life of your middle school student. We hope you will consider joining the HBMS PTA team!

Katie Mazzuckelli, PTA President
mazzuckelli@comcast.net or 770-664-6307

April General PTA Meeting

We hope you will join us for the final General PTA meeting of the school year: *Thursday, April 2, 6:45 p.m.*, prior to the HBMS Talent Show. The primary order of business for this meeting will be the election of the 2009-2010 HBMS PTA Board. As always, we will post a report showing progress against this year's PTA budget as well. If you have questions, please contact Katie Mazzuckelli, HBMS PTA President, mazzuckelli@comcast.net or 770-664-6307.

Haynes Bridge Games 2009

Dates for the annual Haynes Bridge Games are set! The HBMS Games are an assortment of fun, "Olympic-like" events such as the 50 yard dash, soccer games, and the balloon race. Students are assigned "countries" of teammates according to their grade level. Registration will take place in the morning on the following days:

Monday, March 16—8th Grade
Tuesday, March 17—6th Grade
Wednesday, March 18—7th Grade

Games Days themselves take place in early April, immediately before Spring Break:

Wednesday, April 1—7th Grade
Thursday, April 2—6th Grade
Friday, April 3—8th Grade

If you already volunteered to work the HBMS Games, you will be contacted in early March to sign up for a specific time. If you would like to volunteer to help with sign ups or the HBMS Games themselves, please contact Kirstin Risse (ktresse@comcast.net or 770-998-4509) or Sherry Wendt (pswendt@comcast.net or 770-558-6922), Haynes Bridge Games Committee Co-Chairs. We look forward to working with you at the HBMS Games!



HBMS PTA Happenings



May Lunch & Learn: Please mark your calendars for the final Lunch & Learn of the year, scheduled for *Friday, May 1*, from 11:45 a.m.-1:00 p.m. At this session, Chris Holzwarth, Director of Beyond the Applause, will speak about the college search and application processes. As we will learn, middle school is none too early to think about this important topic! Drinks will be provided; you just need to pack a sack lunch. If you have any questions, please contact Kathryn Dahm, Lunch & Learn Committee Chair, kdahm86@earthlink.net or 770-993-4882.

We Collect Pike Receipts: Please remember to send your Pike Nurseries' receipts into HBMS. HBMS participates in Pike's "Greenback" program which donates 7% of the purchase value of all receipts back to HBMS once we have collected over \$5,000 worth of receipts. We continue to do some landscaping around the school, and these Pike's credits come in handy. The Pike's Receipts collection box is located at the end of the 6th grade hall, near the administrative offices. If you have trouble finding the collection box, feel free to leave the receipts in the PTA President's mailbox in the front office. Thank you!

Join HBMS PTA Today! If you have already joined PTA, thank you!

If you haven't, you still can, and we encourage you to do so. Joining the PTA supports your child's educational experience at HBMS. And remember, joining the PTA is the only way to get a copy of the *HBMS Student Directory*.

Your membership affords you other benefits as well; you can read about these additional member benefits at www.georgiapta.org/membership-benefits.html.

To join, simply visit the HBMS PTA website (www.hbmspta.com) to get a copy of the HBMS 2008-2009 *Membership* form (copies are also available in the front office). Have your student bring the completed form and a check in an envelope marked, "ATTN: Ann Cox, Membership Committee Chair," to the office.

Questions? Please contact Ann Cox, Membership Committee Chair, at annmccox@aol.com or 770-475-5981. Thank you for your support!



HBMS Cares! Please recycle cell phones and inkjet/laserjet printer cartridges at Haynes Bridge. Our collection bins are located in the administration area at the end of the 6th grade hall near the front door. We have partnered with Funding Factory which gives us cash back for each phone or cartridge we send in. Information about this program is available on the PTA website, www.hbmspta.com/Forms & Flyers. If you have any questions, please contact Karen LeCates or Melissa Tilly, Recycling Committee Co-Chairs. (Karen: karenlecatess@gmail.com or 770-641-8491; Melissa: mq_tilly@yahoo.com or 770-518-8715.)



"Click, Learn, Help Them Learn"
The Electronic Version of the Campbell's Soup Labels for Education™ Program: Campbell's Soup has offered their *Labels for Education* Program for 35 years. Now they have partnered with Kroger to create an electronic version of the program! You no longer have to peel labels off cans and send them into school; all you have to do is sign up online by entering your KrogerPlus Shopper Card number. Then, every time you purchase a participating *Labels for Education* item, Haynes Bridge Middle School will automatically receive credit. HBMS can redeem the points they earn for free educational merchandise and equipment. The plan is really easy—just follow these three steps:

- **Click.** Go to www.e-LabelsforEducation.com to register. Set up an account by entering your KrogerPlus Shopper Card number (look on the back of the card, under the barcode) and answering a few simple questions. Then choose Haynes Bridge Middle School as the school that will receive your points.
- **Earn.** Once you have registered, every time you shop at the Kroger family of stores and purchase any participating *Labels for Education* products, total points earned will be credited to the school's account automatically.
- **Help them learn!** HBMS can redeem any points earned for free educational merchandise and equipment available through the Campbell's *Labels for Education* catalog.

Please take a moment to register now. And, encourage friends and family members to sign up as well. This is another easy way to support HBMS—by making sure the school benefits from shopping you already do. If you have any questions, please contact Michele Neiland, VP Ways & Means, neilandjandm@bellsouth.net or 770-642-0341.

Your Grocery Purchases Can Help HBMS: It's easy to help HBMS by using your grocery scan cards. Here's how:

- At Publix, you will need to have your Publix school card scanned every visit.
- At Kroger, you need to scan your KrogerPlus card against the HBMS bar code. (*This needs to be done each year, so please have your card "rescanned" even if you've done so in the past!*) Then, every time you present your KrogerPlus card, HBMS will get credit.

If you need additional Publix Partner cards please visit the front office. A copy of the Kroger letter with the bar code is available there as well, or you can get a copy of this on the PTA website (www.hbmspta.com). If you forget to bring the HBMS barcode to Kroger, ask them at the checkout line—they should have a copy of our barcode at each register.

Remember, family and friends can participate in these programs too. Feel free to pick up extra Publix cards and/or Kroger bar code letters for distribution. The funds that HBMS receives from these programs help the school purchase important materials and supplies for classrooms. If you have any questions about the scan card programs, please contact Cathy Rowe, Scan Card Committee Chair, rowetecm@gmail.com or 770-992-9237.



Pine Straw for Spring! It's almost time to think about spring landscaping. We hope you will order the pine straw you need to replenish your beds from HBMS PTA. A copy of *Pine Straw* order form is available on the PTA website homepage (www.hbmspta.com). High-quality bales are available for \$4.75/each, and you can pick the week you would like to schedule delivery. Completed forms and a check made out to "HBMS PTA" can be sent back into the office with your student, and pine straw will be delivered to your home. There is no easier way to get pine straw, and this is an easy means of supporting HBMS PTA too! If you have any questions, please contact Lori Abrams, Pine Straw Fundraiser Committee Chair, lori.abrams@kcc.com, 770-366-0850.

Sally Foster Fundraiser: *Until May 15, 2009*, if you need gift wrap or any other products from the Sally Foster catalog, you can still order online. Simply visit www.SallyFoster.com and order **using the school code: 500156**. You can also still order Entertainment Books by visiting www.entertainment.com.



Thanks to your support, the Sally Foster fundraiser has been a great success for HBMS this year, and we appreciate your ongoing support as well. If you have any questions, please contact Julie Childers, Sally Croawell, or Caroline Truax, Gift Wrap Committee Co-Chairs. (Julie: jcjc@bellsouth.net or 678-624-9393; Sally: croawell@bellsouth.net or 678-585-0904; Caroline: ctruax@bellsouth.net or 770-642-2448.)



Keep Clipping Box Tops! Thank you for all the Box Tops you have sent already this year. We will be sending in another batch soon, so please remember to keep the scissors handy, and remind family and friends to send you their Box Tops as well. You can send your Box Tops in with your child; the collection box is located at the end of the 6th grade hall, near the administrative offices. For more information on the latest sweepstakes, recipe ideas, and coupons, visit the Box Tops website: <https://www.boxtops4education.com>. If you have any questions, please contact Kim Tolleson, Box Tops Committee Chair, tollesond@bellsouth.net or 678-566-1562.

"Wow!" Reflections 2008-2009 Program Summary: Thanks to the efforts of HBMS's students, this year's Reflections Program was a great success. 176 entries were submitted this year—a new record! HBMS announced its winners at a reception held before school on December 5. Students and their parents enjoyed refreshments while they viewed all submissions. Reflections Committee co-Chairs, Kathy Lopez and Julie Anne Cooper, then acknowledged all the school-level winners as well as the Council Winners and/or Honorable Mentions. Principal Debbie Reeves presented each winner with a signed certificate as well as gift card awards. It was a special morning of celebration enjoyed by all.

HBMS Reflection winners by category and grade level:

Literature Category

- 6th grade: Jay Bowler, Victoria Zhou
Honorable Mention: Cullen Osborne
- 7th grade: Brandon Reed, Nicholas Summers
Honorable Mention: Rachel Chau
- 8th grade: Lauren Krajewski, Amy Martin
Honorable Mention: Andy Yavorsky

Visual Arts Category

- 6th grade: Ingrid Cai, Leigh Collier
Honorable Mention: Maria Liu
- 7th grade: Haley McKay, Emma Voss
Honorable Mention: Maria Liu
- 8th grade: Noel El, Savannah Taylor

Photograph Category

- 6th grade: Elena Bramel, Rachel Carkuff
Honorable Mention: Paton Ussery
- 8th grade: Nick Sheridan, Robbie Warren
Honorable Mention: Anna Mazzuckelli

Film Video Category

- 8th grade winner: Nick Sheridan

The North Fulton Council PTA had a difficult time selecting winners among all the terrific submissions this year. They selected the following four HBMS entries to move on to the Council Level Awards ceremony which was held on January 29 at Northview High School:

- Ingrid Cai, 6th grade, Visual Arts
- Victoria Zhou, 6th grade, Literature
- Lauren Krajewski, 8th grade, Literature
- Nick Sheridan, 8th grade, Film Video

Kathy Lopez attended this event and reported an impressive turnout. "Northview's auditorium was packed with parents and students as all students were acknowledged by category. The evening also included high quality performances, as some of the local high school participants shared their singing and dance routines on stage for the audience to enjoy." HBMS's entries fared well at the Council event—Ingrid Cai and Victoria Zhou were given Honorable Mention awards, and Lauren Krajewski and Nick Sheridan won and will advance to the State competition! Congratulations to all our Reflections Program participants, and good luck to Lauren and Nick as their entries continue through the Reflections competition process.

Be sure you are part of the fun next year. You can start on your submissions now. The 2009-1010 Reflections Program theme is, "Beauty Is . . ." Questions? Contact Julie Anne Cooper, Reflections Committee Chair, 2009-2010, juliecooper@bellsouth.net or 770-664-1523.



HBMS Student Happenings

8th Grade Skills and Interest Assessment: The 8th grade students will be taking a skills assessment and an interest assessment through the COIN Career Community, an online career guidance and curriculum program purchased by the county. Students will be given these computerized assessments during their connections classes in February. The results of these tests will be attached to their high school course selection form so that students can refer to them when selecting their electives. *Mrs. Martinez*

POP: Haynes Bridge Middle School sponsors a Power Over Prejudice (POP) Club. The POP Club attended its annual conference on November 13, 2008 at Georgia Tech. The conference is sponsored each year by the Anti-Prejudice Consortium of Atlanta as a way to break down barriers and find ways to encourage understanding and acceptance among all middle school youth. Ten 6th and 7th graders, along with Mrs. Martinez and Mrs. Lee, attended.

Haynes Bridge POP Club member students also meet weekly to come up with activities that promote tolerance at HBMS. Students recorded "POP quizzes" about different regions of the world that were shown on HBTv in January. They have also created eye-catching bulletin boards emphasizing tolerance and goodwill. The students sponsored a Mix-it Up Day during 7th grade lunch in November where students sat at different tables and met new students. To honor the historic inauguration of our new president, members decorated soda POP bottles that were passed to each homeroom. Students were asked to write a message of hope to put in these bottles. These messages will be read on HBTv. POP meets on Thursday mornings at 8:05 a.m. in Room 9. It's a great group of students and a wonderful way to celebrate and promote our cultural, ethnic, social, and physical differences at Haynes Bridge. Please join us! *Mrs. Martinez*

Academic Bowl: The HBMS academic bowl team was back in action on January 31st at Holcomb Bridge Middle School's Soar to Excellence tournament—the team took sixth place out of more than 30 middle schools in competition. In our last tournament, the Fulton County event last fall, we finished with a record of 6-4. We will also participate in two other competitions later in the semester.

The team practices every Monday and Friday morning, answering questions on geography, science, literature, spelling, fine arts, mathematics, and current events. We also research these categories and write our own practice questions. Additionally, we have resources available on the school website under "Student Life."

Our starting team this year features students from all three grade levels, including 6th graders Ryann Khalil and David Raji, 7th graders Will June and Eric Oldfield, and 8th graders Alec Mazzuckelli and Morgan Cox. The starting positions are heavily contested each week, with over 17 students fighting for each of the starting spots. *Mr. Fowler*



Critics' Corner—Movies Magically Making Readers:

Would you believe that HBMS students are staying after school several Fridays a month until 5:30 p.m. to read? You might be surprised by the turnout for Critics' Corner, a club started and funded through a PTA Mini-Grant. On designated Fridays, students stay after school to begin reading and discussing a novel. They have two weeks to independently finish the book and then become eligible to stay after school to watch the film adaptation of the story. Critics' Corner is open to all HBMS students, but Ms. Wilson, our graduation coach and the club's sponsor, personally invites reluctant readers, students referred by their Language Arts teacher, or those who are referred by their parent.

Getting "hooked" into the first chapters of a novel by reading as a group has been successful in encouraging students in the club to read. The support of the PTA grant makes it possible to provide snacks and novels free of charge so that all a child has to do is attend the meeting. The group has enjoyed many novels including *How to Eat Fried Worms*, *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*, *Matilda*, *Bridge to Terabithia*, *Nim's Island*, and *The Incredible Journey*.

While Ms. Wilson loves her time facilitating the discussion of these books, she has been most pleased by students who come back to tell her that they picked up another book in the Media Center and are reading it because they've seen movie trailers promoting the release of the upcoming film. *Twilight*, *Inkheart*, *Eragon*, *Tale of Despereaux*, and *Prince Caspian* all are recent films based on young adult favorites. For Ms. Wilson, the best part of the meeting happens after the viewing of the film when students comment on how much better the book was than the movie and discuss how characters were more fully developed in the novel. After reading *Matilda*, several commented on how much the story changed when the setting was moved to the U.S. instead of the U.K. as it was in the original book.

Video Games, the Internet, television and athletics are fine in moderation but can make reading a less attractive pastime. Just as parents have been known to "sneak" vegetables into meals for their children's benefit, Critics' Corner "tricks" some students into reading outside of required language arts classes. The next Critics' Corner novel will be *Holes*. The group met on Friday, January 30th and will meet again on *Friday, February 13th from 3:45 – 5:30 p.m.* in room 41 (Ms. Wilson's room on the 8th grade hall.) Even if a student has already seen the movie or read the book they can benefit from discussing the literary devices (similes, metaphors, alliteration, etc.) and theme of this wonderful Lois Sachar novel. Permission slips are required for students to attend. These slips are always available outside of room 41. A form for the next session (Sachar's *Holes*) is posted on-line at www.hbmspta.com/Forms & Flyers. If you want additional information about Critics' Corner or the graduation coach program, please contact Ms. Wilson at wilson@fultonschools.org (note this is a new email address). *Ms. Wilson*

Debate Club: Because many of our students like to argue and many like to say what they think when they think it, Mrs. Schultz and Mrs. Martinez thought that a more positive outlet would be in order. In fall, students were asked to check out our newest club—the Debate Club. We have had a great response! We have been exploring the different aspects of debating and hope to form a debate team that can compete with other schools in the future. The Debate Club meets on Wednesday afternoons, twice a month, and all students are invited to participate. *Mrs. Martinez*

HBMS Science Fair: HBMS hosted its Fourth Annual Science Fair on January 21, 2009. This year, over 200 students submitted 168 entries!

Five students/student pairs will move on to the County Science Fair scheduled for *February 19th*. These students are listed below along with their project titles:

Willow Peterson, “Grey is the New Green.”
Jenna LeCates and Leigh Ann Collier, “Energy from Food.”
Laura George, “Food Energy.”
Ryan Tillman and Aaron Sheffield, “Turf vs. Grass.”
Paden Herring, “Cruising on Air.”

One alternate was also named—the team: Kaliq Wang and Rayner Kristanto, “Fruits, Vegetables, and Energy.”

Finally, “Honorable Mention” awards were given to 14 projects. Students who received this award for individual projects were: Eric Beeler, Rayna Berinhout, Ryan Mitchell, Brandon Vines, Patrick Wolff, Sara Gwynn, Haley McKay, Michael Morgan, and Joel Terning. Students who received Honorable Mention for team projects were: Lindsay Atkins and Sarah Saldana; Elise Baum and Elisa Watanabe; Drew Calvario and Nate Trockenbrot; Evan Thomas and Nick Summers; and, Jake Truax and Wes Anderson.

Congratulations to all participants, and good luck to those who will represent HBMS at the County Science Fair! Mrs. Schultz



Volunteer Roundup . . . We Need Your Help!

There are always opportunities to volunteer at HBMS. Visit the PTA website (www.hbms.com/Committee_Descriptions) to learn more about all HBMS’s committees and/or contact a Board member or committee Chair. You will find a spot for your talents, interests, and availability. Coming into the school and seeing your HBMS student in his/her environment is very rewarding—find out for yourself!

Current needs include:

The 2009-2010 PTA Board and Committee Chairs—For the 2009-2010 school year, there will be several openings on the PTA Board as well as openings for committee Chairs. A list of this year’s PTA Board members is included in this newsletter, and Board members and committee Chairs are cited in the *HBMS Directory* and on the PTA website (www.hbmspta.com). Contact any current Board member to learn more about Board and committee Chair positions that will be open next year. Also feel free to contact current committee Chairs to learn more about committees you may be interested in tackling next year or Ann Cox, Nominating Committee Chair, annmccox@aol.com or 770-475-5981.

PTA Takes Action

Georgia PTA’s weekly update on legislative activity – Feb. 1, 2009

The General Assembly has been in session three weeks and has completed ten of the forty days that it will meet in 2009. During the week of Jan. 19-23, the Assembly was in recess so it could hold hearings on the Governor’s proposed 2009 Supplemental Budget and the 2010 Budget.

Update: Call to Action – Save our School Nurses

The Call to Action to conduct a Popsicle stick/tongue depressor campaign and to call your legislators about funding for school nurses went out two weeks ago and it’s starting to make a difference. Our legislators are hearing you! When GA PTA is at the Capitol we hear comments from many legislators that they are hearing from their constituents and will try to keep the school nurse funding. Keep up the good work. We need to keep the calls and Popsicle sticks coming so our legislators keep that commitment to fund our school nurses. Additional information is available on the Georgia PTA website www.georgiapta.org.

If you haven’t called your legislators, their contact info can be found at the bottom of this letter or by using the GA District Lookup under the *Officials* tab on Capitol Watch.

Karen Hallacy
GA PTA Legislative Chair

Your Legislators: State Senate - [Dan Moody](#) (R-56)
State House - [Jan Jones](#) (R-046)

Please Continue to Record Your Volunteer Hours!

Yes, we still collect volunteer hours at HBMS despite the loss of our old computerized system! Please continue to log in/out of the building when you volunteer at HBMS, and we will roll these hours up for our records. If you volunteer outside HBMS, you can transfer the total hours worked to the paper log the next time you visit the school, or you can still record them via a link on the homepage of the PTA website (www.hbmspta.com). Thank you for volunteering at HBMS and for continuing to record your volunteer hours! If you have any questions, please contact Dana Dowdy, VIPS Committee Chair, danadowdy@comcast.net or 770-310-6103.

Did You Know? A PTA Website Fun Fact

It's 5 p.m., and your HBMS student has just remembered they need a red pen for school tomorrow. You're wondering if he can buy it at the School Store in the morning or if you need to run out to the store before dinner. Now your decision is easier—you can see what the School Store typically stocks by visiting the HBMS PTA website, [www.hbmspta.com/School Store](http://www.hbmspta.com/School_Store). Products the store usually carries are listed there as are item prices, so you will know how much money to send in. Visit the site today and see for yourself.

While you are on the PTA's homepage, be sure to sign up for the HBMS PTA Group. If you aren't getting periodic e-mail messages from the PTA (including notification when this quarterly newsletter, the *HBMS Eagle Eye*, is available), then you are not a member now. Become a member; sign up today!

Questions about the website or the HBMS PTA group? Contact Shelley Avant, Website Committee Chair, shelley@avants.net or 770-619-9097.



Calendar of Events

February

3	School tour, 10:00 a.m.
5	Orchestra concert, 7:00 p.m. (Preceded by a General PTA Meeting, 6:45 p.m.)
6	Career Day
10-13	2 nd Annual HBMS Literature Fair 10 & 11, 7 th grade 12 & 13, 8 th grade
10	Cluster Chorus Concert, 7:00 p.m.
12	Interim Reports go home
16	No School, President's Day holiday
17	8 th graders visit Centennial H.S.
19	Scoliosis screening, 6 th & 8 th graders
25	Early release day, 12:30 p.m.
26	School tour, 10:00 a.m. Band Pre-festival concert, 7:00 p.m.

March

11	"Welcome to CHS, Class of 2013" meeting for parents of 8 th graders, Centennial H.S., 7:00 p.m.
13	No School, teacher work day
16	Games Day signups—8 th grade, 8:25-9:40 a.m. Spring portraits
17	Games Day signups—6 th grade, 8:25-9:40 a.m.
18	Games Day signups—7 th grade, 8:25-9:40 a.m. 3 rd quarter Progress Reports go home
19	Band concert, 7:00 p.m.
24	Northwood E.S. 5 th graders visit HBMS
25	Early release day, 12:30 p.m. Band cluster concert, Centennial H.S., 6:30 p.m.
26	Barnwell and Hillside E.S. 5 th graders visit HBMS Meeting for parents of rising 6 th graders, 7:00 p.m.
27	Hospitality breakfast Georgia Heritage Day, 8 th graders in-school event

See www.hbmspta.com
for the full 2008-2009
HBMS PTA Calendar of Events