

HBMS Eagle Eye



September 2008

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News From the President

Welcome to Haynes Bridge Middle School! By now, I am sure you and your HBMS student/s are well settled into the 2008-2009 school year, but I am pleased to have the chance to greet you formally in this, our first PTA newsletter of the year.

I saw many of you at our Curriculum Night meeting on August 21st. Thank you for attending that as well as our first General PTA meeting of the year. I enjoyed introducing the PTA Board and this year's committee chairs that evening. I appreciate your help in thanking this group of dedicated volunteers for the work they did to prepare for this school year as well as all the work that they will do throughout the year ahead. We also conducted a very important piece of PTA business during our first meeting: the membership voted to approve the HBMS PTA budget for the 2008-2009 school year. Thank you for helping us launch this year so efficiently!

We have an exciting year of activities planned at HBMS. Please visit the PTA website (www.hbmspta.com) or look in your *Parent Handbook* for a full calendar listing. Also, read this newsletter carefully and you will find out about some key upcoming events including the National Reflections Program, Red Ribbon Week, the Fall Book Fair, and more. Be sure to circle one very special date on your calendar before you forget: *Saturday, September 20 from 2:00-4:00 p.m.*, come help us celebrate HBMS's 25th anniversary at an Open House here at school! This is going to be a special, celebratory, year, and we are glad you are here to share it with us!

Katie Mazzuckelli, PTA President

Drug Awareness Week October 20th–24th



Red Ribbon Week is a special time to raise awareness of the dangers of drug and alcohol use among your youth and their families. Daily announcements and activities will help reinforce this important message. Along with these daily activities, a guest speaker will share experiences regarding good choices against drugs and alcohol. Throughout the week, students will be encouraged to **"Give Back...Don't Give In"** by making donations to local charities.

"Drug Awareness Week Activities" continued on Page 7

Daily activities and themes will include:

National PTA Reflections Program "Wow!"

"Wow!" what a great Reflections program theme! Remember, there are six categories to choose from: Literature, Visual Arts, Photography, Music, Dance Choreography, and Film Video Production. Students can submit more than one entry in any given category, and they can submit entries in multiple categories. Entry forms are available in the Media Center, and they can also be downloaded via a link on the HBMS PTA website (<http://www.hbmspta.com/reflections.htm>). HBMS's art teacher, Mrs. Schofield, has graciously offered to let students interested in working on art submissions work in the art room. These students need to see Mrs. Schofield the day before they wish to work to get a pass, then they will need to come into school the next day early to work (7:30-8:00 a.m.) These students should have a distinct plan of work! Mrs. Schofield will provide the work environment and some supplies, but students should bring specialty supplies.



Please read entry forms carefully; there are specific requirements for each category. Parents must sign every entry form; and, remember, students must work independently. *The deadline for all entries is October 3, 2008.* Two weeks prior to the deadline, the PTA will begin to hold drawings from the names of those students who have submitted entries. Winners will receive great prizes, so be sure to get your entry in! Of course, every student who enters the Reflections competition will receive a participation certificate and will be invited to attend a Special Reflections Reception hosted by Principal Debbie Reeves.

"Reflections" continued on Page 7

HBMS PTA Happenings

HBMS PTA Earns Council Awards: At the end of the 2007-2008 school year, HBMS PTA earned two significant honors we wanted to share with our membership. These awards came from the North Fulton Council PTA (NFCPTA):



- **Connect with Council Award**—This award was launched in 2005-2006 as a way to encourage unit PTAs to participate more fully in NFCPTA and Georgia PTA activities. HBMS PTA earned this award by completing a myriad of administrative, operational, and strategic requirements designated by our governing council. These activities included attending NFCPTA meetings; submitting a unit PTA Plan of Work, audit report, and budget; paying annual NFCPTA dues; taking part in the National Reflections program; participating in PTA Day at the Capital; and more.

- **Connect with Council Membership Award**—2007-2008 was the first year this award was offered. To earn this distinction, unit PTAs had to meet five criteria: earn the Oak Tree Certificate (100% teacher/staff membership); earn the Partner Membership Certificate (25 or more community partner members); earn the Gold or Platinum Membership Certificate (HBMS PTA earned the Platinum Membership award for meeting 100% membership target by the last business day in September 2007); submit a Membership Committee Plan of Work to NFCPTA; and submit a Membership Priority Report to GA PTA. **HBMS PTA was the only unit to win this award last year! Kudos to Membership Committee Chair, Ann Cox, and thank to all our wonderful PTA members!**

The HBMS Fall Book Fair: The Annual Fall Scholastic Book Fair will be held in the HBMS Media Center from *October 20th-24th*. Over the course of that week, students will have the opportunity to purchase books, study aids, software, posters, and a wide assortment of accessories. Each HBMS student will attend the Book Fair with his/her Language Arts class. Students can also shop before and after school each day. *We will need more than 30 volunteers to help staff the Book Fair.* If you are interested in volunteering or have any questions, please contact Mary Kay Flett, Media Center Committee Chair, mkf115@yahoo.com or 770-664-8459.

Need Pine Straw? If you need pine straw throughout this school year, we hope you will allow HBMS PTA to be your pine straw supplier! A copy of the order form is available on the PTA website homepage (www.hbmspta.com) or you can get a hard copy in the front office. 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.

Open for Business: The HBMS PTA School Store: The HBMS PTA School Store is open for business! Please visit most Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings from 8:00-8:25 a.m. in the cafeteria. The store is stocked to meet all school supply needs and students can also pick up an HBMS "25th anniversary" t-shirt! T-shirts are \$15 each, and there are limited quantities available in some sizes—shop early for the best selection! If you have questions or have interest in volunteering at the School Store, please contact Lisa Boulton, School Store Committee Chair, lmj_mi_ql@hotmail.com or 770-518-8995.

Sally Foster Fundraiser Update:

Thank you for your support of HBMS PTA's Sally Foster fundraiser. We expanded our fundraiser product offerings this year adding cookie dough and entertainment books to the already rich array of magazines and Sally Foster gift wrap, candies, and gifts found in the traditional catalog. And the HBMS family responded by helping us grow this important sale! Final tallies are not in yet, but we are still hoping to meet our fundraising goal.



If you didn't get a chance to order yet, remember you can still support this fundraiser by placing an order on-line. Cookie dough is not available on-line, but you can still order magazines, and the great Sally Foster gift wrap, candies, and other catalog products. Simply visit www.SallyFoster.com and order (**using the school code: 500156**). **Also, the Sally Foster Entertainment Book is now available for sale!** Go to www.entertainment.com/support to order one of these wonderful books. A flyer with full details is available on the PTA website: www.hbmspta.com. All items available on-line can be ordered until *January 15, 2009*. (There will be no more student-earned prize credits for sales beyond our order deadline, but HBMS PTA will still earn 50% from every sale made until January.) Remember, monies raised through this fundraiser form the cornerstone of the HBMS PTA budget. Students, teachers, and parents benefit from your sales and purchases!

Order Pick Up Information . . .

If you ordered Sally Foster products, pick up times are scheduled as follows:

- **Wednesday, October 8: 3:30-6:00 p.m.**
- **Thursday, October 9: 7:30-9:00 a.m.**
- **Thursday, October 9: 3:30-6:00 p.m.**

Remember that Fulton County does not allow students to take home boxes on the bus. And, cookie dough is perishable—cookie dough which is not picked up by *Thursday, October 9*, will be donated to a local food bank. **Please be prepared to come to the school to pick up your order—thank you!**

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.)

Student Directories Will Be Sent Home Soon! The 2008-2009 HBMS Student Directory is scheduled to be distributed on September 26. Directories will be sent home with your HBMS student, so please ask your child for your copy so it doesn't get lost in his/her book bag or locker. If you did not get a directory (they come with certain levels of HBMS PTA Membership), you can still join the PTA—read the article about membership in this newsletter for more information. Questions? Please contact Kim Dean or Stevi Barber, Directory Committee Co-Chairs (Kim: johnkim.dean@bellsouth.net or 770-664-7673; Stevi: stevibarber@gmail.com or 770-442-2803.)

“25 Reasons to Join HBMS PTA” Have You Joined?

Help us celebrate Haynes Bridge Middle School's 25th anniversary by joining the PTA! 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). Your HBMS student can bring the completed form and a check in to the front office in an envelope marked, “ATTN: Ann Cox, Membership Committee Chair.” Joining the PTA is a wonderful way to support your child's educational experience at HBMS. And, the only way to get a copy of the HBMS Student Directory is to join the PTA. Finally, your membership affords you other benefits as well, including discounts at Zoo Atlanta, the Chattahoochee Nature Center, retailers like HoneyBaked Ham, and Party City, and many more. Visit www.georgiapta.org/membership-benefits.html to learn more.

Please help us reach our goal of 100% membership again this year (we've earned this honor the last two years)! Questions? Please contact Ann Cox, Membership Chair, annmccox@aol.com or 770-475-5981.



Time to Send Your “Box Tops” Into School!

HBMS collects Box Tops, and we are hoping you have been clipping Box Tops all summer and have a pile saved for us! If so, please have your child bring them into school and deposit them

in the collection box located at the end of the 6th grade hall, near the administrative offices. Remember, HBMS earns money for each “Box Top” we collect. If you are new to the Box Tops for Education Program, it is easy to participate: just clip the official “Box Tops” from General Mills products and have your child bring the Box Tops you collect into school. Please ask your friends, family, neighbors, and co-workers to help collect these Box Tops—they can add up in a hurry to benefit HBMS! To see current offers and other Box Top news, visit www.boxtops4education.com. Questions? Contact Kim Tolleson, Box Tops Committee Chair, tollesond@bellsouth.net or 678-566-1562.



Lunch & Learn—Friday, October 24—11:45 a.m.-1:00 p.m. We hope you enjoyed the first Lunch & Learn event of the season, “Experiencing Middle School & Loving It,” which was presented by HBMS's own Counselors, Billie Bob Hoskyn, Chris Martinez, and Carol Meyer, on September 12.



Be sure to join us for the second Lunch & Learn program of the school year, “Using the 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens to Guide Your Child Toward Making Choices and Developing Habits that will Promote Success in Middle School, High School, and Beyond,” presented by HBMS's Graduation Coach, Jennifer Wilson. This session will take place on October 24, 2008 from 11:45 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

This topic promises to be an exciting one, and remember, Lunch & Learn sessions are a wonderful way to network with other parents of middle-school age children. Bring your own lunch; drinks will be provided. If you have any questions, please contact Kathryn Dahm, Lunch & Learn Committee Chair, kdahm86@earthlink.net or 770-993-4882.

Carol Burkhardt Seminar: “Failure is Not an Option”

Wednesday, September 17, 2008—10:15-11:45 p.m. This popular seminar for parents of 6th-8th graders teaches parents how to be their child's “project manager” without being a micro manager. It is being offered free of charge at the *Alpharetta Branch Public Library* (238 Canton Street, Alpharetta, GA 30004). Reservations are required. Provide your full name, phone, E-mail and mailing address via either phone (770-475-1876) or E-mail (info@DiscoveriesTutorial.com). Please let them know Haynes Bridge Middle School supplied information about this seminar.

Please Save Pike Receipts for Us!

HBMS collects Pike Nurseries' receipts! Pikes sponsors a “Greenback” program which works as follows: original Pike receipts are saved, totaled, and submitted to Pikes. Once HBMS has submitted \$5,000 in pre-tax receipts, Pikes Nurseries will donate 7% of the purchase value of all those receipts back to HBMS in the form of a Pike Nurseries gift card. This is obviously an easy way to supplement the school's landscaping program. If you shop at Pikes, please remember to send your original Pike's receipt in! The 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!



Study Hall, Working Lunch, STAR, and the Homework Hotline—Important Resources Available to HBMS Students: The 2008-2009 school year has begun! If your HBMS student needs help with schoolwork, homework, or tests this year, there are several resources in place to help:

- **Study Hall** is open to all HBMS students every Tuesday and Thursday morning from 8:00-8:25 a.m. Study Hall takes place in room 41. The HBMS Cafeteria will even allow students to pick up a “Grab & Go” breakfast to make it easier to attend morning Study Hall.

- **Working Lunch** provides students with an opportunity to receive extra help or work independently on classwork, homework, or projects every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday during their lunch period. Students request a working lunch pass from their lunch period teacher and take their work (and lunch) to room 41.

- **S.T.A.R.** (Students & Tutors Achieving Results). The S.T.A.R. program is offered as an extra level of support to select students on *Wednesday morning from 7:45-8:20 a.m. in room 27 on the 7th grade hall.* S.T.A.R. tutors include students as well as parent volunteers. If you can volunteer, or if you have any questions about this program, please contact Beth Martin, S.T.A.R. Committee Chair, gmbm76@att.net or 770-998-7158.

- **Fulton County Homework Hotline** is open from 5:00- 8:00 p.m. each night—live operators can answer students’ homework questions. Call 404-843-7700 and see for yourself!

In addition to these formal programs, Teacher Help Sessions are available by appointment. HBMS teachers are always happy to help students who need additional help. Students, don’t hesitate to ask your teachers to set up a time to assist you!

If you have any questions about any of the above programs, please contact Jennifer Wilson, HBMS Graduation Coach, at wilson2@fultonschools.org.

Visits to Barnwell, Hillside, and Northwood Elementary Schools: Haynes Bridge Middle School is introducing itself to parents of 5th grade students slated to attend HBMS in a series of meetings scheduled at the three elementary schools that feed into HBMS. HBMS’s Principal, Debbie Reeves, 6th grade Counselor, Chris Martinez, and PTA President, Katie Mazzuckelli, will travel to each of these three elementary schools as follows:

- Barnwell Elementary School: *October 6, 9:00 a.m.*
- Northwood Elementary School: *October 16, 9:30 .m.*
- Hillside Elementary School: *November 11, 9:00 a.m.*

Of course, each spring, HBMS hosts a meeting for parents of rising 6th graders (that meeting is scheduled for *March 26, 2009* this year). And, 5th grade classes from Barnwell, Hillside, and Northwood Elementary Schools visit at that time too. However, parents have increasingly expressed a need to learn about HBMS earlier than this spring time frame. In 2006, HBMS PTA launched its highly successful School Tours program. (This year, School Tours are scheduled on *November 3, 2008, and February 3 and 26, 2009.* All School Tours will take place at 10:00 a.m.) Last year, we launched our program to visit the three elementary schools that feed HBMS to complement the School Tours program. These visits were well received, and we are looking forward to our 2008 tour! Once again, parents will be afforded the opportunity to ask questions about HBMS and the experience their rising 6th grader would have at our wonderful school. Following these initial introductions, we hope parents will continue their exploration of HBMS with a personal visit to the school during one our School Tours.

Anyone is welcome to attend these meetings, and we especially hope HBMS families who know rising 6th graders will encourage those families to attend. Parents who cannot attend the meeting scheduled at their elementary school are welcome to attend a session at one of the other two elementary schools. No registration is required! If you have any questions, please contact Katie Mazzuckelli, HBMS PTA President, mazzuckelli@comcast.net or 770-664-6307.

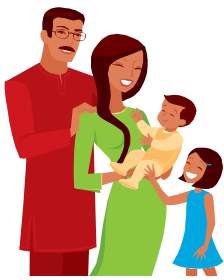
Kroger and Publix Scan Card Programs: Using your grocery Scan Cards is one of the easiest ways to financially support HBMS. Both Kroger and Publix grocery stores donate a percentage of each of your grocery purchases to our school. To participate, simply follow the steps below:

The next time you visit Kroger, simply have your KrogerPlus card scanned against the Haynes Bridge Middle School bar code. Every time you use your KrogerPlus card after linking it to the HBMS code, part of your purchase will earn credit for HBMS. (*Remember—your KrogerPlus card needs to be re-scanned each year. Thank you for re-linking your card!*)

At Publix, please ask the cashier to scan your Publix card each time you shop. Additional Publix cards are available in the front office. Copies of the Kroger “Earning plus Learning” letter containing the HBMS barcode are available in the front office and on the PTA website: www.hbmspta.com/Forms & Flyers. Each Kroger cashier also has copies of barcodes for area schools, so you can ask at the register the next time you shop—just be sure they scan the Haynes Bridge Middle School code! Remember to encourage friends and family to use HBMS Scan Cards—anyone who uses these cards/letters will earn credit for HBMS.

Scan Card funds are used for purchasing classroom materials and supplies as well as books for the HBMS Media Center. With your help, we more than doubled our contributions from these Scan Card programs last year, and our goal is to beat that increase this year!





Have You Scheduled Your Family Portrait Sitting?
 HBMS PTA is pleased to offer the *Family Portraits Promotion* by Tanner Photography again this year. You

choose the portrait subject: family, children only, pets, or individuals. Your obligation is a \$25.00 sitting fee. (The Haynes Bridge PTA will retain \$20.00 of this fee.) HBMS has sitting dates are available the week of *October 20* as follows:

- *Monday, October 20* (outdoors from 4:00-6:30 p.m.)
- *Tuesday, October 21* (outdoors from 4:00-6:30 p.m.)
- *Wednesday, October 22* (outdoors from 4:00-6:30 p.m.)
- *Thursday, October 23* (outdoors from 4:00-6:30 p.m.)
- *Friday, October 24* (outdoors from 4:00-6:30 p.m.)
- *Saturday, October 25* (in the Studio from 9:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.; outdoors from 3:00-5:45 p.m.)
- *Sunday, October 26* (in the Studio from 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.; outdoors from 3:00-5:45 p.m.)

Indoor portraits will be taken at **Tanner Photography's studio** and **Outdoor** portraits will be taken at **River Glen's Club area on the Chattahoochee River**. *Appointments are going fast!* If you didn't make an appointment for your sitting during Information Day, you can do so by contacting Mindy Laffler, Family Portraits Committee Chair, at laffler@comcast.net or 770-410-7508. Make your checks payable to "HBMS PTA." Payment is due when you schedule your appointment. **Tanner Photography** is located at 2600 Holcomb Bridge Rd., Suite 214, Alpharetta, GA. If you have any questions after your appointment has been made, you can call **Tanner Photography** at 770-640-0899.

You are cordially invited to attend the

***25th anniversary celebration
 of
 Haynes Bridge Middle School***

Please join us for a
 walk down memory lane on
Saturday, September 20, 2008
 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Special Guest Speakers
(Scheduled to speak at 2:30 p.m.)

Arthur Letchas
Mayor of Alpharetta

Gayle Giles
Former Principal

Debbie Reeves
Current Principal

Refreshments will be served

You will have the opportunity to
 purchase the commemorative
***25th anniversary cookbook (\$12) and
 25th anniversary-themed spirit wear!***

We Need Your Help!

There are always opportunities to volunteer at HBMS. Visit the PTA website ([www.hbms.com/ Committee Descriptions](http://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:

- **Hospitality**—Bakers are needed to bring in breakfast items for the breakfast the PTA hosts for teachers and staff every other month. If you don't bake, you can participate by bringing in juices, paper goods, or other items! Please contact Patty Kilgore (pebkilgore@aol.com or 770-663-4243) or Nanci Solomon (nancisolo@comcast.net or 770-643-6068), Hospitality Committee Co-Chairs.

- **Media Center**—Volunteer to help during one or more of the four Media Center special events this year: the fall and spring Book Fairs, Latte Day, and the Book Swap. The fall Book Fair is right around the corner, the week of *October 20th*. It offers a wonderful opportunity to see your child during the school day! Please contact Mary Kay Flett, Media Center Committee Chair, mary.kay.flett@carters.com or 770-664-8459.

A PTA Website Fun Fact

If you are home when you decide to complete your Reflections entry, don't worry! You can download an entry form and program guidelines via a link on the HBMS PTA website's homepage. Go to: www.hbmspta.com/Reflections and see for yourself!

And 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.



September

1	No School, Labor Day holiday
3	S.T.A.R.S. Begins
5	Committee Chair and Volunteer Meeting, 9:00 a.m. Gift wrap orders due
12	Lunch & Learn, 11:45 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
13	Campus Clean Up, 8:00-10:00 a.m.
16	Interim reports go home
17	Early release day, 12:30 p.m.
20	HBMS 25 th Anniversary Open House, 2:00-4:00 p.m.
22-26	ITBS Testing, 8 th graders
26	Hospitality breakfast <i>HBMS 2008-2009 Student Directory</i> distributed

October

2	Orchestra Concert, 7:00 p.m.
3	Reflections entries due
6	Club picture day Fall portrait re-take day Visit to Barnwell Elementary School, Meeting for Parents of Rising 6 th Graders, 9:00 a.m.
7	Chorus Concert, 7:00 p.m.
8	Gift wrap fundraiser pick up: 3:30-6:00 p.m.
9	Gift wrap fundraiser pick up: 7:00-9:00 a.m. & 3:30-6:00 p.m.
10	No School, Teacher Workday
15	Early release day, 12:30 p.m.
16	Visit to Northwood Elementary School, Meeting for Parents of Rising 6 th Graders, 9:30 a.m.
20	Progress reports go home
20-24	Red Ribbon week Fall book fair
20-26	HBMS Family Portraits sitting dates
24	Lunch & Learn, 11:45 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Red Ribbon and Say "No" to Drugs Month!!!

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



