

HBMS Eagle Eye



November 2008

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News From the President

It's been a very busy fall at HBMS! Campus Clean Up Day in September was great fun for all the HBMS staff, students, and families who participated. Work that day helped prepare the grounds for HBMS's wonderful Open House celebration. Landscaping efforts have continued since September, and you may have noticed that the grounds look better than ever.

Our fall Sally Foster fundraiser was a great success. We're still finalizing the figures, but it appears we have met our budget goal for this fundraiser—thank you for your support! Meeting our fundraising targets positions us to fully support the programs in the PTA budget. And, there are still ways to support HBMS PTA this year. The pine straw fundraiser runs throughout the year; the plant sale will be offered in the spring to meet your spring landscaping needs; and, if you have some holiday shopping—or wrapping!—to do, you can still order Sally Foster products (including Entertainment Books) on line. Visit www.SallyFoster.com and order using the HBMS school code #500156.

The Reflections program logged a record number of submissions this fall. We're sure your HBMS student told you all about Red Ribbon Week and the Fall Book Fair. And, we've hosted two Lunch & Learn programs already this year. Of course, all our year-round committees continue to run at full steam: providing support for the Media Center and the front office, running the School Store and the STAR program, and more. Thanks for your participation to date. Winter and spring promise to be just as full—read all about our upcoming activities in this newsletter and join the fun!

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

Calling all Butchers, Bakers and Candlestick Makers . . . HBMS Career Day 2009

Do you have an interesting career that you would like to share with the students at Haynes Bridge Middle School?

HBMS's Annual Career Day is scheduled for *Friday, February 6, 2009*. That morning, instead of their usual classes, HBMS's students will attend sessions presented by outside speakers. These visiting lecturers will be visiting HBMS to describe their careers to our students. Many of our speakers offer their time to the school for this event yearly and look forward to it as eagerly as our students! We are always looking for new, exciting careers to present to the students as well.



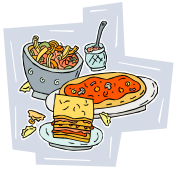
In January, students will sign up for the four different sessions they will attend on Career Day. These sign-up sessions are scheduled as follows:

- 6th grade: *Monday, January 12, 8:00-10:00 a.m.*
- 7th grade: *Tuesday, January 13, 8:00-10:00 a.m.*
- 8th grade: *Friday, January 16, 1:00-3:00 p.m.*

Many volunteers are needed to assist during these times as each student must complete his/her Career Day schedule. It is always difficult for students to choose sessions given the array of choices they have—30+ speakers in fields including health professionals, hairdressers, sheriff's deputy, soccer coach, veterinarian, pilot, and many more!

Career Day is hosted by the HBMS PTA and HBMS's Counselors. If you have any questions about Career Day or would like to volunteer to help during class sign-ups in January or during the event itself on *February 6th* as a speaker or helper, please contact Beth Litterer or Tara Osborne, Career Day Committee Co-Chairs. (Beth: blitterer@bellsouth.net or 770-343-6227; Tara: taaosborne@bellsouth.net or 770751-7005.)

HBMS PTA Happenings



Taste of Haynes Bridge 2009! Haynes Bridge will host the **Taste of Haynes Bridge** on *Thursday, January 29 from 7:00-8:00 p.m.* This event is a showcase the culinary talents and international treats inspired and created

by HBMS's own diverse student population. At HBMS, there are currently students with links to over 70 different countries!

This event is being planned now. Are you an amazing cook? Do you like to eat amazing food? Students and families are invited to showcase their heritage by offering up a favorite dish (and if we are lucky, a recipe) to add to a themed table representing various countries. Each "country" can decorate their representative table, with the assistance of volunteers, student groups, and HBMS language classes, create a display, or wear heritage-inspired clothing. Every other member of the HBMS community will be invited to come to the **Taste of Haynes Bridge** to partake in the wonderful treats and learn about the cultural heritage of others. This event is sponsored by HBMS's Power over Prejudice (POP) Club and HBMS PTA. Delicious samples will be available for each showcased dish in bite-sized portions, with plenty of entertainment for a memorable evening of Culture, Cuisine, and Camaraderie. The event is free of charge, but participants will be invited to offer a donation to offset costs and to further promote cultural awareness in the community. If you have any questions or would like to sign up to participate in this event, please contact Kerri Hochgesang, International Night Committee Chair, khochgesang@sgrlaw.com or 678-867-2097.

Outreach Update: During Red Ribbon week, HBMS students collected cans as part of the week's "Give Back...Don't Give In" campaign. This effort helped restock the pantry at North Fulton Community Charities (NFCC) in time for the upcoming holiday season.

October 6-16, HBMS PTA's Caring & Sharing committee sponsored its annual coat drive. Students brought new and gently used coats to their first period classes during this time. 175 coats were collected, and they were delivered to NFCC in late October. A big "thank you" to our generous HBMS families!

Julia Bernath Scheduled to Visit HBMS Community Meeting Set for November 12: Fulton County Board of Education member and current President Julia Bernath will hold her monthly meeting at Haynes Bridge Middle School on *Wednesday, November 12 at 9:30 a.m.* Ms. Bernath represents District 7 and is one of three members of the BOE to represent HBMS specifically. Each Fulton County BOE member holds monthly meetings which are open to the community. Haynes Bridge is honored to host Ms. Bernath's November meeting and encourages HBMS parents, business partners, and others affiliated with HBMS or any Fulton County school to attend this meeting. We look forward to seeing you there! Questions? Contact Katie Mazzuckelli, PTA President, mazzuckelli@comcast.net or 770-664-6307.

Recycling News: As in prior years, HBMS's Green Teams recycle all paper and cardboard each Friday, collecting it in a large recycling dumpster at the back of the school.



New this year, we have joined a Recycling Fundraising program called the Funding Factory. They will give us money for nearly every inkjet/laserjet printer cartridge and cell phone that we send to them. A list of accepted printer cartridges is located on the HBMS PTA website: www.hbmspta.com. Please send in any cartridges and spare cell phones with your student; they can be left in the collection bins at the end of the 6th grade hall near the administrative offices. In addition to saving landfill space, you will be helping the school.

If you have any questions about this program, you may refer to the company's website at www.fundingfactory.com or contact Karen LeCates or Melissa Tilly, Recycling Committee Chairs. (Karen: karenlecatess@gmail.com or 770-641-8491; Melissa: mq_tilly@yahoo.com or 770-518-8715.)



Latte Day: HBMS's Latte Day is scheduled for *Tuesday, November 25th* this year. Latte Day is an opportunity for students to come to the Media Center with their Language Arts class to preview new books acquired by the Media Center. They also get to enjoy hot chocolate and a treat for 50 cents. Volunteers are needed to help serve the students. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Mary Kay Flett, Media Center Committee Chair, at mkf115@yahoo.com or 770-664-8459.

Pike Receipts Reminder: As you do your fall gardening, remember that HBMS collects Pike Nurseries' receipts. 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. You may have noticed some landscaping improvements around HBMS this fall—we can put this money to use as these efforts continue! 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!



Box Tops Reminder: Many thanks for helping us kick off the school year by sending in all the Box Tops you collected over the summer! Please keep clipping these Box Tops throughout the year; they add up quickly. Remember, family and friends can collect Box Tops for you too—please ask when you see them over the holidays!

For more information on the latest sweepstakes, recipe ideas, and coupons, visit the Box Tops website: <https://www.boxtops4education.com>. You can send your Box Tops in with your child. The Box Tops collection box is located at the end of the 6th grade hall, near the administrative offices. If you have any questions, please contact Kim Tolleson, Box Tops Committee Chair, tollesond@bellsouth.net or 678-566-1562.

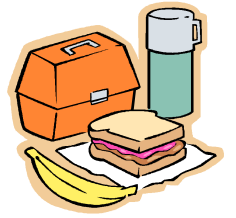
HBMS PTA 2008-2009 Mini-Grant Recipients: The PTA Mini-Grant Committee met on October 29th to review this year's mini-grant applications that were submitted by various HBMS teachers earlier in this fall. Congratulations to the following winners:

- *“Diamond Del”*—A 6th grade geology program which simulates a mining experience. (Sponsored by the 6th grade Earth Science teachers.)
- *Critics Corner*—An after-school reading program designed to encourage reading and comprehension. (Sponsored by Jennifer Wilson, Graduation Coach.)
- *Academic Bowl Team*—A new buzzer system for its competition and practices. (Sponsored by Scott Fowler.)
- *Georgia Traveling Truck*—A project that will bring in resources from the Atlanta History Center to engage students in their study of Georgia History by providing them direct contact with artifacts. (Sponsored by Dani-Sue Boldus.)
- *Georgia Heritage Day*—Underwriting for this first-time program in which 8th grade students will hear guest speakers and see demonstrations relevant to Georgia's rich history. (Sponsored by Dani-Sue Boldus.)
- *Therapy materials for Apraxia*—A program that will allow students with language difficulties the opportunity to learn and express themselves with visual, tactile, and auditory aides. (Sponsored by Alison Hall, speech and language pathologist.)
- *Using SMALSI to Improve Student Performance*—SMALSI stands for “School Motivation and Strategies Inventory;” this program will evaluate at-risk students and develop remediation strategies. (Sponsored by Greg Adcox and Jennifer Wilson.)
- *Great Mail Race*—A national program that, through letter writing, encourages students to learn about other areas of the United States, enhance their geography knowledge, and improve their writing skills. (Sponsored by Scott Fowler, Beth Saren, and Michael Sternberg.)
- *Literature Fair*—The 2008-2009 Literature Fair will include 7th and 8th grade students as participants in a choice of eight projects including creative writing, visual displays, and poetry. (Sponsored by Scott Fowler, Jessica Karp, Ann Roberts, Beth Saren, and Michael Sternberg.)

The PTA was able to increase the mini-grant budget to \$3,500 this year, and is proud to be able to fully fund all mini-grant requests this year. Mini-grants are one of the most unique and wonderful ways HBMS PTA supports its teachers; and they in turn, support Haynes Bridge students. If you have any questions about the mini-grant program, please contact Lisa Dekle, Mini-Grant Committee Chair, ldekle@bellsouth.net or 770-442-9603.



January Lunch & Learn: 2009 promises more wonderful Lunch & Learn sessions. The first session of the new year is scheduled for *Friday, January 23* from 11:45 a.m.-1:00 p.m. First-time and seasoned attendees always enjoy this one: HBMS's own David Rifkin will present: “How to Deal with Your Adolescent Child . . . Conflict and Resolution.” 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.



General PTA Meeting February 5, 2009: The next HBMS General PTA meeting will be held on *Thursday, February 5, at 7:00 p.m.*, immediately preceding the Orchestra concert scheduled that evening. The primary objective for the meeting will be the election of the Nominating Committee (see “Volunteer Roundup” for more details). As always, however, the meeting will afford members the opportunity to see progress against the PTA budget and hear about upcoming events. We hope to see you there! If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Katie Mazzuckelli, PTA President, mazzuckelli@comcast.net or 770-664-6307.



Fall Landscaping Made Easy! HBMS PTA has teamed with a wonderful vendor to serve all your pine straw needs, and we hope you will allow us to supply your pine straw this fall. A copy of the order form went home with each HBMS student's October progress report, and copies are always 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.

See What is Available at the HBMS School Store! Remind your HBMS student to visit the HBMS School Store for any school supply needs. The store is open most *Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings between 8:00-8:25 a.m.* in the cafeteria. A list of supplies typically available in the school store is posted on the PTA website (www.hbmspta.com/schoolstore.htm). This is a convenient way to meet supply needs and proceeds benefit the PTA. If you have questions or have interest in volunteering at the School Store, please contact Lisa Boulton, School Store Committee Chair, lmj_mi_grl@hotmail.com or 770-518-8995.



HBMS Student Happenings



Student Council: Student Council representatives were selected by their homerooms and attended their first meeting of the school year after the 4.5-week progress reports were distributed in homerooms in September. This meeting was held in the agri-habitat area, where students prepared hot dogs, drank sodas, and talked politics. Not Obama-McCain politics, but middle school politics.

Unlike last year, the presidential and vice presidential positions were opened up to 7th graders, as well as 8th graders. Additionally, the respective positions were determined by highest and next highest votes attained.

On the first Tuesday in October, the entire student body cast their ballots for the executive officer positions. The votes were counted, and the winners were announced that afternoon: Parker Stephenson, president; Tianna Richardson, vice president; Morgan Cox, secretary; and Michael He, treasurer. Officers were sworn into office at a later meeting.

Student Council has several activities planned for the rest of the year. Already, the council has made a \$100 donation to Cats in the Cradle, which is a charitable organization that provides homes and health care for unwanted felines. Other activities include fund-raisers for charitable organizations; canned-food drives; car washes; and linking the 8th grade representatives with students from Centennial High School in various transitional activities.

Student Council has four Tuesday meetings scheduled for the remainder of this semester: *October 28, November 11, and December 2 and 16*. Co-sponsors for Student Council this year are Stephanie Brand and Michael Sternberg.

Jr. Beta: HBMS's Junior Beta Club induction will be held on *November 13, 2008 at 6:30 p.m.* This year, 79 new members will be installed.

Junior Beta Club members have already been busy with service opportunities at HBMS and outside the school. The Junior Beta Club Convention is scheduled for *November 20-21* in Macon. Later this year, Junior Beta Club will sponsor several other activities including dances for all grades in January. This year's Junior Beta Club co-sponsors are Aisha Bridges and Marsha Copland.



Celebrate Healthy Lifestyle with Healthy Food Ideas!

National PTA designates November as "Healthy Lifestyle" month. Celebrate by serving one or more of the following "Healthy Food Ideas:"



- Low-fat or nonfat plain or flavored milk, 100% juice, water, flavored/sparkling water (without added sugars or sweeteners), sparkling punch (seltzer and 100% fruit juice)
- Fruit smoothies (blend berries, bananas, and pineapple)
- Fresh fruit assortment, fruit and cheese kabobs, fruit salad, fruit with low-fat whipped topping
- Dried fruit (raisins, cranberries, apricots, banana chips), 100% fruit snacks
- Vegetable trays with low-fat dip, celery and carrots with peanut butter and raisins
- Whole-grain crackers with cheese cubes, string cheese, or hummus
- Waffles or pancakes topped with fruit
- Pretzels, low-fat popcorn, rice cakes, bread sticks, graham crackers, and animal crackers
- Angel food cake, plain or topped with fruit
- Bagel slices with peanut butter or jam, fruit or grain muffin (low-fat), whole wheat English muffin, hot pretzels
- Pizza with low-fat toppings (vegetables, lean ham, Canadian bacon), pizza dippers with marinara sauce
- Ham, cheese, or turkey sandwiches or wraps (with low-fat condiments)
- Low-fat pudding, low-fat yogurt, squeezable yogurt, yogurt smoothies, yogurt parfaits, or banana splits (yogurt and fruit topped with cereal, granola or crushed graham crackers)
- Quesadillas or bean burrito with salsa
- Low-fat breakfast or granola bars
- Low-fat tortilla chips with salsa or bean dip
- Trail/cereal mix (whole-grain, low-sugar cereals mixed with dried fruit, pretzels, etc.)
- Nuts and seeds.

Reprinted from Connecticut State Department of Education, Bureau of Health and Nutrition Services and Child/Family/School Partnerships, May 2005.

VIPS Update

As we have said for years, we truly appreciate all the volunteer hours you log for HBMS! For the past few years, we have encouraged you to log volunteer hours via the computerized system, TRAXX. Faithful TRAXX users have noticed that there have been long periods of system “downtime” over the past year. Those problems have finally led to the demise of this system. Until a new system is introduced, we are all embracing the reliable paper log system. Those sign-in sheets sit by the computer in the front office. If you would continue to log in/out of the building when you volunteer at HBMS, 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 continuing to record your VIPS hours for HBMS despite this change! If you have any questions about the VIPS program, please contact Dana Dowdy, VIPS Committee Chair, danadowdy@comcast.net or 770-310-6103.

Volunteer Roundup . . . 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%20Descriptions)) 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:

- **Nominating Committee**—The HBMS PTA By-Laws require us to elect an ad hoc committee of three PTA members who will be charged with recommending a slate of officers for the 2009-2010 HBMS PTA Board. This ad hoc committee will be elected at the *February 5th* General PTA meeting and will formally present their slate at the April General PTA meeting. Any HBMS PTA member who is interested in serving on this committee should contact Katie Mazzuckelli, PTA President, mazzuckelli@comcast.net or 770-664-6307.
- **Career Day**—We need many volunteers to help sign up HBMS's students for this much-anticipated annual event. Sign-up times are as follows:
 - 6th grade: *Monday, January 12, 8:00-10:00 a.m.*
 - 7th grade: *Tuesday, January 13, 8:00-10:00 a.m.*
 - 8th grade: *Friday, January 16, 1:00-3:00 p.m.*
- **Taste of Haynes Bridge**—families are invited to showcase their heritage by providing their finest dish to a culturally themed table at this event, scheduled on *January 29 from 7:00-8:00 p.m.* If you would like to manage a table at this event, please contact Kerri Hochgesang, International Night Committee Chair, khochgesang@sgrlaw.com or 678-867-2097.

November

3	School tour, 10:00 a.m.
4	No School, Election Day
11	Visit to Hillside Elementary School, Meeting for Parents of Rising 6 th Graders, 9:00 a.m.
12	Julia Bernath meeting, 9:30 a.m.
13	Jr. Beta Induction, 6:30 p.m.
19	Early release day, 12:30 p.m.
20	Interim reports go home
20-21	Jr. Beta convention
25	Latte day
26-28	No School, Thanksgiving Day holidays

December

5	Reflections reception, 7:30 a.m.
9	Band concert, 7:00 p.m.
11	Chorus concert, 7:00 p.m.
17-19	End-of-semester exams
19	End of first semester
22-31	No school, holiday break

January

1-2	No school, holiday break
5	No school, teacher workday
6	First day of second semester
12	Report cards go home 6 th grade Career Day sign up, 8:00-10:00 a.m.
13	7 th grade Career Day sign up, 8:00-10:00 a.m.
16	8 th grade Career Day sign up, 1:00-3:00 p.m.
19	No school, Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday
21	8 th grade writing assessment HBMS Science Fair, 6:00 p.m.
22	Meeting for parents of rising 9 th graders, 6:30 p.m.
23	Lunch & Learn, 11:45 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
29	Taste of Haynes Bridge, 7:00-8:00 p.m.
30	Hospitality breakfast

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