

APS PTA News

Volume 1, Issue 4

November/December 2011

PTA Board Calls for Participants in the Officer Nomination Process for 2012-13

Statements of interest are needed by December 16

The PTA Board is looking for participants for the Nominating Committee. This committee is a short-term body that meets a few times in January and February to solicit, consider, and nominate candidates for the PTA Officers for the next school year. The Nominating Committee is not appointed by the PTA Board – members are actually elected by the General Membership. We will vote on the Nominating Committee members at our **General Membership meeting on January 19, 2012.**

After the Nominating Committee is seated, the PTA Board will appoint a temporary chairperson. The only duty of the temporary chairperson is to schedule the first meeting and facilitate the Committee's election of the actual chairperson. Once the chairperson is elected, the Committee will decide when and where they will meet and how they will solicit candidates. Some facts about the Nominating Committee:

- It should be comprised of both new and seasoned PTA members

continued on next page

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Nominating Committee Call for Participants
- 1 Girl Scouts Sponsored Toy Drive
- 2 School Pictures Available
- 3 Firewood Fundraiser
- 3 Carpool Needs Volunteers
- 3 Wellness News
- 4 Advocacy Corner

Toy Drive Sponsored by APS Girl Scouts

The Ashford Park Girl Scouts is sponsoring a toy and game drive during this holiday season. Families are invited to donate a new, unwrapped toy or game appropriate for children ages birth through teens. Collection bins are located throughout the school. The toys and games will be distributed to children in our very own neighborhoods through two local churches. Last year, we collected 80 toys. Our goal this year is to have 100.

This is a wonderful way to teach our children by example about sharing with others and being an active citizen within one's community! The toy drive ends on December 16.



Thanks for all the hard work from the Fall Festival Committee, the spectacular event raised a little over \$8,000 for the Ashford Park PTA! Thank you to Renee Kunkler and Pig N Chick for their generous support. Thanks also to the businesses and individuals who contributed to the raffle.

continued from first page

- We need at least five members and two alternates
- The current PTA Co-Presidents may not serve on it
- The Committee nominates people for the positions of Co-Presidents, Co-Vice Presidents, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, and Treasurer
- Being on the Nominating Committee does not mean you will be nominated as an Officer for next year; however, it does not preclude you from being nominated if you are so inclined

The Nominating Committee will have a slate of Nominees to present to the General Membership in February. The General Membership will vote on the Nominees in March. The new Officers will be installed at the last General Meeting of this school year. If you have a few hours to give to this very important, short-term assignment, please **make your interest known by Thursday, December 15** to ashfordparkpta@gmail.com.

Fall Book Fair a Success!!

Book sales totaled \$9543.77! \$2000 goes to the PTA, \$800 in new books was put into the library and a books were given to low income kids in the school via the help of our interim counselor. Over the last three books fairs, 5140 books have been put into the hands of Ashford Park students! This is a huge triumph in promoting literacy in our school! The Spring book fair is tentatively scheduled for March 2012.

SCHOOL PICTURES ARE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE



Fall pictures are available for purchase online at www.KenRada.com. After entering this site, click on "gallery login". Enter "apes" for the password. Choose "Fall 2011". The pictures are organized by teacher name. We will NOT be doing Spring pictures this year, so please take advantage of this opportunity.

If you have any questions, please contact Jenny Sercer at jsercer@hotmail.com.



OPEN HOUSE SCHEDULED FOR THURSDAY, JANUARY 26

The Family and Community Engagement Committee invites potential APS families and area realtors to the APS Open House on January 26. We will serve a light breakfast, give a short briefing about our school, and lead small groups on tours. We need many volunteers to help:

- Distribute flyers and post signs around the neighborhood
- Set-up and clean-up
- Greet at the front door
- Lead small group tours

To help, contact Diane Allers (diane.allers@me.com) or Gwen Varino (tvarino@bellsouth.net)

WELLNESS RECEIVES GRANT!

Fuel Up to Play 60 is a collaborative effort between the National Dairy Council® (NDC), the National Football League (NFL) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) aimed at creating a healthier school environment that promotes student health, learning and achievement. Through Fuel Up to Play 60, students are empowered to make positive changes in their school by improving opportunities to choose more nutritious foods and to engage in 60 minutes of physical activity every day while having fun and learning about the long-term health benefits of making healthy choices. **Ashford Park has been awarded a \$3,000 grant to aid with these initiatives within our school.** We anticipate using these funds to further support our Farm to School efforts by planting a school garden in our Outdoor Classroom, initiating our Let's Move program and by providing our teachers with PE equipment for use in connection with teacher-directed PE. For more information on Fuel Up to Play 60 please visit FuelUpToPlay60.com and sign-up as a school participant.

Expect lots of information and support from our Wellness committee in January when we'll be celebrating PTA's Wellness Month. May 2012 be our healthiest year yet.

BUY FIREWOOD AND SUPPORT PTA

A well-respected firewood supplier is offering to help our PTA by selling well seasoned, no "green" firewood. **10% of sales will go to the PTA.**

The wood is \$150 for a 1/2 cord (large wood rack), delivered and stacked, or \$125 for 1/2 cord, delivered and "dumped" off the truck at your house. They're also offering \$100 for 1/4 cord, delivered and stacked, or \$80 for 1/4 cord delivered and dumped.

To purchase your firewood and learn more, visit <http://www.thestorkdelivery.com/firewood>



RECYCLE YOUR OLD WRITING INSTRUMENTS!

The PTA Go Green committee will be holding a writing instruments recycling drive from December 5 - December 16

Every year, millions of pens and markers end up in landfills. Through our partnership with TerraCycle, Ashford Park Elementary school can now recycle pens, markers, highlighters, dry erase markers and mechanical pencils (plastic; not wooden). TerraCycle will upcycle these pens and markers into new and innovative products. With your child, collect pens, markers, highlighters, dry erase markers and mechanical pencils from your home, office, and elsewhere in the community and return them to your child's teacher or to the collection box in the teacher workroom. In addition to reducing our impact on the planet, the PTA will receive a donation for each item collected. For more information on TerraCycle's Writing Instrument's Brigade please visit **www.terracycle.com**. For more information on Ashford Park's green and recycling efforts, please contact Robyn Farmer, Go Green Chairperson at rwilensky@hotmail.com.

APS RUN CLUB HITS THE GROUND RUNNING!

The Run Club officially launched on Monday November 7th, with 32 students, ranging from grades Kindergarten through Fourth, and 4 parent coaches. By day two, the kids were happily running and playing running games on the field, all in an effort to amass the most steps on their pedometers! The kids love the pedometers and are truly loving the after school activity. The Athletes are extremely proud to wear their APRC Soaring Eagle uniforms. A BIG thank you goes out to parents and a local business, Thrive Fitness, for their donations to help cover our start up costs! Our hope is to grow for second semester and not limit the number of students we allow to sign up. We already have 60 students pre-registered for spring. If you would like to pre-register a child please email Heather Chasman (hchasman@gmail.com). Official registration will begin in January but the more students we can pre-register the better for planning purposes.

In order to accommodate a large number of students, we need 2 more coaches who can commit to 1 hour per week on the field with the kids. It's a small amount of time to commit with a big impact . If you know anyone who may be interested, please contact Heather Chasman. Thanks in advance for your support.

THANK YOU MS. FALLON

for your steadfast dedication to our school. You have shaped Ashford Park into a school of which we can all be proud. Everyone on the PTA thanks you for all you have done. You will be missed.

Wal-Mart Shows School Spirit!

Thank you to Wal-Mart for their generous donation of \$1,000 to Ashford Park PTA!

Thanks also to **Ryan Pasley** who secured the donation.

Way to go!!!



Visit the School Store

The school store is open on the following Tuesday mornings from 7:00 am – 7:45am in the cafeteria.

December 6th is the last day before winter break!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR CARPOOL!

The new carpool procedures are now in place and things are running smoothly. Please note that Pamela Drive is closed during both morning and afternoon carpool and we ask that you park on Caldwell Road if you need to walk your child into the building. Morning carpool is from 7:15am – 7:45am; afternoon carpool is from 2:00 – 2:30pm.

To volunteer, please visit this link to sign up:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/carpool80>

ADVOCACY CORNER

December 7, 2011 (Wednesday, 9:15 am)

Meeting Location: Ashford Park Elementary

Topic: "Redistricting - Vision 2020"

Speaker: Dan Drake

DCPC meetings are held at various public venues within the Dunwoody Chamblee area. Meetings are open and topics are geared toward the interests of parents and guardians with children in Dunwoody and Chamblee schools in the DeKalb County School System. There is no charge for attendance. All Parents are encouraged to attend.

For more information visit <http://www.dcpc-dekalb.org>.

Printing of this newsletter generously donated by:

Kelly Marsh

Your Neighborhood Real Estate Specialist

678-576-7075

www.AtlantaBrookhaven.com; kellym@kw.com.


Kelly Marsh
& Associates

Remember to keep collecting Box Tops! Every little bit helps.