



Neelsville News



The Neelsville MS PTSA Newsletter

April 2011

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UPCOMING EVENTS –

- **April 27th (Wednesday)**
>Girls Soccer vs. King (3-4 pm)
>"Straight A" Dinner
(7-8 pm – Cafeteria)
- **April 29th (Friday)**
>Staff Appreciation Lunch
- **May 3rd (Tuesday)**
>Boys Soccer vs. Rocky Hill (3-4 pm)
- **May 4th (Wednesday)**
>Spring Concert (7-8:30 pm)
- **May 5th (Thursday)**
>Spring Concert (7-8:30 pm)
>Book Fair (8 am–3 pm & 6:30-8 pm)
- **May 6th (Friday)**
>Book Fair (8 am – 3 pm)
>8th Grade Dance (7 – 9:30 pm)
- **May 9th (Monday)**
>Book Fair (8 am – 3 pm)
- **May 10th (Tuesday)**
>Book Fair (8 am–3 pm & 6:30-8 pm)
>Girl's Soccer vs. Baker (3 – 4 pm)
>PTSA meeting (7 – 9 pm)
- **May 11th (Wednesday)**
>Book Fair (8 am – 3 pm)
- **May 12th (Thursday)**
>Boys Soccer vs. Kingsview (3-4 pm)
- **May 17th (Tuesday)**
>Girls Soccer vs. Poole (3-4 pm)
- **May 18th (Wednesday)**
>HSA Algebra Exam
- **May 19th (Thursday)**
>Drama Production (7 – 8:30 pm)
- **May 20th (Friday)**
>Drama Production (7 – 8:30 pm)
- **May 26th (Thursday)**
>Awards Night (7– 8:30 pm)
- **May 30th (Monday)**
>Holiday – Memorial Day

From the Principal's Desk

As we enter the fourth and last quarter of this school year, let's continue to strive for excellence by putting forth our best efforts during these last few weeks of school. You can do it! Assist us by working with students to attend school on time and regularly, be prepared for classes with necessary materials, and dress appropriately. Believe it or not, the staff and I have begun to plan for next year.

One of the greatest challenges we face at Neelsville Middle School is the issue of student motivation. We have an amazing student body that, for the most part, are respectful, appropriate, and are focused on passing their classes. Many take GT classes and do extremely well academically while trying to balance the demands of just being an active teenager in today's world. However, sometimes they lack academic motivation and seem to settle for just getting by. I often have conversations with students who are active participants in discussion, attend school daily yet are squeaking by in classes with C's or D's when they are capable of A's or B's.

As a school, we are looking for ways to increase student motivation and have held focus groups with students to gather input from them. Athletics is a positive motivator, PBIS Awards, and Honor Roll parties. Parents can also help by encouraging students to take rigorous courses and holding them accountable to doing outside assignments including reading, studying and homework completion. I am open to any ideas parents have to help us foster a school community where academic motivation is valued by all of our students and is a stronger part of the culture of our school.

Summer School

Neelsville MS will have summer school in our building this year. Our summer school session runs July 5–July 29, 2011 from 7:45 a.m.–11:30 a.m. Mr. Ryan Summers will be our summer school coordinator and information, costs, and registration forms will be mailed home in May. Funding for our program depends on the number of students that enroll; however, there is a minimum class enrollment of 15 students per class for it to be offered.

Dollye V. McClain



LETTER FROM THE PTSA PRESIDENT

Hello Everyone,

Let me start off by reminding everyone, i.e., students, parents, teachers/staff, that the economy is very tight. Budget cuts are having drastic effects on the county and state. Our federal, state and local officials are making tough decisions and difficult cuts. We must be ready to advocate for our school system. There are still huge cuts to come. You must be ready to speak-up or feel the pain!

Students, you have two months to go before the summer break. All we ask of you is to work hard and do your best! Have Knight Pride!

Teachers and staff, thank you for all you do! Please continue to push our children to be the best they can be in and out of the classroom!

Parents, the PTSA is preparing for the next school year. Your input is needed and there are a few open positions for next year. Please come to our May 10th meeting at 7:00 pm in the teacher's lounge. We want to hear your ideas! Come talk to us!

Parents, now is the time to keep your children focused on their school work and social behavior. If we all do our part, the students should be able to finish the school year strong!

Remember, parents, teachers, staff and students if you have any ideas and/or questions please email me at neelsvilleptsaprez@yahoo.com.

Thanks,

Art Butler
Neelsville PTSA President



Neelsville PTSA is looking for new board members for 2011-2011

Some of the positions are: Vice President, Treasurer, Membership Chair, Staff Appreciation Chair, Newsletter Editor and MCPS Delegate. We have meetings the second Tuesday of every month during the school year. Please get involved with your child's school, we need your help!

CLASS ROOM NOTES

7th Grade

English 7

Oh, what fools these mortals be!

And so begins the seventh grade's exploration and discovery of William Shakespeare's comedy *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. In each class we will be reading and performing the play while also analyzing Shakespeare's language. We will analyze characters and plot as well as maybe write some works of our own.

We will also continue our Accelerated Reader program for the last quarter. We've had many students not only reach but blow away their goals. Way to go!

Finally, it's been a great year in English 7. We look forward to a strong finish and wish all of our students the best of luck in eighth grade.

Math 7

In Math 7, the students are learning how to apply proportional reasoning to real world problems. The students are using ratios and proportions to calculate percents, calculate the tip, calculate the down payment, and to create scale drawings and models. The students will discover that proportional reasoning is useful tool in everyday life. The students are learning more than one strategy as they work together and discuss their strategies with other and the class.

World Studies 7

The students have begun their study of economics in world studies. We'll be looking at trade and travel in various parts of the world and how culture is affected through economics. Ask your student what their job was in the trade simulation – scissors bearer, guide marker, link master, or recycle bearer.

As we wrap up the year we will be preparing your student for the beginning of their 8th grade US History class. Have a safe and wonderful summer.

Science 7

Seventh Grade Scientist just finished their Genetics and Heredity Units which included a real DNA extraction! Students also learned about how genetic traits are passed on from generation to generation. One Sci-Fi reflection revealed that if Science teachers could reproduce as rapidly as bacteria, and started dividing in Knight-time, there would be enough science teachers to individually tutor the entire seventh grade by second period! Wow! Thank goodness for meiosis!

Two crowning activities were the seventh grade trip to the Maryland Science Center in Baltimore Maryland, made in beautiful luxury busses, and a surprise visit from NIH presenters doing an informative demonstration about the effects of sound on our hearing.

After Spring Break, we will be working on our fourth unit, Forensics. Students will be using a variety of biotechnological techniques to solve a food poisoning mystery.

Student Service Learning (SSL) Notes
Give a Little Time...Make a Big Difference
April 2011

SSL: Develops Critical Thinking Skills

- High school students enrolled in the National, State, and Local Government course have the opportunity to earn 7 SSL hours during Semester A, and 8 SSL hours during Semester B for their full participation in the SSL aspects, and successful completion of the course.
- All SSL organizations and opportunities must be preapproved. Choose from organizations tagged, "Approved SSL MCPS" on the website www.mcpsssl.org and organizations tagged, "MCPS SSL Approved" **OR** get MCPS Form 560-50, *Request for SSL Preapproval* granted in advance of any service.
- Keep copies of all SSL forms. The official SSL hours are reflected on quarterly report cards. Check out the SSL record and discuss any discrepancy immediately with the school-based SSL coordinator.
- Service performed during the second semester can be turned in any time during the semester. The latest date to turn in documentation of second semester service is the Friday before exams begin (June 3, 2011). Senior hours are due before that date.
- Providing direct service to individuals in assisted-living facilities and nursing homes is the only exception to serving with nonprofit organizations. Be sure to get an MCPS Form 560-50, *Request for SSL Preapproval* signed in advance with organizations that are not tagged as "Approved SSL MCPS".





Staff Appreciation Luncheon (April 29th, 2011)

Dear Parents,

The PTSA will host a “Texas Barbeque” themed Staff Appreciation Luncheon for the 102 teachers and staff at Neelsville MS on Friday, April 29, 2011. Thanks to all the parents who have committed to help for this event.

If you are interested to help, it’s not too late to show your support. The PTSA can use your help. Please send an email to tda8664@yahoo.com if you would like to contribute to the event or volunteer during the event.

Thank you very much.

Transcie Almonte (PTSA Staff Appreciation Chairperson)

Dish	Commitment From												
15 Whole Fryer Chicken	Toni Hughes (2 long tray/50pcs. dark meat)												
Pulled Pork (Costco sells one pack for \$9.99 each, if purchasing from Costco we need about 6 packs)	Robin Huebner (3 packs)												
Potato Salad (3 gallons)	Jeannie Meece												
Corn Pudding (3 containers of half size of a disposable chafing dish)	Minita Benipuri												
Coleslaw (2 gallon)	Genevieve Mathis												
Baked Beans (3 gallons)	Toni Hughes												
Dinner Rolls (5 doz) & Hamburger buns (4 doz)	Josephine Orozco												
Hamburger buns (additional)	Toni Hughes												
Vegetarian Dish	Jeannie Meece												
Iced Tea/Lemonade													
Soda and/or water													
Ice Cream													
Cookies	Will be donated by the SGA												
Cash Donation	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Debbie Whitehead</td> <td>Jane Hall</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Eve McGinn</td> <td>Deena Bleich</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Carla Magdamo</td> <td>Diane Wright</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mary Kasozi</td> <td>Mary Jane Siok</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pam Flatow</td> <td>Art Butler</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Minita Benipuri</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Debbie Whitehead	Jane Hall	Eve McGinn	Deena Bleich	Carla Magdamo	Diane Wright	Mary Kasozi	Mary Jane Siok	Pam Flatow	Art Butler	Minita Benipuri	
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Pam Flatow	Art Butler												
Minita Benipuri													

Spring Concert



“The Contemporary Choir and the General Chorus will be holding their spring concerts on May 4th and May 5th at 7:00 pm. The concerts will feature songs that we have been working on for the Spring Concerts as well as songs we are preparing to sing at the Hershey Park Music Festival on May 27th. Please come out and support the choral music program. “

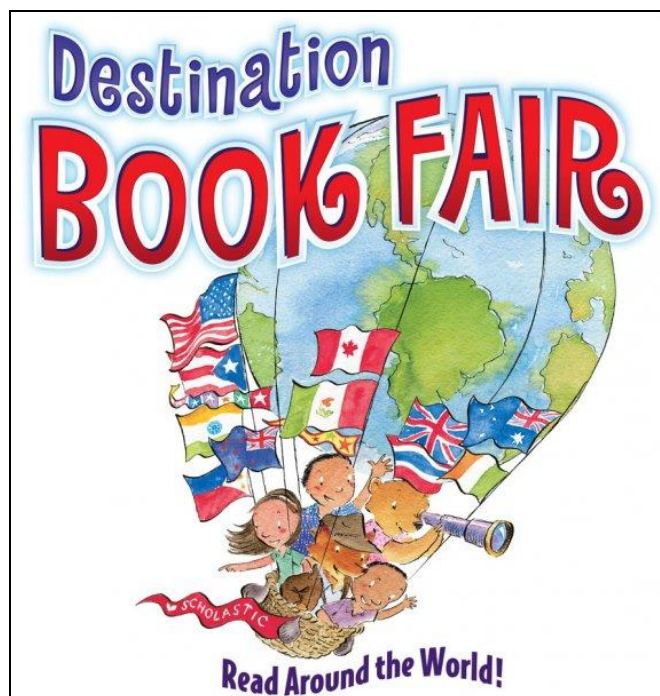
- Mr. Andre Enceneat

WHAT - Spring Concerts by the NMS Contemporary Choir and General Chorus

WHERE - Neelsville Middle School Auditorium

DATE - Tuesday, May 4th, 2011 & Wednesday, May 5th, 2011

TIME - 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm



WHAT - Scholastic Book Fair hosted by the NMS PTSA

WHERE - Neelsville Middle School Media Center

DATE/TIME - Thursday, May 5th (8:00 am - 3:00 pm & 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm)
Friday, May 6th (8:00 am - 3:00 pm)
Monday, May 9th (8:00 am - 3:00 pm)
Tuesday, May 10th (8:00 am - 3:00 pm & 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm)
Wednesday, May 11th (8:00 am - 3:00 pm)

Parents and Students - We are looking for volunteers. May 5th and May 10th have both daytime and evening hours available. Remember students earn SSL hours for helping in the bookfair.

CONTACT - Jim Shott, Bookfair Chairman, 301-916-2972



"Over 35 students are participating in next month's play - "Grease". This includes actors, and the tech and artistic crews. The show is May 19th and May 20th at 7:00 p.m. Tickets will be \$5 at the door, \$3 ahead of time. Please come support the students that have worked hard on this production!"

- Mr. Joe Davis

WHAT - NMS Drama Production "Grease"

WHEN - Thursday, May 19th & Friday, May 20th, 2011
@ 7:00 pm.

WHERE - Neelsville MS Auditorium

TICKETS - \$3 advance purchase, \$5 at the door.

Neelsville Family Night at Roy Rogers



Please join us for the Neelsville Family Night at Roy Rogers

Where - Roy Rogers

19775 Frederick Road
Germantown, MD 20876
301-540-8634

When - Thursday, May 12th, 2011

From - 3:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Come out and support your school. With your support a lot of the activities at Neelsville can happen. We appreciate all you do. Come out between the hours of 3:30pm to 7:30pm. Drive thru orders are also accepted. Remember to mention that you are supporting Neelsville Middle School.

Neelsville Family Night at Chick-fil-A



Please join us for the Neelsville Family Night at Chick-fil-A.

Where - Chick-fil-A

19945 Century Blvd
Germantown, MD 20874
(240) 686-1110

When - Wednesday, May 18th, 2011

From - 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Come out and join us for family night. This is a good way to contribute to your school. We will be there form 4pm to 8pm. Please mention that you are a Neelsville family when placing your order so the school can get credit.

No DRIVE THRU will be accepted for the fundraiser. You must order inside.



Domino's Family Night

Where - 13050 Middlebrook Rd.
Germantown Md. 20874
301-540-3388
&
Flower Hill Way
Gaithersburg Md. 20879
301-869-3000

When - Thursday, June 2nd, 2011

From - 4:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Hello parents, this is your last chance to support the school with the family restaurant nights - so let's go out with a bang. Remember to give the driver or cashier your slip so that we may get credit for our school. **Remember when placing an order to give the driver or cashier your order slip so that the school can get credit.** Thank you for your support.

(CUT THIS FORM AND GIVE TO THE DRIVER AND CASHIER WHEN PLACING YOUR ORDER)

DOMINO'S PTA PIZZA FORM

SCHOOL: Neelsville Middle School TEACHER: _____

DATE: Thursday, June 2nd, 2011 FAMILY'S NAME: _____

TOTAL OF SALE \$: _____

PARENTS – GET CONNECTED, STAY INFORMED!!

- **Edline** – Student’s grades and assignments. www.edline.net
- **NMS Website** – Morning announcements at NMS. <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/neelsvillems/>
- **Quicknotes** – MCPS email news - <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/info/quicknotes/>
- **NMS PTSA Yahoo Group** - PTSA information - <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NeelsvillePTSA/>

Don’t forget to join the new NMS PTSA Yahoo Group (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NeelsvillePTSA/>)

You don’t have to be a PTSA member to join. Membership is open to all parents/guardians of current NMS students and NMS staff. Email NeelsvillePTSA-subscribe@yahoogroups.com to submit a membership request. You can choose to receive the emails in the form of a daily or weekly digest. Please send the following information with your membership request –

- Parents – your name, your child’s name, your child’s grade
- Staff – your name, department.

ABOUT THE NEELSVILLE NEWS

Neelsville News is the monthly newsletter published by the Neelsville PTSA. We hope that you will find this a valuable resource for keeping up to date with PTSA news, notes and events, as well as an excellent tool for communicating important PTSA and school information to our school families. If you have any questions or comments on the newsletter or would like to submit an article, please email the editor.

General PTSA information like names of PTSA board members, meeting dates, **forms for joining and volunteering**, and back issues of the newsletter are **available online at the Neelsville Middle School website** under the “Parents” tab.

Please note that there are limitations as to what can/will be printed in the Neelsville News. All content is subject to space limitations, PTSA by-laws, and the discretion and approval of the PTSA President, Principal, and/or Newsletter Editor. Not all content that is submitted will be printed. The Newsletter Editor, PTSA President and Principal individually and collectively reserve full editorial license to determine what content is most appropriate for and/or considered of interest to the general readership of the Neelsville News.

About the Neelsville News

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Distribution Date: Online by the second Wednesday after the PTA Meeting

PTA Meeting	Print Deadline	Email Deadline	Online
May 10	May 11	May 13	May 17



**Mark Your Calendar –
PTSA Meeting Schedule**

May 10