

EAGLE EXPRESS



Rivers Edge Elementary School PTA

<http://www.reespta.org>, <http://www.henrico.k12.va.us/es/riversedge>
January 2012 PTA Newsletter

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President's Message

Rose Mary Jordan



Welcome to 2012! I hope Rivers Edge families enjoyed happy holidays and a relaxing winter break!

Thank you for your recent generous book and craft donations to the winter parties, as well as Math Night supplies requested in November and December. Our book collection will continue until mid January if you have additional books you would like to pass on. I truly appreciate your continued support of the PTA programs at Rivers Edge. Thank you also for the membership and Eagle Fund support provided in the fall. We are able to provide wonderful programs at REES through your financial support.

The PTA has planned some very exciting programs in January and February.

Math Night: The Rivers Edge PTA will hold its first ever Math Night on Thursday, January 12 at 6:45 pm. Thank you to Mrs. Whitt and our amazing teachers who are staffing the event to allow REES parents to participate with their families! Mark your calendars today for this fun evening with your family and REES friends.

Dads and Donuts: The Rivers Edge PTA will again celebrate fathers' involvement in schools by bringing dads together with their children for a brief donut breakfast. This year we will hold Dads and Donuts on Monday, February 6 and Tuesday, February 7. Look for more information in this newsletter about these special mornings.

Sock Hop & Silent Auction: The Annual Sock Hop and Silent Auction are scheduled for Thursday, February 23. Only 400 tickets can be sold for the Sock Hop so order early. The Silent Auction is open to all who wish to attend. The Sock Hop is one of the PTA's major fundraisers and family events during the school year and is always a crowd favorite. Thank you to Shea Bethea for planning the event this year. There are many volunteer opportunities available for parents of children attending the Sock Hop. Divya Verma & Mitzi Batterson have been very busy collecting business donations for the Silent Auction. Requests for items for "class theme baskets" will be made in January. Thank you for donating to or bidding at the auction on some of the fabulous items and services that will be available.

Nominating Committee: The nominating committee is looking for PTA members to serve on the 2012-2013 REES PTA Executive Committee. The PTA is searching for a VP of Programs, VP of Volunteers, and a Secretary. Please consider serving in one of these open positions. REES PTA leadership is a very rewarding way to volunteer at your child's school.

Have a wonderful January. I hope to see you at Rivers Edge and at the PTA programs.

Rivers Edge Elementary

PTA

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Calendar:

1/2	School reopens
1/12	PTA Math Night
1/16	School Holiday—MLK Day
1/16	Sponsor Night—Arby's at Short Pump
1/30	Student Holiday



Principal's Message

Johnna Riley



Happy New Year!!!! January is always an exciting time of year to start fresh with new goals and new expectations. As you reflect on your new goals for this year, consider these resolutions from Benjamin Franklin recorded during Colonial Times. Some things never change!

- To forget past mistakes and press on to greater achievements.
- To put first things first.
- To make my work a joy.
- To allow nothing to disturb my peace of mind.
- To never lose self-control.
- To spend so much time improving myself that I have no time for criticism of others.
- To think the best, work for it, and expect it.
- To be a friend to all.
- To stand for the right.
- To be true.
- To be kind.
- To take every disappointment as a stimulant.
- To live on the sunny side of every cloud.
- To smile.
- To look ahead.
- To keep moving

New Year Resolutions by Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790)

One of our goals at Rivers Edge is to continue making improvements in our programs. With that in mind, we have added another level of safety for our students by implementing a school-wide "Buddy System." This means that no student will ever be walking alone in our building -- they will always be with an adult or with another student. This extra layer of safety is designed to provide the ultimate, safe environment for our students.

I encourage everyone to complete the Henrico County Public Schools Parent Survey this month. Your feedback will help us in making other improvements to our programs! I am personally looking forward to another fabulous year working with the outstanding staff here at REES and the marvelous families and community that we enjoy! Don't forget to check with your child on the status of their school supplies. They might need to replace some glue sticks, pencils, or paper at this time of year. See you soon!

Johnna Riley,
Principal

A HAPPY
NEW YEAR

Yearbook

Courtney Headley



LAST CALL for YEARBOOKS!!

JANUARY 27 is the deadline to guarantee your child gets a book.

Orders can be placed online at www.REESPTA.org

Each book is only \$25.00.

Personalization is available (additional charges apply), but only through January 27

Please place a separate order for each book you purchase
(so that each child's name and homeroom can be entered separately).

If you prefer to pay by check, contact Courtney Headley at 217-9766 or ctheadley@aol.com.

Your Photos are NEEDED!!

**If you've taken photos this year at a school-related event,
please upload them by January 27!**

www.REESPTA.org

Photos Needed:

- *First Day of School, *School Performances, *Field Trips
- *Lunch Dates, *Mystery Reader or Classroom Photos
- *Students & Teachers

Box Tops for Education

Emilene Moore



Thank you parents and students for your continued efforts in collecting the Box Tops for our school! The winner of the second Box Tops collection contest is Mrs. Rust's class. They collected 1110 box tops. Way to go!

The last collection contest for the year will be in March so there is plenty of time to collect between now and then. Also don't forget to use the BTFE Marketplace to collect eBox-tops. We will be counting eBoxtops as well as the regular box tops for the final contest.

Visit the Box Tops for Education website www.btfе.com for more information.

Silent Auction

Mitzi Batterson & Divya Verma

WANTED: Services and Items for the Rivers Edge Silent Auction

Before you know it, it will be time to start the bidding! Please help support the PTA's Silent Auction scheduled for Thursday, February 23. Check with your friends and family that may work, manage or own a local business interested in donating an item. Please let us know about your favorite business that might consider helping out.



Toys, gift certificates and tickets to a game/concert are always a winner! We are also looking for One-of-a-Kind gifts as well as experiential packages. The possibilities are endless!

If you are a local business owner and can donate items or services for our Silent Auction, please contact Divya Verma (sonuverma@gmail.com) or Mitzi Batterson (mbbatterson@jrgm.com). Your contributions are greatly needed and appreciated. All contributions are tax deductible.

Please contact us today!

Sock Hop

Shea Bethea

The annual REES Sock Hop will be held on Thursday, February 23, 2012 at 5:30 pm. We are anticipating another great event, full of lots of fun for our kids and their parents, too! Students get to be transported back to the "good old" days in our transformed gym, while rocking to the oldies (and their favorite modern tunes, too!)

Pizza will be served for those who wish to purchase slices (ahead of time) so dinner is taken care of that evening! Our annual Silent Auction will be held at the Sock Hop.

This fun event is for Rivers Edge students in all grades. Since the Sock Hop usually sells out, we can only accommodate **current REES students** accompanied by one or both of their parents. Tickets will go on sale in January. More information will be distributed closer to that time.

Dressing in 50's era attire is encouraged, but not mandatory. You can also find websites that let you design custom poodle skirts. [Remember to order early! Consider ordering skirts at mid-calf to get multi-year use.]

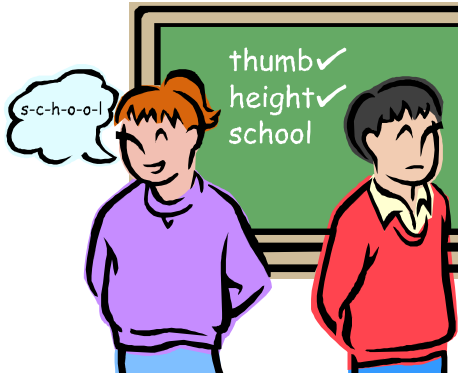
Please contact Shea Bethea (sheabethea@verizon.net) or Laura Taylor (mlskinsfan@verizon.net) if you are interested in helping or if you have them appropriate decorations you would like to donate to this event.



Classroom Spelling Bee Winners

Shannon Hodges

Congratulations to the classroom Spelling Bee winners listed below. They will compete at Rivers Edge on Thursday, January 12 at 9:00 a.m. to determine our school winner. This person will compete in the HCPS Division-wide Spelling Bee at Hungary Creek on Monday, January 23. Good luck, everyone!



Teacher	Winner
Kautz-Scanavy	Victor Martin
York	Tejas Muthusamy
Larkum	Keya Pokhriyal
Livesay	Jenna Essex
Davis	Christina Essah
Brinkman	Shravya Shetty
Boyer	Pallavi Natarajan
Ramsey	Sasha Abielmona
Ott	Jeffi Thomas
Ridle	Adam Elwood
Atkins	Parris Hague
Hamilton	Evan Chambers
Dussault	Cole Szymonik
Friedman	Daniel Sun

Rivers Edge PTA Nominating Committee

The nominating committee has been established and will be selecting a slate of officers for the 2012-2013 REES PTA Executive Committee. The positions that will be open are the following: 2nd VP of Volunteers, 3rd VP of Programs, and Secretary. Interest forms will be coming home in the backpacks soon. The form is also found on pages 6 & 7 of this newsletter.



REES PTA leadership is a very rewarding way to volunteer at your child's school. We hope you will use your time, talents and skills to assist your child's school next school year.

Community Service

Michelle McBride



The Community Service committee would like to thank all of the students for the beautiful bookmarks created during the winter party for Reach Out and Read Virginia. The creativity of our students always amazes us. We were overwhelmed by the number of books donated for this worthy charity. Thanks to the families and teachers who contributed to enable other students to have the chance to own a book.

Rivers Edge PTA Website: Your one stop place for school information!

www.reespta.org

Student Directory Updates

Tiffany Baham, Student Directory Chair

This month brings some changes to Rivers Edge Elementary student directory. Please make the following changes to your Student Directory:

Ms. Johnson – First Grade

Abigail Rose
270-8012
Andrew & Brittany Rose
brittanycrose@me.com

Mrs. Cartwright – Second Grade

Gabriel Rose
270-0812
Andrew & Brittany Rose

If you are new to Rivers Edge or have changes to your directory listing, please contact the school office for a student directory information form. Updates will be published in the PTA newsletter. Participation in the REES Student Directory is optional.

If you haven't received a directory, additional copies are available in the school office. One directory per household please. If you have any questions regarding the information form or the student directory, please contact me at jtba-ham@comcast.net

PTA Membership Form

VIRGINIA PTA ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP ENROLLMENT 2011-2012 SCHOOL YEAR RIVERS EDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PTA

Member's Name _____

Member's Name _____

Address _____

Glen Allen, VA Zip Code _____

Telephone (804) _____ Email Address _____

Child's Name _____

Teacher's Name _____

Memberships are \$5 per members. Please make checks payable to the Rivers Edge PTA.

Return this form and your payment to school.

PTA Use Only

Paid by: ___ Cash ___ Check Check Number _____

Membership Card Issued? _____



Executive Committee Officer Nominating Committee Form

The Rivers Edge PTA is looking for dedicated volunteers to serve on the Executive Committee. The elected Executive Committee consists of eleven voting officers. Executive Committee officers are expected to attend monthly PTA board meeting at the school. Board meetings are usually scheduled the 2nd Thursday of the month with the exception of September.

The nominating committee will be reviewing these forms and contacting those interested individuals. **Forms must be returned to the school by Friday, February 10, 2012**

Please check the elected position you are interested in and return to the school:

_____ **President:** Presides at board meetings and other board activities. Prior PTA experience and knowledge of PTA policies and guidelines is beneficial. Computer knowledge important: Word, Excel and Access to email. Be comfortable speaking in public. Possess the ability to work and communicate with a diverse group of volunteers, parents, and teachers. Hours per week depend: most weeks a minimum of 10 hours a week. Busiest time from August-Oct. Responsibilities include: coordinating monthly board and general membership meetings, working with the school administration and staff, coordinating with Committee Chairs and Executive Board for PTA programs.

_____ **Vice President Ways and Means:** Responsible for developing and maintaining fundraising programs of the PTA. Computer Skills: Word; Excel or equivalent is helpful; Access to e-mail is essential. Time Commitment: Monthly about two hours – attendance at Board Meeting and miscellaneous fund-raising duties. Time commitment increases to about 20 hours during the month of the Fall Fund-raiser when the direct donation campaign kicks off. (Usually September and October are the busiest times for this role.)

_____ **Vice President Volunteers:** Responsible for developing and maintaining volunteer programs for the PTA (ex. Filling committee chair positions, scheduling volunteers for events, etc). Possess the ability to work and communicate with a diverse group of volunteers, parents, and teachers. Access to email is essential. Time Commitment: May through July is very busy filling the committee chairs positions. September is very busy organizing and compiling lists of volunteers for each committee. January is also busy when volunteers for the spring are recruited. This position requires less than a couple of hours a week throughout the year. Knowledge of Excel is helpful.

_____ **Vice President Programs:** Responsible for the planning, setting up and implementing of the programs at the general membership PTA monthly meetings (ex, Science Fair, Family Fun and Fitness Night, Holiday program, etc.) Meet with the PTA President and school administration to plan programs for the upcoming school year. Coordinate with program committee chairs planning and implanting their events. Computer skills needed: Word, Excel and access to email

Please fill out form on back of page and return form to school.

Executive Committee Officer Nomination Form 2012-2013

_____**Secretary:** Responsible for maintaining the minutes of the General Membership and PTA Board meetings as well as the general information of the PTA; Knowledge of Microsoft Word is important. Time commitment - must attend all PTA board and general membership meetings, no more than 3-5 hours a month. Other duties include writing and emailing minutes, sending cards and other correspondence, maintaining the official "file", etc.

_____**Treasurer:** Responsible for making bank deposits, writing checks, and maintaining the financial records. Reconcile bank statements. Responsible for monthly Treasurer's report and filing IRS 990 Tax form in November. Knowledge of Excel and Word. Access to email. Accounting background is very helpful. Time commitment: Approx. 5-10 hours a month. Busiest time Sept.-Nov.

_____**County Council:** (2 delegates, 1 alternate needed): Attend County Council meetings each month and make a report at the REES PTA board meetings.

_____**Lay Advisory:** (1 delegate, 1 alternate needed): Attend Lay Advisory meetings 4 or 5 times a year. Make a report at the REES PTA board meetings. The Lay Advisory meets with members of the school board and the community in a unique forum that has a scheduled topic and open discussion.

Please fill out the information below:

Nominee's Name: _____

Student(s) Name: _____

Telephone Number: _____ Student Grade Level(s) _____

Email Address: _____

If you have any questions, please email or call Jill Krais (rkandjik@verizon.net) or 968-5995

Forms must be returned to the school by Friday, February 10, 2012



Rivers Edge ES PTA

January 2012

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Happy New Year!	2 School Reopens	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12 PTA Math Night 6:30-8:00 pm	13	14
15	16 School Holiday— MLK Day Sponsor Night— Arbys	17	18	19	20	21
22	23 PTA Day at the General Assembly	24	25	26	27 Order your yearbook & Upload photos deadline	28
29	30 Student Holiday	31 Evening Parent Conferences				



Upcoming Dates to Remember:

- February 6—Dads and Donuts A-L
- February 7—Dads and Donuts M-Z
- February 10—Nominating Committee Interest Forms due
- February 20—Sponsor Night—Pizarro Pizza
- February 20—Student Holiday
- February 23—Sock Hop and Silent Auction