



THES PTA Newsletter

www.thunderhillespta.weebly.com

October 4, 2016

BOO! The Halloween Disco Needs Volunteers

Disco planning is in full swing and we need volunteers. The event is on Oct 21. Please use the Sign-Up Genius link to see what help we need - <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090f4ba4ac28a2ff2-halloween>

GT Parent Advisory Committee Opening

Thunder Hill ES needs representation on the GT Parent Advisory Committee. This parent-led committee works with HCPSS to provide feedback, receive updates, and ask questions about the GT program. Currently Thunder Hill has NO representation on this committee. Read the flyer on page 3 and if you are interested, contact Lisa DeRemigis (lisa_deremigis@hcpss.org) or Linda Ferrara (linda_ferrara@hcpss.org) for more information.

CALENDAR

- Oct 7** **Maryland 529 Workshop.** 6:30-8pm. THES Cafeteria. Sign up below.
- Oct 10** **PTA Meeting.** All are welcome. 6:30pm. THES Gymnasium (new location).
- Oct 10** **Howard County Gifted & Talented Parent Academy.** See below for details.
- Oct 12** **Schools closed.**

UPCOMING EVENTS

Maryland529 Workshop

October 7: 6:30 pm

Join the PTA for a Maryland529 workshop. This workshop is free of charge and will feature a representative from Maryland529 who will give a presentation, provide applications, and answer questions.

Please use our Sign-Up Genius link to RSVP. All families that RSVP will be guaranteed a space at the workshop.

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090f4ba4ac28a2ff2-maryland529>

Howard County Gifted & Talented Parent Academy

10/10/16

HCPSS GT Program staff members will provide information about the GT program in elementary, middle, and high schools. The Academy will take place at Hammond High School on Monday, October 10, 2016 from 7-8:30 pm. Read the attached flyer on page 4 for more information.

Board of Education Candidate Forums Meet the Candidates at These Events

African American Coalition of Howard County
October 8
9:00 am-12:00 pm
St John Baptist Church
9055 Tamar Drive

PFLAG Columbia/Howard County
October 11

<https://pflagmd.org/2016/09/22/oct-11th-meeting-meet-the-candidates-for-howard-co-board-of-education/>

The 10 Villages of Columbia Board of Education Candidates Forum
October 13
7:00 pm
The Other Barn
Oakland Mills Community Center
5851 Robert Oliver Place

PTA Notes!

Membership Matters!

Keep our PTA strong and join or renew your membership today. We are very close to meeting our goal of 270 members. A strong PTA is our best tool to be strong advocates for our school. Send in your membership form today (page 5).

Support the PTA with Amazon Smile!

You can support the THES PTA every time you shop through Amazon Smile. Go to www.smile.amazon.com and search Thunder Hill PTA. Or use our code 23-7111265. Thank you for your support!

NEW PTA MEETING DAY!

The PTA has a new meeting day. We will now meet the Second Monday of every month. Our next meeting will be Monday, October 10, 2016 at 6:30 pm. On 10/10, we will meet in the THES Gymnasium.

Visit the THES PTA website today!

<http://thunderhillespta.weebly.com/>

Like us on Facebook for event and activity updates!

<https://www.facebook.com/thunderhillpta/>

PTA Grant Application Time!

Teachers, students, and parents of Thunder Hill! PTA grants are an opportunity to submit an idea to enrich the school community. It can benefit one grade or all. Out of the box ideas are welcome! Forms were sent home in Friday Folders. For more information, contact tremiw@gmail.com.

Send in Your Box Tops!

We need your Box Tops. Send in Box Tops in baggies or envelopes. Look for a collection sheet in your child's Friday folder soon or use the attached collection sheet on page 6.



THE ROLE OF A G/T PARENT REPRESENTATIVE

2016-2017

What is the Gifted and Talented (G/T) Parent Advisory Committee?

The G/T Parent Advisory Committee (GTAC) is a long-standing group of Howard County parents and community members who are interested in G/T programs offered by the Howard County Public School System (HCPSS). This committee works with the HCPSS G/T office, school administrators, G/T resource teachers, and other school personnel to receive updates, ask questions, and provide feedback related to G/T programs.

Why are G/T Parent Representatives needed?

As educational philosophies and policies change over time, advocates are needed who are committed to ensuring that school policies and programs benefit all students, including advanced-level learners. As parents, we can enhance the education of our children by being informed and providing feedback related to G/T programs.

What is the primary role of the Parent Representative?

The primary role of the Parent Representative is to be a liaison between the GTAC and the school community. Parent representatives can keep G/T teachers and fellow parents updated on information from meetings and provide feedback to the committee from their school communities. Representatives may also assist G/T resource teachers in other ways, as requested.

What other opportunities exist for me as a parent representative?

There are additional opportunities to be involved in the GTAC. Representatives may serve on the Steering Committee of GTAC, advocate for the group at meetings of the Board of Education of Howard County, and represent the group at policy committee meetings. Parent representatives may also wish to research new and proposed laws and decisions, which may affect advanced-level learners. There are also opportunities to become an officer on the Steering Committee and to assist with the planning and implementation of events, such as the G/T Educator Recognition Event held in the Spring.

Thank you for your support of our advanced-level learners!

For More Information: Email hcpssgtac@googlegroups.com or Call 410-313-6800

Interested parents and community members are invited to attend...

The Howard County Gifted and Talented Education Program Parent Academy

Monday, October 10, 2016
7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.



Gifted and Talented Education Program Overview

7:00 – 8:00

G/T Education Program – Auditorium

G/T Program staff members and students present a comprehensive overview of the G/T Program offerings at the elementary, middle, and high school levels. Learn about the advanced-level offerings that are available through the G/T Education Program and how your child can become involved!

8:05 – 8:30

Question and Answer Sessions:

Elementary G/T Program Offerings:	Auditorium
Middle School G/T Program Offerings:	215
High School G/T Courses:	216

Hammond High School
8800 Guilford Road
Columbia, MD 21046

For more information, please visit the G/T Advisory Committee website at <https://sites.google.com/site/hcpssgtac> or call 410-313-6800.



Thunder Hill Elementary School PTA Renewal/New Membership 2016-2017 Form

Every year membership needs to be renewed.

Visit us at our website: thunderhillespta.weebly.com

Like us on Facebook: facebook.com/thunderhillpta

Dues:

Membership	(1 Adult \$15.00/ 2 Adults \$20.00)	\$ _____
Donations	(THES PTA is a nonprofit, so donations are tax deductible)	\$ _____
Total	(Make checks out to THES PTA)	\$ _____

Child(1): _____ Grade: ____ Teacher: _____

Child(2): _____ Grade: ____ Teacher: _____

Child(3): _____ Grade: ____ Teacher: _____

Address: _____

Adult: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

2nd Adult: _____

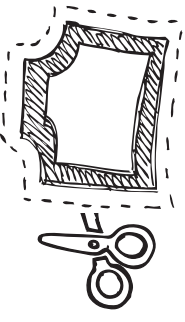
Email: _____ Phone: _____

The PTA will include you in our directory that is shared with *only* other PTA families. If you would **not** like information shared, please indicate : Address Phone Email All Information Other: _____

Please put the completed form with your payment in an envelope labeled "PTA Membership" & send it back to school with your student. If you need more information or have questions, contact Jennifer Cisneros: membership.thespta@gmail.com



Thunder Hill Elementary School PTA



Start clipping Box Tops today! Each one is worth 10¢ for your child's school. They add up quickly and your school can use the cash to buy whatever it needs. For more information on Box Tops for Education, including a list of participating products and how much your child's school has earned, go to BTFE.com. Thanks for your help!

- 1** Clip Box Tops.
Don't forget to check the expiration date.
- 2** Tape or glue Box Tops on this sheet.
- 3** Send completed sheet to your school.

