



### PTA Executive Board

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Treasurer

### Upcoming Events February 2011

Gr. 4 Lenape Assm	2/2
(sponsored by PTA Mini-Grant)	
Report Cards	2/3
Jersey Day	2/3
Night of the Stars	2/3
Math-a-Thon	2/12-24
PTC Past President Luncheon	2/12
Ice Cream Social	2/14
Spirit Friday	2/17
Half Day of Classes	2/17
Pretzel Sale	2/17
School Closed	2/20
Kids Go Green Assm (sponsored by Cranford Clean Communities Grant)	2/22
Gr. 3 Shop Rite Nt.	2/28

### Principal's News

This February, we continue our focus on reading with a reading incentive program for our students developed by our Read Across America Committee teachers, Mrs. Kristyn Gorman, Ms. Laura Straus, and Ms. Lindsey Snyder.

The Read Across America program is an annual national reading motivation and awareness initiative that calls for every child, in every community, to celebrate reading on March 2 - the birthday of beloved children's author, Dr. Seuss.



It is our goal in the upcoming months at Livingston Avenue School to promote literacy awareness, not only among our students, but throughout the community. This February, we will be kicking off our Read Across America incentive program with a goal of reading 2,000 books as a school. Students will individually document their reading progress within their classroom, while committee members document school progress. As students complete books, the opportunity to write a book review on a bookmark that will be hung on an interactive bulletin board will be made available. Students will also make recommendations to their peers as to what books they truly enjoyed reading to inspire our students to read a diverse collection of books.

On March 5<sup>th</sup>, we will kick off our school book drive which will help us not only to build classroom libraries, but also provide books to underprivileged and at risk children throughout New Jersey in order to support literacy skills and to encourage a love of reading. 1/3 of the books collected will be donated. Livingston Avenue School is eager to our goal of 2,000 books!

The time that the children spend reading books can be logged for the Six Flags Reading Program that is currently in progress with the LAS PTA as well as their nightly reading logs.

Finally, with the start of the third marking period, this is an excellent time to reflect upon this school year to ensure that your child's experiences and efforts are meeting your collective expectations and are indicative of your child's ability. Please engage in conversations with your child to review his or her progress as reported by the feedback he or she earns on the second marking period report card. It is important to listen to your child's point of view and let your child know that his/her voice counts. Set goals for the third marking period, keep track and reward progress. More often than not, earning quality, uninterrupted time with you is more rewarding than something purchased.

### From the PTA President...



Sincerely,  
Dineen Seeley

Dear Parents,

February will be a month of some very exciting PTA run events at Livingston Avenue School. Our students have been working extremely hard rehearsing for our annual Night Of The Stars scheduled for Friday, February 3rd. Due to the overwhelming number of students performing this year, we have "borrowed" Hillside Avenue School's auditorium for our show. The PTA will be selling water and snacks at this event! We hope you come out to enjoy this evening and cheer on our many students who will be entertaining us with their special talents!

The PTA Spring Gertrude Hawk Sale will start in February - please support our PTA!

On February 14th, our annual Valentine's Day Ice Cream Social will take place during school hours. All students are invited to come to the beautifully decorated gym to enjoy making their own Ice Cream Sunday and socializing with their classmates!! This is a much loved activity by our students and parental volunteers are much needed.

Please consider volunteering and serving on our Executive Board for the 2012/2013 school year. We will be losing a few board members at the close of this school year and need dedicated, hard working volunteers to step up and fill the empty positions. Keep an eye open for a flyer going home shortly which will explain the positions we will have open, or e-mail me to answer any questions you may have pertaining to the open board positions.

Sincerely,  
Susan Fichiera

All submissions for the March Newsletter should be sent to Maria Baumann by February 17 at [baumann715@hotmail.com](mailto:baumann715@hotmail.com).

**School Schedule**

**Regular Session** –  
8:30 a.m. - 2:50 p.m.  
**Single Session** –  
8:15 a.m. - 12:25 p.m.  
**Delayed Opening** –  
9:50 a.m. - 2:50 p.m.  
**Lunch** –  
11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.

**School Information**

Absence Line: 709-6748  
Nurse Damm: 709-8030

Lunch Tickets are sold every  
Wednesday  
Weekly -5 tkts/\$11.00  
Bi-Weekly -10 tkts/\$22.00  
Monthly-20 tkts/\$44.00

**2011-2012 Superintendent Meetings with Dr. Carrick**

Oct 11th	OAS
Nov. 7th	CHS
Jan. 3rd	BAS
Feb. 7th	WAS
Mar. 6th	LAS
Apr. 3rd	BPS
May 8th	HAS

**LAS Bingo Night - Save the Date**

Fun and prizes are coming to LAS! Join us for our annual LAS Bingo Night.

Date: Friday, March 3, 2012  
Time: 6:45 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
Cost: \$5 (cash)



This event is for LAS students only. See the recently distributed flyer for details. Form and payment due by: February 24th.

Want to volunteer at this fun event?? Complete the volunteer portion of the form. Any questions, please contact Kim Szczech, Chairperson, at [chex65@aol.com](mailto:chex65@aol.com) or 272-2437.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Gift Basket Raffle - February 13th**

**Winter Fun**

Our second gift basket raffle -- Winter Fun -- is approaching fast. One lucky winner will take it all on February 13th. We still need some items to make this basket a success. Suggested donations are: moisturizers, mittens or gloves, hot packs, snowball makers, ice skating tickets, a favorite movie, popcorn, a fleece blanket, mugs, a movie, or gift cards. Any items you are willing to donate are greatly appreciated. If you prefer NOT to shop and purchase an item for the basket, we are happy to do the shopping for you. Monetary gifts of any size are greatly appreciated. Please place items in the box in the main office by February 10th.

Keep those donations and raffle tickets coming in! This basket is going to be a great one! Any questions please contact Amy Burns [aburns125@verizon.net](mailto:aburns125@verizon.net) or Maria Bauman [baumann715@hotmail.com](mailto:baumann715@hotmail.com)

**Night of the Stars!**

The 2011 Night of the Stars is scheduled for **Friday, February 3rd at 7pm** in the HAS auditorium!!! Now's your chance to see LAS' Best Talent!!! Boy have we got a line up of entertainment for you including dance, singing, tumbling and jokes as well as students playing various instruments. Admission is FREE!!!!

Chairpersons -  
Julie Otani @ 908.653.0029  
[julie@turningpointdancecenter.com](mailto:julie@turningpointdancecenter.com) or  
Terri Hecht @ 908.209.2869  
[tphecht@verizon.net](mailto:tphecht@verizon.net)

**Read To Succeed**

Livingston Avenue School students can participate in the *Read to Succeed* free educational program from Six Flags and Discovery Education. The program is designed to inspire K-6 students to engage in recreational reading. Students who complete six hours of recreational, non-school-related reading are eligible to earn a free admission ticket to a participating Six Flags theme park. The reading logs will come home in your child's backpack. Please return reading logs to the PTA box no later than February 27th.

**Treasurer's Update**

Did you know that the LAS PTA has a Mini Grant Program?

This program provides teachers an opportunity to purchase materials which enhance the classroom experience. In previous years, the Mini Grant Program funded recorders for our 3rd grade students. This year, the teachers used the Mini Grants to purchase text books to enhance their curriculum, provide 4th grade students with a visit from a Lenape Indian Tribe expert, provide dry erase boards for the basic skills classroom, and place value dry erase boards for Math instruction.

These examples of the Mini Grant Program are funded by the generosity of our parents through our fundraising efforts. We hope to be able to continue to make available these grants that enhance education for teachers and students alike.



Our next pretzel sale will be held on Friday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at 12:15 pm. These hot delicious pretzels sell for just \$1.00 and are a great way to support our school. Volunteers are always welcome! Contact Jen Hunt [Jennyfur.Hunt@verizon.net](mailto:Jennyfur.Hunt@verizon.net).

**Valentine's Day Ice Cream Social** will be here soon.

This party is for the whole school, when the children get to make their own sundaes and sit with their classmates and socialize!

M+M's, gummy bears, hot fudge....yum!

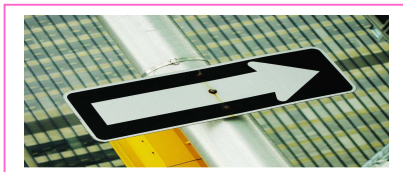
Volunteers are needed! Please contact Vicki Spurr at [sspurr@comcast.net](mailto:sspurr@comcast.net)

## Box Top Winners. . .

The new box top rankings are below. The winners for this marking period are the classes that made the biggest gain from 1st to 2nd marking period. Congratulations 3N, 4C and 5M -- you are getting ice pop parties!

Terri Hecht and Amy Lamberts - LAS Box Top Coordinators

CLASS	POINTS
Gorman	431
Murphy	587
Normann	729
Widdows	336
Curti	580
Kornmeyer	381
Sickles	805
Baer	195
Ferguson	607
Johnson	89
Marcin	584
NO NAME :	886
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>6,210</b>



## School Traffic . . .

This is a reminder to take care when dropping off and picking up your children from school, especially when driving on Livingston Avenue. Please be mindful that Livingston Avenue between South Union Avenue and Stoughton Avenue is a two-way street.

Please be careful!

Thank you for your cooperation.

## A Heartfelt Yankee Candle Thank You

Thank you to all of the families that participated in the Yankee Candle Fundraiser in November. Thanks to your sales to friends and family our PTA earned over \$1,800 to be used for activities to benefit the children of LAS. Great job everyone!

Christine Newport - Yankee Candle Chairperson

## Save The Date . . . LAS Ice Skating Party

Save the date for some chilly family fun! Livingston Ave will host it's annual Skate Night on Saturday, March 10th at Warinanco Rink. Look for a flyer with details soon.

Any questions, contact Jen Hunt at [Jennyfur.Hunt@verizon.net](mailto:Jennyfur.Hunt@verizon.net)



**Save the Date**  
**The LAS Adult Social is Coming ...**  
**April 5th**

## Yearbook Pictures Needed

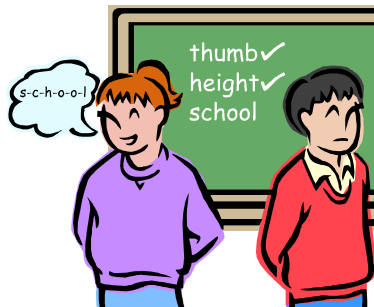
You must upload your pictures before **THURSDAY, MARCH 15<sup>th</sup>**. Accommodations will be made for any activities that occur between March 15th and March 31st.

Activities to be included are: First Day of School, Haunted House, 3rd Grade Exercise Your Brain, 3rd Grade Thanksgiving Presentations, Holiday Concert, Night of Stars, 4th Grade Bike Rodeo, 4th Grade NJ Counties Cake, DARE Graduation, Family Volley Ball Night, Valentine's Day Ice Cream Social, etc. and any classroom activities that can be used in the candid shot section.

It's easy to upload your photos, just follow these simple steps...

- \* Go to: <https://images.schoolannualonline.com/login>
- \* If it does not automatically log you into the site, enter username: 400114026 and password: LAS
- \*Browse to select the photo(s) you want to upload
- \*Enter information about the photo and provide contact information in case the staff needs additional information.
- \*Click "Save Details".

Submit your photos today to make this the best yearbook ever!! Please contact Bettina Young at [bettyv@msn.com](mailto:bettyv@msn.com) if you have any questions.



### Congratulations to our Spelling Bee Champs!!!!!!

You will be thrilled to know that the top three winners in this year's Spelling Bee were ALL Livingston Ave. students!!!

It was a very close competition, with all of the students doing a wonderful job. The winners were:

- 1st place: Isabelle Hunt (4th grade)
- 2nd place: Daniel Serna (4th grade)
- 3rd place: Jacob Roy (5th grade)

They move onto the next level on Feb 25th.



### GOT ART? Love your child's artwork?

Put it on something other than the fridge! The PTA has teamed up with Square 1 Art to bring you a unique way of preserving your children's artwork. Look for a folder coming home on Feb 16th. You will be able to put your child's masterpieces on plates, mugs, mousepads, note cards and more. These unique treasures will make perfect gifts for Easter, Mother's Day, Father's Day, Teacher Appreciation Week and more...

Contact Chair: Paula Perrault at [Perraultma@verizon.net](mailto:Perraultma@verizon.net), Vicki Spurr at [sspurr@comcast.net](mailto:sspurr@comcast.net) or Jen Hunt at [Jennyfur.Hunt@verizon.net](mailto:Jennyfur.Hunt@verizon.net) for more information.

## A BIG Thank You ...

- \* Thank you to **Barbara Bryson** and all your helpers who made the 5<sup>th</sup> Grade DARE Graduation Celebration an awesome time. It was a great day for students and parents alike!
- \* Thanks to **Joanne Kalnins** who chaired our Family Volley Ball Night! Everyone enjoyed themselves playing Volleyball that Friday evening and we appreciate your help in making the event run smoothly.
- \* Thank you to **Cindy Nudelman**, Chairperson of our Candy Cane-O-Gram Fundraiser!! Tagging hundreds of candy canes and making sure they are delivered to the right person is a time consuming job which Cindy and her volunteers did wonderfully!!
- \* A great BIG Thank You to **Vicki Spurr, Gretchen O'Shea, Sheila Scheurer** and **Maura McGovern** for the countless hours they put in for months in order to make our Annual Holiday Boutique a super-special event for our students. The LAS Students walked into a class room transformed into a Holiday Shoppe and were able to purchase awesome gifts for everyone on their list!!! The children really enjoyed this experience!!
- \* Thank you to **Aileen Korzeneski**, our Hospitality Chairperson and all of the parent volunteers who helped set up and baked the tasty treats following our Holiday Concert in December.
- \* Thank you to **Joan Zanfardino**, our Used Book Sale Chairperson. What a great way to recycle great books and benefit the PTA!!! Thanks, Joan.