

PTO

WILLIAM A. DIGGS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FALL 2009 NEWSLETTER



www.ccboe.com/diggs

HAWKS RULE!

♦UPCOMING EVENTS:

- ♦Sep. 23-Back to School at Chuck E. Cheeses
- ♦Oct. 8-PTO 1st General Meeting
- ♦Oct. 20-Spirit Night at Chic Fil A
- ♦Nov. 12-2nd PTO General Meeting
- ♦Dec. 5-Winter Wonderland
- ♦Dec. 10-PTO 3rd General Meeting
- ♦*Skate Nights-TBA in October & November

The Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) Welcomes You!

WHAT IS THE PTO?

The Parent Teacher Organization is a volunteer 501(c)(3) organization comprised of parents/guardians of children attending William A. Diggs Elementary School, the school staff and interested community members.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE PTO?

- Promote the health and welfare of children within the home, school and community.
- Create and promote a closer relationship between the home and school, and between parents and educators.
- Encourage cooperation between the school and home in the education of its children.
- Supplement allocated funds for school operations, special purchases, teaching supplies, special events, and educational activities.
- Develop a general sense of responsibility among parents, educators, and community leaders that ensures the opportunity for all children to obtain the best education available in a safe and orderly environment.

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

President **Geneva Coleman**
geneva.coleman@dhs.gov

1st Vice President **Elridge Proctor**
elridge_proctor@yahoo.com

2nd Vice President **Carole Cephas**
carambole56@hotmail.com

Secretary **Le'Neeka Manning**
leneeka_manning@cap-police.senate.gov

Treasurer **Amy Warren**
hpwarren@aol.com

WHAT DO I NEED TO DO TO JOIN?

All you need to do to join the PTO is complete a membership form and return it to school with the \$5.00 annual membership fee. To get a form, email carambole56@hotmail.com.

SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVES

Principal Sandra Taylor
Teacher Liaisons Cellinna Childers

HOW CAN I HELP THE PTO

- Join to become a Member & Volunteer with the PTO
- Attend the 1st PTO Meeting October 8th, 7:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
- Thanks to those who supported Back to School Night at Chuck E. Cheeses and Skate Night (Sept 23rd and 24th).
- We need Volunteers to plan Mega Spirit Night and other events for the school year 2009-2010.

With questions, comments, or interests in the Diggs PTO Newsletter?

Contact Elridge Proctor via email at elridge_proctor@yahoo.com.

Parent Involvement is a Powerful Tool!



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

MRS. GENEVA COLEMAN

Hello, my name is Geneva Coleman, President of the Diggs PTO. The Diggs Parent Teacher Organization's primary goal is to encourage and affirm our teachers, staff, and fellow parent volunteers in their efforts to strengthen public education and academic achievements of Diggs Elementary School Students. In order to support the goals of the PTO, parents and volunteers, we need you!

I am proud and very excited to serve as President this year. I am looking forward to an outstanding year and I sincerely solicit your help to persevere to achieve that goal. So I challenge every family to volunteer only 2 hours this school year to help us to make learning fun for our children. Finally, I will quote a famous saying from John D. Rockefeller the founder of Exxon.

He said, "I do not think that there is any other quality so essential to success of any kind as the quality of perseverance. It overcomes almost everything, even nature."

John D. Rockefeller
1839-1937, American Industrialist, Philanthropist, Founder Exxon

1ST VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

MRS. ELRIDGE PROCTOR

PTO GIVES THANKS TO:

Lourdes Sagun -last year's PTO President.

We acknowledge *Sandra Carr* at North Point HS. *Lisa Contreras, Maria Cook, Rosemin Daya, Eddice Douglas, Bridgette Goss, Jennifer Howard, De Johnson, and Jill Fronck* for helping with back to back School Open House.

With these two little words; *Thank You*, "Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life. It turns what we have into enough, and more. It turns denial into acceptance, chaos to order, confusion to clarity. It can turn a meal into a feast, a house into a home, a stranger into a friend. *Gratitude* makes sense of our past, brings peace for today, and creates vision for tomorrow."

Written by Melody Beattie.

Dedicated to all PTO volunteers, past and present!

HELP US TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Chairs Needed For Vacant Committees:

Ways & Means-Assist PTO President

By-Laws-Review PTO functions/duties

Publicity- Assist 1st VP/Communications

Hospitality-Assist with PTO Meetings

Audit-Assist Treasurer with Taxes

Record Keeping-Assist Secretary

Box Tops-Set up /Collect Fundraiser

Tyson Project A+ and **eScrip** registration.

Chic Fil A Spirit Night-Organize/Plan Event

Mega Spirit Night-Organize /Plan Events

Winter Wonderland-Organize/Plan Event

Volunteers Needed-Assist Chairs & PTO

***All Committees Need Members!**

2nd VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

MRS. CAROLE CEPHAS

We are looking for members to join the PTO. Our goal is to have a true representation of the student body. For the upcoming General PTO meetings, we are looking for 2-4 alternating volunteers to help with refreshments and children supervision. To help, email carambole56@hotmail.com.

TREASURY INFORMATION

MRS. AMY WARREN

Welcome to another great school year. I am developing a budget which will be detailed in a Treasurer's Report to be presented at the October 8th PTO General Meeting.

In November, the Treasurer must compile and file the tax documents needed for the PTO to maintain 501(c)(3) Non-profit status. If you or someone you know is familiar with IRS documents and is willing and able to help with this process, it would be greatly appreciated. Contact Amy Warren at (301) 885-0847 or email to hpwarren@aol.com.

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PTO FUNDRAISERS

Box Tops for Education: We can earn up to \$20,000 each year by clipping 10 cent coupons from hundreds of General Mills products and partnering brands. Visit www.btfе.com for more information and for a complete list of eligible products.

Campbell's Labels for Education Program: For more than 30 years *Labels for Education* has been awarding free educational equipment to schools in exchange for proofs of purchase from the Campbell family of brands. Visit www.labelsforeducation.com for information and a list of eligible products.

Giant A+ or Tyson Project A+ Label Collection Program: We can raise as much as \$12,000 this year, just by clipping the entire Project A+ label off of participating Tyson products. Each label is worth 24 cents. Visit www.tyson.com/projectaplus.

eScrip: Register any one or all of your existing grocery loyalty cards, debit and credit cards, for use in the program. Participating merchants will make contributions to our school based on purchases made by you, just by using the cards you have registered. Visit www.escrip.com for more information and for a list of participating merchants.

PTO Couch Potato Fundraiser: A tax deductible donation to the PTO. Your contribution can be given at any point and time during the school year. It requires no need to buy, or sell anything. More information will be forthcoming about the Couch Potato Fundraiser.

Fridays-Support Diggs Spirit Day in "Hawks Spirit Wear."

Email jfronk@hotmail.com for Spirit Wear Orders.

Thank you in advance for your support in giving your time and monetary contributions !



NATIONAL EDUCATION MESSAGE



**Excerpts From President Barack Obama's Speech
"Back to School" Remarks at Wakefield High School in Arlington, Virginia.
12:00 Noon ET, Tuesday, September 8, 2009.**

Source: The White House at www.whitehouse.gov/MediaResources/PreparedSchoolRemarks.

The President addressed students nationwide saying, I know some of you are still adjusting to being back at school. I want to talk with you about your education and what's expected of all of you in this new school year.

Every single one of you has something you're good at. Every single one of you has something to offer. And you have a responsibility to yourself to discover what that is. That's the opportunity an education can provide.

Maybe you could be a good writer – maybe even good enough to write a book or articles in a newspaper – but you might not know it until you write a paper for your English class.

Maybe you could be an innovator or an inventor – maybe even good enough to come up with the next iPhone or a new medicine or vaccine – but you might not know it until you do a project for your science class.

Maybe you want to be a doctor, or a teacher, or a police officer? You want to be a nurse or an architect, a lawyer or a member of our military? You're going to need a good education for every single one of those careers.

You've got to work for it and train for it and learn for it. And this isn't just important for your own life and your own future. What you make of your education will decide nothing less than the future of this country. What you're learning in school today will determine whether we as a nation can meet our greatest challenges in the future.

You'll need the knowledge and problem-solving skills you learn in science and math to cure diseases like cancer and AIDS, and to develop new energy technologies and protect our environment.

You'll need the insights and critical thinking skills you gain in history and social studies to fight poverty and homelessness, crime and discrimination, and make our nation more fair and more free.

You'll need the creativity and ingenuity you develop in all your classes to build new companies that will create new jobs and boost our economy.

We need every single one of you to develop your talents, skills and intellect so you can help solve our most difficult problems. If you don't do that – you're not just quitting on yourself, you're quitting on your country.

At the end of the day, what you look like, where you come from, how much money you have, what you've got going on at home is no excuse for neglecting your homework or having a bad attitude. That's no excuse for talking back to your teacher. Where you are right now doesn't have to determine where you'll end up. Here in America, you write your own destiny. You make your own future.

That's why today, I'm calling on each of you to set your own goals for your education and to do everything you can to meet them. Your goal can be something as simple as doing all your homework, paying attention in class, or spending time each day reading a book. Whatever you resolve to do, I want you to commit to it. Don't be afraid to ask questions. Don't be afraid to ask for help when you need it. Asking for help isn't a sign of weakness, it's a sign of strength. It shows you have the courage to admit when you don't know something, and to learn something new. Find an adult you trust – a parent, grandparent or teacher; a coach or counselor and ask them to help you stay on track to meet your goals. Don't ever give up on yourself.

The story of America isn't about people who quit when things got tough. It's about people who kept going, who tried harder, who loved their country too much to do anything less than their best.