

# GRAHAM PTA NEWSLETTER

Sept 5, 2017

## UPCOMING DATES

### September 8

LMC orientation  
LMC 9:15a

### September 13

Curriculum Night

### September 14

PTA Welcome Back Coffee  
MPR 9:30 am

### September 14

WatchDOGS Info Night  
MPR 6:30pm

### September 15

Maker Space Orientation  
LMC 9:15am

### September 19

PDAC Mtg  
Crouse Education Center  
7pm

### September 27

Restaurant Night  
Oberweis  
4pm-10pm

### September 29

Falcon  
FUNdraiser

We hope everyone enjoyed the beautiful long weekend and ready for a busy September!

Last week was the kick off to our **FALCON FUNdraiser!!** Our FUNdraiser chairs met with all of our Graham students to get them excited about our upcoming fundraising. Fundraiser forms and envelopes were also sent home in backpacks. If you need a new copy, please check our websites or see the attached pdf. **Our goal this year is to reach \$8500 so we can adequately support our PTA programs.** We thank you in advance for your support!

**Curriculum Night** is on **9/13** and is a fantastic way to meet your students' teachers, learn about their curriculum, and hear about what is happening in the classroom. It is also an opportunity to sign up for some classroom volunteer programs such as **Junior Achievement** and **Art Awareness**. These programs allow you to work directly in your child's classroom and also provides additional enrichment to their curriculum. More details on these programs are in this newsletter, and please be on the lookout for signups outside your student's classroom on Curriculum Night.

Please join us at our **first PTA meeting on Sept 14, 9:30am in the Multi-Purpose Room (MPR)**. Coffee and refreshments will be served as we introduce the 2017-18 PTA Board. This is also a great way to meet other parents while hearing about all that we have planned for this school year! We hope you can join us!

Lastly, we are excited to announce our first restaurant night of the year! It is scheduled for **Sept 27 at the 95<sup>th</sup> street Oberweis**. Please read on for more details!

As always, thanks for reading!  
Emily Chen

## FALCON "FUN"draiser

The Graham PTA will be hosting our annual **Falcon FUNdraiser on Friday, September 29th**. This is our main fundraising event for the school year and 100% of the money raised goes back to Graham school and our students! Classroom parties, teacher grants, the STEM science fair, and Family Fun Nights are just a few of the programs sponsored by the Falcon FUNdraiser.

**This year our goal is to raise \$8500.** If we do, a few lucky students will be selected to **throw a cream pie at Mrs. Witkowski and Mr. Cooper.** **And if we exceed our goal of \$8500, Ms. Walton has agreed to let one lucky student "pie" her!**

**Donations will be accepted through September 29th.** Checks should be made payable to **Graham PTA** or through the **Graham PTA website <http://www.grahampta.org/falcon-fundraiser.html>** Please contact our Falcon FUNdraiser co-chairs, **Jenn Buedel** at [jebuedel@gmail.com](mailto:jebuedel@gmail.com) or **Brooke Murphy** at [brookemurphy2@yahoo.com](mailto:brookemurphy2@yahoo.com) with any questions.

## STAY CONNECTED!

### Graham District Website:

<http://graham.ipisd.org/>

### Graham PTA website:

<http://www.grahampta.org/>

### PTA Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/grahampta/>

2017-2018 PTA BOARD

President: Emily Chen

Vice Presidents: Tiffany Treacy & Stephanie Melone

Treasurer: Suzie Perkins

Secretary: Brooke Murphy

## Library Shifts Available!

It's not too late to sign up to volunteer in the LMC, if you can commit to a two hour shift every week or every other week, please email Kristin Kirchner [kirchnercrew@gmail.com](mailto:kirchnercrew@gmail.com) with your day and time preference (9:15-11:15, 11:15-1:15, or 1:15-3:15). It is a wonderful way to be part of your student's education and our children love to see us working at their school!

The LMC Volunteer Orientation is on Sept 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:15 am in the LMC. Please plan to attend even if you are a returning volunteer, as there are always updates and new things happening in our LMC!

## WATCH D.O.G.S.

Attention All "DADS" of Graham Students!

On September 14<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 to 7:30 we will be hosting our first Dads pizza night at our school. You will meet in the school cafeteria at 6:30 for **FREE pizza and drinks**. At 7:00 we will have a presentation about our WATCH D.O.G.S (Dads of Great Students) Program.

In order to participate, please RSVP here: <https://goo.gl/forms/U11vgOfLzqEfsKGj1> so we can have an accurate head count for the event.

We look forward to seeing you at the WATCH D.O.G.S. event. Please contact our chairs with any questions: Michele Kapinus, WATCH D.O.G.S. Coordinator Rachel Witkowski, WATCH D.O.G.S. Liaison

## NATIONAL PTA REFLECTIONS

PTA Reflections is a nationally acclaimed student recognition program to encourage artistic creativity in the classroom and at home. Students of all grades and abilities may participate and explore the arts based on the 2017-2018 theme: **Within Reach**

The Reflections team at Graham is looking forward to a great participation this year from its art loving students. For more information, contact **Sudha Murali at [sudarshana.murali@gmail.com](mailto:sudarshana.murali@gmail.com)** and please keep an eye out for flyers that are going home next week.

Learn more about this national program by visiting <https://www.pta.org/programs/reflections.cfm?ItemNumber=2898&navItemNumber=4777>

## Restaurant Night

We are excited to announce our first **Restaurant Night** of the school year! It is scheduled at **Oberweis on 9/27** the 95<sup>th</sup> street location from 4p-10pm. Please present the attached flyer and Graham will receive 30% back on all purchases made. It's a great way to enjoy a treat out with friends and family while giving back to the school!

## CLASSROOM PARENTS 2017-2018

We have revamped our classroom parent role at Graham to create **2 co-led lead positions for each classroom**. Thank you to those who already signed up at our activities fair at our meet and greet. **We are still looking to fill this important role for several of our classrooms.**

**These positions will be available on Sign Up Genius on a first come, first selected basis.** Once we have established our co-parents for each class we will hold training, planning, and support material at a team meeting the end of September. We have streamlined some of the duties to make it simpler and shared-so grab a friend and sign up to support your child's class today! Limited spots are still available.

For details on this position and to sign up today please visit: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090c4aaaa923a1fb6-classroom/49797193>

## PDAC NEWS

(Parent Diversity Advisory Council)

**September 19<sup>th</sup> 7:00pm**

Crouse Education Center  
780 Shoreline Dr, Aurora

### TOPIC: "Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack"

Discussions will focus on implicit bias and the advantages and disadvantages our students face. Please come join the conversation at this meeting!

If you would like more information, please contact our **PDAC Rep: Manu Khurana** [monagaks@gmail.com](mailto:monagaks@gmail.com) and visit <http://www.ipsd.org/Subpage.aspx/PDAC>

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