



AUSTIN ADVISOR

A Publication of the Austin Academy PTA

Issue 1

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FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Holly Muzzicato | Email: hmmuzzic@garlandisd.net

Greetings Austin Academy Parents and Teachers!

As we embark on the 2013-2014 school year, we look forward to working with our students and providing a multi-faceted, successful experience. In an effort to maximize our efforts and promote effective communication, please be sure to verify all contact information on documentation brought home by students. Also, feel free to take advantage of the on-line resources for general school information/activities, volunteer procedures and documents, newsletters, etc... This may be accomplished via the AAE webpage or GISD website (follow links to ENews).

Meet the Teacher Night has been scheduled for September 16, 2013. This will allow parents the opportunities to walk-through their student's schedules, have a brief introduction with the teachers, and attend the PTA meeting beginning at 6:00. As parking is limited that evening, a shuttle bus will be provided to transport parents and students from the parking lot of AEC (Alternative Education Center) to Austin Academy.

We are exceptionally honored to serve our role in your student's education and look forward to beginning and/or continuing the partnership between Austin Academy and our parents. Feel free to contact the school if we may be of assistance. We welcome your input.

We will have a great school year!

Holly Muzzicato

MEET THE TEACHER NIGHT – SEPTEMBER 16th

The first meeting of the PTA will be in conjunction with the "Meet the Teacher Night," **September 16th**. The PTA meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m. in the Cafeteria. The business meeting will include approving the PTA budget, the fundraisers, and presenting the audit report.

There will also be an opportunity to join PTA and sign up as a volunteer. Following the meeting, you can meet your child's teachers and receive a quick tour of the school.

Parking is at a minimum around the school, so additional parking will be available at the nearby Alternative Education Center with shuttle buses running regularly between locations. The center is located at the corner of Miller and Country Club roads. Come early for the PTA meeting and beat the rush! Hope to see you there.



2013-2014

PTA Reflections
Program Theme:



Students may enter original works in any of the following areas:

Visual Arts

Photography

Literature

Music Composition

Dance/Choreography

Film

Applications can be picked up from the office, the AAE website or go to www.txpta.org and click on Programs, click on Reflections, then download the rules and forms for 2013-2014.

The deadline for submissions is in late October!

For more information, contact Mildred Abu iabu@verizon.net

A WORD FROM YOUR PTA PRESIDENT

Angi Pearce | Email: angi.pearce@verizon.net

Welcome back to Austin Academy!

I can't believe another summer has slipped by! It seems like only yesterday we were gearing up for an event-filled summer. Now it's time to gear up for an event-filled school year. There is so much that your child can do at Austin Academy—Learn, Band, Athletics, Art, Piano, Orchestra, Choir, Theater—just to name a few. But there is also something that you can do—**Get Involved** in your child's school life – fill out the PTA membership and the volunteer forms that are being sent home with this newsletter and --**JOIN the PTA!!** We need parents like you to help accomplish all the different projects we do throughout the school year.



Why join? Because your membership helps us provide school enrichment gifts, programs for the children, programs for the parents, as well as helping us to meet the needs of the faculty and staff of Austin Academy. And, most importantly, we can't do anything without parents stepping up to help—either by being a board member, a committee member, or a volunteer for a specific task.

All members of the PTA are important!!

The PTA publishes a newsletter at the beginning of each 6 weeks that helps keep its members informed of important dates, provide studying tips, and other useful information that parents, students, and teachers alike can use. The first newsletter is printed and disbursed in the First Day packet and the rest of the newsletters are posted on our PTA website, <http://aapta.tripod.com>.

Please make sure you are checking the Austin Academy website, www.garlandisd.schools.net/austin

and the Austin Academy PTA website,

<http://aapta.tripod.com>,

to ensure you are aware of everything that is happening at Austin Academy and in the PTA.

Have a GREAT School Year!

Volunteer Background Check Deadlines :

Fall Semester: September 20, 2013

Spring Semester: February 7, 2014

PTA Membership Dues

Basic

1 Member	\$7.50
2 Members	\$12.50

(Same family please)

Busy Parent

1 Member	\$35
2 Members	\$40

Join PTA and receive a
FREE SCHOOL DIRECTORY

PTA MEMBERSHIP

Position is still open-- if you have any questions please email
Angi Pearce at angi.pearce@verizon.net

Welcome back to a new and exciting school year!
Our PTA membership drive for the 2013/2014 school year began at the 6th Grade Orientation and will conclude on October 7th.

Every homeroom class that receives 100% membership participation by **October 7th will be awarded a Pizza Party!**

A PTA Membership form will be sent home the first day of school. If you haven't already joined PTA, please fill out the form completely and return the envelope to your child's homeroom. Any payment over the \$4.50 that goes to the National and State PTAs is tax deductible.

**EVERYONE who joins PTA will receive a
FREE SCHOOL DIRECTORY.**

Room Representatives

Welcome Back!!!

Welcome to Austin Academy 2013-2014, and to our 6TH GRADERS we say we are proud to have you here at AUSTIN ACADEMY. Parents, we are proud to have you here as well and look forward to working together as we make our students parties, projects, field trips, teacher appreciation, etc...fun-filled and safe. At Austin, we Endeavour to promote a *community feeling* among the parents and classroom, so please sign up to be a volunteer. Why? Because it takes volunteering of our time, money, and other forms of support to help make it a great year for our teachers and students. Any amount of time you can commit to being a volunteer will be greatly appreciated. If you are feeling left out of the loop, please do not hesitate to approach any member of the PTA board. Whether it is at AAE, or by email, we will do our best to resolve whatever the issue might be.

6th Grade Room Rep: Norma Hanrahan norma.houston@verizon.net

7th Grade Room Rep: Aretha "Tumi" Akande jitu75149@yahoo.com

8th Grade Room Rep: Kayla Scott kaylascott1984@gmail.com

AAE enters the Twitosphere

GISD and AAE now use Twitter to share important information, good news, school closings and upcoming events.

If you are already a Twitter user, follow @gisdnews and @AA_Eagles to start receiving updates. If you don't have a Twitter account, or don't want one, don't worry. There are two ways to stay "in the know."

1. Log on to www.twitter.com and follow the instructions to sign up for a Twitter account. Once you're a Twitter user, search for gisdnews and AA_Eagles, then click the "Follow" button.

2. To receive text messages in lieu of signing up for a Twitter account. Text "Follow @gisdnews" and "Follow AA_Eagles" to 40404. Tweets will be sent as messages to your smart phone (standard messaging rates apply).

You can turn off the updates at any time by texting "Stop @gisdnews" and "Stop AA_Eagles" to 40404.



Together We Can Make a
Difference!

Volunteers are very important at Austin Academy. The school and PTA both need parents like **YOU** to help everything run smoothly and efficiently. So, sign up for at **least one** volunteer opportunity this school year. There are many different opportunities where you can help us make a difference in our children's lives!

Contact Klix Cannon at
klixicannon@gmail.com

Snack Attack

There are no "attacks" without the snacks!

We will be selling donated pre-packaged items such as Little Debbie snacks, cupcakes, cookies, chips, etc. for 25 cents each. This has proven to be a huge hit with the students and an excellent fundraiser for PTA.

However, its success depends on the participation of our parents by sending snacks for us to sell.

Please bring snacks to the school office sometime the week before the event and label them "snack attack." Volunteers will also be needed to sell the snacks. Snack Attacks will begin at 3:30.

If you will donate snacks and/or time, please contact Anna Gonzalez at agonzalez1169@yahoo.com

Please, do not send any snack with nuts in them.

Snack Attack Dates:

Watch for emails from your Room Representatives!!

2013-2014 PTA BOARD MEMBERS

PTA Officers

PRESIDENT	Angi Pearce
1ST V. P. PROGRAMS	Open
2ND V. P. MEMBERSHIP	Open
3RD V. P. BUDGET/FINANCE	Kim Udoji
SECRETARY	Gail Pearce
TREASURER	Kathy Parks
HISTORIAN	Open
PARLIAMENTARIAN	Rale Niette

PTA Committee Chairs

ARTS IN EDUCATION	Mildred Abu
COUNCIL DELEGATE	Steph Robinson
COUNCIL DELEGATE	Open
ENVIRONMENTAL	Open
HOSPITALITY	Amy Bacon
LEGISLATIVE ACTION	Cynthia Thomas
NEWSLETTER	Open
PARENT ED	Open
PUBLICITY REP	Open
6TH GRADE ROOM REP	Norma Hanrahan
7TH GRADE ROOM REP	Aretha Akande
8TH GRADE ROOM REP	Kayla Scott
STUDENT DIRECTORY	Annette Williams
TEACHER APPRECIATION	Margaret Finley
VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR	Klix Cannon
WEBSITE ADMINISTRATOR	Ty Jackai
PRINCIPAL	Holly Muzzicato

PTA Sub-Committee Chairs

8TH GRADE DANCE	Simmone Dollgener
BOOK FAIR	Christy Motes
BOX TOPS	Trudi Haskell
CAREER SPEAKERS	Marylee Lajoie
DANCE CONCESSIONS	Simmone Dollgener
SCHOOL SUPPLIES	Denise Gerberich, Susan Watkins
SNACK ATTACK	Anna Gonzalez

2013-2014 Party Schedule

6th Grade Party
September 20th
4-6 PM

Winter Party
December 13th
4-6 PM

8th Grade Formal
May 10th
At the Atrium

End Of School Party
May 30th
4-6 PM

Spirit Items

Hello Everyone,
I am excited about serving as your PTA VP for Budget & Finance for a second term. There will be lots of exciting opportunities to get involved throughout the school year and I am looking forward to working with many of you.

Let's show our school spirit by purchasing AAE logo items:

Lanyards - \$5

Car Decals - \$5

Sweat Jackets

(Hoodies) \$25-\$31 - only pre-orders through September 16, 2013.

Thank you for your support,

Kim Udoji

kudoji@verizon.net

