



# AUSTIN ADVISOR

A Publication of the Austin Academy PTA  
Fall 2015 Edition

## From The Principal's Desk

Holly Frantz – [hmfrantz@garlandisd.net](mailto:hmfrantz@garlandisd.net)

*Austin Academy for Excellence fosters the growth of student self-worth and **integrity to empower and inspire** each individual to meet the challenges of the future.*

The above is our campus mission statement and commitment to our students. Through collaborative and cohesive partnerships among teachers, staff, parents, students, and the community, the 2015-2016 school year will reflect successful completion of Austin's mission.

Three key terms from our mission statement have been selected to become a visibly integral foundation of our campus culture and dynamic: Empower, Inspire, and Integrity. Each AAE student, teacher, and staff member is a member of one of three campus community groups which we refer to as houses. Every house member will receive a house shirt, funded by the PTA, and these will be worn by all on Fridays. Along with this visible representation, every student is an automatic member of their house family. These houses will be utilized to: promote team building, strengthen connections between students and Austin Academy, establish relationships across all grade levels, and eventually mature into community service and mentorship programs. Tremendous excitement surrounds this new initiative as our sixth grade students were the first to receive their house shirts at the August 6th orientation. During the first week of school, the remainder of house shirts will be distributed to all 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students and any sixth grade students who were not present on August 6<sup>th</sup>.

In addition to our house system, all Austin Academy students will be utilizing AAE student planners (provided by the campus) and the AVID binder system. These organizational tools will serve as a tremendous asset to our students in facilitating their academic success as well as a communication path for parents. We encourage all parents to review your student's planner and binder on a weekly basis.

All parents are invited to attend Meet the Teacher Night on September 16, 2015 (5:00-7:00pm). Pizza and drinks will be available for purchase (through the PTA) that evening and each parent will have the opportunity to walk through student schedules and hear a brief introduction from each teacher. To compensate for our limited parking, a shuttle bus will transport attendees from the parking lot of the Alternative Education Center (AEC, at the intersection of Country Club and Miller) to Austin Academy and back. Parents may park at either location, but we recommend using the shuttle.

The collective network of support among parents, students, and staff members is exceptionally valued, encouraged and appreciated. We invite parents to access and utilize all media tools including: GISD website, AAE website, Skyward (gradebook), twitter, and e-mail. Feel free to contact the school, at any time, if we may be of assistance.

As principal of Austin Academy for Excellence, it is an honor to welcome all students, parents, and staff members as we embark on a new school year.

Holly Frantz, Principal

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### Find us **ONLINE!**

[www.garlandisd.net/austin](http://www.garlandisd.net/austin) - school

<http://aapta.tripod.com> - PTA

@AA\_Eagles (Twitter)

Austin Academy PTA (Facebook)

Austin Academy Moms (Facebook)

Austin Academy Class of 2021 (FB)

Austin Academy Class of 2022 (FB)

[www.Charmsoffice.com](http://www.Charmsoffice.com)

- AAEBAND

- AAECOIR

- AAEOCH

[www.garlandisd.net](http://www.garlandisd.net) - District

@gisdnews (Twitter for GISD)

## A Word From Our PTA President - Marylee Lajoie - [mlajoie4@tx.rr.com](mailto:mlajoie4@tx.rr.com)

Welcome to Austin Academy's 2015-2016 school year!

My name is Marylee Lajoie and I am the PTA President for Austin Academy this year. I have 5 kids, one at Austin, one at Sachse High School, two at Walnut Glen Academy and one in pre-K. As you can probably tell, I'm very busy and a little crazy. This is my first year as President of the PTA and I look forward to a great year at Austin and getting to know other parents here. Middle school is such an important time for our kids as they change so much in these years. As parents, we have a great opportunity to support our kids while also forming a vast network of parent spies to keep each other informed and keep our kids safe. 😊

That's why it's important for you to get involved at Austin. I encourage you to join the PTA by filling out a membership form and a volunteer form. We need all types of parents to help make our school the best and to support the various PTA initiatives throughout the school. In addition to providing special programs for our students, the PTA is also involved in fundraising to provide items that our school may not get in their regular budget. Last year, our PTA bought ear buds for all of the students, as well as t-shirts to support the new House system that Principal Frantz has implemented. We couldn't do that without your support so please help us by participating in our fundraisers.

The PTA will do our best to keep you informed. When your kid gets to middle school, they often forget how to talk to their parents, so we try to help by putting information on our website as well as our Facebook page. Be sure and check out <http://aapta.tripod.com> to keep up with everything that is going on with the Austin PTA.

Please feel free to reach out to me or any other PTA member if you have questions!

Have a great year,

Marylee Lajoie, AAE PTA President

214-636-2419 or [mlajoie4@tx.rr.com](mailto:mlajoie4@tx.rr.com)

## PTA MEMBERSHIP

**Stephanie Ingram** - [spoulan@hotmail.com](mailto:spoulan@hotmail.com)

**Tonya Glick** - [tonglick@yahoo.com](mailto:tonglick@yahoo.com)

# back the future



Welcome back to a new and exciting school year! Our PTA membership drive for the 2015/2016 school year began at the 6th Grade Orientation and will run throughout the school year!

A PTA Membership form will be sent home the first day of school. If you haven't already joined the PTA, please fill out the form completely and return the form and your PTA membership payment to the office. EVERYONE who joins PTA by October 1 will receive a FREE SCHOOL DIRECTORY! \$4.50 of the membership dues goes to the State and National PTA membership dues. The rest stays right here at Austin Academy to support our students AND is tax deductible! BE PTA. Back the future!

### PTA MEMBERSHIP DUES

#### Basic Membership

1 Member \$7.50

2 Members \$12.50 (same household)

#### Busy Parent Membership

No time to volunteer? Consider a Busy Parent Membership!

1 Member \$35

2 Members \$40 (same household)

## Room Representatives

### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade – Adrienne Burnside, [aoreilly@hotmail.com](mailto:aoreilly@hotmail.com)

It's finally time for our 6<sup>th</sup> graders to enter Austin Academy, and an exciting year is ahead!

I am Adrienne Burnside and have the privilege of serving as the 6<sup>th</sup> grade Representative. My son Harrison is an incoming 6<sup>th</sup> grader from Walnut Glen Academy. I also have a son, Trevor, who is a 4<sup>th</sup> grader at WGA. I am looking forward to ensuring that our students have a smooth transition to middle school.

Please let me know if you have any questions, and I will find the answers. My email is [aoreilly@hotmail.com](mailto:aoreilly@hotmail.com), and cell is 214-783-2691. There is also a Facebook group you can join – **Austin Academy – New 6<sup>th</sup> graders 2015—2016 – GISD – Class of 2022**. It is a useful forum to ask questions as well.

### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade – Laura Ballard, [laballar@gmail.com](mailto:laballar@gmail.com)

#### Welcome back Eagles!!

7th grade Eagles are coasting into their 2nd year at Austin Academy!! I'm Laura Ballard, the 7th Grade Room Representative. My son Ben came through Austin Academy and is now a SENIOR. My daughter Catherine is a 7th grader.

I look forward to serving our class and ensuring our 7th graders have an amazing year!! Please reach out to me with any questions or needs and I will get you answers. My email is [laballar@gmail.com](mailto:laballar@gmail.com) and my cell is (214)596-8879. Please don't hesitate to throw me a text message or an email. I will do my best to broadcast information to our class as it comes to me. GO EAGLES! Just a few reminders to you all on ways to stay plugged in:

- 1) GISD's Austin Academy website - <http://www.garlandidschools.net/page.cfm?p=518>
- 2) Follow @AA\_Eagles on Twitter
- 3) Join PTA and provide your email address for email updates from me!
- 4) PTA's "Austin Academy (AAE) PTA" Facebook Group page
- 5) "Austin Academy for Excellence - GISD - Class of 2021" Facebook Group.
- 6) Austin Academy Moms Facebook Group

Any other method of staying connected that you know of?? Let us know!!

Questions? Feel free to email me and I will get you answers!

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade – VACANT – VOLUNTEER TODAY!!**

## Spirit Wear

Mandy Clem

[mandyaclem@yahoo.com](mailto:mandyaclem@yahoo.com)

Show your **Eagle Pride!!**  
PTA is selling spirit items for the 2015-2016 school year! Sales began at the 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation and will continue through the school year. Hoodie orders will run through Sept 18!

See order form in the first day packet or at the spirit table at Meet the Teacher night.

Pullover Hoodies \$20  
black or gray

Zipper Hoodies \$25  
black or gray

Drawstring Bags \$9

Water Bottles \$4.50

Lanyards and Car Decals  
**WHILE SUPPLIES LAST \$5.50**





## Austin Academy PTA Board members 2015-2016

### Officers

President	Marylee Lajoie	<a href="mailto:mlajoie4@tx.rr.com">mlajoie4@tx.rr.com</a>
1 <sup>st</sup> VP Programs	Charli Haynes	<a href="mailto:charli.haynes@gmail.com">charli.haynes@gmail.com</a>
2 <sup>nd</sup> VP Membership	Stephanie Ingram	<a href="mailto:spoulan@hotmail.com">spoulan@hotmail.com</a>
	Tonya Glick	<a href="mailto:tonglick@yahoo.com">tonglick@yahoo.com</a>
3 <sup>rd</sup> VP Budget & Finance	Dawn Haddox	<a href="mailto:Jim_DawnHaddox@msn.com">Jim_DawnHaddox@msn.com</a>
Secretary	Jennifer McKelvey	<a href="mailto:jgmckelvey@gmail.com">jgmckelvey@gmail.com</a>
Treasurer	Marciela Saldana	<a href="mailto:saldanam@verizon.net">saldanam@verizon.net</a>
Parliamentarian	Kathy Parks	<a href="mailto:kparks1105@gmail.com">kparks1105@gmail.com</a>

### Committee Chairs/Event Coordinators

6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Room Rep	Adrienne Burnside	<a href="mailto:aoreilly@hotmail.com">aoreilly@hotmail.com</a>
7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Room Rep	Laura Ballard	<a href="mailto:laballar@gmail.com">laballar@gmail.com</a>
8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Room Rep	<b>VACANT</b>	Volunteer Today!!
8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Dance	Rale Niette	<a href="mailto:raleniette@live.com">raleniette@live.com</a>
Arts in Education	Eric Dacon	<a href="mailto:ericdacon@yahoo.com">ericdacon@yahoo.com</a>
Book Fair	Zaida Hernandez	<a href="mailto:hzaida25@yahoo.com">hzaida25@yahoo.com</a>
Career Speakers	Barbara Baker	<a href="mailto:akasnicklfrtz@yahoo.com">akasnicklfrtz@yahoo.com</a>
Council Delegate	Kindralyn Lott	<a href="mailto:kblott00@hotmail.com">kblott00@hotmail.com</a>
Council Delegate	<b>VACANT</b>	Volunteer Today!!
Historian	Lisa Jones	<a href="mailto:mrsjones0902@aol.com">mrsjones0902@aol.com</a>
Legislative Action	Jeff Baker	<a href="mailto:akajeffb-gpta@yahoo.com">akajeffb-gpta@yahoo.com</a>
Newsletter	Katrina Swallow	<a href="mailto:rkswallow@accuratesights.com">rkswallow@accuratesights.com</a>
Parent Education	Tracy Glick	<a href="mailto:tracyglick@hotmail.com">tracyglick@hotmail.com</a>
School Parties/Snack Attack	Angela Kerbel	<a href="mailto:angela.kerbel@yahoo.com">angela.kerbel@yahoo.com</a>
School Supplies	Sarah Ali	<a href="mailto:sarah6210@gmail.com">sarah6210@gmail.com</a>
Spirit Wear	Mandy Clem	<a href="mailto:mandyaclem@yahoo.com">mandyaclem@yahoo.com</a>
Student Directory	Michele Tyler	<a href="mailto:mttyler302@hotmail.com">mttyler302@hotmail.com</a>
Teacher Appreciation/Hospitality	Christina Eubanks	<a href="mailto:cneubanks@yahoo.com">cneubanks@yahoo.com</a>
Volunteer Coordinator	Kara Waterman	<a href="mailto:watermen@verizon.net">watermen@verizon.net</a>
Website Administrator	Lesia Williams	<a href="mailto:mail@lesawilliams.com">mail@lesawilliams.com</a>
Principal	Holly Frantz	<a href="mailto:hmfrantz@garlandisd.net">hmfrantz@garlandisd.net</a>

## STUDENT DIRECTORY COVER CONTEST

Michelle Tyler, [mtyler302@hotmail.com](mailto:mtyler302@hotmail.com)

**Austin Artists!!** Time to get creative and capture some **Eagle Pride!!**

Draw a design that captures the spirit of student life at Austin Academy. If your entry wins, it will be featured on the cover of this year's directory! Second and third place will also be displayed in the directory.

The artwork must be the student's original work. The artwork **must** include **Austin Academy for Excellence** and **2015-2016** somewhere in the design.

Entries must be in portrait format on 5 ½ x 8 ½ paper and they must be submitted in **BLACK INK** only! Student identifying information such as name, grade and homeroom teacher must be written on the back or it cannot be judged.

**Entries are due to Mrs. McMurphy no later than Friday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>.**

## DIRECTORY SPONSORS NEEDED!!

The Austin Academy PTA is looking for family-friendly businesses and associations to help sponsor the Student Directory with a full or partial page advertisement. The directory is free to all PTA members and will be delivered by early December.

### Directory Sponsorship Prices:

\$35 - Business Card size ad

\$50 - Half page ad (5" x 4")

\$75 - Full page ad (5" x 8")

Sponsorship forms, payments and camera-ready artwork should be submitted by **October 2nd**.

Electronic artwork can be emailed to [mtyler302@hotmail.com](mailto:mtyler302@hotmail.com).

For more information, please contact Michele Tyler at [mtyler302@hotmail.com](mailto:mtyler302@hotmail.com).

**\*\*\***Sponsorships are subject to the approval of the Budget and Finance Committee.

## 2015-2016 PTA Reflections



### *Let Your Imagination Fly*

*2015-2016 PTA Reflections is now underway! It's time to let your artistic sides shine, Eagles!*

*Categories include:*

*Dance Choreography*

*Film Production*

*Literature*

*Musical Composition*

*Photography*

*Visual Arts*

*Forms can be picked up from the office. Submissions are due **NO LATER** than October 2<sup>nd</sup>. Winning pieces will be sent on to compete at the Council Level later this fall.*

## Career Speakers Week

**Barbara Baker –**

[akasnicklfrtz@yahoo.com](mailto:akasnicklfrtz@yahoo.com)

Career Speakers Week will be November 16-20. We need parents from all types of careers to volunteer to speak about their career for about 30 minutes to encourage our students to look towards the future!

If you are interested in speaking during Career Speakers Week, please contact Barbara Baker by email and provide your name, career, contact information, student's name and grade. We will get in touch to confirm a speaking time.



## EAGLE FALL ATHLETICS

### FOOTBALL

**B TEAM - 5:15PM**

**A TEAM - 6:15PM**

**\$1 STUDENTS, \$2 ADULTS**

**7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE/8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE**

**9-14 / 9-15 - @ SAM**

**HOUSTON (@ NGHS)**

**9-21 / 9-22 - VS. SCHRADER**

**(@ WILLIAMS STADIUM)**

**9/28 / 9-29 - @ BUSSEY**

**(@ NGHS)**

**10-6 / 10-7 - @ COYLE**

**(@ RHS)**

**10-12 / 10-13 - VS. LYLES**

**(@ WILLIAMS STADIUM)**

**10-19 / 10-20 - VS.**

**BRANDENBURG**

**(@ HBJ STADIUM)**

**10-26 / 10-27 - VS.**

**SELLERS**

**(@ WILLIAMS STADIUM)**

### VOLLEYBALL

**B TEAM - 5:30PM**

**A TEAM - 10 MINUTES**

**AFTER B GAME ENDS**

**9-17 - JACKSON @ AUSTIN**

**(7<sup>TH</sup> @ AAE, 8<sup>TH</sup> @ JTC)**

**9-24 - AUSTIN @ SELLERS**

**(7<sup>TH</sup> @ SMS, 8<sup>TH</sup> @ AAE)**

**10-1 - AUSTIN @ LYLES**

**(7<sup>TH</sup> @ LMS, 8<sup>TH</sup> @ AAE)**

**10-3 - MID SEASON**

**MADNESS - B TEAM**

**(7<sup>TH</sup> TBA, 8<sup>TH</sup> @ SGHS)**

**10-7 - AUSTIN @ SAM HOUSTON**

**(7<sup>TH</sup> @ SHMS, 8<sup>TH</sup> @ AAE)**

**10-15 - WEBB @ AUSTIN**

**(7<sup>TH</sup> @ AAE, 8<sup>TH</sup> @ WMS)**

**10-17 - MID SEASON**

**MADNESS - A TEAM**

**(7<sup>TH</sup> TBA, 8<sup>TH</sup> @ SHS)**

**10-22 - BUSSEY @ AUSTIN**

**(7<sup>TH</sup> @ AAE, 8<sup>TH</sup> @ BMS)**

**10-29 - COYLE @ AUSTIN**

**(7<sup>TH</sup> @ AAE, 8<sup>TH</sup> @ CMS)**

## AAE Student Council

2015-2016 Student Council Officers

President - Jimmy Cassidy

Vice President - Kylie Lavinsky

Secretary - David Goriola

Treasurer - Sascha Torres

Parliamentarian - Rileigh McCullough

Historian - Raevyn White

8<sup>th</sup> Grade Head Rep - Kennedy McKendall

7<sup>th</sup> Grade Head Rep - Jack Waterman

Faculty Advisor - Ms. Walker

Election for 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Head Rep will take place in September. Be listening to announcements for meeting dates!



Student Council will be collecting Box Tops again this year!! Last school year, we raised over **\$1,000!**

Red Ribbon Week will be October 26-30. Be listening to announcements for dress up spirit days for that week!

Austin Spirit Shirts will be sold by Student Council later this fall. A design contest for all students will be taking place in September. Please be listening to the announcements for information on both the design contest and for shirt orders.

### ON STAGE!!

**Auditions for the Austin Academy fall production will be Sept 15-17.**

**Rehearsals will begin Sept 21 with performances November 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>.**

### Author Visit

*Margaret Peterson Haddix will be at Austin Academy Wednesday, October 7 to visit with students. All grades were assigned one of Ms. Haddix's books for summer reading to prepare for this visit.*

### Science Matters

Be listening to announcements and in your science classes for information on upcoming science competitions!

Austin Science  
Brandenburg Forensics  
Math Science Team  
Winston Science

## August 2015

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1
3	4	5	6 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation	7	8
10	11	12	13	14	15
17	18	19	20	21	22
24 First Day of School	25	26	27 String Drive	28	29
31					

## September 2015

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5
Labor Day 7 <b>NO SCHOOL</b>	8	9	10	11 <u>Band Party</u> Choir Party	12
14 7 <sup>th</sup> FB @ NGHS	15 <u>8<sup>th</sup> FB @ NGHS</u> Play Auditions	16 <u>Meet the Teacher</u> Play Auditions	17 7 <sup>th</sup> VB @ AAE, <u>8<sup>th</sup> VB @ Jackson</u> Play Callbacks	18	19
21 7 <sup>th</sup> FB @ Williams	22 <u>8<sup>th</sup> FB @ Williams</u> <u>Pep Band @ FB</u> Theatre Party	23	24 7 <sup>th</sup> VB @ Sellers, 8 <sup>th</sup> VB @ AAE	25	26
28 7 <sup>th</sup> FB @ NGHS	29 8 <sup>th</sup> FB @ NGHS	30			

## October 2015

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 7 <sup>th</sup> VB @ Lyles, 8 <sup>th</sup> VB @ AAE	2 <u>8<sup>th</sup> Gr Band Night</u> Choir to Rangers Game	3 VB B Team Mid <u>Season Madness</u> Robotics @ Prosper HS
5 GISD Band Fest	6 7 <sup>th</sup> FB @ RHS	7 <b>AUTHOR VISIT</b> <u>8<sup>th</sup> FB @ RHS</u> 7 <sup>th</sup> VB @ Sam Houston 8 <sup>th</sup> VB @ AAE	8 Evening Conferences	9 <b>STUDENT HOLIDAY</b> Morning Conferences	10 Orch All Region Auditions
12 <b>FAIR DAY</b> 7 <sup>th</sup> FB @ Williams	13 <u>8<sup>th</sup> FB @ Williams</u> Pep Band @ FB	14	15 7 <sup>th</sup> VB @ AAE, <u>8<sup>th</sup> VB @ Webb</u> Choir Fall Concert	16	17 VB A Team Mid Season Madness
19 7 <sup>th</sup> FB @ HBJ	20 8 <sup>th</sup> FB @ HBJ	21	22 7 <sup>th</sup> VB @ AAE, <u>8<sup>th</sup> VB @ Bussey</u> Orch Fall Concert	23	24 Choir Solo & Ensemble
26 <u>7<sup>th</sup> FB @ Williams</u> GISD Stringsfest	27 <u>8<sup>th</sup> FB @ Williams</u> <u>Pep Band @ FB</u> Choir Tailgate Party	28	29 7 <sup>th</sup> VB @ AAE, <u>8<sup>th</sup> VB @ Coyle</u> Band Fall Concert	30 Orchestra Party	31

## November 2015

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2	3	4 MS Theatre Arts Festival	5 MS Theatre Arts Festival	6 6 <sup>th</sup> to Fall Play <u>9:30am</u> <u>Fall Play 7pm</u> Choir Party	7 Band All District <u>Auditions</u> <u>Fall Play 2pm, 7pm</u> Robotics @ Utley MS
9	10	11	12	13 Band Party	14 Band All Region <u>Auditions</u> Robotics @ AAE
16 Beg Band Rehearsal	17	18	19 Vision/Hearing Screening – 7 <sup>th</sup>	20	21
23 <b>NO SCHOOL</b>	24 <b>THANKSGIVING</b>	25 <b>BREAK</b>	26 <b>Happy Thanksgiving!!</b>	27 <b>NO SCHOOL</b>	28
30 Beg Band Rehearsal and Pictures					