

Underwood Elementary



Unicornia News



August 2014

Mark Your Calendars...

Meet the Teacher (1st-5th) - August 20, 4:30-5:30 p.m.

Kindergarten Meet the Teacher - August 29, 2-3 p.m.

Tissues & Tears Breakfast - September 2, 9:15-10 a.m.

Welcome Back Picnic - September 11, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Open House - September 23, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Coffee for Parents of Kindergartners

Underwood school counselor Meg Hill and the PTA are hosting a coffee social at school on **Saturday, August 23 at 10 a.m.** for Kindergarten parents. It will be a chance for parents to meet each other and hear some tips for helping their child make a good transition into Kindergarten. The session is for parents only, not kindergartners. Hope to see you there!

Reflections

Each year the PTA Reflections program challenges students to create art inspired by a specific theme. This year's theme is: "The world would be a better place if..." Arts categories: Dance Choreography, Film Production, Literature, Music Composition, Photography, Visual Arts. Look for more information soon! **Contact Lauren Mann at laurenmann@bellsouth.net with any questions.**

Underwood Families, Welcome to the 2014-15 school year at Underwood!

Have you heard of all the fantastic things the PTA does? That's you! Have you heard the gratitude of the teachers and administration as we pay for supplies, technology for the classroom, and equipment for our arts, extra-curricular, and sports programs? That's you! When the PTA needs to raise funds and recruit volunteers to make this all possible. That's you! Volunteer your time, give us your thoughts, and donate what you can! Many of the activities and programs that make our school so special would not be possible without the funding and volunteerism of the PTA. That's YOU!

Underwood now has two groups that need your financial support in order to fully provide for the needs of our students, our teachers and our administrators. Simply put, the PTA provides supplies and support while the Underwood Foundation can pay for teachers and staff.

The General PTA Fund supports academic (Conscious Discipline, KITS, Reading Buddies, Science Olympiad), technology (laptops, smart boards, software), and other school community needs (garden/grounds improvement, PE equipment, Wellness initiatives).

The New Underwood Foundation supports initiatives that recruit and retain quality teachers, enables and bolsters rich instructional programming, and sustains the educational environment in order to maintain the excellence of our school program.
www.underwoodfoundation.org

Included in this mailer is the annual PTA membership form. We will hold three major fundraisers this year: the Phantom Fundraiser starting now, the Unicorn Trot this Fall, and the Winter Carnival this Winter. In addition, starting on Meet the Teacher days, we will have other opportunities for your family to support the PTA including exciting new t-shirt designs and legacy engraved Bricks for the playground for sale.

Your volunteer support is also very important to the success of the school, the PTA and our students. It's clear that kids get doubly excited about events when their parents are involved. Please let us know what your gifts and talents are by indicating your interests on the PTA membership form. That way we can help you find fun ways to join the Underwood Community, meet your children's friends and their families, and get to know the teachers and administration.

We wish you and your students a successful and happy school year!

--Beth Hardison (bethhardison@gmail.com), PTA President, and the PTA Board

August

- 20 Meet the Teachers (Grades 1-5): 4:30-5:30pm
- 23 Coffee for parents of Kindergartners: 10am
- 25 First day of school for Grades 1-5
- 25-28 Staggered Entry for Kindergartners
- 25 Elective Brochures go home (grades 1-5)
- 28 Return Elective Brochures
- 29 Kindergarten Meet the Teachers: 2-3 p.m.

September

- 1 Labor Day (no school)
- 2 First Day of School for Kindergartners
- 2 Tissues and Tears (Kindergarten parents):
9:15 a.m. - 10 a.m.
- 5 Early Release: 1:15pm
- 8 Quarter 1 electives begin
- 11 Welcome Back Picnic: 5:30-7:30pm
- 19 Fall pictures
- 23 Open House: 5:30-7:30pm
- 25 Teacher Workday (no school)

October

- 10 Fall pictures make-ups
- 17 Early Release: 1:15pm
- 21 PTA Meeting: 2:30pm
- 28 Quarter 1 electives end
- 29 Teacher Workday (no school)
- 30 Quarter 1 Elective share

November

- 1 Magnet Fair (SE Raleigh HS)
- 3 Quarter 2 electives begin
- 5 1st Quarter Report Cards go home
- 7 Unicorn Trot; Early Release: 1:15pm
- 11 Veteran's Day (no school)
- 14 Unicorn Trot (rain date)
- 18 PTA meeting: 6:30pm
- 26-28 Thanksgiving holiday (no school)

December

- 1-5 Scholastic Book Fair
- 9 2nd Semester Elective brochures go home
- 12 Elective brochures returned
- 18 Holiday Performance: 7pm
- 22-Jan 2 Winter Break

January

- 7 Magnet Open House 10am & 12:30pm
- 13 PTA Meeting: 2:30pm
- 14 2nd Quarter electives end
- 19 Holiday (no school)
- 20 Teacher Workday (no school)
- 26 3rd Quarter electives begin
- 27 2nd Quarter Report cards go home
- 30 Winter Carnival

February

- 6 Winter Carnival (make-up date)
- 10 PTA Meeting: 6:30pm
- 13 Early Release: 1:15pm
- 20 Spring Pictures

March

- 6 Early Release: 1:15pm
- 10 PTA Meeting: 2:30pm
- 19 3rd Quarter electives end
- 20 Wellness Fair
- 23-27 Spring Break (no school)
- 30 4th Quarter electives begin

April

- 3 Holiday (no school)
- 7 PTA Meeting: 2:30pm
- 10 3rd Quarter report cards go home
- 13-17 Teacher Appreciation Week

May

- 21 4th Quarter electives end
- 21 Artspleasure: 5-8pm
- 25 Holiday (no school)

June

- 8 Last Day of School

* Dates subject to change.

Keep this on your refrigerator and see www.underwoodes.net for the latest updates!

The Unicornia newsletter is published monthly. For questions, contact the editor, Anne Wein, at awein761@gmail.com.



PTA Board 2014-2015: (from Left: Karen Poteat, Lauren Mann, Beth Hardison, Beth Dickinson, Gena Bancroft, and Anne Wein.

Get Involved in PTA

There are many ways to get involved in PTA! Right now, we have several openings. Please email Beth Hardison (bethhardison@gmail.com) if you can help with any of the following committees:

- Student Directory Chair
- Wellness Committee Co-Chair
- Food Label and Cash Back Program Chair
- Hospitality Committee - Staff Birthdays
- Yearbook Committee members
- Go-Green Cartridge Recycling
- Grounds/Garden Chair
- Open House Co-Chair
- PTA Financial Audit Co-Chair
- Science Olympiad Chair
- Science Olympiad Parent Co-Chair & Science Olympiad Teacher Co-Chair
- Nominating Co-Chair
- Newsletter Co-Editor

Welcome Back - Back-Pack Buddies!

In a few weeks, we will start collecting food for Backpack Buddies, a program which provides weekend meals for food-insecure Underwood students. Everyone who joined the Backpack Buddies MemberHub page last year has received a link to a brief survey. I would appreciate feedback from ALL members. The link is also available under "Announcements" on the BB MemberHub page. Once we know how many students we will be serving this year, I will send out more information in a Tuesday folder. I look forward to another successful year. - Jeannie Maher - jeanne.maher@yahoo.com

GoPlaySave Fundraiser



This is the classic GoPlaySave coupon book that you know and love, updated with the latest deals for your favorite and soon-to-be-favorite activities, restaurants, and family adventures! Carry... Clip... Save! It's that Simple. Underwood's GoPlaySave Fundraiser will run **September 2 - 23**. Look for them in your Tuesday folders.

New Underwood T-Shirts!

PTA is excited to offer newly designed Underwood t-shirts. A limited quantity will be available to purchase at Meet the Teacher Day, Kindergarten Meet the Teacher day and at other September events. We will also be taking orders for t-shirts, long-sleeve t-shirts and sweatshirts through September 26.

Check out some of the cool designs on display in the school lobby, and stay tuned for the order form in Tuesday folders. For questions, please contact Shannon Tant (sotant@bellsouth.net) or Anne Wein (awein761@gmail.com).



UNDERWOOD

UNDERWOOD

Underwood Elementary, Raleigh, NC



UNDERWOOD
RALEIGH, NC
EST. 1958

Raise Funds for Underwood Every Day!

Linking your rewards cards to Underwood Elementary and cutting box tops raises over **\$4,700** for the PTA each year. Don't forget to relink your VIC card and sign up for other rewards programs.

Harris Teeter VIC Card: 2241

Target Take Charge of Education Red Card: 81098

Coke Rewards - save labels on 12-packs

Food Lion and Kroger – sign up with your MVP and Kroger PLUS card on www.elabelsforeducation.com.

2014-2015 Transportation Information

WCPSS has put new practices into place for the 2014-15 school year with the goal of improving bus service for families. **Families new to Wake County enrolling in school and current families who will be first time users of bus service in 2014-15 will be required to request transportation service. The requests must be completed approximately one month before the start of your child's school to receive first day service.** For more information, visit the transportation website: www.wcpss.net/parents/transportation. You will find information about bus routes, requesting bus stop changes, sign up for bus service, find your child's bus stop, live updates, etc!

How can parents contact transportation? For the fastest service, fill out the online form: www.wcpss.net/bus-support. Alternatively, parents can also call the centralized Transportation number **919-805-3030**. What do you do in an after-hours emergency? Contact Transportation at **919-805-3030**.

Can students take the bus to after school care? Students eligible for bus services are assigned a stop this year based on their home address. If families need an alternate stop for before or after school care, they may request that online. Transportation will evaluate these requests to determine if the alternate stop fits on an existing bus route and that space is available on the bus. **WCPSS does not add bus stops during the first 30 days of school (this includes Boys/Girls Club and daycare).**

Underwood Bus Routes will be posted on **August 18**. You can view them at <http://www.wcpss.net/school-directory/bus-routes/572.html>.

2014 – 2015 PTA Board of Directors

President – Beth Hardison

VP of Communications – Anne Wein

VP of Fundraising – Gena Bancroft and Beth Dickinson

Secretary – Lauren Mann

Treasurer – Karen Poteat

SIP Parent Representatives – Wendy Burkard, Rachel Trunkey and Steven Benko

Get Connected

Underwood Web site:

www.underwoodes.net

Facebook: “Underwood PTA”

Twitter: @underwoodgtm

MemberHub: stay tuned for info from PTA or teachers about how to join your class hub. MemberHub sends out texts and emails about school info.



Underwood GT Elementary School
1614 Glenwood Avenue
Raleigh, NC 27608