

February 12, 2018

The Wolftrap Connection

A biweekly newsletter jointly published by the Wolftrap Administration and PTA

From the Principal

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL ANNOUNCEMENT: A panel of Wolftrap staff and a parent representative spent an entire day interviewing excellent candidates for our AP position. The second and third round of interviews have occurred and I am thrilled to announce that today, **Dr. Maggie Grove was announced as our new assistant principal.** Dr. Grove graduated from Trinity University in San Antonio, TX, with a Masters degree in School Administration and holds a doctorate from the University of Maryland in Curriculum Theory and Development. This is her 17th year in the education field, including years spent teaching in elementary school, working as a curriculum consultant, where she trained school staff across the country, and a school administrator. This is her 6th year at Wolftrap. Dr. Grove taught 4th grade for 4 years, and she has been the Advanced Academic Resource teacher since 2016.

Ms. Bussanich has been working diligently on a transition plan to provide as much support possible for Dr. Grove. This is another testament of her untiring dedication to our wonderful school! Ms. Bussanich's last day will be Wednesday, February 28.



COMMUNITY SERVICE:

An enthusiastic group of Wolftrap staff recently volunteered their time to cook dinner for families staying at the Ronald McDonald House in Fairfax. In you are not aware of this organization, they have Houses all over the world to

ensure that families with sick children can stay together and close to the medical care their child needs. When my oldest daughter, Ava, was in the NICU the first weeks of her life, my husband and I were fortunate to be guests of the House near Children's Hospital in DC. I cannot begin to explain how honored we were to have a private room down the street from our daughter's hospital room which welcomed us late at night after spending all day in the hospital. The comfort of finding refrigerators full of home-cooked meals is an experience I will never forget. Unfortunately I was sick and unable to join the staff members who volunteered last week, but we already have two dates in May to return so that more staff can participate! Thank you to Ms. Cabbage who arranged this community service project.



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OTHER HAPPENINGS

Crazy Hair Day

Friday, February 16th

Student Holiday

Monday, February 19th

Walking Wednesday

Wednesday, February 21st

Dining for Dollars

Thursday, February 22nd

Skate Night

Saturday, February 24th

STUDENT BEHAVIOR: As shared by Ms. Bussanich at Back-to-School Night, Wolftrap staff members have implemented a school-wide emphasis on respect for others and the use of appropriate language. This concerted effort has resulted in a decrease in reports of inappropriate language but have not eliminated them. We are asking parents to support us by talking to your children about the impact that inappropriate language has on our school, particularly for our younger children. To reinforce this emphasis, teachers have shared the following consequences with students if this behavior occurs:

For the first report of inappropriate language: the student will call his or her parents/guardians and tell them what he/she said. Additionally, students will apologize to those students affected by the inappropriate language.

For the second report of inappropriate language: the student will complete a written reflection assignment (poster, essay, etc.) that may include researching the Student Rights & Responsibilities regarding inappropriate language; younger students will complete a modified assignment.



STUDENTS GIVE BACK!:

Seven students from our third grade class recently spent their recess time designing a plan to surprise the Wolftrap staff. They wanted to show their appreciation for their teachers' dedication by enhancing the teacher's lounge. These girls conducted two bake sales and used their earnings to purchase a new convection

oven, an oil diffuser, hand soaps, and coffee and tea K-cups! The surprise and smiles on the teachers' faces can only be described as amazing. Thank you to Mary Grace, Anna, Giulia, Ryli, Suzanne, Lily, and Kaitlin for being such thoughtful citizens of the world!

I am looking forward to seeing many of you at Skate Night on Saturday, February 24!



Sincerely,

Teresa Khuluki
Principal

KEEP IN TOUCH

Wolftrap Elementary School has a great presence on Twitter, managed by Mr. Campet. Follow the school [@WolftrapES](#). The brand-new STEAM Lab has its own handle: [@WolftrapSTEAM](#). Follow them for great photos of school day happenings!

The PTA has both a Facebook Page and a Facebook Group. Follow the page for information you might want to share with your neighbors and join us in the group for school-specific conversations. See you there!

YOUR PTA BOARD

- Michelle Ramos, president
president@wolftrappta.org
- Sarah Helou, president-elect
President-elect@wolftrappta.org
- Doris Sandall, secretary
secretary@wolftrappta.org
- Lori Bowlin, treasurer
treasurer@wolftrappta.org

STAFF BIRTHDAYS

- **Joseph McClure**
February 13th
- **Karen Dehoratiis**
February 13th
- **Mary Beth Hazelgrove**
February 13th
- **Annie Van Hilst**
February 20th

Greetings from the PTA

Hello from the PTA! We are well into the winter months and want to take this opportunity to highlight a few upcoming events and deadlines during this busy time of year:

Events

Spirit Day: School wide spirit day (Crazy Hair) is this Friday! Remind your kids to make their hair "crazy" before they head out to school Friday morning.

Walking Wednesday: The next walking Wednesday is February 21st! Thanks to all who have participated in these so far this year- we look forward to seeing all the regular walkers and new walkers out on the 21st.

Dining for Dollars: Thursday February 22nd at Mod Pizza- this is an all day event so feel free to drop in for lunch or dinner or a mid afternoon snack!

Skate Night: Skate night is Saturday February 24th. This is a great event for the whole family- we look forward to seeing you there.

Wolftrap 5K: Early registration is now open for the 5K (takes place April 8th). See this edition of The Connection for more details on how to sign up.

PTA Meeting: Our next PTA meeting will take place on Thursday, March 8th at 8:45 in the Teachers' Lounge. Please join us if you can!

Deadlines

Yearbooks: Don't forget to get your yearbook order(s) in prior to the deadline March 9th!

Spirit Wear: The spring spirit wear sale is ongoing. This will be the last opportunity to order spirit wear before the end of the year. To place an order, visit the Spirit Wear web page –the deadline for all orders is March 31st

One Final Note: As announced in the last Connection, we completed the first step in an ongoing strategy to support technology upgrades at Wolftrap last month with a joint school/PTA purchase and delivery of 100 new Netbooks for sixth grade use. Please see the Technology Section of this Connection for details regarding the proposed next steps for this plan.

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS

The PTA's After School Program Committee is looking for someone who is interested in the After School Monitor position for the 2018 – 2019 school year. The monitor is responsible for identifying students and making sure they get to the correct class after school. This position is perfect for high school students, nannies, stay at home, or part-time working parents.

Without this position being filled, we cannot offer any after school classes next year. Please spread the word and email afterschool@wolftrappta.org if you know if anyone who might be interested.

The After School Programs team is looking for new members!

if you are interested in joining our team email afterschool@wolftrappta.org.

VOLUNTEER

The PTA can't run without your support



Please [view the PTA flyer](#) to see where we could really use extra hands.

Wolftrap Announcements

Technology Update

OVERVIEW

The school administration, technology faculty, PTA board, and PTA technology committee met to discuss the school's technology needs. The PTA wants to make a more concerted effort to keep the school's technology up-to-date.

CURRENT STATE OF TECHNOLOGY AT WOLFTRAP

The school has in-classroom student-to-technology ratios of approximately 1:1 in 6th grade, 3:1 in grades 3-5, and 4:1 in grades K-2. There are additional shared devices on carts for grades K-2. A lot of these devices are seriously outdated.

Replacement schedule based on current estimated lifespans:

- 2017-2018, 100 laptops (6th grade) completed, 34 iPads (grades K-2)
- 2018-2019, 19 laptops (grades 3-5)
- 2019-2020, 53 laptops (grades 3-5), 30 iPads (grades K-2)
- 2020-2021, 42 iPads (grades K-2)
- 2021-2022, 133 laptops, 18 iPads (grades K-2)
- 2022-2023, 44 laptops (grades 3-5), 44 laptops (faculty)

PURCHASING AND ACQUISITION

FCPS only replaces teacher machines every 4-5 years and permits us to absorb the old machines for inventory.

The school relies on funds it receives through Education Rebates (Giant A+ program, Box Tops, etc.) and school photo and yearbook sales to make technology purchases above what is provided by FCPS. This averages around \$10,000 per year.

PTA PLAN FOR IMPROVEMENT

In addition to replacing out-of-date devices, the PTA would also like improve the device-to-student ratios. Other elementary schools in our area have 1:1 ratios for grades 4-6 and one even has 1:1 ratios for grades 2-6!

A vote approved the purchase of 100 ProBooks to replace the current Netbooks being used by 6th grade. This purchase totaled \$35,500, of which the PTA contributed \$25,500.

We are currently finalizing a plan for future technology needs, and it will continue to be updated yearly so that a 5-year strategy is ongoing.

Because school and PTA funding is limited, we are also actively seeking corporate sponsors for our technology needs. If you know of a company that would like to partner with Wolftrap to donate technology or funds, please let us know. (Due to FCPS policies, only Dell laptops and iPads can be maintained.)



SAFE ROUTES

Please remember, there is NO parking, standing, dropping off/picking up along the school side of Talisman between Beulah and St. Roman. For the safety of Wolftrap students, please use the kiss and ride or park in allowable areas.

KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION

SAVE THE DATE

Kindergarten Orientation:
April 13!

If you have a child entering Kindergarten at Wolftrap this Fall, mark your calendars for Friday, April 13, from 2:00-3:15 pm, for Kindergarten Orientation!

Also, please complete the form on Wolftrap's website to indicate that your student will be enrolling.

The form and more information about preparing for Kindergarten can be found on our [school's website here](#)

RACE TO THE 5K



3, 2, 1....go!

Mark your calendars for the **Wolftrap 5K/Fun Run**, a fun event for the whole community on **Sunday, April 8**. A big thank you to our title sponsor, **Garai Orthodontic Specialists**.

This year's theme will be, "Running Through the Decades." Runners are encouraged to wear a costume from their favorite decade and prizes will be awarded to the best costumes!

Early Bird Registration Now Open!

Online registration is now open for the 5K/Fun Run. Be sure to [register early online here](#) to ensure early bird rates through February 28. The fees for early bird registration are 5K Adult/\$30, 5K Child/\$20, Fun Run/\$10. Rates go up by \$5 on March 1 when regular registration begins. [See flyer here](#).

Sponsorship Opportunities!

TEACHER SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:

Every class will have the opportunity to sponsor their teacher as a race sponsor. Be on the lookout for an email from your room parent providing details. There will be exciting rewards for the class that raises that most in teacher sponsorships.

CALLING ALL WOLFTRAP FAMILY-OWNED BUSINESSES:

Sponsoring the Wolftrap 5K is a great way to show your support for the school while promoting your business to the Wolftrap community. **Does Your Child or Children Want to be on the Race T-Shirt?** Each year individual Wolftrap Families sponsor the race -- showing their school pride and earning the opportunity for their family name to appear on the official race t-shirt.

Sponsorship levels range from \$250 up to \$1,000, and are tax-deductible to both businesses and individual families. If your family or business is interested in being a race sponsor, please contact funrun@wolftrappta.org. [Check the race page](#) for continued event and sponsor updates.

More Information:

https://wolftrappta.membershiptoolkit.com/5K_Fun_Run

YEARBOOK SALES

LAST DAY FOR PICTURES

A friendly reminder that February 28th is the last day to submit pictures for the yearbook. Go to [this link](#) for instructions on submitting pictures.

DEADLINE FOR ORDERING

March 9th is the deadline for ordering. [Click here](#) to order the Wolftrap 2017-2018 Yearbook

WATCH D.O.G.S.



Still interested in becoming a Watch D.O.G. for the day?

Want to come spend another day at Wolftrap?

It is not too late to sign up - we still have many dates available in April and May! [Click here](#) to check availability and sign up.

garai
ORTHODONTIC
SPECIALISTS
BracesVIP.com

What's Happening Around Wolfrap

Skate Night

14th Annual Family Fun Skate Night - February 24, 2018!

Location: SkateQuest, 1800 Michael Faraday Drive Reston, VA 20190

Looking to celebrate the end of cold weather? Want to enjoy a fun filled night with your family and friends? We have the ice rink reserved for Wolfrap's exclusive use along with the upper mezzanine area for dining.

Registration will be open online from January 30 - February 23, 2018. Login in to your PTA website account to register. Tickets include skate pass, skate rentals, glow stick, pizza and soda for \$15 before the event on PTA website, or \$20 at the door. (At the door only cash or check will be accepted).

This event is a "fun" raiser for our school and we encourage everyone to skate. No minimum skating ability is required and everyone is welcome!

For more information and to help us with this event, contact skatenight@wolfrappta.org

Shifting Gears 2018

Shifting Gears is the Kilmer Middle School Summer Transition Program, open to all rising 7th grade Kilmer students. It takes place at Kilmer Middle School.

Session I: July 30 - August 3, 12:00 - 5:00 pm

Session II: August 6 - 10, 8:00 am - 1:00 pm

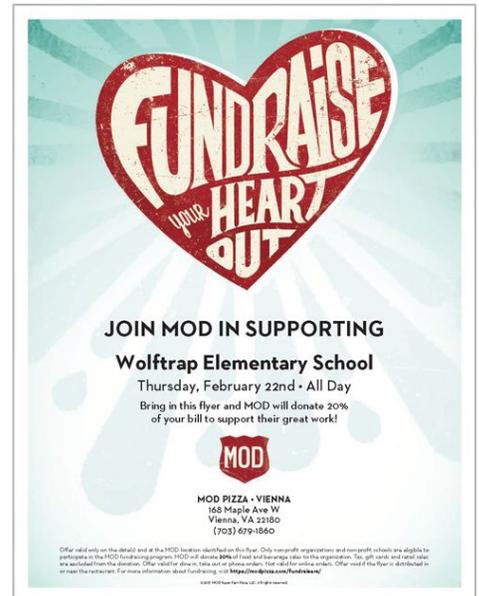
Early Bird Special Price: \$165

Registration is open February 8th until sessions are full, [click here](#) for more information. Registration form must be completed online - click to access the [Shifting Gears Registration Form](#) and enroll!

Education Rebates

It is not too late to hand in your Box Tops for the winter contest! Place all Box Tops in a ziplock bag and drop them off at the main office or "Feed the Wolf" in the front lobby. Place all Box Tops in a Ziplock bag and drop them off at the main office or "Feed the Wolf" in the front lobby. Don't forget to label the bag with your child's name and teacher's name in order for the Box Tops to be counted in the contest. The homeroom class that sends in the most Box Tops will win either extra recess time or a pajama day. The top individual contributor also will win a prize. **Box Tops are due February 12.**

For a complete list of participating products, visit www.boxtops4education.com.



DINING FOR DOLLARS

We have a Dining for Dollars event scheduled for **Thursday, February 22nd** at MOD Pizza in Vienna.

It will be active throughout the entire day. [Click here](#) for the full size version of the MOD Pizza promotional flyer. On the day of our fundraiser, **customers must present a printed or digital version of the flyer** to the cashier for Wolfrap ES in order to receive 20% of the sale.

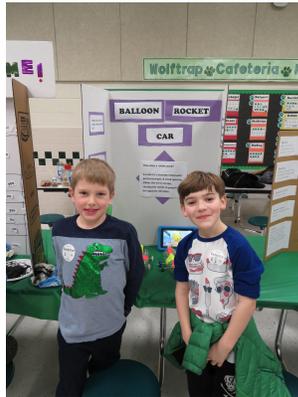
GRACE ART



GRACE Art is teaching Edward Hopper (1882-1967) this month. Hopper was an American realist painter. [Click here](#) to learn more.

Edison Expo

A HUGE thank you to all the students, parents and Wolflrap staff who participated in the Edison Expo last week. The Edison Expo, Wolflrap's Science Fair, is a chance for students to showcase a project in Science, Technology, Engineering, Architecture, or Math. Over 65 fantastic students presented an experiment or display on a variety of STEAM topics including global warming, filters, lava lamps, magnets, rockets, gravity, geodes, and more. Volunteer reviewers visited each presentation to ask the students questions about their displays. AoPS and Stemtree also provided great puzzles, robotics displays, and presentations. It's never too soon to start thinking about your project for next year!



Field Trip

3rd Grade Field Trip to Green Spring Garden

