

Hopewell Happenings

October 2016



PTA President's Message

Fall is here and summer 2016 is far behind us. There are lots of exciting things happening at Hopewell in the upcoming months. Keep watching those backpacks. We are excited to see our PTA 2016-2017 membership numbers grow. Parents and Teachers we are still taking membership forms (www.slsd.org Hopewell PTA, membership form). This is a great way to stay connected with the PTA.

Planning is in full swing for **The Hopewell Halloween Social and Costume Party**. It's scheduled for Friday, October 21st from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Join us for an evening of fun, including dancing, games, contests, snacks and crafts. Forms have already gone home. Please contact committee chairs Tiffany Gyuricsko (tiffanygyuricsko@gmail.com) and Melissa Moffatt (melissaj13@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

Hausman Fruit Farm: Fall Farm Festival 10/1 (rain date 10/2) mention **Hopewell** at the register. Free hayrides, free admission, free kids activities and more... www.hausmanfruitfarm.com

Save the date: Hopewell Holiday Open House will be on Saturday, 12/3 from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. This is a family fun event, including breakfast with Santa, Penguin Patch Shoppe where your child (ren) can shop for gifts, plus several local vendors.

Please collect **Box Tops**. Stay tuned for more information.

Pouncer Pal Spiritwear sales have been amazing! We can't wait to see the students and staff in the new apparel, due to arrive in the middle of October. Please see the attached Giant A+ and Amazon Smile flyers with instructions of how to raise money for our school with your normal everyday shopping. Speaking of raising money for our school, information will be coming home regarding our first online fundraiser with www.yankeecandlefundraising.com. Please contact Dawn Resch, dawnresch@yahoo.com or Tara Moyer, moyermom5@gmail.com if you have any questions.

Want to know what else is going on with the PTA? Come to our next meeting on **Wednesday, October 5th at 9:30 a.m.** or visit the monthly meeting minutes on slsd.org under Hopewell PTA. Also, if you are on Facebook please like us [HOPEWELL PTA](https://www.facebook.com/HOPEWELLPTA)

Until next month,

Carla Stock

PTA President

carlastock10@yahoo.com

A message from the Principal...

Dear Hopewell families:

Thank you for a great first month of school. It's hard to believe October is already here. We're looking forward to a number of upcoming October events. I hope you'll find the following information useful:

In the beginning of each month, we'll send home a monthly PTA newsletter. Please take time to read the Hopewell Happenings as we'll attempt to share our previous month's highlights and identify upcoming events.

Please check out the Southern Lehigh School District website at slsd.org. Our website is another source for up-to-date school district and school information. On the related links you'll find parent and student resources, the elementary curriculum, library information, PTA updates, the school lunch menu, the parent / student handbook, and transportation information (including green slips). You may also "like" the Southern Lehigh School District and Hopewell PTA on Facebook.

Each month our food services department sends home a monthly lunch menu. On the opposite side of each school menu is a monthly Hopewell calendar of events that identifies school-wide or grade level events.

Please check your child's book bag daily for information that comes home from your child's teacher or the Hopewell office. If we are asking for papers to be signed and returned, we ask you to please send them back the next school day.

Who to call? Your child's teacher should always be your first contact when calling the school. They work directly with your child every day and are your best point of contact. When necessary, they may refer you to our reading specialist, Mrs. Kuntz man; our RTII teacher and math specialist, Mrs. Hufgard; the school psychologist, Dr. Lehtinen or me. To address your questions or concerns in a timely manner, we ask that you follow this protocol. We follow a team approach at Hopewell School and those who need to be involved and informed will receive communication from your child's teacher. If you have any questions, our school secretaries, Mrs. Privitera, Mrs. Sheats and Mrs. Schneck can also assist you. If you have a question about special classes, you should also contact our music, art, physed, librarian or tech smarts teacher directly. We can all be reached by email through our lastnameinitial@slsd.org.

October is **National Bullying Prevention Month**. We'll be sharing short lessons and activities on bullying prevention in each class throughout the month. In addition, there will be an announcement each week made by a student that focuses on bullying and being kind to others. Please encourage your child to wear blue on **Monday, October 3** for Bullying Prevention Awareness Month.

Hopewell School Picture Day is scheduled with Christmas City Studio on **Tues., October 4th**. Order forms have already been sent home with your child. Order forms must be completed and paid for in advance. Please call the office if you need another order form.

Our next PTA meeting is Wednesday, October 5th at 9:30 AM in the school cafeteria. We hope you plan to attend. Please bring another Hopewell parent with you!

Kindergarten Teachers will be holding a parent information session for parents only on **Thursday, October 6** from 4:15 – 4:45. We hope you can join us!

Our **Halloween Parade** is scheduled for Friday, October 30th @ 2:00 PM. Please note that costumes may not include any type of weapon. Even look-alike weapons are prohibited on school property. This is a fun Hopewell tradition therefore your cooperation is appreciated. If rain or wet pavements force us to cancel the parade, a notice will be posted by noon on the Hopewell website. Let's hope for good weather since the parade cannot be rescheduled. Please note that student classroom celebrations are for our students only and classroom volunteers that have been pre-arranged by the classroom teacher. All classroom volunteers must be on the district's approved Volunteer List.

School Volunteers:

Please note a few times during our school year, classroom celebrations are planned for our students. A designated number of homeroom and PTA volunteers are established in advance. Volunteers are scheduled on a rotational, as-needed basis to assist for these activities or on field trips. Volunteer links may be found on our website @ slsd.org → District Home Page → Quick Links → Volunteer Information. Required clearances are listed below:

- [FBI Fingerprint Clearance](#) or receipt indicating registration ID# (**Only the PA Department of Education version will be accepted**) or [Volunteer Residency Certification Form](#) (for residents residing in district 10+ yrs.)
- Act 34: PA State Police Request for Criminal History Check
<http://www.epatch.state.pa.us>
- Act 151: PA Child Abuse History Clearance – Obtain form at
<https://www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis/public/home>
- Act24 – PDE Arrest/Conviction Form (available online @slsd.org)

AM Parent drop-off: In an attempt to keep bus traffic and car traffic separate, the drop off time for students arriving by CAR is between 8:40 AM and 8:50 AM. Car traffic should not pull into the bus lanes. Your cooperation is needed to help avoid traffic congestion on Hopewell Road. Staff are on duty during student arrival to direct traffic and assist. Please pull forward in the circle so several cars may unload at a time. Parents are asked to remain in their cars and have students ready to unload so this process moves safely and timely.

PM Parent drop off: PM kindergarten starts at 12:54 PM. Parent drop off is 12:45 – 12:50 in the parent drop off circle outside out front door.

Attendance: Absence excuses must be submitted within three school days of each absence or the absence will be considered unexcused. Please be aware that under a recent update to the PA School Code **all students are limited to 10 days of cumulative absences per school year.**

After 10 days of cumulative absence, a physician's excuse will be required for each subsequent absence. *Parents will receive written notification any time a child reaches 10 days of cumulative absences.*

Tardy to school: All students arriving after the 9 AM start time (or 12:54 PM for afternoon kindergarten) must have a parent or guardian escort them into the building and sign them into school. Please address time management issues at home so your child arrives on time – when your child arrives late it puts them into a “catch up mode” with their classmates and this can create unnecessary stress for your child.

Birthday invitations may not be distributed in school unless your child is inviting all members of the class. We no longer celebrate birthdays with any form of edible treats due to serious food allergies that exist in many of our students.

Student foot attire: Footwear such as Heely's or other rolling shoes are not permitted in school. Shoes that tie, buckle, snap or fit securely around the foot are preferred for school day activities. Sneakers are needed on the days your child has physical education class.

Casual for a Cause: Each Friday, Hopewell staff dress Casual for a Cause. Some of the important foundations we've supported throughout the years are American Cancer Society, CHOP, United Way, Retinal research, camp scholarships, assisting local families in need, Veterans, Autism Awareness, Down's Syndrome, Kidney Foundation, Costumes for a Cause, Jump Rope for a Heart. Last year we also started to support local causes for local impact: Betty Lou's Pantry, JP Liberati memorial scholarship, COBcares community outreach, iTN senior transportation of LV. If you have ideas or causes you'd like us to support you are welcome to bring it to our attention. We have a very giving staff!

Have a great month and enjoy the beautiful colors October brings!

Ms. Limpar
Hopewell Principal



October calendar of events:

- 10/1:** SLSD Family Fun Day @ Hausman Fruit Farm
- 10/3:** Wear Blue for Bullying Prevention Awareness Month
- 10/4:** School Pictures – Smile!
- 10/5:** PTA meeting 9:30 AM
- 10/6:** Kindergarten Information Session (Parents only) 4:15 – 4:45PM
- 10/7 and 10/10:** NO SCHOOL / teacher in-service days
- 10/13:** Parent and Student Open House 5:30 – 7 PM
- 10/16:** Coopersburg Halloween Parade
- 10/21:** PTA Fall Social 7:00-8:30PM (HW students only- parents must accompany your children)
- 10/30:** Hopewell Halloween Parade @ 2:00 PM (weather permitting)
Students may bring (not wear) costumes to school for our parade
Spirit Day: Wear fall colors Orange and Black
(AM Kindergarten Parade is scheduled for 10:45 AM)

October is Bus Safety Awareness Month!

Please review Hopewell School's Bus Responsibilities and Dismissal Procedures

Each day at 3:30PM, we dismiss our students to our school buses by their grade level. We start with Kindergarten who sits in the front, then dismiss Third Grade, then Second Grade, and finish with First Grade.

Students are expected to board the school bus with kindergarten filling in the front seats, students in grades 1 and 2 sitting somewhere near the middle, and grade 3 sitting somewhere near the back of the bus.

There's an assigned school staff member who reports to each school bus every day at dismissal and serves as our part of our Dismissal Team.

Each day, before the bus pulls away, our Dismissal Team reviews the following bus safety expectations with all students on each bus:

- 1) Students are expected to report to their assigned seating area and remain in that same seat until the bus arrives at their designated stop. Students may never get off at another bus stop without a green slip completed by the parent.
- 2) Students are expected to sit safely on their bottoms and face forward at all times.
- 3) Students are responsible for keeping their hands, feet and objects to themselves and not touch or take other's belongings. Students may not reach into the seat in front of them or behind them for any reason.
- 4) Students may not do homework on the bus. All pens, pencils and markers must be kept in book bags for student safety and to not encourage writing on bus seats.
- 5) Students may speak quietly to the person they share a seat with using words that make others feel comfortable, not uncomfortable. No teasing, name calling or making fun of anyone is allowed. We need to explain this to children as they often report back they were "just kidding."
- 6) No eating, drinking or chewing gum is permitted on any bus. Some of our students have severe allergic reactions to certain foods. Please explain this to your children.
- 7) No student has the right to tell another student where they can or cannot sit. Assigning seats is the responsibility of the bus driver, teachers, dismissal team or principal.
- 8) Students are expected to follow the bus driver's directions at all times. When a student violates the bus driver's rules and expectations, the bus driver will complete a bus referral form to the office and the parent will be notified. The child may receive an assigned seat as a consequence for misbehavior until the bus driver sees a change in student behavior. They may even lose their bus riding privilege for a period of time.
- 9) Students are encouraged to worry about their own words and actions and make sure they are "Being Nice, and Being Safe" at all times. When boys and girls try to be helpful and involve themselves in situations that are not their concern, it tends to escalate rather than de-escalate the situation.
- 10) Students are encouraged to use problem solving language to resolve issues that involve them on the bus: "Stop it, I don't like it, Leave me alone, I'm not going to let you bother me, If you keep doing that I'm going to tell the bus driver." If their words do not solve the problem, the child should report their concern immediately to the bus driver so their seat can be moved.

- 11) Students should be discouraged from sitting three to a seat unless absolutely necessary. Some students with behavior, sensory, attention and impulsivity issues should NEVER sit three to a seat. The bus driver and dismissal team staff will scan the bus and separate students who may not be able to sit together safely.
- 12) Pouncer Pals are Respectful, Responsible and Ready!

We'd appreciate if you'd have a regular discussion with your child about the importance of safe bus behavior and discuss the above student responsibilities with your child!

BUS SAFETY



Newsletter Submissions

Please e-mail submissions to kangney@rcn.com **by the 20th of each month.**

*All submissions are subject to approval by Ms. Limpar.



Hopewell Elementary School
4625 W. Hopewell Rd.
Center Valley, PA 18034



Dear Parents:

Welcome back to the start of a new school year and to a new year of A+ School Rewards!

Beginning October 7, 2016, Hopewell Elementary – (ID#: **23403**) has the opportunity to participate in and earn CASH from A+ School Rewards, a great fundraising program run through your local GIANT!

To participate:

- Visit www.giantfoodstores.com/aplus and scroll down to the center of the page to select **REGISTER YOUR CARD** from the red box on the right marked **FOR CUSTOMERS**; or,
- Call the A+ School Rewards Hotline at 1-877-275-2758 for assistance; or,
- Email the A+ Hotline. Please include the last name associated with your BONUSCARD®, your 11-digit BONUSCARD® number and our school name and school ID number* of our school (or the name, city and state in which the school is located) to: askaplus@cranecommunications.com.

** If you are supporting more than one (1) school, please include the ID numbers for both schools, or the names, cities and states of your schools.*

To earn points:

- Use your registered BONUSCARD® each time you shop at GIANT, and you will earn CASH for our school. You can track the number of points you are earning for our school by checking your grocery receipt.
- At the end of each month, your points are calculated and converted to CASH rewards for our school. These CASH rewards are updated monthly on the GIANT A+ website beginning in November.
- After the last day of the 2017 program, which is March 17, these same conversions are performed and the final *school account total* is posted.
- Our school will receive one CASH awards check at the end of the program and can use this cash for any of our educational needs.

Also, please encourage your family members and friends to support our school. This could result in more CASH REWARDS!

Thank you for supporting our school.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Dawn Resch'.

Hopewell PTA Vice President

1-877-ASK-APLUS – 1-877-275-2758
www.giantfoodstores.com/aplus
askaplus@cranecommunications.com



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*Any questions please contact dawnresch@yahoo.com



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Can I use my existing Amazon.com account on AmazonSmile?

Yes, you use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry, and other account settings are also the same.

How do I select a charitable organization to support when shopping on AmazonSmile?

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Can I change my charity?

Yes, you can change your charity any time. Your AmazonSmile purchases after the change count towards your newly selected charity. To change your charity, sign in to smile.amazon.com on your desktop or mobile phone browser and simply select "Change your Charity" in "Your Account."