



March

Charging Times



2006

A Newsletter for the Mabry Middle School Chargers
Sponsored by the Mabry Middle School PTSA

A Message from our PTSA Co-Presidents

Spring is here and the trees and flowers are blooming. One area of focus for the PTSA this year has been improving the outside grounds of Mabry to look as fantastic as our new building. Our SPLOST dollars did wonders for the interior but left the exterior less than desirable.

Have you noticed how great Mabry Middle School looks as you drop off and pick up your students each day? We applaud Jr. Trojan Football for kicking off a very productive community service day at Mabry. The football booster club coordinated with PTSA to provide volunteers to clean the grounds and also worked with several local vendors to provide services significantly discounted or free of charge. Special thanks are in order to American Tree and Landscaping who donated equipment and a crew to trim all of our trees, remove debris, and provided mulch. Campbell Construction donated the use of a dump truck and disposed of an overflowing load of debris. Volunteers worked to clean up tree debris, all of the mulch (2 ½ truck loads) was spread, bushes and shrubs were trimmed, the curbs were edged, many, many weeds were pulled, and trash was picked up. We spread 175 bales of pine straw which were purchased from Straw Country and we enjoyed pizza from Domino's on Shallowford Road. PTSA was given significant discounts by both of these businesses. We sincerely thank our Jr. Trojan Football families and our local area businesses which supported this project.

We are continuing with other projects to enhance the Mabry grounds as well. Our marquee sign on Jims Road will be receiving a much needed facelift and repairs, and we will also be planting rose bushes at the front entrance. We hope these projects will dramatically improve the drive up appeal of the school and will deter our visitors from driving across the lawn. Please take the time to appreciate the beautiful Mabry grounds.

It's never too late to get involved as we will still have several events coming up for our students this spring. Volunteers will be called upon for an academic reception for our Honor Roll students, various activities for Teacher Appreciation Week on May 1st through 5th, the Book Fair which will be held May 8th through 12th, and our 8th grade Dance which will be held on May 25th. Please contact our committee chairmen or board members to find out more information on any of these events or check the PTSA Blog by visiting mabryonline.org.

Our Nominating Committee has been busy and will be ready to present a slate of officers to you at our general PTSA meeting on April 11th. We are also actively seeking to fill our committee chairman positions for the 2006-07 school year. If you are interested in becoming more involved at Mabry, please give either one of us a call and we'll find a position that fits your time and talents. Mabry Middle School is in the midst of many changes and it is an exciting time to be directly involved with our students, staff, and administration.

We hope each of you enjoy and safe and joyous Spring Break as we watch our children grow and blossom!

Kelly Dunlap and Becky Johnson
PTSA Co-Presidents

Mabry PTSA Mini-Grants

The Mabry Middle School PTSA is very proud of the support that we provide to our school, which helps to enrich our students' academic experience and enables our teachers and staff to be as productive and effective as possible. One of our largest budgeted line items is Mini-Grants for the teachers and staff. Every employee had the opportunity to submit Mini-Grant requests last fall, and the Executive Board along with school administrators reviewed all requests and focused on funds being used for things that benefit the largest number of students possible, as well as items that can be used for several years. The following is a summary of the Mini-Grants approved to date:

Sixth Grade Mini-Grants

Subscriptions to Current Science magazine \$377
Subscriptions to Time for Kids \$186
Math and Language Arts reference books \$185
I-Book photos, supplies and National Geographic film for I-quest trip \$350

Seventh Grade Mini-Grants

Live protists for science unit \$163
pGLO Bacterial Transformation/DNA alternation materials for science units \$301
Butterfly house and supplies for science unit \$126
Write Source books for Language Arts \$322
Subscriptions to Discover magazine \$300

Eighth Grade Mini-Grants

Supplies for math classes (protractors, compasses, straight edges) \$25
Book set of Wolves for French classes \$67
Life Cycle series and French resource materials \$199
Supplies to support a Mardi Gras unit for French classes \$137
Social Studies historical multi-media collections \$265

Connections Mini-Grants

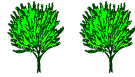
Pottery supplies for Art Classes \$320
Funds for a speaker in the Health classes \$100
Enhancements to rock wall \$349
"Fish" program incentives \$100

Special Education Mini-Grants

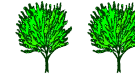
Book sets for Dream Series books \$98
Miscellaneous supplies for CBI program \$150

Other Mini-Grants

USB microphones for podcasting \$196
Wheelchair for the clinic \$286
Electric hole-punchers, clocks, and paper cutters for all grade level workrooms \$461
Wireless technology to be used by entire school \$179
Book Sets of Dream Series books for the Media Center \$175
4 camera bags for school's mini-DVD recorders \$80
ID badge lanyards for all school staff \$300



8th Grade Dance



We are making great progress on the 8th Grade Dance. "A Starry Night in Central Park" is shaping up to be a wonderful evening for the Class of 2010!

The evening will begin in the covered play area at 6:30 p.m. with the parent dessert reception. Please enter through the gym doors. At 7:15, parents will depart and the fun will begin! Students will not be released until 9:30 p.m. and students will exit at the back bus exits after the dance to get their rides. The front doors will be locked.

Tickets will be \$12.00 and will be for sale on May 15, 16, 17, and 18. Due to some unavoidable problems, we will NOT provide a photographer for this year's dance. We will instead provide a "photo-opportunity" area. Please bring your own cameras to use before and during the dance.

Our most pressing need for volunteers is on Wed the 24th and Thurs the 25th at 1:00 p.m. Due to traffic in the cafeteria, we are under a tight time line to get the cafeteria "transformed" into a magical place. By pressing, I mean urgent! We cannot physically get this done without help from many parents. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us on one or both days of decorating.

Thanks in advance for your help!

Julie McCollister and Judy Klmball

Community Outreach and "Foster Care Friday"

The PTSA Community Outreach Committee wants to congratulate our Mabry students and staff for making our "Foster Care Friday" hat day a big success! On Friday, March 10th, our students were asked to wear their favorite hats/caps and donate a dollar to be given to the Foster Care Support Foundation. In one morning, and one dollar at a time, **student contributions added up to over \$300 for the FCS.**

As you may remember from our previous FCS drive, the Foster Care Support Foundation is a non-profit, all volunteer organization that gives free clothes, toys and infant-care equipment to as many of Georgia's foster children as possible. The reason we chose the FCS to help once again is because while distributing our earlier gifts of pajamas, toys, etc. for which they were so grateful, we learned that the rent for their distribution center was increasing significantly. The volunteers we spoke with were obviously worried as paying the rent was already a struggle for them.

Thanks so much to all of you who participated because, as this shows, every little bit can add up to make a substantial difference!



Coming soon to our very own Media Center, it's the SPRING BOOK FAIR !!!

Mark your calendars: May 8th - 12th

Start thinking about all those special books you'd like to read over the summer. How about a new cookbook for your Mom for Mother's Day or a suspense novel for Dad for Father's Day? How about thanking your favorite teacher with a special book or even better, a gift certificate that she can use at the fair?

The Book Fair will run May 8th - May 12th in the Media Center. Look for a flyer with the specifics the last week in April.

Parents, if you would like to volunteer at the Book Fair, please call Donna Miller at 770-977-3757 to schedule your time. It's a lot of fun!!

We look forward to seeing you there!

Donna Miller and Lisa Krzyzewski



School Store

Spring Break is right around the corner and before you know it school will be out. It has been a great year for the School Store. We are so happy to have our new location, which has given us the opportunity to stock a better selection of items. We want to thank each and everyone who volunteered in the store. We could not exist without you. We have a great group and we appreciate all of your hard work: Becky Peterson – Bob Young – Maureen Desrosiers – Laurie DeVaney - Debbie Baker – Betsy Landers – Elise Bell – Renee Plumley – Nancy Schoonover – Kathleen Crane – Kathy Kessler – Linda Thomas – Krista Happ – Melissa O'Tolle – Shay Callahan – Lorri Crowder – Julie McCollister and Kelly Fry.

If you are interested in working in the School Store next year, please contact one of us as soon as possible.

This will be our last year at Mabry. We all have 8th graders and will be moving on to High School. Thanks to all the teachers and staff for your support and help in making the Mabry School Store a success!

Kathy Bible, Juliet Heath, and Nicole Winkler

Box Tops for Education Update

Thanks to all of you who participated in the **Box Tops for Education Contest** in February. We received over 4000 box tops, and earned a check for **\$560**. Congratulations to Ms Shaw's homeroom who won the contest by collecting almost **500** box tops and who celebrated their success with a donut party!!

Please continue to save your box tops and turn them in to the box in the front office. Thanks again for supporting this program!

Cartridges for Kids Update

Thank you to everyone who continues to bring your used inkjet, laser, fax, and copier cartridges as well as your old cell phones and PDAs for the **Cartridges for Kids** program. These items translate into funds for PTA sponsored programs at Mabry. The collection box is in the front office.

Do you love to dance?
Have you always wanted to dance
with a team?

The Lassiter Junior Trojan Dance Team
(LJTDT) may be just the thing for you!

Prior dance experience is not required.

Tryouts will be held at Centre Stage School of Dance April 20-23. For more information, you may email Florenza Smith at Tim.Smith7@comcast.net.

Try out dates are:

Thursday, April 20	7-8:30 pm
Friday, April 21	5-6:30 pm
Saturday, April 22	11 am -12:30 pm
	1-3 pm - open studio time
Auditions Sunday April 23	1:00 pm

Attendance required at all tryout sessions.

A very big "**Thank You**" to all of the ladies that have helped out this year in the Copy Room. You have made things run very smoothly, making my job a breeze. I couldn't have done it without you!!!

Sincerely,
Jodi Smith
Copy Room Volunteer Coordinator

Trojan Baseball Camp will be at Lassiter High School June 12 – 15

The camp will focus on instruction for grades 2-8. Campers will be grouped by age. Instruction is done by the Lassiter High School coaches along with top area coaches and MLB scouts.

The last two years the camp sold out early so please get your registrations in as soon as possible. Brochures are available at Campus Sports. Please call Chip Muse at 770-643-1355 with questions.

*Mabry Middle School Calendar**

APRIL	3-7		NO SCHOOL – SPRING BREAK
	10	8:30 am	PTSA Executive Board Meeting (Media Center)
	10	9:30 am	PTSA Committee Board Meeting (Media Center)
	11		Academic reception for 3rd nine weeks honor roll
	11	7:00 pm	Talent Show – PTSA General Meeting – election of officers
	17-21		CRCT Testing – Grades 6, 7, 8
	21-23		District Honor Band – Cooper Middle School
	25	7:00 pm	Mabry Film Festival
	28		Distribution of progress reports, <u>Charging Times</u>
MAY	1	6:30 pm	Rising 6 th Grade Parent Night
	1-5		Teacher Appreciation Week
	2	7:00 pm	7 th and 8 th Grade Band Concert
	4	7:00 pm	Spring Orchestra Concert
	8	9:30 am	PTSA General Meeting, Introduction of Officers
	8-12		PTSA Executive and Committee Board Year End Brunch
	9	7:00 pm	Book Fair
	11	7:00 pm	6 th Grade Band Concert
	17		Choral Dept. “Broadway Review”
	18	7:00 pm	7 th Grade Field Day
	18		Choral Dept. Musical Production
	18		6 th Grade Field Day
	19		8 th Grade Field Day
	19		8 th Grade BBQ
	25	6:30 pm	8 th Grade Dance
	26		LAST DAY OF SCHOOL
JUNE	1		Report cards and <u>Charging Times</u> mailed home

* Updated 3/19/06. These dates are subject to change.
Refer to www.mabryonline.org for the most current calendar dates and revisions.

Mabry PTSA Officers 2005 – 2006

Co-Presidents

Becky Johnson 770-565-9256
Kelly Dunlap 678-560-2605

Vice President of Membership

Chrissy Miletto 770-649-0460

Vice President of Volunteers

Diana Young 770-518-8501

Secretary

Kay Watkins 770-516-0298

Treasurer

Wendy Sullivan 770-321-5375

Parliamentarian

Belinda Heitmeyer 770-973-1382

PTSA Nominations for 2006-07

Parents, please carefully consider the following nominations for next year's PTSA officers. **The slate will be presented and voted on during the April 11 PTSA meeting in conjunction with the Mabry Talent Show.**

Co-Presidents: Becky Johnson and Belinda Heitmeyer

VP of Membership: Chrissy Miletto

VP of Volunteers: Diana Young

Secretary: Kay Watkins

Treasurer: Renee Plumley

Parliamentarian: Kelly Dunlap

