



May

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

WOW! What a successful year! Our hats go off to a wonderful group of volunteers and committee chairs. All of your hard work, dedication, and time has made this school year tremendously easy for your executive board. We would like to thank all of our current committee chairs for a job well done and welcome all of our new committee chairs for the 2006-2007 school year. Because of all your hard work, **Mabry Middle School PTSA was recognized at the county and state level. At the county level Mabry received the Award of Distinction. At the county and state level our Health and Youth Services program received First Place for overall program design.** These awards were made possible because of your dedication, enthusiasm and membership. Because so many of our families join and support the PTSA, **Mabry also received the Centennial Platinum Membership Award.**

As we wrap up this year with our 8th grade dance and picnic, we start looking toward next year. We are still in need of a couple committee chairs: directory, exterior grounds, health and youth services, hospitality, legislative and school store volunteers. If you are interested and would like to join this winning team, please contact Kay Watkins at 770-516-0298 or twkwjw@bellsouth.net.

We will be sending a summer newsletter with information about Charger Day 2006 and events that will occur as the students start back to school. You can also access up-to-date information at www.mabryonline.org and the PTSA blog.

We wish you all a well deserved safe and enjoyable summer vacation.

Kelly Dunlap and Becky Johnson
PTSA Co-Presidents

THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS !!!!!

I would like to thank the over 300 volunteers who signed up to volunteer this year, in one way or another. The Mabry PTSA could not have had such a successful year without your help!

If you will not be returning next year, please send an e-mail to me at dyoung6@comcast.net, so I can remove you from our pto manager website. Our volunteers for next year will be receiving a new form to fill out, with instructions for our pto manager website. When you receive this, I will be asking you to e-mail me to confirm that I have your correct e-mail address (as it is sometimes hard to read it on the form).

Thank you again for your help this year!

Sincerely,

Diana Young
Vice- President of Volunteers



**Have a great
summer!**

MABRY BOOK FAIR

The Mabry Book Fair was another great success this spring, thanks to all of you!



The fall and spring total sales were approximately \$14,000, which netted Mabry about \$3,200 cash, \$2,000 worth of books for the Media Center, and approximately \$350 more for Mrs. Hendrix, our librarian, to spend in the Scholastic Resource Catalog! Having the Summer Reading List accessible prior to the sale really made a difference.

We especially would like to thank all of our wonderful volunteers who took time out of their busy schedules to work at the fair!! Thanks also to the staff at Mabry for allowing this to happen and for bringing the children to the fair to help build their enthusiasm for reading. Without all of you, this wouldn't be possible. Thank you so much!!!

Hope everyone finds time to relax this summer just curled up with a good book!

Donna Miller and Lisa Krzyzewski

Box Tops for Education And Cartridges for Kids

Thank you for another successful year of collecting Box Tops for Education. Mabry collected over 7500 box tops throughout the school year. Congratulations again to Ms Shaw's homeroom who won the contest we had in February and celebrated their success with a donut party!!

Thank you, also, 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.

Please continue to save your box tops and cartridges over the summer. Thanks again for supporting these programs!

Karen Lind

MEDIA CENTER VOLUNTEERS

Many, many thanks go out to all the special people who helped in the Media Center this school year. Your dedication has made my job so easy. We easily met the school's request to staff 3 shifts (AM, Lunch, & PM) versus 2 in order to allow coverage during the lunch hours. Also, this year, volunteers assisted in completing a physical inventory of all the books and materials in the media center the week of May 15th. Kudos to all who served as a volunteer in the Media Center and the staff looks forward to your continued support next year!!

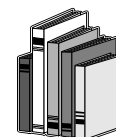
I am turning the chair position over to Lynn Garris for next year. Soooooo...

If you are thinking about volunteering next year, please consider spending some time in the Media Center. Volunteers assist with shelving, checking in/out books, and assisting with special projects. No experience needed; Media Center staff provides on the job training. There are 2 hour shifts but we have some flexibility if other timeframes are better suited to your schedule.

Over the summer, please contact Lynn Garris by email (Lyngarr@aol.com) or phone (770-971-4377) with the following information:

- Name, phone number and email address
- Number of times a week, month or every other week
- Preferred day(s) of the week, if any.
- Preferred shift (9:30-11:30; 11:30-1:30; 1:30-3:30) or any shift as needed
- Or, if you would like to be contacted to be on the substitution list instead of committing to a regular scheduled time

Gail Tramontanis
PTSA Media Center Volunteers



A REMARKABLE YEAR FOR YOUTH SERVICES & FAMILY DEVELOPMENT!

Thank you to the many volunteers who gave so much time to make the programs we presented so successful! We more than met our committee objective, which was to provide students and parents with education and tools that address problems and/or issues relevant to Mabry Middle School.

We kicked off the school year with a program on helping our children use the Internet safely. Jeff Inman, Coordinator for the Prevention Intervention Center, spoke to parents about cyber bullying, Internet predators, monitoring blog activity, and tools to filter information exchange. The evening was talked about for months to come. We are indebted to Jeff for enlightening us.

Red Ribbon Week was next. Due to the rising concern of alcohol use among minors in our Mabry community, we chose to make this the major theme message of the week. Our goal was to open dialogue between parents and students about drug and alcohol abuse by showing students that we, as parents, are a visible presence in their lives, and that we care, deeply. Red Ribbon Week was a great success because of parent involvement, student buy-in, and faculty support. Students continued to wear their wristbands months after the week ended, parents appreciated the opportunity to get involved, and faculty expressed gratitude for a week that accomplished its goals without requiring them to take from precious academic time. More than 60 parent volunteers helped in some capacity to put together the program and execute it. Thank you fellow “spotters”!

In line with our Red Ribbon Week focus, representatives from the Cobb Underage Drinking Task Force came out to Mabry and made a presentation on issues surrounding underage drinking. Cathy Finck showed a documentary on how teens see drinking as a “rite of passage”. Deputy Sheriff Rebekah Westenberger and Officer Gavin Beasley spoke with parents about what is really happening in our neighborhoods, at our school, and at the high school our students will feed into. Dialogue was candid. Parents who attended the program voiced a new resolve to pay closer attention to underage drinking in their homes, and in their neighborhoods.

Next came the visit to the jail. Twenty students were selected to attend the “Consequences of Crime” program. We took a mix of 7th and 8th grade students on this educational field trip with the result being to broaden their knowledge of choices, consequences, and the results of crime. We are grateful to the Cobb County Adult Detention Center, Deputy Sheriff Rebekah Westenberger, Juvenile Judge Elsey, and one inmate who gave a very personal account of his experiences.

We ended the year with a rock concert in the auditorium! This exciting program began with an interactive forum, in which students were provided information about drugs and their effects. Then, newly signed Columbia Records artists, The Jonas Brothers, played to an enthusiast crowd. Following the concert, 13-year old Nicholas, 16-year old Joseph, and 17-year old Kevin, held a “meet and greet” with the students. Lots of autographs and free cds were given out. Check out the PTSA blog for pictures of the concert!

It was an exciting year, and one that I hope had impact. It was an honor and privilege to have chaired the committee this year and I am grateful to so many parents and community volunteers. Thank you!

Sarah DeFilippo
Family Development and Youth Services Chair



Mabry Middle School students enjoyed two nights of fun, games, and music at Sports-A-Rama this year.

Watch for the next Sports-A-Rama event coming this fall!



A Busy, Fun Year for Mabry Hospitality !!!



The Mabry PTSA Hospitality Committee began the 2005-2006 school year with a Greek cuisine "Welcome Back" luncheon in August. In December, the entire Mabry staff enjoyed a Christmas dessert party of wonderful, festive desserts sent in by parents! They also enjoyed finding a Christmas tree filled with gift certificates for each one of them to enjoy breakfast or lunch over the holidays.

We had the opportunity to honor all of our bus drivers, crossing guard and school nurse during one week. Students personally thanked them with balloons and a certificate for a sandwich from Subway.

We appreciated our staff in May with a luncheon of delicious food, a chocolate fountain, personalized stationary and a drawing for beautiful flower baskets. Our teachers and administration were also given a "brown bag spaghetti dinner" to take home during teacher appreciation week.

A personal thank you to the parent volunteers who gave so generously of their time and talents to honor our Mabry staff this year. You all know who you are! You are so appreciated and have been a joy to work with!

Also, thank you to all of the PTSA parents. The funds that you give at the beginning of the year allow us to honor our staff on your behalf. We did our very best to use these funds wisely to let ALL of the teachers, administration and staff know how much we appreciate their time and efforts with our students. They have been very grateful for the ways we were able to honor them.

I'd like to recognize John Collins with "Nirvana" and Leah Gordon of "Cuisine on the Run" for their help and contributions. We also appreciate the on-going assistance and generosity of Jeff Munger and Tommie King at Kroger.

Have a great summer!

Lisa Sterghos
Hospitality Chair

Thank you ...

Announcing ...

Don't forget ...

Mabry PTSA Officers 2005 - 2006

Co-Presidents

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

Vice President of Volunteers

Diana Young 770-518-8501

Vice President of Membership

Chrissy Miletto 770-649-0460

Secretary

Kay Watkins 770-516-0298

Treasurer

Wendy Sullivan 770-321-5375

Parliamentarian

Belinda Heitmeyer 770-973-1382

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Secretary

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Treasurer

Renee Plumley 678-921-5277

Parliamentarian

Kelly Dunlap 678-560-2605

**Be sure to check out the
Mabry Middle School
website for news, updates
and important information
over the summer!!!**



Staff
Blogs
Curriculum
Student Info
Parent Info
Calendar