



October

Charging Times

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



2006

A Message from our PTSA Co-Presidents:

Mabry PTSA is off and running!

We have already had several events, such as our Back- to-School Luncheon for our teachers, staff and administration, Sports-a-Rama Night, Vision and Hearing Screening, Picture Retakes, and our Bus Driver Appreciation Breakfast. We are currently accepting Mini-Grant applications from the teachers and will begin reviewing them with the administration.

Please check the calendar for upcoming events and activities such as: Block parties, the Fall Dance, Red Ribbon Week and the Junior National Honor Society Induction.

Our volunteers at Mabry are fantastic. Every year we call on our PTSA volunteers to help us in a variety of ways. Saying thank you just doesn't seem to be enough. Charger Day was a great success due to all of your efforts, time and dedication. We also had an outstanding group who helped stuff all of those Cobb County folders on the first day of school. Way to give up your first day of freedom! We then called on you again to donate food for the Bus Drivers' breakfast. The response was overwhelming, and unfortunately we had to turn some donations away. If you didn't get a chance to help this time, please keep your eyes open for other opportunities. All of the bus drivers were just thrilled with the wonderful food. Just this week (Sept. 26, 27, 28) we came to our volunteers again to assist with Vision and Hearing Screening and Picture Retakes, and you were there. We are so thankful for such outstanding volunteers. Without all of you lending a helping hand, PTSA would not be successful!

We are looking forward to another successful year here at Mabry and encourage all of you to stay involved. Please check the PTSA blog for updates and the calendar contained in the newsletter for upcoming events.

Becky Johnson and Belinda Heitmeyer
Mabry PTSA Co-Presidents

PTSA Community Outreach to Support our Sister School, Brown Elementary, and Other Worthwhile Causes

The Mabry Community Outreach Committee has some wonderful ideas for giving during our school year 2006-2007.

We will get things started the week of **October 16 – 20** (Parent/Teacher Conference Week) by holding a **school supply drive** in support of our sister school, **Brown Elementary**. The following items have been designated by the administration at Brown as specific needs of the students:

Notebook paper (wide-ruled)
Scissors
Pencils

Backpacks (new or gently used)
Band-aids
Crayons

Kleenex
Hand Sanitizers (wipes or liquid)

There will be boxes at the entrances to the school for your students to drop their contributions into. Thanks so much, in advance, for your consideration of giving to a very worthy cause.

In the **Spring of 2007**, Community Outreach will be having a “**Sporting Equipment**” drive to help provide for a local not-for-profit summer sports camp for under privileged children. We will provide more information on this in newsletters to come, but until then, please consider holding on to any “useable” sporting goods you may be thinking of throwing out!

Thank you!



The Mabry Book Fair is Here !

The Book Fair is being held **THIS WEEK** during Parent/Teacher Conferences and is open to students, parents, family, and friends!

Mon - Thur 8:15 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Friday 8:15 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Quality books and gift items are available from Scholastic Books. Come find books by your favorite author. While doing so, you just may stumble upon \$5 in Mabry Book Bucks!

We are supporting the Classroom Wish List Program again this year. Teachers' "wish lists" are available. Every gift will be recognized with a bookplate identifying your family or student as the donor.

Thanks for your support and we'll see you at the Fair!



Mabry Middle School Fall Dance


After school on Thursday, October 26th

A flyer will be sent home soon
with all the details!



The Mabry Middle School 8th Grade Band performed our *National Anthem* with the Simpson Middle School 8th Grade Band at the **Lassiter High School Marching Band Showcase** on Saturday, October 7th.

It was an outstanding performance and we are so proud of you!

Be sure to check your student's backpack on a regular basis for important information, newsletters and flyers that are distributed in homeroom and in other classes throughout the week! 

Preventing Childhood Eating Problems in a Diet Culture: What Every Parent Should Know



Peachford Hospital and the Georgia PTA welcome Dr. Dina Zeckhausen, the founder and Executive Director of the non-profit EDIN, the *Eating Disorders Information Network*. She will address how concerned parents can raise physically and emotionally healthy children in a Fast-Food/Diet-Culture.

- How can I focus on healthy eating without becoming obsessed?
- What should I do about my child's recent weight gain/loss?
- How can I help my child deal with weight-related comments from other kids?
- Is it OK for my child to go on a diet?
- How can I keep my own issues with food from impacting my child?

Dr. Zeckhausen will address the role that genetics, peer influences, family dynamics and the media play in the development of eating problems. She will offer helpful advice for parents as we negotiate the minefield of Food and Feelings.

Wednesday, October 25, 2006
Peachford Hospital
2151 Peachford Road
Atlanta, Georgia 30338
10:00-11:30 a.m.

For more information, contact Loren Eischeid, Georgia PTA Youth Services Chair at 770-956-0174 or Sharon Frank, Peachford Hospital, at sharonafrank@aol.com.

Directions: Take 285 East to Exit 30 (Chamblee Dunwoody/Shallowford Rd/N Peachtree Rd). Go straight through the first light. Turn left at the next light onto Shallowford Rd. Turn right at the second light onto Peachford Rd. Peachford Hospital is approx. one mile on left. First building on the right as you enter Peachford.

At one time or another there will be times when your child may need some additional help outside of the classroom. You may notice your child demonstrating behaviors that let you know they are struggling. They may begin avoiding homework. Arguments begin in the hope of avoiding homework they don't understand. Your child begins to feel bad about him or her self, or saying that they no longer like school. Finally, the report card comes home and they are no longer making the grades they are used to make. What do you do?

First: Talk to the teacher to find out what is going on. Your child's teacher will give you insight into the problem at hand. If you come to the conclusion your child may need some outside assistance, there are some key questions you want to ask yourself in order to choose the best tutor or tutoring program for your child.

Second: Research the kind of help your child needs. You can choose between an individual tutor, an after school program or a professional tutoring service. There are benefits and drawbacks to each of these choices. The best way to find out what is best for your child is to do the research. Here is a short list of questions you want to ask when deciding the best kind of help for your child.

1. How will you know the specific needs of my child?
2. Is this an individualized program tailored to meet my child's needs?
3. How will I know my child is making progress?
4. What is the success rate of your program?
5. Will you be able to equip my child for continued success in school?

Third: Decide what is best and go forward. The quicker you find help for your child, the faster they will begin to learn the skills that will help them be successful in the classroom.

(Source: **KnowledgePoints** – Mabry's Partner in Education)

MABRY PTSA OFFICERS 2006 – 2007

Co-Presidents:

Belinda Heitmeyer 770-973-1382
 bheitmeyer@bellsouth.net
Becky Johnson 770-565-9256
 rhjonson@bellsouth.net

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:

Renee Plumley 770-645-3797

Parliamentarian:

Kelly Dunlap 678-560-2605

Reminder about School Hours

8:15 a.m. Front doors open. Students arriving between 8:15 and 8:45 must report to Study Hall in the auditorium.

8:45 - 9:10 a.m. Students report to homeroom.

9:10 a.m. Students **must** be in homeroom. Attendance is taken at this time.

9:15 a.m. Beginning of first period.



Be sure to check out the Mabry Middle School website for frequently updated news, calendar dates, and important information !!!

Staff
Blogs
Curriculum
Student Information
Parent Information
Calendars



The next **Charging Times** will be distributed with students' Progress Reports on **Monday, November 27th**.

The deadline for submitting articles for this newsletter is **Friday, November 10th**.

Please email articles to **sspallen@aol.com** or fill out a Newsletter Request Form, available in the Mabry front office.

*Mabry Middle School Calendar **

OCTOBER	16-20		Conference week – EARLY DISMISSAL Mabry Book Fair Community Outreach School Supply Drive
	26	9:15 am	National Junior Honor Society Induction
	26		Fall Dance
	23-27		Red Ribbon Week
	27		8 th Grade Band Night with Lassiter High School Band
	NOVEMBER	7	
13		8:30 am	PTSA Executive Board Meeting (Media Center)
13		9:30 am	PTSA Committee Chair Meeting (Media Center)
14			1 st Academic Reception for Honor Roll students
15			End of the 2 nd 4.5 wks
18			Solo and Ensemble Festival (Band) – Pine Mtn M.S.
22-24			NO SCHOOL – THANKSGIVING HOLIDAYS
27			Distribution of progress reports, <u>Charging Times</u>
TBA			Consequences of Crime
DECEMBER	2		Band All-State Auditions – Awtrey M.S.
	5		6 th Grade Band Concert
	6		Early Release
	7		Winter Orchestra Concert
	11		PTSA HOLIDAY BRUNCH
	12		7 th / 8 th grade Band Concert and PTSA General Meeting
	14		Holiday Choral Concert for 6 th Grade
	16		8 th Grade Band Camp with Lassiter High School
	21		End of the 2 nd 9wk period, Block Parties
	22-31		NO SCHOOL - Winter Holidays
	TBA		Staff Appreciation
	TBA		International Day
JANUARY	1-4		NO SCHOOL - Winter Holidays
	5		NO SCHOOL – Teacher workday
	8		BACK TO SCHOOL
	8	8:30 am	PTSA Executive Board Meeting (Media Center)
	8	9:30 am	PTSA Committee Chair Meeting (Media Center)
	12		Distribution of Report Cards, <u>Charging Times</u>
	15		NO SCHOOL – MLK Holiday
	17		8 th Grade Writing Test
	18		8 th Grade Band Concert
	22		7 th Grade Performance Series testing
	24-25		8 th Grade Band Trip to Savannah
	26	7:30-9:30 pm	Mabry Sports-A-Rama Night
30		Academic Reception for 2 nd 9 wks Achievement	
TBA		Sports-a-Rama Night	

* Updated 10/12/2006. These dates are subject to change.
Refer to www.mabryonline.org for the most current calendar dates and revisions.