



September

# 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:

**Hello from the Mabry PTSA!** We hope everyone enjoyed their summer. It flew by so quickly this year!

**To our incoming 6<sup>th</sup> grade parents, we would like to welcome you to Mabry Middle School.** Mabry is a wonderful school where your children will get a great education. They will meet a lot of people and get involved in new activities. They are turning into young adults with bright futures.

**To all returning Mabry families, welcome back to another school year** and we're sure that you and your child are looking forward to the year ahead and all that it brings. We are all very influential in the process of our children growing up and having extra responsibilities. Remember to stay involved in their lives. They may fight it sometimes, but deep down, they need you and they want limitations set to help guide them down the right path. These are very formidable years and although they don't need you for band aids and flashcards, they do need your help with life skills, judgment, and all the things that will turn them into responsible adults. Keep the lines of communication open. Stay involved and enjoy your children because this time will go by so quickly.

**Charger Day** was a great success, thanks to all the parents and volunteers. Our PTSA membership numbers are up this year, and since we do not have any fund-raisers, this is great

**What types of things does Mabry PTSA do for Mabry?** We provide all the volunteers for the front office, school store, book fairs and more. We interface with the teaching staff so your voice can be heard. So please make sure to join the PTSA; we are always open to suggestions to make your school run effectively. We provide the teacher's luncheons to show our appreciation for their dedication during the school year. We coordinate Red Ribbon Week and Community Outreach projects. The block parties and all social events throughout the year are also organized by the volunteers at large. **At this time we are still in search of a few committee chairs: Youth Services, Exterior grounds, Spring Book Fair and 7<sup>th</sup> / 8<sup>th</sup> grade activities.** Please contact us if you are interested and would like more information.

If you have any questions please feel free to give us a call or email. Always be sure to take a look at our web site [www.mabryonline.org](http://www.mabryonline.org). You can access our Mabry PTSA blog as well as other important information.

**Welcome everyone and we look forward to an awesome year!**

*Becky Johnson and Belinda Heitmeyer*  
Mabry PTSA Co-Presidents



## Introducing ... Mrs. Wendy Pettett Mabry's New Assistant Administrator and our Sponsor for the Mabry PTSA!

Mrs. Wendy Pettett, a native of Cobb County with deep roots in the North Georgia Mountains, is our new Assistant Administrator. Ask her about her childhood on Blue Ridge Lake and she will wax nostalgic.

Mrs. Pettett has a BBA in marketing from Georgia Southern University and sold computers for Burroughs Corporation before the advent of the personal computer. After the birth of her two sons, she remained a stay-at-home mom while teaching aerobics, substitute teaching, and teaching preschool. She has taught in Cobb County for 13 years with nine of these years spent as an instructional technology specialist. She loves curriculum and sees marketing and teaching as closely related - with teaching selling the excitement of learning.

Mrs. Pettett enjoys riding her bike and can be found on the Silver Comet Trail on the weekends. She also enjoys walking her dogs, camping and gardening. She looks forward to getting to know Mabry parents and students this year.

## Reflections 2006-2007 “My Favorite Place”

The National PTA Reflections program is an arts recognition program that provides students with the opportunity to express themselves through the arts. Now in its 37<sup>th</sup> year, the program attracts an average of 700,000 participants across the country. This year, students have the opportunity to enter in any of six areas: **literature, musical composition, photography, visual arts, dance choreography, and film/video production.**

Students' entries can be created in school or at home. Students may submit more than one entry in any or all of the six art areas. All entries must be the original design and artwork of one student only; parents, friends, and teachers must not assist the student. **Reflections packets are available on the mabryonline.org website (go to Blogs, then to the PTSA Blog, then to the Reflections area) or from the Mabry front office or teachers.**

Our goal at Mabry is to increase participation this year. In order to stimulate student interest and support the program, all Language Arts teachers will incorporate the theme into a writing assignment prior to the **October 5, 2006 deadline**. In addition, students having Art in the first grading period will also have the opportunity to create an artwork with the theme.

We will have six participation winners – one winner for each of the Reflections categories. Every student who submits an entry will be included in the drawing for that category. The six winners will receive a \$25 gift certificate from their choice of one of the following stores: I-tunes gift card, Target gift card, Barnes & Noble gift card, Chapter 11 gift card, Borders gift card, or another merchant that is mutually agreed upon. Again, our goal is to encourage the students to participate in the Reflections program. In addition, all entries will be judged and the winning entries will be forwarded to the East Cobb Council PTA for further judging.

Please call me at (770) 321-5375 if you have any questions.

*Wendy Sullivan*  
Mabry Reflections Chairperson




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### Back to School Teacher Luncheon and PTSA Membership Drive a Big Success

The PTSA was very happy to serve the teachers, administrators and staff at Mabry a wonderful picnic style luncheon on Friday, August 11th as a back-to-school celebration. Everyone enjoyed a break in their day of extensive preparation for the first day of school and some of our teachers and staff even won door prizes for joining the PTSA. We are well on our way to receiving 100% of school staff membership this year!

The PTSA Executive Board wishes to extend its sincere gratitude to Subway (located at 4651 Woodstock Road near Stein Mart) and Kroger (located at the corner of Johnson Ferry and Shallowford Road) for their generous discounts. We were able to serve our staff a delicious lunch with their support. Please show your appreciation by supporting these business locations.

Thanks to all of you who came out for  
**Mabry's Sports-A-Rama Night.**  
We had a great turnout and a lot of fun!  
**Don't miss the next Sports-A-Rama Night**  
**To be held in January, 2007!**

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### Clinic News

In the 2006-2007 Student Folder, I included a copy of an "Authorization to Administer" medication form to have for future use. Many parents returned this filled out without any medication. Just a reminder, **the school does not provide medication.** If you feel your student requires an over-the-counter medication in school, **the medication must be brought to the clinic or front office by the parent/guardian.**

Middle School students (grades 6-8) may carry certain over-the counter medications: ibuprofen (i.e. Advil, Motrin, Midol), acetaminophen (Tylenol), aspirin, antacids, cough drops and throat drops with a completed "Over-the-Counter Medication Permission Form" on file in the clinic. The student should carry a copy of this form with the medication. The medication must be kept in the original container.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (770) 928-5546 x257. My clinic hours are 9am - 4pm.

Thank you.

*Caroline Waters, RN, Mabry Middle School Clinic*

### MABRY MEDIA CENTER BOOK DRIVE

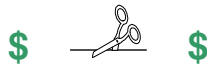
It's time to clean out those book shelves!! Do you have a collection of books from previous summer reading lists? Do you have any Dream Series books from the required reading lists?

**The Media Center is accepting donations of gently used books from previous summer reading lists and Dream Series.** These books will be used to create class sets for assigned reading. Hopefully the students will be able to "check out" these books for next summer instead of purchasing them. Please feel free to drop them off at your convenience or send them with your student. There will be a donation box in the Media Center through October.

### BOOK FAIR VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

If you are interested in helping with the FALL BOOK FAIR, please call Lisa Krzyzewski @ 678-445-4179 or Donna Miller @ 770-977-3757.

Volunteers work 3 hour shifts from 8-4:30.  
We would love to have you. **THANKS!**



### Box Tops for Education

**Thanks to all of you who saved your box tops over the summer.** We already have over 1300 box tops collected, and the school year is just getting underway!

For those of you that are not familiar with the program, it's an easy way to earn money for Mabry. Clip the **Box Tops for Education** coupons off of the qualifying General Mills, Pillsbury, and Ziploc products, then drop them in the bin located in the Mabry front office or ... **\*\* New this year \*\* We will have a collection box in the cafeteria in addition to the one in the front office.** The students will be able to drop off box tops during their lunch period instead of having to make a special trip to the office! All you have to do is drop them in your student's lunch bag/box!

Each box top is worth 10 cents that goes directly to Mabry. Last year, we earned nearly \$600 through this program.

A list of qualifying products can be found at the box tops website: [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com).



### The Mabry Book Fair is Coming !

**If you're thinking about how you will meet the Cobb County reading requirement, stop by the Mabry Book Fair the week of October 16-20!**

The Book Fair will be open during conference week to students, parents, family and friends. The dates and times are as follows:

<b>Monday thru Thursday</b>	<b>8:15 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>8:15 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.</b>

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

We will be supporting the Classroom Wish List Program again this year. Teachers' "wish lists" will be 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!**

*Lisa Krzyzewski and Donna Miller, Book Fair Co-Chairs*

### Mark your calendars for FUN !!!



**The first Block Party of the year will be Thursday, October 12!**

Block Parties are reward parties for the students at the end of each grading period. It's a time to relax and have free time to visit with friends during school hours. We will have candies, snacks, sodas and smoothies available for the students to purchase. Candies and snacks will be .50 each and smoothies will be 2.50 - 3.50 each.

**The Mabry Fall Dance is scheduled for after school on Thursday, October 26!**

Watch for more information to come home soon!

*Joann Maloney, Dance and Block Party Chair*

### Cartridges for Kids

We are continuing with the **Cartridges for Kids** program this year. Please bring in your used laser cartridges, print cartridges, laptop computers, PDAs, and unwanted cell phones, and drop them in the container in the Mabry front office. Cartridges for Kids will continue to collect them and send Mabry checks throughout the year.

For more information about this program, please go to [www.cartridgesforkids.com](http://www.cartridgesforkids.com). Please remember to collect cartridges from work as well as from home!

## NEW! Georgia PTA Member Benefit: Alliance Theatre

The Georgia PTA is thrilled to introduce a new venture with the Alliance Theatre. The following shows will be available to Georgia PTA members at a discount off regular priced tickets for groups of six or more.

**The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee** - August 20 - September 16, 2006 (20% off) \*

**A Christmas Carol** - November 24 - December 24, 2006 (20% off) \*

**Sister Act the Musical** - January 17 - February 25, 2007 (20% off) \*

**Aladdin** - October 16 - November 12, 2006 \*\*

**Go, Dog, Go!** - March 6 - April 1, 2006 \*\*



To order tickets, contact **Jeremy Bishop, Alliance Theatre Group Sales Manager, 404-733-4604.**

\* Friday and Saturday evening shows not available for discount for these shows.

\*\* Children's shows are discounted differently. Please call for details.



### Welcome back Mabry students! Get your sneakers ready for this year's Mabry Intramurals !!!



- Time-8:00-8:45am (you must be signed in by 8:10am)
- Entry at Gym Doors Only at back of main school entrance around the small circle.
- Students will not be allowed to enter intramurals from study hall or any other before school activities.
- Doors will be locked at 8:15am daily.
- Monday-Friday for 30 weeks.
- Once students sign in for intramurals they are not allowed to go to any other program that morning, they must stay in intramurals until it ends at 8:45am.
- It is free to attend intramurals. (Only cost would be for a league jersey if student wishes to purchase one).
- All students must follow all school rules or be subject to school-wide discipline action.
- A variety of team sports will be offered in various formats.
- Students are encouraged to wear athletic clothes while participating in intramurals and can change in locker rooms before and/or after activities.
- Students may bring small hand towels and water bottles to intramurals.
- Students can attend intramurals daily or which ever day they like. There is no "sign-up" and this is not a club to join. Every Mabry student is welcome to attend!
- Flag Football leagues start soon! Girls on Wednesdays and boys on Thursday/Fridays.

If you have any questions, please check the **Intramurals blog** or e-mail Ms. McCall at [Tracy.McCall@cobbk12.org](mailto:Tracy.McCall@cobbk12.org).



### All Mabry girls are invited to join Lassiter Junior Trojan Colorguard !

Interested girls should meet in front of the Lassiter Band Room  
at 5:55pm this coming Monday, Sept. 18th.

Practices will be held at Lassiter each Monday, 6-8:30pm.

Be sure to wear comfortable shoes & clothes for outdoor practice!  
Please contact Beth Murphy at [lizmurphy@bellsouth.net](mailto:lizmurphy@bellsouth.net) for details.



## Lassiter Junior Trojan Football 2006 Game Schedule - remaining season

Date	Location	Opponent	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade
Sept 16	Away	Centennial	9:00 AM	11:00 AM	1:00 PM
Sept 23	Away	Walton	9:00 AM	11:00 AM	1:00 PM
Sept 30	Home	Roswell	9:00 AM	11:00 AM	1:00 PM
Oct 7	Away	Northview	3:00 PM	5:00 PM	7:00 PM
Oct 14	Away	Pope	3:00 PM	5:00 PM	7:00 PM
Oct 21	(Bye)				
Oct 28	Home	Wheeler	9:00 AM	11:00 AM	1:00 PM
<b>Playoffs Start:</b>	1st Round	Nov 4	<b>Championship:</b>	Dec 2	
	2nd Round	Nov 11			
	3rd Round	Nov 18			
	Bye week	Nov 25			



## Lassiter Junior Trojan GOLD Volleyball 2006 Schedule - remaining season

Day	Date	Opponent	Site	Time
Sat	Sept 23	Woodward Academy mini playdate	Woodward	TBA
Wed	Sep 27	Walton	Lassiter	5:30
		Harrison	Lassiter	6:30
Sat	Sep 30	Darlington mini playdate	Darlington (Rome)	TBA
Thu	Oct 5	2 <sup>nd</sup> Annual End of Season MS Junior Tournament (Start of Pool Play)	TBD	5:30
Fri	Oct 6	2 <sup>nd</sup> Annual End of Season MS Junior Tournament (finish pool play)	TBD	5:30
Sat	Oct 7	2 <sup>nd</sup> Annual End of Season MS Junior Tournament (Qtr, Semi and Finals)	TBD	TBA



## KnowledgePoints® Learning Center Offers Tips for Parents to Help Mabry Middle Students Ease the Back-to-School Transition

For many students and their parents, adjusting from the relaxed pace of summer vacation to the structure and pressures of the new school year can be challenging. Jennifer Honigsblum, Director of Learning at the Shallowford KnowledgePoints, offers the following tips for parents to help ease the transition for their children anxious about returning to school.

### Setting Your Child Up for Success:

- Visit the school to help ease anxiety
- Meet with his/her teacher before the first day of school
- Start daily routines that will continue once school begins
- Set goals with your child about the upcoming year

### Creating a Positive Mindset for the New School Year:

- Be enthusiastic about school starting
- Help your child feel successful
- Be a good role model
- Do something special on his/her first day back

### Establishing Initial Parent/Teacher Relationships:

- Develop a good relationship with your child's teacher
- Communicate with your child about his/her school day
- Become aware of school policies and share these with your child

### Instilling the Right Habits and Routines from the Get-Go:

- Teach your child to be organized
- Create a good homework and study routine
- Encourage your child to read for enjoyment

For more details about these tips, please feel free to contact Jennifer Honigsblum, Director of Learning, KnowledgePoints 4401 Shallowford Rd. Suite 118, Roswell, GA 30075 770-645-8888. We are proud to be your Partner in Education!

**To all volunteers,**

Please remember to follow Cobb County Dress Code Rules for Middle School when volunteering at Mabry Middle School.

Volunteers cannot wear, short shorts, mini skirts, or tank tops to school.

**Thank you!**

*Diana Young*, Vice- President of Volunteers

**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



**MABRY MIDDLE SCHOOL  
PTSA OFFICERS  
2006 – 2007**

**Co-Presidents:**

Belinda Heitmeyer 770-973-1382  
bheimeyer@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

**MABRY PTSA COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN  
2006 – 2007**

**Book Fair**

Lisa Krzyzewski  
Donna Miller  
Karen Lind  
Teresa Shank  
Jodi Smith  
Jackie Weyrick  
Joann Maloney  
Frances Weissert  
Patty Allen

**Box Tops / Cartridges  
Community Outreach  
Copy Volunteers  
Cultural Arts  
Dances / Block Parties**

**Directory****Family Development / Youth Services****Grounds – Interior****Grounds – Exterior****Hearing and Vision****Hospitality****Legislative****Marquee****Media Center****Newsletter****Office Volunteers****Reflections****Academic Achievement****School Store – Supplies****School Store – Volunteers****Sports-A-Rama****Sunshine****Webmaster****7<sup>th</sup> Grade Activities****8<sup>th</sup> Grade Activities****8<sup>th</sup> Grade BBQ**

Open  
Susan Sargent  
Open  
Teresa Hauser  
Open  
Donnell Willequer  
Beth Gijlstra  
Lynn Garris  
Patty Allen  
Ava Simmons  
Wendy Sullivan  
Kim Cross  
Debbie Baker  
Sandy Malloy  
Denise Ankerholz  
Ashley Alderman  
Chris and Cindy  
Hugh Sam  
Open  
Open  
Nadine Johnson

***Please contact a PTSA Officer or  
Committee Chairman to get involved!***

Additional contact information is available on our PTSA blog at [www.mabryonline.org](http://www.mabryonline.org)

A huge "**Thank You**" to Kathy Kessler, Mabry parent and CPA, for conducting the annual audit of the Mabry PTSA's records, all pro bono!

The next **Charging Times** Newsletter will be distributed with students' report cards October 16-20.

The deadline for submitting articles for this newsletter is Thursday, September 28.  
Newsletter Request Forms are available in the Mabry Middle School front office.

## *Mabry Middle School Calendar*

<b>SEPTEMBER</b>	15		Distribution of Progress Reports, Charging Times
	19		Music Dept. Fundraiser
	20		Early Release
	22		Jr. National Honor Society induction
	26/27		Vision/Hearing testing
	28	8:30 – 3:00	Make up pictures
	TBA		Student Government Elections
<b>OCTOBER</b>	5		Vision/Hearing make-up
	7		8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Band performs at Lassiter Invitational
	9	8:30	PTSA Executive Board Meeting (Media Center)
	9	9:30	PTSA Committee Chair Meeting (Media Center)
	10		End of the 1 <sup>st</sup> 9 wk period
	12		Nurse, Crossing Guard, and Bus Driver Appreciation
	13		Block Parties
	13		NO SCHOOL - Teacher workday
	16-20		Conference week (Report Card Distribution, Early Dismissal, Book Fair, Charging Times)
	26		Fall Dance
	23-27		Red Ribbon Week
27		8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Band Night with Lassiter High School Band	
<b>NOVEMBER</b>	7		NO SCHOOL – Student Holiday
	13	8:30	PTSA Executive Board Meeting (Media Center)
	13	9:30	PTSA Committee Chair Meeting (Media Center)
	14		1 <sup>st</sup> Academic Reception for Honor Roll students
	15		End of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> 4.5 wks
	18		Solo and Ensemble Festival (Band) – Pine Mtn M.S.
	22-24		NO SCHOOL – THANKSGIVING HOLIDAYS
	27		Distribution of progress reports, Charging Times
	TBA		Consequences of Crime
	TBA		Community Outreach project
<b>DECEMBER</b>	2		Band All-State Auditions – Awtrey M.S.
	5		6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Band Concert
	6		Early Release
	7		Winter Orchestra Concert
	11		PTSA HOLIDAY BRUNCH
	12		7 <sup>th</sup> / 8 <sup>th</sup> grade Band Concert and PTSA General Meeting
	14		Holiday Choral Concert for 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade
	16		8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Band Camp with Lassiter High School
	21		End of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> 9wk period, Block Parties
	22-31		NO SCHOOL - Winter Holidays
	TBA		Staff Appreciation
	TBA		International Day

\* Updated 9/8/2006. These dates are subject to change.  
Refer to [www.mabryonline.org](http://www.mabryonline.org) for the most current calendar dates and revisions.