



WHITFIELDHSA@GMAIL.COM

WILSONSD.ORG/WHSA

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WHITFIELD
HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
Join in. Help out. Work together.

Dear Whitfield Family,

Welcome to the 2017-2018 school year! As quickly as it arrived, the summer is already coming to a close, and another year of learning, giving and growing are upon us.

The Whitfield Home & School Association (WHSA) is comprised of Principal Dr. Krista Antonis, parents, and staff members who come together to find new & creative ways to provide funds for the programs and opportunities at Whitfield Elementary that are not otherwise funded by the district budget. We want our children to have every possible opportunity to be happy, healthy, safe and enjoy learning here, and we work toward contributing toward those ideals. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to join the WHSA, and participate in any way that you can.

The following pages of this packet represent a number of opportunities to become involved in the WHSA efforts throughout the upcoming school year. In addition to the volunteer opportunities, we also welcome all parents and staff to join our monthly meetings, on the 1st Tuesday of each month at either 4:00 or 6:30 pm in the Whitfield Cafeteria. The current schedule is as follows:

- Tuesday, September 5 @ 4:00
- Tuesday, October 3 @ 6:30
- Tuesday, November 7 @ 4:00
- Thursday, December 7 @ 6:30
- Tuesday, January 9 @ 4:00
- Tuesday, February 6 @ 6:30
- Tuesday, March 6 @ 4:00
- Tuesday, April 3 @ 6:30
- Tuesday, May 1 @ 4:00
- Tuesday, June 5 @ 6:30

Whitfield Cafeteria

4:00 PM

Or

6:30 PM

WHSA's #1 need is simple: People. We are always looking to grow our group and involve more people in helping our school provide the very best education for our students. Please look for our informational tables at Meet the Teacher night and join us as we have a ton of fun, make great new friends and participate in exciting activities for the benefit of our families and community.

We look forward to seeing you throughout the school year!

Fondly,

Katie Keller and Erin Allred

2017-2018 WHSA President and Vice President



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HOMEROOM PARENTS WANTED

We are looking for three parents per class, per party, to bring HOLIDAY FUN into their child's classroom. As a homeroom parent, you are asked to create and play age-appropriate games and/or make a craft with the kids, and distribute snacks and drinks that are provided by WHSA at each party. Homeroom parents are also asked to provide boxes in November for the Gift of Love program. (more details are given at a later date)

FOR THE 2017-18 SCHOOL YEAR, PARTIES ARE ON THE FOLLOWING DATES:

FALL FEST PARTY	MONDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2017 (morning)
HOLIDAY PARTY	FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2017 (morning)
VALENTINE'S PARTY	TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2017 (afternoon)

Each party will be approximately 1-1.5 hours and times are subject to change.
Please note: Other arrangements need to be made for siblings during the parties.

We are also asking for volunteers for grades 3-5 to assist on Track and Field Day in the Spring (usually the Wednesday following Memorial Day). This event is the entire school day.

If you are interested, please complete the following information and return this form to school in an envelope marked

WHSA: HOMEROOM PARENT by September 15, 2017.

Homeroom Parents will be notified by e-mail/phone on or before October 6, 2017

You must have **clearances** to volunteer for school events. Please complete your clearances immediately if you do not currently have them.

PLEASE FILL OUT A FORM FOR EACH CHILD

Return bottom portion to classroom teacher

WHSA HOMEROOM PARENT VOLUNTEER FORM - Please print **CLEARLY!**

Parent's Name: _____

E-Mail: _____ Phone: _____

**Please include both an email and phone. Preferred communication is email.*

Child's Name: _____ Grade: _____ Teacher: _____

Siblings in Whitfield (name and grade/teacher): _____

Please check one or more party(ies) you would like to attend:

___Fall Fest (10/31/16) ___Holiday (12/22/16)___Valentine's (2/14/17)___Track and Field Day (grades 3-5)



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General Volunteer Opportunities:

Boxtops for Education – Count box tops from each classroom to see help calculate the highest average at the end of each month. This is an easy way to help out the school.

Yearbook - We are always in need of good quality photos of our students participating in Whitfield activities throughout the year. Jenny Matten (matjen@wilsonsd.org) will be taking over yearbook this year.

SpiritWear - Help with Spiritwear order collection and distribution. Help to set up & man tables for stock sales at school events. Help select items to offer for sale based on past sales and new trends!

Color-A-Thon - Help organizing the event. Help during race day with registrations and various other jobs.

Coupon Book Fundraiser - Assist in collection of payments for our annual SaveAround coupon book sale. Help distribute books and collect unused books.

Corn Maze - Every Fall, we take to Duncan's Corn Maze for a night of hay, bon fires, hotdogs, baked goods, the cool corn maze and general camaraderie. We can always use help to organize and distribute tickets for this popular event.

Community Night Out - Plan monthly WHSA Family Nights at local restaurants to help give our parents a night off in the kitchen, and some extra funds for our school. Many restaurants will donate a percentage of the proceeds to WHSA.

Book Fairs – Come to our library and buy books. Our librarian, Mrs. Schultz organizes the book fair several times per year.

Hospitality/Staff Appreciation - Assist the Hospitality chair in setting up special meals and treats for students and the hard-working Whitfield staff.

Winter Holiday Event - This is a Saturday morning event. More information will be provided at a later date.

Gift of Love - Help the chairperson to sort and organize the abundance of donations (gifts & food) that our Whitfield families generously send in at the holidays to assist those in our community in need of support. Assembly in December.

Bingo Night - Help to plan and pull together our incredibly entertaining Family Bingo Night! Lots to do, and every little bit of help is a big deal. Donations from local businesses are always welcome for our ticket drop raffles! Late winter/Early Spring.

Family Reading Night - Help organize and bring families out to our annual Family Reading Night, held in early 2018.

Simple everyday ways to raise funds for WHSA



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Boxtops for Education:

Each Boxtop is worth 10 cents, and they really add up when we are all contributing! We have earned over \$2700 in the last year, so keep those boxtops coming. You can find a complete list of participating products at boxtops4education.com, and earn extra boxtops for joining online. We hold a classroom contest each month so send them in to your child's teacher often and ask your friends and relatives to cut and save them for you as well! Contact: Howard Emerson (hwemerson3@gmail.com)

Giant A+ Rewards:

Giant donates money to the school and all we have to do is shop for groceries as we normally do! There is no impact on your Giant rewards points at all for participating. You can pick 2 schools to split your A+ Rewards points between. This brings in a few thousand dollars annually that we use to help fund school trips and other opportunities! Simply go to www.GiantFood.com/Aplus to register online with your Giant BonusCard. Giant disperses the donations directly to the school each year. Contact: Melody Walley

Redner's Receipts:

Sign up for a Save-a-Tape card and send your receipts into the WHSA via your child's teacher. We'll take it from there! We earn 1% on most purchases.

Target Card or Target Visa:

If you use a Target Card or Target Visa, you can designate our school in their Take Charge of Education Program. This program pays cash directly to the school twice per year. We earn 1% of all purchases made at Target and 1/2% of purchases made at other stores. You can designate our school online (<https://www-secure.target.com/redcard/tcoe/home>) or in the store. If you are new to our building, please change your building designation if you already participate in this program!

Amazon Smile:

If you are an Amazon.com shopper, you can now support WHSA just by purchasing as you normally do! We are registering for this program at the time of this publication. Please shop via www.Smile.Amazon.com in order to access the very same Amazon items that you normally buy, but this way 0.5% of every purchase will automatically be donated to WHSA. Specify our organization "Whitfield HSA" on your first visit, and then just always log into the Smile page to start shopping.

If you have any other ways to help the WHSA earn money for our school, please email us at WhitfieldHSA@gmail.com or join us at a meeting to present your idea.

FYI:

This year school store will be held on the first Tuesday of the month for all grades from 8:15-8:45!
Prices range from 25¢ to \$2.50



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MANDATORY CLEARANCES FOR VOLUNTEERS

Criminal Background Checks and Child Abuse Clearances for Volunteers --

Wilson School District is thankful to all who support our students by volunteering in classrooms and in extracurricular capacities. Act 153 of 2014, an amendment to the Child Protective Services Law, mandates all volunteers update clearances every 36 months.

If you currently volunteer with Wilson & your PA State Police and Child Abuse clearances are more than 3 years old, new clearances must be submitted.

If you are a volunteer and you have not resided in Pennsylvania for the past ten (10) years, you will also be required to complete the FBI clearance.

All clearance information is located at www.wilsonsd.org (click on Employment link on the right, then on the next page, click the Employment link on the left to get to the Clearances page).

Once you receive your Clearances, please submit them to Jennifer Weidner in the Whitfield office. She will keep an updated list and then send your clearances to WSD Human Resources to keep on file. If you move to another school within the District, you only need to update your clearances if they are older than 36 months.

You may submit your receipts for the cost of your clearances to the Wilson School District Human Resources department for reimbursement. However, effective July 25, 2015, Governor Wolf has waived fees for Child Abuse Clearances and Criminal Background Checks for volunteers working with children. We encourage you to submit for your clearances while this fee is waived, as we do not know how long this program will last.

WEB LINKS:

PA Criminal Record Check:

<https://epatch.state.pa.us/Home.jsp> (Click yellow New Record Check button for Volunteers Only)

PA Child Abuse Clearance:

<https://www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis/public/home> (On the Payment screen, it will show as Waived)

FBI Clearance and Fingerprinting:

https://www.pa.cogentid.com/index_pde.htm

Please allow 2-3 weeks for your clearances to be sent to you.

ALL WHITFIELD VOLUNTEERS (including WATCHDOG DADS) MUST HAVE THEIR UPDATED CLEARANCES IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY SCHOOL ACTIVITIES.

Please contact Whitfield Secretary, Jennifer Weidner, at weijen@WilsonSD.org with any questions. Thank you!