



Hawk Herald



November 19, 2009

Volume 40, Issue 4

Message from the PTA President Tracey Coleman

Did you attend the Parent Education guided video presentation on "Winning at Parenting" last month? Or donate some excess Halloween candy to the troops? Did your fifth or sixth grade student enjoy discussing The Lightning Thief with the lunchtime Book Club? These are just some of the activities our PTA was able to provide in the last month, thanks to your volunteer and financial support.

I am proud to announce that Hunting Ridge PTA received the Local Unit Honor Award at the Illinois PTA District 37 meeting on October 20. We were one of six units out of the 61 in PTA District 37 (which includes units in Palatine, Schaumburg, Arlington Heights and Mount Prospect) to earn this award for the strength of our programs in 2008-09. I congratulate and thank last year's PTA executive board whose hard work deserved this recognition!

National PTA President Chuck Saylor was the featured speaker at the district meeting. He challenged attendees to make sure our PTAs are truly open to all who want to join and participate in our activities. Here at Hunting Ridge PTA, we do hope all families feel welcome at our events, and you are definitely encouraged to get involved!

One way to do that is at our Book Fair, which starts today and runs during parent conferences next week. Whether you stock up on books to get through the long winter ahead, or bring grandparents to the breakfast on Tuesday morning, or work a shift during the fair, we appreciate your support. Proceeds from the fair will be used to purchase books and learning materials for the Learning Resource Center and classrooms.

Also next week, PTA provides its annual dinner for teachers during conferences on Monday, November 23. Thank you to the Hospitality Committee of Sandy Cimaglia, Janet Guarino and Erika Lekas for arranging the tasty meal this year from Sizzling Wok. We are happy to help keep conferences running on time and to save our teachers from having to run out for fast food or grabbing a granola bar between appointments!

Our Environmental Education committee is back in action! Many thanks to Laura Corrigan and Teresa Saunders for volunteering to help our students become better stewards of the environment. They have set up a schedule of "Earth Friendly Lunch" dates for the rest of the school year and also collected many pounds of leftover Halloween candy to donate to an organization that will send it to troops overseas. Stay tuned for more "reduce, reuse and recycle" ideas from this committee!

Best wishes for a Happy Thanksgiving and enjoy the time off!

Tracey

November & December

- 11/18 Beginning Band, 7pm, HR
- 11/19 Intermediate Band Concert, 7pm, Hunting Ridge
- 11/20 Celebration Day
Fundraiser Pickup
Gino's East Pizza pickup, 3-4pm, Cafe
- Book Fair, 3:30-7pm, LRC
- 11/23 No School
Book Fair, 2-8pm, LRC
- 11/24 No School
Book Fair, 7:30am-1:30pm, LRC
Grandparents Breakfast, 7:30-10am
- 11/25 No School
- 11/26 No School
- 11/27 No School
- 11/30 MAP Testing Begins
- 12/2 Holiday Shop 3:20-6:30pm
- 12/3 Market Day pickup
- 12/7 3rd grade Winter Concert, 7pm
- 12/8 2nd Grade & Chorus
Winter Concert, 7pm
- 12/9 Hawk Herald articles due
- 12/14 Winter Orchestra Concert, 7pm, Plum Grove Junior High
- 12/15 PTA Holiday Gathering, 7pm, RSVP Kim Ferrari
- 12/16 Board of Education Meeting, 7pm, Sundling Junior High

Hunting Ridge School

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Hunting Ridge PTA Newsletter, PTA District 37



Message from our Principal

Mrs. Murphy

Dear Hunting Ridge Parents and Guardians,

I am not sure where the time has gone, but I am truly enjoying this mild weather! It is hard to believe that the holiday season is almost here!

Once again, our annual Turkey Shoot was a huge success. The proceeds from the evening go towards the purchase of equipment for physical education. Thank you all for attending and volunteering on those fun-filled evenings!

Thank you, too, for your generous donations for the Thanksgiving Baskets that we gave to the Palatine Township. Each classroom filled a basket full of food and donated money towards a gift certificate to purchase a turkey. It is so wonderful that so many of you are making Thanksgiving a reality for many of our township families.

I would also like to thank our wonderful parent volunteers and staff for making the H1N1 Flu Shot Day a huge success. Over 500 students and staff were vaccinated on October 29. Even though the vaccine arrived an hour later than planned, we actually were on schedule by the end of the morning and finished early in the afternoon. Hopefully, this will prevent many of us from getting this strain of flu.

Just a reminder about testing this year:

- MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) replaced the Iowa Tests of Basic Skills several years ago in giving us your child's instructional level in reading, math, and language usage. This assessment is given right away in the fall, during the month of December, and in the spring, usually in the month of April, to students in grades 2-6. The results of these assessments are sent home in your child's back pack after each session. This is a valuable tool for our teachers, as they use these results to plan their instruction.
- CogATs (Cognitive Abilities Test) are now given to students in grades 2, 4, and 6 in October. This tells us your child's verbal, non-verbal and quantitative ability levels.
- ACCESS tests are given during the month of January to our students who speak other languages and English is their second language. The results show us their ability levels in the English language.
- ISAT (Illinois Standards Achievement Test) is given during the first two weeks in March. All students in grades 3-6 take the math and reading portions of the test, while students in grades 3,5, and 6 take a writing test, and the fourth grade students take a science test. This is mandated by the state to see if the students are learning at the state standards. Our students do extremely well on this test. For a number of years now, our school has received the highest recognition for our achievement. Consistently over 90% of our students meet or exceed standards on this test! Once again, 92% of our students met or exceeded standards in reading, while 96% of our students met or exceeded standards in math on the March 2009 test.

There are many events taking place from now until winter break. Please check the calendars! We look forward to seeing you at Parent-Teacher Conferences on Monday, November 23 (from 2-8pm) and on Tuesday, November 24 (from 7:30am-1:30pm).

In this month of Thanksgiving, I am thankful not only for my wonderful family and friends, but also for the people in my "second family" - an excellent staff, fantastic families and awesome students here at Hunting Ridge. I wish you all a relaxing, enjoyable Thanksgiving! As always, your comments, questions and concerns are always welcome!

Sincerely,

Diane Murphy



Book Fair

Barb Peterson & Rajneesh Singh

We are excited to announce that the PTA-sponsored book fair is just around the corner! Please join us at Destination Book Fair located in the Learning Resource Center! The proceeds from the sale will be used to purchase portable smartboards for the classrooms and books for the LRC.



Friday, November 20 - 3:30-7pm
 Monday, November 23 - 2-8pm
 Tuesday, November 24 - 7:30am-1:30pm

We have a couple of times and events that we would like you to note:

- On Friday, November 20, we will once again be open from the close of school until 7pm. We hope these additional evening hours will give you a chance to make it to the book fair if you are heading out of town for the holiday.
- On Tuesday morning from 7:30am - 10:00am we will again be hosting a "Breakfast with Grandparents" event in the Learning Resource Center. This event was a huge success last year and we plan to make it even better this time around. We hope this will be a special time that children can share with their grandparents. The fair will of course be open to all during this time.

We hope that you will consider donating a book to your child's classroom or making a book or monetary donation to the Learning Resource Center. See you there!

If you can volunteer at the book fair, please email Susan Fisher at csdjlf@aol.com.

Legislation

Jacqueline Kurkcu, VP Legislation

Navigating the legislation world can be a very daunting and overwhelming experience; at least this is how I have personally found it. Occasionally, I come across information that is very straightforward. Below is a "Call to Action". These notices occur throughout the year when Congress feels a bill may be in jeopardy, is up for vote, or in need reinforcing.

ACTION ALERT!

Support Juvenile Justice -- Contact Your Members of Congress

This month marks the 35th Anniversary of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act. For 35 years, the JJDPDA has provided direction and support for juvenile justice system improvements and has significantly contributed to the reduction of juvenile crime and delinquency. The JJDPDA sets out federal standards for the custody and care of youth in the juvenile justice system.

Reauthorizing the JJDPDA this year will protect children from the dangers of adult jails, improve safety for youth in custody, increase fairness by requiring states to take steps to reduce racial and ethnic disparities, and reduce the inappropriate detention of status offenders.

The continuing success of effective juvenile crime prevention and deterrence depends on Congress strengthening both the provisions of the JJDPDA, as well as the funding resources needed for states and localities to implement the law.

Please take a moment to click on the link below to send a letter to your member of Congress!

<http://youthpolicyactioncenter.org/>

Thank you!

Act 4 Juvenile Justice campaign

www.act4jj.org



Holiday Shop

Sandy Cimaglia and Lisa Domlija

This year's PTA-sponsored Holiday Shop is Wednesday, December 2 from 3:20-6:30pm in the Hunting Ridge Cafe.

The Holiday Shop is a place for students to shop for their family and friends at low prices. All purchases are wrapped free of charge thanks to Hunting Ridge's fourth and fifth grade Girl Scout troops. There will be a large selection of merchandise from which to choose.

Hope to see you there!



Reading Rocks!

Karen Surdynski, LRC Director

Thank you for the donations to the LRC from:

- Kristina Ferrari - Amelia Bedelia, Junie B. Jones, The Biggest Snowman Ever and several more
- Michael Ferrari - Afternoon on the Amazon, Night of the Ninjas, Amelia Bedelia and several more
- Ben Cohen - Diary of a Wimpy Kid 4 - Dog Days

New Family Welcoming

Ann Murphy & Polly Schill

We would like to welcome the following new students and their families to Hunting Ridge!

Kindergarten - Genesis W.
Fourth Grade - Jiesen Z.
Sixth Grade - Myara B.

Environmental Education

Laura Corrigan & Teresa Saunders

A big "Thank You!" to everyone who contributed Halloween candy for the troops overseas. We collected five boxes this year and it will be shipped by the Yellow Ribbon Support Group to our forces overseas. They really appreciate it!

The next "Earth Friendly Lunch" will be on Friday, November 20. Remember to send lunches in reusable containers with cloth napkins. Any child with two or less disposable items will receive an incentive. There are many types of reusable containers available, including hard plastic and the newer stainless steel ones. They can go in the dishwasher and save money over time versus disposable plastic bags.

Yearbook

Jacqueline Kurkcu, Jacqui Downing, Brian Chalmers

Hello parents and photographers. The Yearbook Committee wanted to let you know that we are currently working on all the yearbook pages and have not finished any of them. As a result, we can still take any photos you may have taken since school started. These would include first day of school, sixth grade cross country, Moms & Munchies, Halloween, Turkey Shoot night and of course any other candid shots you may have.

We will work through the end of March on this year's yearbook so send them in to us any time at yearbookhr@gmail.com.

Reminder: Hawk Herald is going Electronic

Are you receiving the Hawk Herald via email? If not, sign up now! The Hawk Herald is switching to electronic distribution very soon, so join our mailing list today! Go to www.hrpta.org and look for the "sign up to be on our mailing list" link on the home page or email us at hawkherald@gmail.com



Directory Correction

Logan B. was accidently listed in the directory art contest as a first-grade winner. He is the second-grade winner.



Multicultural Family Fest News

Michelle Burger & Coleen Anzalone

The date of the Multicultural Family Fest has been set - Wednesday, April 21, 2010!

We would like to invite you to join us in a celebration of the diversity of our Hunting Ridge students and parents. The "Epcot-like" festival features a kaleidoscope of cultures, cuisine and entertainment. This event happens only **every other year!**

The planning meetings will start in January, but until then we are still recruiting for additional countries to be represented. If you are interested in representing and hosting a table at the fair for a particular country, please contact Michelle Burger at burgermichelle@netscape.net, (847) 226-8661, or Coleen Anzalone at cta38@comcast.net, (847) 397-1614. Thank you!



Hunting Ridge Bunco Night

Lisa Moran & Kathy Carver

Before the Holiday rush begins.....make your plans for some
POST-HOLIDAY FUN

Soon to arrive in backpacks: forms for BUNCO NIGHT

Friday, January 29, 2010

7:30-11:00 pm

The South Barrington Club

Join friends for Bunco, food and drinks!



Do not miss out on the fun.....save the date NOW

CAMP HALF-BLOOD PTA Book Club

Leila Noelle & Jan Kuehn

On November 4, Hunting Ridge students from grades 4, 5 and 6 attended CAMP HALF-BLOOD to celebrate The Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan. Students were very excited about Percy Jackson's adventures with friends, Greek Gods of the new millennium and mythological monsters. Teachers' read-alouds in class helped spark much enthusiasm for reading, artwork, skits and interesting discussions of the book. Students did a great job of creating posters and acting out scenes from the book. Skits were performed in the cafe, and on November 4, CAMP HALF-BLOOD culminated in a raffle for a book card and movie tickets to see The Lightning Thief in February. The lucky winners are Julia Azzarello and Sarah Verma.

Thanks to all students, teachers and parents who helped make the PTA Book Club a success! Erika Lekas, Jan Kuehn, Leila Noelle and Bessie Christodouloupoulos enjoyed helping students celebrate this most ingenious novel!

Look for a holiday Book Club event in December for third and fourth graders.

REFLECTIONS 2009-2010

"Beauty Is....."

Jacqueline Kurkcu

Congratulations to all of the Hunting Ridge students who participated in this year's PTA Reflections Program. There were an outstanding number of entries this year including 71 Visual Arts, 37 Photography and 11 in Literature. I am so very, very proud of the amazing talent that our children have displayed and am happy to announce the finalists that have advanced onto the Northwest Suburban Council for recognition.

Visual Arts

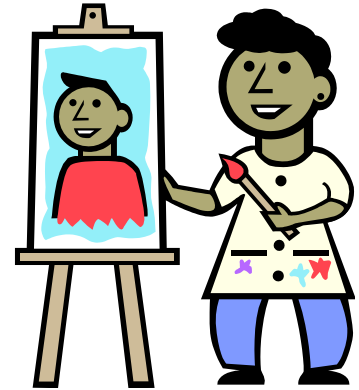
(K) Samantha K.
 (K) Andrea K.
 (1) Marisa C.
 (1) Nicole H.
 (1) Emma M.
 (2) Emma K.
 (3) Austin H.
 (3) Angie Z.
 (4) Michael F.
 (4) Katherine K.
 (5) Ally A.
 (5) Kristina F.
 (5) Charlotte G.
 (5) Elleigh M.
 (5) Alyssa P.
 (6) Natalie P.
 (6) Varsha V.

Photography

(2) Eden G.
 (2) Stacey M.
 (3) Nicholas D.
 (3) Joseph H.
 (3) Sebastian L.
 (3) Marissa W.
 (4) Luke D.
 (4) Matthew G.
 (5) Marissa B.
 (5) Christine L.
 (5) Alyssa P.
 (5) Kristyn P.
 (5) Miley W.
 (6) Melinda C.
 (6) Natalie P.

Literature

(1) Nicole H.
 (3) Will F.
 (3) Sami M.
 (3) Emma P.
 (4) Gretchen C.
 (4) Vaishnavi V.
 (5) Kristen D.
 (5) Aly F.
 (6) Suruchi B.
 (6) James F.
 (6) Natalie P.



Please check next month's newsletter for more information as to which of our talented students have advanced even higher and onto the next level of District 37 judging.

Family and Community Support

Coleen Anzalone & Pam Trausch



Hunting Ridge is participating in the Toys For Tots collection again this year. Our toy collection will run in conjunction with the Village of Palatine and the Palatine Police and Fire Department's annual collection. All toys should be new and unwrapped, for newborn through age 17. The items collected will be delivered to the U.S. Marines in Great Lakes Naval Base and distributed locally.

If you would like to donate a toy, please place the unwrapped gift in the large box in the atrium. We will be collecting through December 4.

Another way you can help is to sign up to help Hunting Ridge families in need. If we have a family that needs help, volunteers sign up to make meals, watch their children for a few hours or drive the kids to activities. We will email you when there is a need. You can help out when it works in your schedule.

If you have any questions regarding Toys For Tots or would like to volunteer, please contact Pam Trausch (847) 776-6614 or Coleen Anzalone (847) 397-1614. Thank you in advance for your help.

Beautification Day

Debby Chalmers

Fall Beautification Day was a huge success!

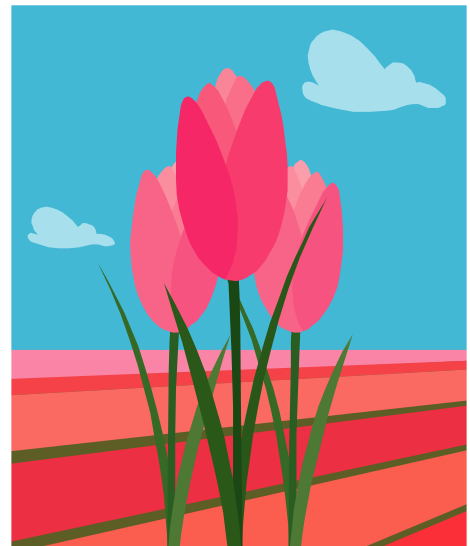
On October 17, 50 volunteers planted over 1,000 bulbs, planted more than 50 donated plants, and weeded the flower beds around school. Keep your eyes out for the pops of color when spring arrives.

Special thanks go to the Cub Scouts of Pack 359 who made Fall Beautification Day a community service project. The Scouts and their families represented more than 40 of the volunteers. THANK YOU CUB SCOUTS!

Thank you to the following families that donated plants to Beautification Day: Davis Family, Lekas Family and Mrs. Murphy! Plant donations are a great way to contribute to Hunting Ridge. If you have plants in your garden that you would like to donate, please contact Debby Chalmers.

Mark your calendars for Spring Beautification Day on May 15, 2010.

Thanks to the many volunteers!



Eating Healthy to Stay Healthy

Wendy Milligan, RD, LDN, Healthy & Safety Committee Member

As parents, we try our best to keep our children protected from germs by making sure they wash their hands or use sanitizer. We also need to remember the importance of protecting them from the inside out by feeding their immune system. The immune system produces, stores and transports white blood cells and antibodies which help fight off infections from colds, flu, food borne illness and diseases like cancer. It is important to make sure our kids are getting all the nutrients they need for strong immunity.

Vitamin C

- A powerful antioxidant, increases white blood cells and antibodies to fight infections, promotes healing
- Good sources - Oranges, strawberries, broccoli, green peppers, cantaloupe, citrus fruits, tomatoes

Vitamin A

- Develops and maintains the body's barriers to infection (skin, lungs, linings of mouth and throat)
- Increases resistance to infections
- Good sources - Fortified milk, butter, eggs, cheese
- Beta-carotene (converts to Vitamin A in the body) is found in dark green, yellow and orange fruits and vegetables like squash, carrots, sweet potato, spinach, broccoli, apricots, and cantaloupe

Vitamin E

- An antioxidant that protects cells from germs and protects the lining of the lungs
- Good sources - Vegetable oils like sunflower and safflower, seeds, nuts and wheat germ

Zinc

- A mineral that increases development of white blood cells to engulf bacteria, helps release more antibodies to fight infection, and inhibits the growth of disease-causing bacteria
- Good sources - Lean meats, poultry, fish, cooked dried beans, whole grains

Selenium

- A mineral that enhances the effectiveness of the immune system and destroys viruses and cancer cells
- Good sources - Seafood, fish, poultry, nuts and seeds

Vitamin B6

- Deficiency can decrease antibody production and suppress the immune response
- Good sources - Bananas, meat, poultry, fish, peas, leafy greens, avocado, peanuts, walnuts

Copper

- Low intake results in increased susceptibility to colds and infections
- Good sources - Whole grains, seafood, nuts, poultry, cooked dried beans and peas, dark leafy greens

Other important immune boosters

- Flavanoids - Nutrients found in fruits, especially citrus, that protect cells from germs and pollutants
- Garlic - Contains allicin which has antibacterial and antiviral properties
- Probiotics - Friendly bacteria found in yogurt that help prevent an overgrowth of disease causing bacteria

On the other hand, some foods can have a negative effect. Consuming a diet high in saturated fat and overdosing on sugar can suppress immunity. Try to keep fat at less than 30% of calories and choose healthy omega-3 fats from salmon, flax, canola and olive oil. To stay healthy, encourage your children to eat a healthy, well-balanced-diet that includes nutrients to strengthen the immune system, and also to drink enough fluids, stay physically active and get plenty of sleep.



Board of Education Report - November 11

Lisa Neal, Board Of Education Meeting Representative

The PTA has representatives that attend the Board of Education Meetings provide a summary to our community. They are meant to keep us informed about issues and decision impacting Hunting Ridge Elementary and the district. These Notes are not endorsed by District 15 or the Board of Education.

There was a presentation of the Butterfly Garden and Outdoor classroom plans at Sanborn School to the Board of Education. This project is a result of PTA volunteers.

Student inoculations for the H1N1 Influenza virus by the Chicago Public Health Department involved many hours of staff members. Mr. Garwood gave a heart-felt thank you to all of the school nurses who helped with the 6,000 inoculations in the Palatine zip codes of District 15. The entire process took nearly two days and involved 12 buildings. This also involved the crisis team, principals and parent volunteers. Children with chronic health issues were also inoculated in the Rolling Meadows and Hoffman Estates Schools. The remaining schools in District 15 will be receiving their flu inoculations in the upcoming weeks.

Many parents addressed the board of education about the recess schedule at Virginia Lake School, discussing the academic achievement and the importance of physical activity. The parents requested 40 minutes of recess as opposed to 20 minutes.

There was discussion about the need to borrow \$7.5 million due to the delay of property tax bills by the Cook County Board. The final decision to borrow this money will be made in December.

Board members discussed getting all the information needed to make the five-year forecast. Last year, the information was delayed and the actual budget was completed without a five-year forecast. A key component is the Consumer Price Index (CPI). Board members asked that this information be passed on to them as soon as possible.

The 2010-2011 school calendar was discussed. November 2, Election Day, was made a student non-attendance day. A final vote of approval will be forthcoming.

Discussion about the electronic flyers, an agenda item, will be brought back next month with a recommendation from the administration. Discussion surrounded the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts and other not for profit organizations.

Fremd Holiday Boutique

Check out Fremd High School's Holiday Boutique
Saturday, December 12
9am-4pm
Fremd High School, 1000 S. Quentin Road, Palatine
Free admission and parking

Over 180 crafters offering quality jewelry, fashion accessories, seasonal décor, tasty treats and so much more! Find new and handmade items for everyone on your shopping list. Select from jewelry, scarves, handbags, chocolates, home decor, holiday greenery and so much more.



District 15 E-News

Sandy Cramer, Webmaster, District 15

Sign up for D15 E-News. Are you online? Do you have an email address? Then why have you not subscribed to D15 E-News? E-News is the fastest, most convenient way for on-the-go families with Internet access to receive important information about Community Consolidated School District 15.

Monthly email bulletins produced by the district's Communications Department will provide you with a variety of need-to-know information about our district and its schools, and fill you in on the many great things going on in our classrooms. Should emergencies arise, details of the steps our administrators will take to address them will be delivered directly to your inbox.

District 15 launched this service last fall in an ongoing effort to improve communication with parents and the public at large. You can subscribe to it by visiting District 15's website, www.ccsd15.net, clicking on the D15 E-News icon in the bottom right-hand corner and submitting your e-mail address when prompted.

Once registered, you may choose the type of e-mails you wish to received, and in each email, you will be provided with the option of updating your profile or canceling your subscriptions.

District 15 values your privacy. It will not sell, rent or give any information submitted in the subscription process to anyone. So stay informed by signing up today. For more information, contact Sandy Cramer, webmaster, at (847) 963-3125 or at cramers@ccsd15.net.

District 15 Flyers

Sandy Cramer, Webmaster, District 15

Flyers now found online! Parents - do not forget to check! You no longer have to dig through backpacks and shuffle through countless sheets of paper to find that flyer you are looking for.

Information from nonprofit organizations, government agencies and District 15 business partners is now found online in the new D15 E-Flyers section of the district's web site, www.ccsd15.net. Just click the D-15 E-Flyers icon at the bottom right-hand corner of the page, browse the list of flyers and download those that interest you.

The list is updated weekly so check back often to stay in touch with the many great activities and resources your community has to offer.

If you have any questions about these stories or other district news, need graphics or maps or phone lists, please feel free to contact me. I will periodically send out emails with district information that you can feel free to pass on through your newsletter or websites.

www.hrpta.org

Checkout the Hunting Ridge PTA website for news, events, forms, past issues of the Hawk Herald and other helpful information.

A Note from the Editors:

Nine issues of the Hawk Herald will be published during the 2009-2010 school year. We can be reached at hawkherald@gmail.com. One copy per family is sent home from school with the youngest/only child in the family until we are set up for electronic distribution. At that time, you can opt for a paper copy. Paper copies will be provided to all Hunting Ridge faculty members until we switch to electronic distribution. An electronic copy of each newsletter is sent to the PTA President, Newsletter Editor(s) and Webmaster of each District 15 school, as well as all members of the District 15 Board of Education and the Director of District 37 PTA. Current and past newsletters can be found on the Hunting Ridge PTA website, www.hrpta.org.