

The PTA Link

December 2017

Hamilton County Council

PTA[®]

everychild.one voice.

3074 Hickory Valley Road
Chattanooga, TN 37412
www.hcptacouncil.org

Upcoming Events

Council

December 6th and 20th –
County Commissioners
Meeting, 9:30 am, County
Courthouse

December 19th – Half day
for students. Start of
holiday break.

December 21st – School
Board Meeting, 5:30 pm,
HCDE Board Room

**Place your
unit's special
events here.**

Message from the Council President

Wayne S. Brown



Social media is a great way to get the word out to the masses. Dwight Hunter (a past Council President) shares some helpful hints on using Facebook and other platforms.

Tips for Effective Posting on Facebook

- Posting pictures and asking your readers to share your post, will more likely get more families excited about PTA.
- Be as concise as possible, keeping in mind that most readers won't read lengthy text. Best practice is to keep posts in the 190-250 character range—even shorter, if you can.
- Ask your members to like, share, or comment on Facebook posts.
- Even more important, every PTA member and interested community members should be greatly encouraged to like the PTA unit's Facebook page. This is a good PR for the unit and allows for the posts from that PTA unit to appear in the Facebook news feed. Also, it would be a good idea to like your council PTA page, your state PTA page, and the National PTA page.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is Founders Day?

Founders' Day (February 17) is when we celebrate the legacy and work of our founders—Alice McLellan Birney, Phoebe Apperson Hearst and Selena Sloan Butler—to better the lives of every child in education, health and safety. It is a time to reflect and take pride in our achievements, and renew our commitment to be a: powerful voice for all children; relevant resource for parents; and strong advocate for public education.

The Hamilton County Council will celebrate Founders Day on February 5, 2018, 6 PM, at Wally's in East Ridge. We look forward to celebrating with you.

Unit Highlights

McConnell Elementary



Congratulations to McConnell Elementary for winning the 2017 National PTA STEM + Families Game Giveaway. 50 schools from across the US received the awards. McConnell was the only school in TN to win. GO MUSTANGS! <https://www.pta.org/docs/default-source/files/programs/stem/2017/game-nights/2017-thinkfun-50-winners27203af1aa3e63899f67ff00009b2bd9.pdf>

East Ridge Middle School



East Ridge Middle was recognized as one of the state's 169 Reward Schools for its student growth over the 2016-2017 school year. Reward School status is reserved for institutions that rank among the top 5 percent of schools statewide for academic achievement, progress or both. <http://www.timesfreepress.com/news/community/story/2017/nov/22/east-ridge-middle-named-tennessee-reward-scho/457364/>

Thrasher Elementary



Thrasher Elementary also received the Rewards Schools distinction for Thrasher is a Tennessee Reward School for Achievement and Progress. That make Thrasher a double award winner. Great job Panthers! <https://thrasherelementary.wordpress.com/2017/10/24/thrasher-recognized-for-excellence/>

Red Bank Elementary



Community Partners are important stakeholders in our school. Red Bank Elementary has partnered with Publix and Food City to raise much-needed funds for their projects. Everyone wins when we work together. <https://rbepta.wordpress.com/2017/11/08/outdoor-clean-up/>

Treasurer's Corner

As of November 30, 2017, the Council had a checking account balance of \$5,237.72.
Karen Jenkins, Council Treasurer

Did You Know the WRBC has a Junior Forecaster Program?

Do you have students (7-12 years old) who would like to appear on Channel 3 news to give the weather report? If so, just send a letter to Paul Barys stating why the student is interested in reporting the weather. <http://www.wrcbtv.com/category/260460/junior-forecaster>

Social Media

Follow the council on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/hcptacouncil/> and on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/hcptacouncil> . Also, send us your unit's social media info. We want to follow you and keep up with your events.

Web Links

Council Website: hcptacouncil.org

Tennessee PTA: tnpta.org

National PTA: pta.org

The PTA Link is a newsletter published by the Hamilton County Council of PTAs. This letter will contain vital information to the PTA local units in Hamilton County. Listed in each newsletter will be deadlines, reminders, updates and information about news and events.

Your article and editorials are welcome. Please send them to:

Editor: Wayne Brown at
hcptas@hcde.org

PTA Purposes

To Promote the welfare of children and youth in places of home, school, community and the place of worship.

To raise the standards of home life.

To secure adequate laws for the care and protection of children and youth.

To bring into closer relation the home and school, that parents and teachers may cooperate intelligently in the education of children and youth.

To develop between educators and the general public such united efforts as will secure for all children and youth the highest advantages in physical, mental, social and spiritual education.