

THE NIGHTHAWK

...NEWS ON THE FLY



"Live in the sunshine, swim in the sea, drink in the wild air."

Ralph Waldo Emerson

What's Up May 2021

May 3-7 – National Teacher Appreciation Week
May 4 – Executive Board Meeting
May 6 – PTA luncheon for teachers and staff

May 11- PTA General Meeting & Elections
May 27 – 5th Grade Celebration
May 28 – LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

President's Message

As we enter the last month of the 2020-21 school year, I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to you, our school community, for your generous support throughout this most unusual of school years. PTA strives to be not only a strong supporter of Northwest Elementary but also remain at the forefront of children's education issues through advocacy at the local, state, and national level. Everything we do is for the benefit of our students, families, teachers, and staff. Despite a year with limited traditional fundraising opportunities, **PTA provided approximately \$15,000 in financial support** to the school in the form of business partnership donations, funds for media center purchases, SSYRA book sets for every K-5 classroom, school store incentives, 5th grade celebration activities, and teacher/staff appreciation. Your ongoing help enables us to maximize PTA's contribution to every student's education while also keeping administrative expenses, such as maintaining insurance, operating the PTA website and online store, purchasing supplies, etc. to less than 10% of our annual operating budget.

It has been an honor and privilege to serve as your PTA president this year. PTA, like many of you, has faced unforeseen challenges and been forced to adjust with the on-going pandemic, but I am proud of what we have been able to accomplish together. Although things change, PTA's commitment to you will always remain the same – to provide unwavering support to our school community with purpose, compassion, inclusion, and transparency to achieve our mission to make every child's potential a reality.

Tracy Johnson

2021 NORTHWEST TEACHER APPRECIATION Presented by Northwest PTA & Parents

Monday, May 3rd: *Perfect Pair* - Wear their teachers favorite color

Tuesday, May 4th: *Blooming Bouquets* - Bring a single flower

Wednesday, May 5th: *Tummy Treats*- bring a single-serve (wrapped) snack or drink

Thursday, May 6th: *Tools for Learning* - bring some pencils, crayons, or a book at your grade level.

Friday, May 7th: *Encourage your student to create a card, note, poem and/or gift*



Teacher Appreciation Week...
if you can read this, thank a teacher.



Mark your calendars for the last PTA general meeting of the 2020-21 school year on Tuesday, May 11th. The meeting will start at 6:00 PM. We are gathering at a picnic shelter in Country Place West Park at 15821 Hutchison Rd. (Just east of the Veterans Parkway on Hutchison Rd.) Come participate in the election of officers for next school year, recognize our annual award recipients and get a recap of how PTA has continued to serve the school community throughout this unpredictable year. Bring your own picnic, chairs/blankets, bug repellent, and enjoy some social time outdoors after the meeting with our PTA family. We look forward to seeing you there.



A BIG THANK YOU to all the companies and families for their support of our 5th Grade Celebration Goody Bags! We are happy to say we have a super surprise for all our kids moving on to middle school. We are so thankful for all the support we received. Northwest Families... please support these folks if you can.



Twistee Treat
Bahama Bucks
Lee Electric
Party N Style
BJ's Restaurant
Outback
Steakhouse
Target
Florida Blue
First Citrus Bank
Winn Dixie
The Drovie Family
The Anglim Family

Ben Hill Middle School
Publix
EtchPros
Avesis, Inc.
Pepo's Café
Humana
Hillsborough County Sheriff's
Office
Fort Knox Fire and Communication
Kevin Patterson – Prime Lending
Carrollwood Copy Center & Printing
Lane Family Wellness &
Chiropractic

DeDemonic Dentistry & Orthodontics
Three Brothers Pizza
Audiwerx
Extreme Youth Sports
Stagelights
McDonalds
Acceptance Insurance
USF College of Public Health
CVS
WonderWaffle
The McQuade Family



The 'Transition to Middle School' survey results are in! This is what PTA learned from our Northwest 5th graders:

- 83% are either 'somewhat' or 'really' excited about middle school
- Top 5 things they are excited about: lockers, new friends, sports, new schedule, lunch
- Top 2 things they are nervous about: new schedule, classes/electives
- Questions that they would ask a current 6th grader or overall concerns: Homework expectations, Finding their way around campus/Being late, Schedule/organization, and Bullying/Drama.

To help you address some of these topics with your 5th grader, check out the article "How to Survive Middle School: Tips for a New School Year for Parents & Tweens" at <https://onemamasdailydrama.com/how-to-survive-middle-school/>. We will also be providing additional resources in the goody bags that are being assembled for the 5th grade celebration at the end of the school year.

As part of our final application process, we are requesting all families, teachers and administrators to fill out the School of Excellence survey at http://bit.ly/NorthwestPTA_SchoolOfExcellence. The results will be used by National PTA to assess if we have made significant strides toward our goal to raise awareness and provide meaningful information to help our families through the exciting, but sometimes challenging, transition to middle school

Dad's Club

Today life moves at a hectic pace, but families miss a golden opportunity when they don't take the time to sit around the dinner table and talk. Do you ask your kids "What's new at school?" only to be told, "Nothing" or "How are you?" and get met with "I dunno". Reclaim the family dinner hour and get your kids to open up with these seven dinner conversation starters from All Pro Dad. Ask questions that require more than a yes/no answer and get them talking:

1. About Current Events – Share an item that caught your attention this week.
2. About History – If you could go back in time, where would you go?
3. About Today – What's the most difficult thing you've had to deal with today?
4. About Discovery – What did you learn today that you didn't know when you woke up?
5. About Dreams – What is your ideal job?
6. About Family – Imagine we won the lottery. What could we, as a family, do with the money?
7. About Vacations – What's your best idea for a two-week family vacation?



Get the full article at <https://www.allprodad.com/7-conversation-starters-for-family-dinners/> and access more All Pro Dad resources at <https://www.allprodad.com/>.

**A BIG THANK YOU TO OUR
BUSINESS PARTNERS**

Extreme Youth Sports & Enrichment Center * Bottom Line Bookkeeping and Tax Services * Fort Knox Fire & Communications * Etch Pros * Laser Craft Studios * Morneau Property Group * Exclusive Flooring Center * Usit