



Oakview Elementary School PTA

THE ACORN



Principal's Report

Dr. Phillip Reavis, Principal



A Ten Year Reflection

Last month, I highlighted the importance of an established and professional faculty and staff who have shown long term commitment to Oakview through their years of service. In my reflection on ten years as principal for this month, I'd like to share a few lines from an Oakview parent and former student.

A parent who is relocating to another state wrote these words in an email to me:

We are writing this letter to let you know that our family has decided to move from Greenville to Houston! We have two kids currently enrolled at Oakview. While our kids were at Oakview, we were very pleased with the school! Oakview is a good school, with excellent staff members, stringent class

work, fun school activities, and a rich library system. Thank you for all your effort to put this in place!

We often receive unsolicited comments similar to this from families who relocate, praising the school for what it has meant to their family. We even hear back from students! I received the following lines in an email just this month:

*My name is **Cally Howell**. I am a double major Elementary Education and math at Union University in Jackson, Tennessee, and an alumni of Oakview Elementary 1995-2002. I am a 2009 graduate from RHS where I took Teacher Cadet and advanced classes. I am interested in volunteering at Oakview during my winter break.*

From former students spanning fifteen years ago to current families whose children were

positively impacted by the school, Oakview continues to be a true *Habitat For Learning*. Parents recognize the quality education their children receive while enrolled here and take note of it when moving to a new school. Students are forever impacted by their time on our campus, with many like Cally, who chose to pursue education as her life's calling.

My reflection for this month is this. Even after ten years as principal, I continue to be amazed and take great pleasure in being a part of the Oakview experience! School buildings and textbooks are common in the education culture. However, the people within the school community make the experience truly memorable. Thank you all for everything you contribute on a daily/weekly/monthly/annual basis to make Oakview the school it is today!

President's Report

Renee Akey, PTA President



The holiday season is fast approaching and we have a lot to be grateful for. We have such special students, parents and faculty at Oakview and I'm happy to be a part of this team.

Despite the cold weather, the Hootenanny was a big success. Thanks to all the volunteers who helped with getting ready for our *Fall Festival* and to all who came out to support our school. I want to extend a special thank you to our *Hootenanny Committee*, **Cherie Bennett**, **Brianna Shaw**, and **Lynn Beam** and to **Kelle Corvin** our *Business Partners Chair*, **Trish Kolarik** our *Silent Auction Chair* and their committee for all their hard work. A special thank you to **Nancy Kelley** for organizing and coordinating our *Student Volunteers* for the Hootenanny.

Thank you to **Ruth Daly** and **Debbie Gower** who organized our *Red Ribbon Week* activities. Thank you to our wonderful *Safety Patrols* who helped lead our school in cheers encouraging our children to *Be Drug Free*.

Grandparent's Day is **Tuesday, November 23** we are looking forward to seeing a lot of grandparents come out and spend time with their grandchild. Thank you to **Carolyn Wells**, **Leslie Donahue**, and **Mrs. Wheeler-Hawkins** for all you've done to get the school ready for this event.

Our *Elf Shelf* begins **December 14**. **Amy Barresi** and **Chantele McDermott** have been very busy picking out fun gifts for your children to purchase. It's such a joy to see the excitement on the children's faces as they pick out that special gift for mom or dad.

This is the season for giving. Our annual *Preschool Book Donation* is **November 8-12**. We will be collecting gently used preschool books in the main lobby. Thank you to **Tami Patrick** for volunteering to head up this program. Also while you're looking for books, don't forget to put your gently used toys aside for our annual *Jingle Bell Toy Drop*, **December 8-10**. Thank you to **Carolyn Hamilton** for organizing our *Toy Drop*. These two programs are really special - it gives us a chance to give back to the community and make a child happy.

Don't forget about our *Chorus Concert* held in the cafeteria on **Monday December 6 at 6:30pm**. There will be a brief *PTA General Membership Meeting* and then you can enjoy holiday music from our talented Oakview chorus. In closing, I hope everyone has a fun and safe *Thanksgiving Break*.



Volunteers

Jennifer Cook and Nicole Westmoreland, Co-Chairs



The smallest act of kindness is worth more than the grandest intention ~ Oscar Wilde

Thank you for volunteering at Oakview during the first few months of school. The fall is always the *busy season* for volunteering. Our volunteers logged in many volunteer hours in the last few months alone helping with *Donuts for Dads*, fundraiser processing and delivery, *Fossil Fun Day* and *Red Ribbon Week*. We appreciate all the time you have contributed to our students and school!

We encourage you to stay involved by continuing to volunteer this winter. Please contact your *Room Coordinators* about continuing volunteer opportunities in the classroom, including *Lunch Bunch* and *Winter Party*.

The *Hootenanny Fall Festival* was a fun-filled night that brought our students, families and alums together for night of family-fun. We could not have hosted this tremendous event without your generous contributions and amazing team work. You donated many needed supplies and hours of volunteer time to make this night a success. We appreciate the hard work of the *Hootenanny Committee* led by **Brianna Shaw, Cherie Bennett** and **Lynn Beam**, as well as the *Silent Auction Committee* led by **Kelle Cor-**

vin and **Trish Kolarik**. Thank you also to our *Room Coordinators* for the many hours spent organizing classroom support.

Please do not forget to document the hours you spend at home volunteering. Whether it is making phone calls, creating a classroom calendar or making goodies for classroom parties or treats, these hours are very important for our school. On the desk in the front lobby of the school, there are forms available to document these hours.

Thank you again for all that you do for our children and our school! You are an integral part of *Team Oakview- A Winning Tradition!*

Donuts For Dad

Our last *Donuts for Dad* event is **Thursday, November 11** at **7:15am**. Children in fourth and fifth grade are invited to bring their dad or special adult friend for donuts, coffee and juice before the start of school. The *Donuts for Dad* committee would like to thank our sponsors for their generous support this year: *Greenville First, Steadman Hawkins* and *Liquid Highway*. We'd also like to thank our wonderful volunteers who are willing to get up early and help us at the events. We couldn't do it without you!



Box Tops

Christi Yenser, Coordinator

The results from the *Box Tops Blitz* are in. Congratulations to the following classes who collected the most *Box Tops*:

Mrs. Nessen – Second grade - 747
Mrs. Angelo – Third grade - 526
Mrs. Jones – Third grade - 457
Mrs. Alpers – First grade - 438
Mrs. Buford – Kindergarten – 433

These classes will celebrate with a special treat in the next few weeks.

The *Box Tops Blitz* brought in over eleven thousand *Box Tops* – that's \$1,100 for our school. Way to go Oakview! I would like to say a special thank you to those who spent time helping count and bag all those *Box Tops*. They are: **Kathy Fiddie, Marianne Flythe, Maggie Taylor**, and **Andy Yenser**.

Our next submission deadline will be in **February**, but you can submit *Box Tops* at any time. Please make sure your student's name, teacher's name, and grade are noted

on your bag or envelope. Without this information, your child's class may not get the credit they deserve.

Thanks so much for your support of Oakview through this wonderful program!





Oh, What a Night...

Once again, the *Hootenanny Fall Festival* was a huge success thanks to the many volunteers who enthusiastically gave of their time and energy! Oakview families and friends enjoyed a fun-filled evening of rides, games, food, *Bingo*, and *Silent Auction*! Many thanks go out to all of our Oakview families, administration, staff, and teachers, as well as to our business and community partners!

Thank you to our *Volunteer Coordinators*, **Nicole Westmoreland** and **Jennifer Cook**, *Room Coordinators*, *Grade Level Coordinators*, **Lynn Beam** and **Nancy Kelley** who all graciously coordinated the volunteers and donations for the Hootenanny booths. Thank you also to our many parent volunteers who helped on *Volunteer Work Days*, donated items, and worked booths!

We would like to extend our appreciation to the *Hootenanny Committee Members* who gave so much of their personal time and energy to the festival. **Erin Joseph** coordinated a terrific *Cake Walk*. **Bethann Graham** and **Angie Hill** for coordinating and hosting work days to make over three hundred paper flowers. **Lora Henderson** and **Angie Schemm** for running our first aid booth. In addition, **Karen Crowder** and her mother baked and decorated fifteen incredible custom cakes. **Carmen Pitman's** Brownie Troop 2418 cleaned the grounds on

Saturday after the festival. Thank you to many volunteers who set-up our fantastic kid zone for Marshmallow Shooters, Confetti Eggs and Silly String. A special thank you to **Renee Akey**, **Michelle Inzerillo**, and **Jennifer Miller** who gave many hours of *behind-the-scenes* assistance, we couldn't have done it without you!

Thank you also to **Tom Hudson**, Oakview's Plant Engineer, and his staff for their invaluable help. Oakview's incredible teachers, staff, and administration cannot be thanked enough for assisting with ticket sales, Bingo, and their overall enthusiastic support! Thank you to **Emily Gerard** for a fantastic job coordinating the teacher volunteers. We also thank our new Corporate sponsors and many local businesses that donated goods and services to our *Fall Festival*!



Thank you Hootenanny Business and Community Donors!
Corporate Sponsors:

Crockett Pediatric Dentistry
Palmetto Family Orthodontics

Bi-Lo
Bloom
Brewster's
Chick-Fil-A
Country Boys
Cupcake, Couture, & Catering
Deli At Pelham
Eagle Zone
Earth Fare
Formano's Pizza
Greenville Scale Company
Inside Out
Liquid Highway
McDonald's
Pepsi-Cola Bottling Company
Pelham-Batesville Fire Department
Shutterbooth
Snip Its
Staples
Sunbelt Rentals
Trader Joe's
Whispering Pines Stables
Brownie Troop 2481
Langston Charter Middle School
Beck Middle School Beta Club
Mauldin High School Beta Club

Thanks for Your Help with the Hoot!



Red Ribbon Week

Carrie Prochaska

Oakview's *Red Ribbon Week* was a huge success and our students learned about making healthy lifestyle choices. The *Safety Patrol* field trip to *Sportsclub Kids* was fabulous. Many thanks to our wonderful moms who helped chaperone! We could not have done it with you.



Oakview collected over four hundred toothbrushes during our *Brush Away Drugs* day! We will donate these to local shelters. Thank you to everyone who helped with collections and donations. A big thank you to **Debbie Gower** and **Ruth Daly** for a great job planning and coordinating Oakview's *Red Ribbon Week*!

Business Partnerships *Kelle Corvin, Chair*



Liquid Highway

Order Liquid Highway Coffee online at Oakview's PTA Website. You can now order the delicious coffee all the dad's have sampled at

Donuts for Dad events and *Hootenanny* this fall on the Oakview Website. Simply go to the PTA page and click on the *Liquid High-*

way coffee orders page. Order the blends of coffee, tea, lemonade and hot cocoa you desire and the school keeps fifty percent of the profits! Orders are shipped directly to your house! Enjoy your cup of *Hoot Joe* daily and know that you are supporting your school with each sip!

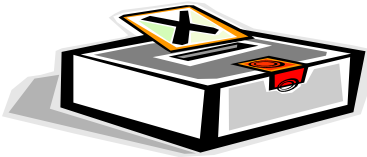
Sabroso's Restaurant

The *Business Partners Committee* proudly announces the addition of the highly requested *Sabroso's Mexican Restaurant* for a special spirit night on **Tuesday, December 14** at their Woodruff Road location. Please help support this special night during the dinner hour.



Legislative Updates *Karen Akerhielm, Chair*

Smith versus Henderson!



Don't forget to vote in the special election on **Tuesday, December 14**, to elect our representative for the District 21 SC House seat (most Oakview families are in District 21). You can vote on December 14, regardless of whether or not you voted in the previous primary and runoff elections. If you care about the future of public education in South

Carolina, and are concerned about current and future budget cuts, then please come out to vote on December 14! The candidates are:

Susan Scarborough Smith: A former television reporter who is now a small business owner in Taylors. Smith said she's running because she is disappointed in how the legislature has handled public school funding. Smith said she will bring a fresh approach and perspective to Columbia with a strong focus on public education and economic development in the Upstate.

Phyllis Henderson: Served one term on the Greenville County Council. Henderson said she would fight increased government spending and make government more accountable and transparent.

Did you know that South Carolina ranks *last* in the United States when it comes to women in the state legislature? There are no women in the state senate and only sixteen in the House of Representatives. Women make up just ten percent of state legislators. It is very unique that the two candidates for this seat are both women!

Elf Shelf *Amy Barresi and Chantelle McDermott, Co chairs*

Fa la la la...The elves are busy in their workshop! All classes are invited to visit *Elf Shelf* and shop for mom and dad. Each student may buy one gift for mom and one gift for dad. Prices will range from \$1 to \$5 each, cash only.



Preschool Book Donation Drive

Oakview's *Preschool Book Donation Drive* is **November 8-12**. Please consider donating your gently-used preschool through elementary-age books to benefit the *Ready 4 Reading* and *Frazee Dream Center of Greenville*. Please help us beat the eighteen hundred books that were donated last year!



Grandparent's Day

Leslie Donahue and Carolyn Wells, Co Chairs

Grandparents and Children: A Winning Tradition

On **Tuesday, November 23**, Team Oakview hosts *Grandparent's Day*. A reception, school tour and book sale will help make this a special time for Oakview students to share their school with their grandparents.

The schedule is as follows:

Kindergarten and First grade
8:30am until 10:00am
Fourth and Fifth grades
10:30am until 12:00pm
Second and Third grades
12:30pm until 2:00pm



An invitation with all details of the event was sent home with your child earlier this month. Please complete and return the bottom portion of the gold colored invitation to your child's teacher by **Wednesday, November 17**. Contact **Leslie Donahue** at 458-9730 / leslie.donahue@gmail.com or **Carolyn Wells** at 990-4142 / wellsfamily@charter.net if you'd like to volunteer.

Reflections

Brooke Clayton and Jana Circle, Coordinators

**2010-2011 Theme:
Together We Can**

Thank you to all of our students who entered this year's *Reflections Program*. We received seventy outstanding entries repre-

senting each of the categories: *Visual Arts, Photography, Literature, Musical Composition, Dance Choreography, and Video/Film Production*. We are so proud of our students! School level winners will be notified by mail in the coming weeks. Congratulations and best of luck to everyone who entered this year!



Jingle Bell Toy Drop

Carolyn Hamilton, Coordinator



Our annual *Jingle Bell Toy Drop* will be held **December 8-10** during the morning drop off. We will be collecting unwrapped gen-

tly used toys for the children of *Greenville County*. You may give your donations to one of the helpers in the car rider lines or place them in the provided bin at the bus entrance. Please contact **Carolyn Hamilton** at

627-0917 if you would like more information.



Science

Kathy Miller

Fossil Fun Day

I found a mako shark tooth! I found a sea urchin spine. I found twenty shells! These were the excited comments we heard at Oakview on *Fossil Fun Day*. Students learned about fossils from our knowledgeable speakers, **Mr. Brian Johnson** and **Dr. Brandy Hartsell**. Teachers integrated the study of fossils into all areas of the curriculum. They even sang about fossils and completed fabulous fossil art projects! Thanks to our parent volunteers and JL Mann teacher, **Alison Peake**, and her *AP Environmental Science* students for assisting with activities. This amazing learning experience was made possible due to the generosity of **Jim Riggs** from *Hot Springs Pools and Spas* and **Melinda Lindberg** from *Ray Walker Trucking*, and our wonderful PTA. Mr. Riggs and Mrs. Lindberg paid for the truck and

driver that went to Aurora, NC to get the fossils. PTA paid for all other *Fossil Fun Day* expenses. We are so lucky to have such generous support from our parents and community.

America Recycles Week

Thanks to all families who demonstrated their environmental stewardship by recycling during *America Recycles Week*. If you're curious about what we did with the shoes you sent to Oakview, parent volunteers sorted them, and we donated the reusable ones to Souls for Souls and Shoes for Sharing. We sent tennis shoes that were in unusable condition to Nike's *ReUse-A-Shoe Program*. Nike makes the shoes into playground surfaces and donates these to poor communities in the United States and around the world.

Fall Harvest Festival

Roper Mountain Science Center
Saturday November 13
9:00am-2:30pm

Join us for a day of family fun as the *Living History Farm* will be filled with artisans, musicians, and demonstrations of life from the 1800's.

www.ropermountain.org
864-355-8901



Parents –

Keep Your Contact Information Updated at Your Child's School

It is important that parents keep their contact information current at their child's school.

- Home and Mailing Addresses
- Home and Cell Phone Numbers
- Email Address

Parents should also note their primary language so that recorded messages are sent using either English or Spanish.

Parent contact information is used by principals and the District to notify parents about:

- Your Child's Attendance
- School Lunch Balance
- School Closures/Early Dismissals Due to Inclement Weather
- Share School Information



Calendar of Events

November

- Nov 8-12 Preschool Book Donation Drive
- Nov 9 NY Butcher Shop Restaurant Night
- Nov 11 Donuts For Dad - 4th & 5th grades
- Nov 16 Chic-fil-A Night
- Nov 22 Interim Progress Reports
- Nov 23 Grandparent's Day
- Nov 23 Stevie B's Night
- Nov 24-26 Thanksgiving Break—NO SCHOOL

December

- Dec 1-3 Salvation Army Toy Drive
- Dec 1 PTA Board Meeting
- Dec 6 PTA Meeting & Chorus Concert
- Dec 7 Formano's Restaurant Night
- Dec 8-10 Jingle Bell Toy Drop
- Dec 10 Class & Club Picture Day
- Dec 13 SIC Meeting
- Dec 14 Sabroso's Restaurant Night
- Dec 14-17 Elf Shelf
- Dec 20-31 Winter Break - NO SCHOOL



School Information

Oakview Elementary School PTA

- 515 Godfrey Road, Simpsonville, SC 29681
- (864) 355-7100 School main phone number
- (864) 355-7118 PTA phone number

Find State PTA information at: www.scpta.org

Find National PTA information at: www.pta.org

Principal:

Dr. Phillip Reavis

Assistant Principals:

- Mr. Stephen Deyo
- Mrs. Carrie Prochaska
- Mrs. Terri Wheeler-Hawkins

PTA President:

Renee Akey

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The Acorn can be found online at:

<http://www.greenville.k12.sc.us/oakview/parents/pta/acorn.asp>

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Oakview's Mission

The mission of Oakview Elementary School, in cooperation with the home and the community, is to prepare students for responsible citizenship, lifelong learning, and productive employment by:

- Opening opportunities for all students,
 - Accepting individual differences,
 - Keeping a smile on our faces,
 - Varying teaching techniques,
 - Identifying and addressing strengths/weaknesses, and
 - Engaging students in meaningful learning activities
- Working as a team.

School begins at 8:00am. All students arriving after 8:00am are considered tardy and must report to the Attendance Office. Students will not be admitted to class without a tardy pass.

