



Oakview Elementary School PTA

THE ACORN



Principal's Report Dr. Phillip Reavis, Principal



Welcome Back!

On behalf of the faculty and staff at Oakview Elementary School, I would like to welcome everyone to the 2011-2012 school year! In particular, I welcome our new families and trust you will soon discover that "school is cool" here at Oakview!

New Faculty & Staff Members

Please welcome the following new faculty and staff members to Oakview.

- Joann Timberlake – Preschool Special Education
- Tesha Foster – Preschool Special Education Assistant
- Kelly Reeves – Preschool Special Education Assistant
- Amanda Shaw – Kindergarten
- Heather Higgins – 1st
- Rachael Bromfield – 3rd
- Kaitlyn Huddas – 5th
- Sandy Young – Challenge (Gifted Education)
- Karen Owens – Media Center Clerk
- Kendra Raynor – Computer Lab Manager
- Anna Mikes – Nurse
- Sean Malia – Plant Engineer
- Marcus Harrison – Groundskeeper
- Christina Rentz – Custodial Services
- Henri Dominguez – Custodial Services

New Cafeteria Menu

I am excited to announce that Oakview was selected to take part in a new menu concept being implemented by GCS Food and Nutrition Services. On the menu this year will be **more fresh fruits and vegetables** and **fewer processed foods**. **Daily salad** choices and **soup** selections will be standard fare at the "Oakview Café and Market!" Families can access the menu on Oakview's web site each week.

As if the new menu was not enough to spice up lunch, significant changes have taken place at the serving line! Oakview's cafeteria staff took part in a 2 week training sponsored by Greenville Technical College's Culinary Arts Institute of the Carolinas. To liven up the kitchen, Oakview PTA contracted with a local artist to paint "farm to market" wall murals in the serving area. And finally, GCS Food and Nutrition Services installed improved lighting and plans are being made for the installation of a NEW serving line! You MUST join us for a meal one day! School lunch never tasted so good!!!

The Lazy Days of Summer?

While students were off for the summer, Oakview's faculty and staff were busy preparing for the year ahead. Faculty members read the book "Teaching with Love and Logic," by Jim Fay & David Funk. After reading each section of the book, teachers posted comments on a "virtual blackboard." From first year teachers to class-

room veterans, everyone has learned something new! Teachers also took part in the annual GCS "Summer Academy." Hundreds of workshops with topics ranging from technology to core curriculum were offered and Oakview's teachers were well represented!

The school campus was full of activity as well. In addition to our Summer Camps in June, Oakview sponsored the first annual "Footsteps to First Grade" program for four weeks in July and early August. Approximately 20 rising first grade students were selected for this 1st grade readiness program. Improvements were also made to the school facility this summer. New asphalt was installed from the 1st grade to 3rd grade wings, new wall murals were painted in the kitchen, and new lighting installed over the serving line. In the planning stages are a new serving line in the kitchen and a sorely needed new marquee for the front of the school. Special thanks are extended to Sean Malia, our new Plant Engineer, and the custodial services crew for their weeks of work in preparing the building for the opening of school.

It's All On Line!

Please access Oakview's web site to read the most current information related to school events. For your review, parents can find our school calendar, student handbook, GCS Student Behavior Code, forms for various programs, and updates on current events! The school calendar will be updated daily so check it frequently!

President's Report Kelle Corvin, PTA President



Oakview Is Where School Is Cool!

By President Kelle Corvin

Welcome back Oakview Elementary! Our theme this year is Oakview: Where School Is Cool!

We certainly have an exciting year ahead for parents and students alike! The beginning of school can be both exciting and stressful. We want to make sure everyone gets off to a great start. To this end, PTA has worked hard over the summer to make the many forms parents are asked to complete easy and as non-duplicative as possible. While these forms are distributed to parents at Meet the Teacher, many will be available online for parents to download.

There are so many ways that we as parents make a difference in our children's education.

Volunteering: Make sure that you take the opportunity to explore volunteer opportunities at Oakview both in the classroom and school-wide. It's our parents and corporate partner volunteers that make Oakview so

successful. Be sure to check out the PTA website link on the OES Website for details on once-a-year volunteer opportunities as we move through the school year!

PTA Membership and Participation: We have always maintained a 100% PTA membership at our school. We hope to keep it this way for this school year. To achieve 100% membership, it means that every student enrolled at Oakview has a parent registered as a member of PTA. So, for example, if you have two children, to achieve 100% membership, there should be one membership for each child. Also, be aware that parents are welcomed to attend our monthly board meetings in the cafetorium. This is a great way to see what opportunities are available for volunteering on a school-wide basis. These dates are posted on the school website under "Parents".

Friends of Oakview: While we encourage membership in PTA, we only keep a small portion of the \$5.00 membership fee locally. Friends of Oakview was set up to allow parents and businesses to make contribution to Oakview that directly benefits and stays at Oakview. Through Friends of Oakview, PTA is able to

provide many of the mini teacher scholarships and other supplies that directly benefit the classrooms and teachers at Oakview.

Fall Fundraiser: We will have the MK Fundraising packet available on the Meet the Teacher Day. Again, all proceeds from this fundraiser, directly benefit Oakview. Last year this was tremendously successful and we hope to continue this trend for this school year. Be sure to check out all of the new items available! Entertainment books will also be available as well as our new addition of Mixed Bag! These are fun, decorative gift or shopping bags that will make shopping fun again!

T-Shirt and Sweatshirt Sales: Tie dye is back this year! We think you'll really like this year's t-shirt in neon tie dye! We've added pre-order sales for your choice of zipper or pullover hoodie sweatshirts to go with the tie-dye t-shirt. This will be a royal blue. Also available will be two different car magnets – one is a small license plate magnet and the other is a 4.5" round magnet with the happy face logo from the t-shirts! See order form in Meet the Teacher packet.

Volunteers **Nicole Westmoreland and Mindy Kupec, Co-Chairs**

Welcome back to another exciting year of volunteering at Oakview Elementary **"Where School is Cool!"** Even if you have not been involved in the past, it is never too late to start! Volunteering is a great way to learn more about Oakview and meet other parents while helping out our school. We can benefit from any amount of your time, whether it is 15 minutes after morning carpool or a year-long commitment as a classroom *Room Coordinator*. Oakview has a volunteer opportunity for everyone!

How can you sign-up to be a volunteer at Oakview?

You will have many opportunities during the first few weeks of school to identify the volunteer opportunities that most interest you.

Look for the bright green **Volunteer Opportunities Form** that was included in the *Welcome Back* packet your child received at *Meet the Teacher*. It lists lots of ways you can get involved in and out of the classroom. Please take the time to fill in the items that interest you and *promptly* return to your child's teacher.

When you visit your child's classroom during Oakview's *Open House and Curriculum Night* on **Thursday, August 25**, you can sign-up for various classroom volunteer opportunities.

To learn more about the volunteering at our school, please join us at the *Volunteer Breakfast* on **Friday, August 26 at 9:00am** in the cafeteria. This is a great morning to catch up with friends, meet new ones, and learn more about how you can get involved at Oakview.

If you are interested in being a *Room Coordinator*, please indicate so on the *bright pink form* also included in the *Welcome Back* packet. *The Room Coordinator Breakfast* will be held **Tuesday, September 6, at 9:00am** in the cafeteria.

Introducing the *Volunteer Committee*:

Nicole Westmoreland (Volunteer Co-Chair)
nicolew1@charter.net

Mindy Kupec (Volunteer Co-Chair)
mindykupec@gmail.com

Jen Pestrak (Kindergarten GLC)
robertpestrak@bellsouth.net

Kimberly Masters (1st Grade GLC)
mastersf@bellsouth.net

Jennifer Cook (2nd Grade GLC)
billjennifer@bellsouth.net

Maggie Taylor (3rd Grade GLC)
wagtaylor@msn.com

Cyndi Jennings (4th Grade GLC)
cyndi.jennings@att.net

Kathy Reed (5th grade GLC)
kathyreed05@gmail.com

TBD (Related Arts Coordinator)

We look forward to volunteering with you.
Thank you!



Membership **Cindy Babatunde and Pam Harris, Co-Chairs**

Welcome back to the 2011-2012 school year. The PTA Membership and Friends of Oakview campaign will begin on August 15th and continue until September 16th.

Last year, we reached 100% membership in the first several days of school. Our goal is to have each child represented by a PTA member. The cost of a PTA membership is \$5.00 per member, with a portion going to the National and State PTA and a small portion staying at Oakview. For the first time in over five years the PTA membership dues are increasing as a result of the National PTA raising dues as well.

Help your child's classroom by sending in your Membership form as soon as possible. All students will be receiving a coupon for Chick-Fil-A for joining the PTA. Also, the first class in each grade

to receive 100% membership will receive a frozen yogurt party at lunch!

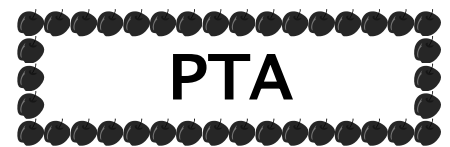
When you give to the Friends of Oakview, 100% of this money stays at Oakview and is spent on specific needs in the current school year. In the past this money has gone toward the security system, playground equipment, Fossil Fun Days, mini grants for teachers and various other items that directly impact our children. Last year, over \$11,000 was raised and this year let's raise even more money for our kids. This year, all money raised will go towards classroom technology upgrades and related accessories, as well as, supporting the Healthy School Initiative.

Individuals, families or businesses with a cumulative donation of \$50 or more for the current school year will be listed in Oakview's monthly newsletter,

The Acorn, and on the Wall of Friends in the Oakview lobby. Remember your donation to The Friends of Oakview fund is tax deductible. Also, your employer may have a matching gifts program that will match your donation.

Thank you again for your generous support and participation!

If you have questions about PTA Membership or the Friends of Oakview program please feel free to contact us. Pam Harris (234-5755) or Cindy Babatunde (288-8065)



Programs **Michelle Rumple, Chair**

Welcome to a brand new school year! Hope everyone had a great summer. We are excited about the many programs being offered for the 2011-2012 school year. Oakview Elementary has been part of our community for 16 years! We are very proud of our award-winning school and the programs that make our school a great place for our

students to learn and grow. Over the next few months more details will be provided for our upcoming programs. Breakfast For Dads, Reflections, Preschool Book Donations, Jingle Bell Drop, Culture Fest, and Fifth Grade Day. We welcome our new families and students and encourage you to volunteer and participate in many of our

school's activities. It is a great way to get to know our teachers, faculty, staff and other parents. Please mark your calendars for August 25th and plan to meet your child's teacher on curriculum night and attend the PTA general meeting from 6:30-7:00 p.m.

Welcome to the new school year! We hope you will enjoy contributing to and participating in many of the fundraisers here this year. We want to thank all our Oakview families in advance for all that you do to make our school a success! We could not do it without you!

MINK AND COMPANY

This fantastic catalog came home with you at Meet the Teacher. You will also find an additional catalog called Mixed Bag. This is a special addition we have been able to pass on to you this year. We hope you love it as much as we do! The deadline for both catalogs is Friday September 9, 2011. Please keep both checks and order forms separate. If you have any questions, please contact:
Kim McGrath 615-456-4455
Kim Cotty 234-0622

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS

Entertainment Books will be sold again this year. You will have brought one home from Meet The Teacher. Please look through it; there are many, many pages of savings. The deadline for this fundraiser is Friday September 9, 2011. Please get your orders in as soon as possible.
Kendall Hunter 676-9298

SPIRIT WEAR

Our T-shirts this year are very cool. They are Tie-dye and smiley faces – “Where School is Cool”! Don't forget to order yours! Sweat Shirt Pre-orders will also be taken. The solid blue sweat shirts will be offered in a zipper front or a pullover, so take your pick!
Cynthia Jennings 234-9848
Aimee Lonergan 676-0609

HOOTENANNY

The Hootenanny is our favorite event of the season! This event is loved by all our children and run completely by volunteers. This is our Fall Festival filled with rides, food, and fun. If you would like to help out in any way please contact our Committee Chairs.
Brianna Shaw (419)-343-610
Jean Scott 236-5587

BINGO NIGHT

Bingo Night will be bigger and better this year. We are combining the 3 previous Bingo Nights into 1 Big Bingo Night at the Hootenanny. Come to the Hootenanny and look for a great time at Bingo!
Denise Gruidl 236-5156
Lorian Norris 297-5331
Stephanie Sobke 329-0740



ELF SHELF

Elf Shelf is a great fundraiser for our children to buy holiday gifts for their family members. If you would like to help make this day special any way you can, please contact our Co-Chairs.
Jill Murphy 329-1729
Amy Barresi 213-9614
Lisa Frazier 281-0499

BOOSTERTHON

The PTA has contracted with Boostertthon to host a fitness Run/Walk at Oakview this coming spring. More information will be available in January, so please don't forget to read your Acorn for dates and further details!
Trish Kolarik 552-1035

RESTAURANT NIGHTS

Don't forget to check the dates for Restaurant Nights. We will have Chick-fil-a and other local favorites.
Marianne Flythe 234-5547
Maggie Taylor 286-8351

Restaurant Nights Are Back Better Than Ever! 2011-2012

This year we are excited to announce we have some new restaurants for our Restaurant Night fundraiser. **Brixx, Sticky Fingers and Sabrosos** will be joining our team! Back by popular demand is **Chick-fil-A**.

Twice a month, give yourself a break from cooking on those hectic school nights and help raise money for our

school at the same time. The restaurants will donate a percentage of our sales that night back to Oakview (be sure to let them know you are from Oakview). **Brixx**, on their day, will donate \$3 per pizza sold to us during lunch and dinner! What a great and easy way to help our school while at the same time enjoying good food with friends and family. Be on the lookout for flyers or stickers coming home with your children with the restaurant night information.

Below are the restaurants participating:

- **Chick-fil-A on Woodruff Road only**
- **Brixx in The Shops at Greenridge on Woodruff Road**
- **Sticky Fingers on Woodruff Road only**
- **Sabrosos on Woodruff Road**

Legislative Updates *Karen Akerhielm, Chair*

Over the course of the 2011-12 year, the Oakview PTA Legislative Committee will:

- present information to Oakview families, teachers and staff on local, state and federal education issues that affect Oakview Elementary School;
- keep the Oakview community informed about the budget and funding challenges facing our schools; and,
- provide overviews of the education policies of our elected officials, and host forums with our representatives.

If you would like to serve on the Committee, please contact me at Karenmti@aol.com

New Families *Julie Gilpin and Leslie Featherstone, Co-Chairs*

You're Invited!

Welcome to all new families at Oakview! If this is your family's first year at Oakview, please come to a **New Families Q & A** with our principal, Dr. Reavis, on **Friday, August 26** immediately following the Volunteer Breakfast. **The New Families Q & A** will be in Oakview's Media Center. You will be able to ask those burning questions and get straight answers about Oakview. We want your transition to Oakview to be the start of a great year.

Hootenanny Fall Festival *Cherie Bennett and Jean Scott, Co-chairs*

SAVE THE DATE
**2011 HOOTENANNY
FALL FESTIVAL
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4TH,
4:30pm – 9:00pm**

The favorite event and largest fundraiser of the school year is the Family Festival which includes rides, games, cake walk, Bingo, and much more!

PLEASE VOLUNTEER ONE HOUR AND DO-

NATE ONE ITEM to help make this event a success! Look for Volunteer & Donation sign-up sheets in your child's classroom during **Open House, Thursday, Aug. 25th**.

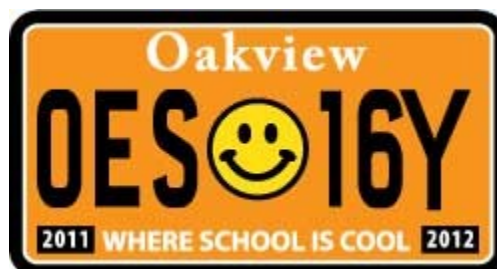
COLLECTION BOXES will be on the stage in the cafeteria beginning **Sept. 19th**. If you would like to turn in your donation earlier, please put in the HOOTENANNY box in the PTA room.

Volunteer Work Days.... Thursday & Friday, Oct. 19 & 20, 8:00 AM-10:00 AM

Please come to the cafeteria to help with prep work if you can!

Would you like to be a part of this great event?

Please email Brianna_shaw@yahoo.com.



Open House and Curriculum Night

Please come join us for our annual
Open House and Curriculum Night
Thursday, August 26

Open House 5:30p.m.-6:15p.m.

PTA Meeting 6:30p.m.-7:00p.m.

Open House 7:15p.m. -8:00 p.m.

Teachers will have two Open House sessions.
Parents are welcome to attend either session.

Calendar of Events

School Information

August

- August 17 First Day of School
- August 18 PTA Board Meeting -
9:00am
- August 25 Open House &
PTA General Meeting
5:30—8:00pm
- August 26 Volunteer Breakfast -
9:00am
- August 31 PTA Meeting —
9:00am

September

- Sept 5 No School - Labor Day
- Sept 6 Room Coordinator
Breakfast - 9:00am
- Sept 9 MK Fundraiser Ends /
Entertainment Books
Fundraiser Ends
- Sept 12 Brixx Night
- Sept 16 Progress Reports
- Sept 20 Chic-fil-A Night
- Sept 22 Breakfast with Dads- K
and First - 7:15am
- Sept 23 SEEDS Training

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:

Carrie Prochaska
Terri Wheeler-Hawkins

PTA President:

Kelle Corvin

Newsletter Editor:

Tate Nicolini, tatenicolini@yahoo.com

The Acorn can be found online at:

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

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Next issue publication: **October 11, 2011**

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.

