



Oakview Elementary School PTA THE ACORN



Principal's Report

Dr. Phillip Reavis, Principal



First Ever Health & Wellness Night!

January 26, 2012

5:00-7:00 p.m.



Oakview Elementary School

Come one, come all! Exercise your knowledge and have a ball! It's Oakview's

first ever Health and Wellness Night!

This fun and informative event will take place on Thursday, January 26th from 5-7 pm! The Health and Wellness Committee has been hard at work organizing an event that will include all members of your family. There will be plenty of

things to do! Zumba, Boot Camp, Jazzercise, Pilates, nutrition presentations, trivia games, blood pressure and cholesterol checks, a **Blood Connection** blood drive, and food samples from our own cafeteria will all be offered at the Health and Wellness Night.

Join us for an energy-filled experience at our first ever Health and Wellness Night on January 26, from 5:00-7:00! It promises to be a fun family event!

Oakview Teacher Recognized

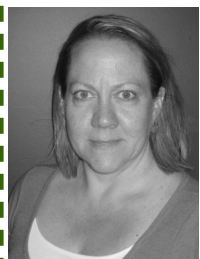
Congratulations to Samantha Meyers, 4th grade teacher, on being recognized in RBC Bank's "Tribute to Teachers" program. Samantha was

selected from 2,200 nominations state-wide for her service to the students, school, and community. She received a check for classroom use in the amount of \$500 and will now be considered for a \$2,000 award in the spring.



President's Report

Kelle Corvin, PTA President



New Year's Resolutions for PTA

I hope everyone had a great holiday season and that your new year is off to a great start!

As we start a new calendar year, we are reminded that we are half-way through the school year. A lot has happened at Oakview and many activities are still planned for the spring of 2012! I encourage all of you to resolve to find the best way for you personally to volunteer at Oakview. Just a few of the volunteer opportunities outside the classroom that are available this spring include the

spring book fair, the cultural festival, and our first annual Boosterthon. Information on all of these events are in this issue of the Acorn and are posted on the website.

PTA is an all volunteer organization. If you have considered becoming more involved in PTA board positions or committees, please take some time to review the duties of the various board and committee positions and seriously consider serving next school year. Many of the current committee chairs and officers would be happy to discuss what they do and help you determine if it's a great "fit" for you. PTA thrives and improves with diverse members and diverse board members. If you have any specific

questions regarding service on the board, please don't hesitate to contact me or another board member. The nominating committee is getting ready to start its work and needs your help. If you'd like to serve on the Nominating committee or if you are interested in being considered for a board or committee position, please contact Nicole Westmoreland. PTA works because of involved parents like you!



Volunteers

Mindy Kupec and Nicole Westmoreland, Co-Chairs

I can no other answer make, but, thanks, and thanks. **William Shakespeare**

Welcome back! It's a New Year and time to get back into the volunteer mode. We hope everyone had a fantastic break and were able to spend some relaxing time with friends and family. It's hard to believe the school year is half over!

Because of your volunteer efforts so far this year:

- Children who have difficulty reading are getting the extra reading help they need
- Our teachers are getting a much needed break at lunch
- A child was able to purchase something for a special person at the Elf Shelf

- Books and toys were collected for needy children
- Hootenanny and all of our fundraisers were a HUGE success!

Because of YOU we have accomplished these things and so much more!

Soon our Nominating Committee will be chosen and they will be notifying parents about volunteer opportunities for the 2012-2013 school year. You would be amazed at the number of volunteers that work to benefit our children. Be on the lookout for PTA Board Job Descriptions posted on our website, to give you a better idea about specific committees/positions. You may surprise yourself and find a committee that could benefit from your

involvement! Please consider being a part of the PTA Board at Oakview and share in making a difference in our school.

Please feel free to contact Nicole Westmoreland nicolew1@charter.net or Mindy Kupec at mindykupec@gmail.com if you have any questions about volunteer opportunities.

Thank you for making "school cool" at Oakview!



Box Tops

Christi Yenser and Danielle Colby, Co-Chairs

The **Box Tops Bonanza** is just around the corner in February, but please send your *Box Tops* in now. Any *Box Tops* you submit now will be counted towards your child's classroom totals for the big bonanza. Please be sure to put your *Box Tops* in a **sealed bag or envelope with your teacher's name** as well as your child's name on the outside. We have received several open bags (which

result in loose *Box Tops* mixed in with all the others) and many bags with no teacher listed. The contest gets very close – every *Box Top* counts. So, please make sure your child's class gets the credit they deserve.

More details about the **Box Tops Bonanza** will be sent home in February. Until then, keep on clipping! Encourage

grandparents, other family members, and friends to get involved, too. If they have the product in their house, they usually don't mind cutting out the *Box Top* if it helps the school.



Fifth Grade Day

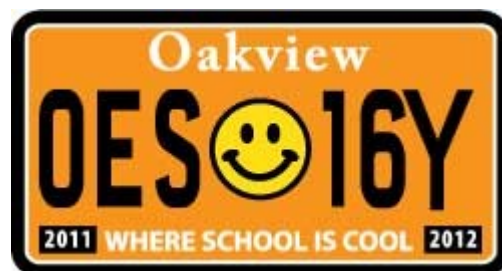
Nancy Kelley, Chair

The 2012 5th Grade Day is scheduled for Friday, May 25. Though it is still months away, it is definitely not too early to start planning for this big event. If you would like to be on one of the commit-

tees, please contact me (nancy.kelley@rocketmail.com).

The 4 committees we have are Games, Food, Decorations and Gifts. Committee

meetings will start soon so please join a committee to help make 5th Grade day a great event for all our Oakview 5th graders!



Congratulations to the following winners for the SE Council and the District competition.

The winners for the SE Council are:

Primary Literature

1st Place: Nandita Bhat

Intermediate Literature

3rd Place: Madhav Bhat

Intermediate Music

HM: Shashank Comandur

Primary Photography:

2nd Place: Clayton Bloomstran

Intermediate Photography:

1st Place: Miranda Felt

Intermediate Dance:

3rd Place: Faith Bloomstran

Intermediate Film:

1st Place: Manasvini Ranganathan

1st Place winners for the SE Council will advance to the state competition.

Winners for the District are:

Primary Literature:

HM: Nandita Bhat

Intermediate Photography:

3rd Place:

Miranda Felt



Business Partners

Trish Kolarik, Chair



Save the Date! Boosterthon Fun Run April 19th!

We are so excited to present a new character and education program this year at Oakview. The team from Boosterthon is coming to Oakview to motivate kids to work together and exercise as we raise money for Oakview. This year's theme is Epic Adventure. The run will take place on April 19th during school. Members of

the Boosterthon team will be available at the Health and Wellness Fair on January 26th and more information will be coming to you soon!

If you would like to help volunteer with this great new event please contact Trish Kolarik at trish@kolarik.org or LeeAnne Weeks at lweeks@compoundgroup.com.



**Student Council Food Drive:
February 27 - March 2, 2012**



State Legislature Working on Public Education Issues

The South Carolina state legislature started its 2012 session on January 10 and will conclude the first week in June. As during every session of the legislature, issues and funding impacting our public schools will be decided.

The legislature will be determining the amount of state public education funding for the coming school year. Since the state provides about 60% of the funding to operate our schools, what they decide matters a great deal to our school district. It directly impacts their ability to lower class sizes, support the full range of academic and extra-curricular programs parents expect and provide pay raises for teachers and school administrators.

During this session, the legislature is also expected to work on other legislation affecting our schools. This includes deciding whether to allow charter school students to participate in sports and other extra-curricular activities at the public schools they are zoned to attend. They will also likely make changes to the state retirement system which is underfunded. All school employees participate in the state retirement system and will be impacted by legislation passed on this issue.

Tuition tax credit/school voucher legislation has been introduced in the legislature five out of the last six years. In every instance it has been defeated. However, it's very possible that another form of this legislation will be introduced in this session of the legislature. This type of legisla-

tion would provide state financial support for children to attend private schools and for home schooling.

For more information on these and other issues impacting our public schools, go to www.pepgc.org and click on "Public Policy."

Did you Know?

The primary way the state funds our public schools is by funding the "base student cost." The base student cost is a per pupil amount based on a 1977 definition of what it costs to provide an adequate education for South Carolina students. The legislature has fully funded the base student cost in only 8 of the law's 36 years and in only 3 of the last 10 years.

Source: South Carolina Budget and Control Board

Calendar of Events

January

- Jan 18-20 Pre-Registration K-5
- Jan 19 Report Cards
- Jan 20 Class Pictures
- Jan 23-27 Real Men Read
- Jan 24 Chic-fil-A Night
- Jan 26 Health and Wellness Night
- Jan 27 Spirit Day
- Jan 27 Beck Academy Band Performance

February

- Feb 1 PTA Board Meeting
- Feb 6 Final Barrier Island Chaperone Meeting
- Feb 7 Sabrosos Restaurant Night
- Feb 8 Student Council Meeting
- Feb 10 Bus Evacuation Drill
- Feb 13-17 Barrier Island Trip — 5th grade
- Feb 13 SIC Meeting
- Feb 15 Interim Progress Reports
- Feb 20 President's Day - NO SCHOOL
- Feb 21 Chick-Fil-A Night
- Feb 22 Spring Picture Day
- Feb 23-24 SC Play - 3rd grade
- Feb 23-25 Oakview Drama Production
- Feb 24 Spirit Day
- Feb 27-28 Book Fair

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:
Mrs. Carrie Prochaska
Mrs. 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>

Next issue copy deadline: **March 1, 2012**
Next issue publication: **March 8, 2012**

School Information

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.

