



# Oakview Elementary School PTA

## THE ACORN



### Principal's Report

Dr. Phillip Reavis, Principal



#### **Oakview Ranked 5th in the World!**

Oakview Elementary is ranked third in the world in a contest to win a free school visit from bestselling author and illustrator Jan Brett. Parents, teachers, librarians, friends, and supporters can vote for Oakview by completing a contest entry form on Jan Brett's Facebook page. Oakview hopes to win her one school visit in the 2012/2013 school year. Anyone over the age of 18 may enter; they do not need to have an affiliation with the school or library for which they are entering. Entries must be submitted no later than April 9, 2012.

This is the second year for the contest. Last year, Woodland Primary in Grand Falls-Windsor, Newfoundland won out over 5,700 other schools. To enter and to see complete contest rules, please visit [Jan's Facebook page](#) and click the "contest entry form" icon.

**To vote for Oakview you will need to enter in the school name and Simpsonville, SC 29681 in the contest entry form fields.** If you have questions concerning this tremen-

dous opportunity, please contact Beth Mitchell, Media Specialist, at [emitch-el@greenville.k12.sc.us](mailto:emitch-el@greenville.k12.sc.us) or call her at 355-7105.

#### **Lego Robotics Team Places at State!**

Congratulations to Oakview Elementary School's Lego Robotics Team for their 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Award for Innovative Solution as part of the South Carolina FLL robotics tournament! With two previous state championships in Lego robotics, Oakview was excited to field a team after taking a short break from competition for a couple of years.

#### Team Members

Efe Dostal  
Lawson Greene  
Preston O'Quinn  
Nipun Chhajed  
Max Shiverdecker  
Angelo Villamizar  
Will Mosher  
Sahas Ramanandan

Carle Raynes

Nikolas Szymczyk

Chris Szymczyk – Coach

Val Mosher – Coach

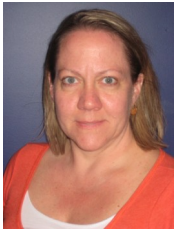
#### **Peter Pan – "An Awfully Big Adventure!"**

Congratulations to the 70+ students who were cast in the first ever Oakview dramatic production of Peter Pan on February 23-25 at Mauldin High School. After selling nearly 1,900 tickets for three sold out shows, the energy was high on campus! Parents, family members, students, and community members were amazed at the caliber of the show as the cast and crew produced what was easily described as magical! Many folks left the auditorium saying that this was not a typical elementary school play and rivaled most high school productions!

Many thanks go to Sandy Young, Oakview Challenge teacher and Director of the show, for her leadership. She and her crew of volunteers worked countless hours staging what hopes to be an annual event in the life of our school!

### President's Report

Kelle Corvin, PTA President



Wow! Happy Spring! Can you believe it's March already! What happened to January and February? The third quarter ends in just a couple of weeks and Spring Break is right around the corner! 5<sup>th</sup> grade day and Field Days will

be here before we know it. This rapid timeline means that we need to be thinking about the wrap up to this year and looking forward to the next school year. Please be aware that the school district has posted the approved calendar for next year and it is available for parents to see on the main Greenville County School District website.

Don't forget this year just yet! So many exciting things are left for this school year! Our spirit nights have been a fantastic success! Thank you

Chris Rodriguez and Marianne Flythe for making this happen! Our Healthy School initiative has had a successful first year and, yes, we have pizza back on Fridays!

Still to come is the Boosterthon! We are counting on another successful event with this which means that we can enhance the technology and classroom environment even more at Oakview! Already, PTA has assisted in the purchase of Leveled Readers for K-2<sup>nd</sup> grades. These are available for any parent to see in the Media Center. This was very popular among the teachers and they are so grateful to PTA for us being able to fund this valuable resource! By purchasing the set, we also received training for the teachers to implement into their curriculum. This is truly exciting and will be a huge help to teachers as they plan for next school year! It means our students will continue to be some of the most pre-

pared students in the District and will give them a real edge heading into 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and beyond.

Technology is still a huge priority at Oakview. We are scheduled for a technology refresh from the district, but PTA will be assisting in filling in the "gaps" that will be inevitable. We hope the Boosterthon will provide the anticipated funds. We are hoping to average \$70 per student in pledges for this April Event. If that happens, we will meet our budget goals for this event and be able to enhance the leveled readers and enhance technology even more.

I can't emphasize enough that it is our volunteers and the hours that you are willing to commit to Oakview that really make the difference at our school. The time you spend assisting teachers with all tasks from paper cutting to tutoring are so critical to the success of our school. (Continued on Page 3)

## Volunteers

Mindy Kupec and Nicole Westmoreland, Co-Chairs

Thank you to our amazing parents, grandparents and friends that have volunteered countless hours at our school. We could not possibly offer, coordinate nor fund the many different endeavors of the PTA without your support.

Please continue to record your home volunteer hours and submit them to Mindy Kupec in the PTA office or email her at [mindykupec@gmail.com](mailto:mindykupec@gmail.com). Each and every hour counts. It's never too late to volunteer.



Upcoming schoolwide events also offer ways for you to get involved in your child's school. We encourage your help at Culture Fest and Science Fair in March, the Boosterthon in April, the Grounds Beautification Work Day in the Spring, and the Field Days in June. We have a fantastic week planned for Teacher Appreciation Week starting April 30<sup>th</sup>.

What have volunteers done for Oakview's students in the last 30 days?

Helped them find that perfect book at the Spring Book Fair

Baked treats for their Valentine's parties

Clipped Box Top Labels

Taught SEEDS

Ate lunch with their children

Most importantly, made a child smile



Thank you to the Nominating Committee who is spending countless hours finding leaders to help run our fantastic school next year.

**Most of all,  
thank you for  
volunteering!**

## Legislative Updates

Karen Akerhielm, Chair

A new tuition tax credit bill H.4894 was introduced in the House on February 23rd. The bill is a revised version of the previous bill that would include both tax deductions and tax credits for contributions to a "scholarship" organization. The three types of tax deductions would be \$4,000 per private school student; \$2,000 per home-schooled student; and \$1,000 per out-of-district public school student. There would be no limit on family income for receiving these tax deductions. High-income families would receive the same tax deduction as low-income families. According to the bill, all of the three deduction amounts will increase every year by the percentage increase in inflation plus the percentage increase in state

population, regardless of the percentage increase or decrease in state funding for public education.

The estimated revenue reduction for the first year is \$36.7 million. The S.C. Board of Economic Advisors did not calculate the reduction for future years, but it is expected to increase each year. This means lower state revenues each year of at least \$36.7 million. As reported by *The Greenville News* on February 29th, the Greenville County School Board has sent a letter to the county's legislative delegation to express opposition to this bill. The letter says the bill would cost \$36 million annually in lost revenues to the state,

much of which would come at the expense of public education.

If you have an opinion on this legislation, contact your state legislators!



Way to go Oakview Owls!!! We collected a total of **7,515** canned and boxed food items during our annual food drive. Mr. Gambrell's class won the K-5-2nd grade contest collecting 161 items. Mrs. Shuler's 5th grade class won the contest for 3rd-5th grade contest collecting 545 items. Each class will receive a special treat at lunch. Student Council appreciates everyone who gave a "Hoot" to help those in need!!!

## Box Tops

Danielle Colby and Christi Yenser, Co-Chairs

The Box Tops Bonanza was a huge success!

Congratulations to the following classes who collected the most Box Tops:

1. Mrs. Gray - 3<sup>rd</sup> grade - 1076
2. Mrs. Bell - 4<sup>th</sup> grade - 945
3. Mrs. Bray - 1<sup>st</sup> grade - 877

4. Ms. Shaw – Kindergarten - 798  
Mrs. Wiltberger - 3<sup>rd</sup> grade - 764

Each class will celebrate with a special treat of their choice.

The Box Tops Bonanza brought in over 18,500 Box Tops. As a result, Oakview will receive a check for approximately \$1,850. We couldn't do it without each of you - thank you for your continued sup-

port of this worthwhile program!

Also, we would like to say a huge **thank you** to those who gave their time helping clip, count, and bag all those Box Tops. They are: **Jodi Cloer, Patti Funderburk, Bridget Helmer, and Andy Yenser.**



## President's Report

Kelle Corvin, PTA President

(Continued from page 1) The funds that many of you provide are so important and enable us to do the really cool stuff like leveled readers, technology enhancements, better playgrounds, and even more!

Right now, our nominating committee is working to build an amazing team for PTA for next year. There are still many slots open for anyone that is interested in assuming a more active role in our PTA. Please consider reviewing the job descriptions on the PTA site on the school website. If one speaks to you, please let someone know on the nominating committee. We need enthusiastic parents willing to bring new ideas to the PTA. We encourage all of you to consider.

As always, our board meetings are open to all who wish to attend. We meet the first Wednesday of each month (April will be the second Wednesday due to Spring Break) and our next General PTA meeting will be held in May. Our 2012-13 officers will be elected at that meeting. Hope to see you all there!

## Programs

Michelle Rumple, Coordinator

It is hard to believe that we are in our last quarter of the 2011-2012 school year. I want to give a big thank you for all the volunteers that have served on the programs committee this year. Without your involvement and hard work our programs would not have been such a success!

With three months remaining in this school year, we will have more programs for our students to enjoy and learn from. Look for information coming home soon with your child for Culture Fest on March 30th, Boosterthon's Epic Adventure in April, and a special fifth grade Day on

May 25th for our fifth grade students. I hope everyone enjoyed Oakview's Family Fitness night in February! A great time was had by all, and students enjoyed the Zumba, Jazzercise, and Pilates Classes. A huge thanks to Ms. Jennifer Miller and crew for organizing this fun event!

## Boosterthon Fun Run

LeeAnn Weeks, Boosterthon Chair

Our spring fundraising and character building event, "Boosterthon Fun Run" is on the horizon! The Boosterthon team will kick things off with the kids during a pep rally on Tuesday April 10th, right as we return from Spring Break. Then the big fun run event will be held during school hours on Thursday April 19th. It's going to be a great event and we look forward to reinforcing our healthy school initiative and having lots of FUN. If you have questions or would like to volunteer, contact Trish Kolarik, Business Partners Chair ([trish@kolarik.org](mailto:trish@kolarik.org)) or LeeAnne Weeks, Boosterthon Chair ([lweeks@compoundgroup.org](mailto:lweeks@compoundgroup.org)).



# Nominating Committee

Mary Falcon, Chair

## PTA Involvement.....Which piece of the puzzle are you?

Participating as an Executive Officer or chairing a committee or sub-committee is one the best ways to have a major positive impact on the Oakview community.

Have you ever wondered how to get involved with the PTA but aren't sure exactly how?

**If you are interested in representing the voice and vision of the parents of Oakview, the PTA of Oakview Elementary needs you!**

### Get Involved!

Review position descriptions posted on the Oakview website PTA webpage: <http://www.greenville.k12.sc.us/oakview/parents/pta/index.asp>

Contact a Nominating Committee member you know or that has a child in your same grade

by **March 15, 2012** to express your interest or learn more.

If you are interested in a position, the Nominating Committee will add your name to the potential candidates list.

### Lots of opportunity to help!

The 2012-2013 Nominating Committee is currently working to fill the roughly eighty positions that make up the Oakview PTA Board of Officers and Committee Chairs that represent our 1,250 students and the school at large. We thank those of you that have already expressed an interest or have agreed to stay in your current position for another year. Once the nomination and approval process is complete, the Nominating Committee will inform all approved nominees.

**Many positions remain open, so now is an excellent time to reach out!**

## Contact Your Nominating Committee Representative Today!

This year's Nominating Committee is comprised of 5 members representing multiple grade levels and local neighborhoods in the Oakview community.

Kim Botzo (3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, Kingsbridge), [kabotzo@gmail.com](mailto:kabotzo@gmail.com)

Mary Falcon (K and 2<sup>nd</sup>, Claremont), [mhfalcon@verizon.net](mailto:mhfalcon@verizon.net)

Trish Kolarik (1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>, Asheton Springs), [Tricha.kolarik@gmail.com](mailto:Tricha.kolarik@gmail.com)

Chris Rodriguez (2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, Stonebrook Farm), [hutzrod@me.com](mailto:hutzrod@me.com)

Christi Yesner (1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>, Orchard Farms), [acyenser@bellsouth.net](mailto:acyenser@bellsouth.net)

## Reminder: Student Holidays

**Friday, March 9th and Monday, March 12th, 2012. (These were snow make up days that were not used).**

## Calendar of Events

### **March**

Mar 7 PTA Meeting 9:00AM  
Mar 9 No School, Make-up Day  
Mar 12 No School, Make-up Day  
Mar 13 Science Fair  
Mar 14 Scient Fair Night (5-7pm)  
Mar 17 Garden Work Day (8:30-11:30am)  
Mar 19 SIC Meeting  
Mar 20 Chic-fil-A Night  
Mar 20-21 PASS Writing Test (5th Grade)  
Mar 27 3rd Report Card  
Mar 29 Spring Treat  
Mar 30 Culture Fest  
Mar 30 Spirit Day

### **April**

Apr 2-6 Spring Break  
Apr 9 Snow Make Up Day (No School if not used)  
Apr 10-19 Boosterthon Fun Run  
Apr 16 SIC Meeting  
Apr 11 PTA Meeting  
Apr 17 Chick Fil-A Night  
Apr 18 Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast  
Apr 19 Boosterthon  
Apr 24 Formano's Night  
Apr 25 PTA Mtg / Book Swap

### **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](http://www.scpta.org)

Find National PTA information at: [www.pta.org](http://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](mailto: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: **April 26, 2012**

Next issue publication: **May 3, 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.

