



# Oakview Elementary School PTA

## THE ACORN



### Principal's Report

Dr. Phillip Reavis, Principal



#### Support for Oakview Continues!

With school now open and things settling into a routine, I wanted to take this time to thank PTA, volunteers, community members, and business partners who do so much to support the school. From fundraising to breakfast with dads, Oakview PTA continues to set the standard for others to follow. We are fortunate to be part of a school with such an involved PTA and one that is solely focused on supporting students. Thank you PTA!

#### Health & Wellness

In addition to high academic standards and excellent ratings on school report cards, Oakview has committed itself to student health and wellness. Here are a few examples of the programs and services offered at the school.

C.A.T.C.H. (Coordinated Approach To Children's Health)

Healthy school menus in the kitchen

Filtered water dispensers in the cafeteria

Daily fitness walks

Morning exercise for all students

Clubs and other student opportunities focused on physical activity

Weekly Physical Education classes

Daily recess

Fitness related Artist In Residence

Jump Rope for Heart

Thank you as families for your support of our efforts as we partner to promote a healthy lifestyle for the children we serve.

#### Parent Report Card

As a parent, how would you grade yourself on a home environment supportive of learning, setting high expectations for your children, communication with the school, and overall support for the school and its programs? Well now's your chance to find out! Posted on Oakview's web site is the Oakview Elementary Parent Report Card. It can be found at <http://www.greenville.k12.sc.us/oakview/parents/parrcd10.pdf>. The School Improvement Council created this report card to provide parents an opportunity to reflect on their role in the education of their children. If you are feeling brave, have your child grade you! SIC hopes that all parents will feel affirmed about the great job they do and will also lean in to areas where they can improve. Have fun!

#### School Is Still the Safest Place to Be

Even with national headlines about tragedies occurring on school campuses, the data is clear that ***schools are still the safest place for children*** during the day. At Oakview, we take seriously our obligation to provide a safe school environment for the children and adults on campus. A few components of the school's safety measures include:

16 surveillance cameras and DVR system

Key pad door locks on all exterior doors

Visitor and volunteer computer check in system

Volunteer background checks against the national sex offender registry

A comprehensive school safety plan

Regular drills for fire, lock down, earthquake, tornado, etc.

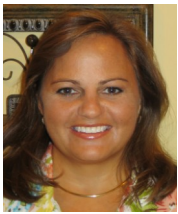
Digital radios (walkie-talkies) used daily on campus

School phone message system to alert families

This short list does not include other school safety initiatives in place to address internet use, bullying, and other student related matters. However, it does provide examples of our ongoing effort to promote safety. Thank you for your support as we partner in this effort.

QR Code — Folks with Smartphones will be led directly to Oakview Elementary School's Website!





The cooler air around us is bringing my favorite time of year....Fall. I love the crispness of the air, the vivid colors of the leaves and the sound of the school bus in the neighborhood. Summer is great, but there is something wonderful about the Fall for everyone. I would like to start off by thanking everyone that has made the start of this year fantastic. There truly are too many to thank. The volunteers at this school are what make it such a wonderful place to be.

Thank you to the Breakfast for Dads committee who brought our first ever HOT breakfast to serve. I could tell by the look on both the Dads' and the chil-

dren's faces that it was a special morning for each and every one of them. Our next Breakfast for Dads will be on Thursday, October 25 at 7:15am for our First graders.

No one could ever forget our Fall Festival-- The Hootenanny. The Hootenanny is going to be Friday, November 2nd. I know my family looks forward to this FUN tradition every year. The carnival rides, the popcorn, Bingo and we can't forget Angry Birds-- they will all be here waiting to fill your night with fun. If you haven't had a chance to do so, please sign up to Volunteer through our PTA website at [www.oakviewpta.com](http://www.oakviewpta.com). If everyone can give a little bit of time, we all can enjoy with our families.

I cannot finish without saying a big thank you to Tricia Kolarik and LeeAnne Weeks. For the second year in a row, they have chaired our newest fundraiser --the Boosterthon. This year we had a larger number of parents come and share an absolutely fabulous day. The kids loved it. The teachers loved it. I loved it! The energy and smiles were infectious.

Please remember that you can email me at [mindykupec@gmail.com](mailto:mindykupec@gmail.com) any time you have any questions or just wish to add your point of view. If I had an office, I would say my door is always open. Have a wonderful Fall and enjoy the Hootenanny!!



## **Preschool Books Donation Drive**

**GOT BOOKS?** We will be having a preschool book donation drive the week of November 5 - 9 to benefit Ready 4 Reading and the Golden Strip Early Childhood Center. Your donations of gently used preschool age books will help guide parents and caregivers of preschool children to create a love of reading. Our goal is to collect at least 1,500 books. Please donate your books and let's make a difference in our community!

Questions?? Pam Harris, [sdpbharris@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sdpbharris@sbcglobal.net) or 234-5755

## **Breakfast with Dad!!!!**

October 25 at 7:15am for 1st grade

November 29 at 7:15am 2nd grade

## Membership

Leslie Ferrell and Marianne Flythe, Co-Chairs

We would like to thank everyone who bought a PTA Membership this year. We had a very successful campaign by reaching our 100% membership goal. The students had fun competing for a TCBY yogurt party and extra recess time. All PTA membership

cards have been issued. Please let us know if you haven't received yours. Also, don't forget to go online to register your card so that you can receive the PTA perks. Thanks again for supporting Oakview PTA.



## Boosterthon Fun Run

Trish Kolarik and LeeAnne Weeks, Co chairs



### Boosterthon Fun Run A HUGE Success!

Thank you to the entire Oakview community for making our largest fundraiser of the year a tremendous success. Parents, teachers, children and the entire Oakview community came together to learn about making good choices and raised money to fund many programs and items that help to make Oakview the amazing school that it is.

We would like to share some positive messages we received from Oakview Families:

"Once again....what a great job...your efforts to raise that much money for the school is much appreciated." – mom of a second grader.

"Terrific! I've proudly shared with others the fund-raising concept and all thought it was such a great idea and so much better than selling stuff door-to-door, etc." – a grandfather of two Oakview children.

"I showed up for my kindergartener's Boosterthon this morning with no idea of what to expect, but I was blown away by what a great event it was! The energy, the music, cheering on the

kids-- it was great, and I love how my daughter gave something of herself. She would have continued to run laps if they had let her-- she was so proud of herself! I heard the conversation at the first PTA meeting and was eager to form my own opinion of Boosterthon. I can tell you I wholeheartedly support this effort, it is a wonderful fundraiser and I'm looking forward to next year!" – kindergarten mom.







The leaves are starting to turn, and the Hootenanny fall festival is just weeks away! Plan to be there from 4:30 p.m.-9 p.m. Friday, Nov. 2, for our second-biggest fundraiser of the year.

## **New Games Will Have Kids Laughing**

This year's new features include Toilet-Paper Toss and Chicken Chuckin' games featuring awesome prizes as well as Parkside Pediatrics' Mock Medic booth, where students can stay in the Halloween spirit by getting pretend wounds bandaged. Last year's popular Angry Owls game will be back, too, and, as always, the Fun Zone will be stocked with Silly String and confetti eggs for students to blast at each other.

## **Give a Hoot and Volunteer**

We can't have the festival without help from parents like you. If you have not already, please go to the Hootenanny SignUp Genius site and register to help. You can go to [www.oakviewpta.com](http://www.oakviewpta.com) or the Oakview website to click on the SignUp Genius link. Once you get to the site, please consider donating multiple items if you have multiple children at the school. Also, each family is asked to have at least one parent work a booth shift.

Our teachers help a lot at Hootenanny, but they cannot run everything themselves. We need parents to sign up to work shifts, too! So sign up for a shift, and we will send notes home with students later this month letting you know your assigned booth. This is our first

year of doing signups online, and we appreciate your help in making the effort successful.

## **Rides, and Goodies, and Bingo, Oh My!**

Also ensuring the Hootenanny's success will be rides from Palmetto Amusements and dinner options from Chick-fil-A, Papa John's, Sabrett's, and Salsarita's Pelham-Road location. Bingo will run from 6 p.m.-9 p.m. in the cafetorium, and ShutterBooth will help children remember the night with souvenir snapshots.

## **Find Your Inner Cake Boss**

To encourage families to submit cakes for our cakewalk, we will host the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Hootenanny Cake-Decorating contest. All entries will be considered in the judging. Entries decorated by students will be judged separately from those decorated by adults. Parents, if your children want to decorate cakes for the youth competition, it is OK for you to do the baking, but leave the decorating to the kids!

The categories for both the youth and adult divisions will be:

- 1<sup>st</sup> place
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place
- Outstanding Oakview "All Signs Point to Success" Theme (see this year's school T-shirts for inspiration)
- Outstanding Owl Cake
- Outstanding Creativity

Winners will receive ribbons and gift cards. Gift cards have been donated by vendors including Twisted Cup, Divine

Desserts by Andrea, Gretchen's ABS Cakes, and Whole Foods. The 1<sup>st</sup>-place adult winner will receive a pie plate from Biltmore Inspirations Consultant Kim Botzo, and the 2<sup>nd</sup>- and 3<sup>rd</sup>-place adult winners will receive delicious Biltmore Inspirations sauces, syrups or mixes. Please note that you do not have to sign up on the SignUp Genius site in advance to bring a cake for the cakewalk, but doing so will help us know if we have enough for a successful cakewalk.

## **Sign Up Older Students for Service Hours**

For those of you who have middle-school or high-school students who want to fulfill service-hour requirements by volunteering at Hootenanny, please contact our Hootenanny student-volunteer chair, Betsy Williams, at [bet-syw22@yahoo.com](mailto:bet-syw22@yahoo.com) as soon as possible.

## **Need Help, or Want to Help More?**

Questions about Hootenanny? Contact festival Co-Chair Jean Scott at [diana-jeanscott@yahoo.com](mailto:diana-jeanscott@yahoo.com)

In mid-October you will be sent additional information about the festival and early ticket sales.

Want to help more? Mark your calendar to help us prepare the confetti eggs used in the Fun Zone. We will meet in the cafetorium 8 a.m.-10:30 a.m. October 15-16 to do that. We also need help creating the large tissue-paper flowers we sell at the festival. Work on flowers will be done 8 a.m.-10:30 a.m. in the cafetorium on Oct. 24, Oct. 26, and Oct. 30-31.

**See you at the Hoot!**

## **HOOTENANNY PARKING:**

Additional parking will be available in the empty field across from Oakview. Please be aware of our landscaping and help us to keep the roadways and parking lots accessible by taking advantage of this additional parking space. Please follow Traffic Officer Direction's to ensure adequate parking for all. Thank You!

## Red Ribbon Week



**"Vote To Be Drug Free!"**

Our Red Ribbon theme this year is encouraging students to "VOTE to BE DRUG FREE" while living a healthy and productive life. We will celebrate Red Ribbon Week with a daily theme:

### **Monday, October 22**

Red Ribbon Kick Off—Students will re-

ceive a red ribbon and a Vote to Be Drug Free bracelet!

### **Tuesday, October 23**

Sock It to Drugs Day! (Wear crazy socks to school!)

### **Wednesday, October 24**

Hats Off to Healthy Living! (Students may wear hats to school.)

### **Thursday, October 25**

Our Team is Drug Free! (Wear your team shirt to school.)

### **Friday, October 26**

We are "Ready" to be Healthy and Drug Free! (Wear lots of RED to school—NO face paint, hair dye, etc.)

*Students will cast their vote to live a healthy and drug free life during lunch on Friday, October 26.*



## Legislative Updates

Melissa Pair, Chair

Election season is upon us and with it a great opportunity to illustrate to our children how we elect our government. The Oakview PTA may not opine on candidates or issues, but we are able to provide you with information so you may research and draw your own conclusions. Below please find a list of the contested races on the ballot this November; websites for each candidate have been included so you can glean a better understanding of their positions and make an informed decision on how to cast your vote.

SCHOOL IS CLOSED ON ELECTION DAY to accommodate the many schools that are used as polling places.

**Please don't forget to vote on Tuesday, November 6th!**

### **US Offices**

#### **President/Vice President**

Barack Obama/Joe Biden (D) incumbent

[www.barackobama.com](http://www.barackobama.com)  
Mitt Romney/Paul Ryan (R)  
[www.mittromney.com](http://www.mittromney.com)

### **US Congress** (District 04)

Trey Gowdy (R) incumbent

<http://gowdy.house.gov>

Deb Morrow (D)

[www.debforcongress.org](http://www.debforcongress.org)

### **State Offices**

#### **State Senate** (District 12)

Lee Bright (R) incumbent [www.leebrightsc.com](http://www.leebrightsc.com)

Henri Thompson (D) [www.henrithompson.com](http://www.henrithompson.com)

Click the following link for information on voting machines, your political district and US, state and local candidate filings:

<http://www.greenvillecounty.org/VoterRegistration/>

For a list of candidates for School Board, State Senate and State House of Representatives: <http://publicedpartnersgc.org/public-policy/2012-elections/>

There is a State Constitutional Amendment question on the ballot pertaining to future SC Governor/Lieutenant Governor elections, click below for details: [http://www.scvotes.org/2012/08/14/2012\\_constitutional\\_amendment\\_question](http://www.scvotes.org/2012/08/14/2012_constitutional_amendment_question)

**If you have any questions or are interested in getting involved with the Oakview PTA Legislative Committee, please contact Melissa Pair at [mjpair@gmail.com](mailto:mjpair@gmail.com).**

## Book Fair

Meredith Lightsey, Gena Runnion, and Kay Markowitz, Co-Chairs

### **Are you ready to shine?**

Grab your pom-poms and pennants and get ready for the All-Star Book Fair -

### **Where Every Reader is a Star!**

The Fair will be open as follows:

### **Dates:**

**Sunday, October 21<sup>st</sup> – Friday, October 26<sup>th</sup>**

### **Hours:**

Sunday, 2:00pm – 5:00pm

Monday, Wednesday & Thursday,  
7:30am – 3:00pm

Tuesday, 7:30am – 5:00pm

Friday, 7:30am – 10:00am

The first Sunday is during the weekend of Fall Break but we will be OPEN! Profits from the Book Fair benefit our

media center, so please support this important event.



## Welcome Back!

We are Oakview's School Counselors, and we hope you and your children have had a smooth start to the school year. An important question we plan to address this year is "How are our students different as a result of what our School Counselors do?" So here is an overview of what we do as School Counselors at Oakview Elementary.

## Students and Parents:

- Classroom Guidance – We go to each classroom once a month and teach a lesson on Character Education.
- Individual Counseling – We meet individually with students through parent, student, or teacher requests.
- Small Group Counseling – We hold Small Groups on topics such as Friendship, Changing Families, Study Skills, and Grief. Other groups will be held for any additional concerns that may arise. Parental approval is required.

Parent Conferences – We are available to meet for Parent Conferences and also during Teacher Conferences.

## Community:

- "Fill-a-Backpack" Program - This is a time when parents can purchase various school items to give to children who do not have their necessary school supplies.
- "Books for the Homeless" - During our School Book Fairs, we have "Books

for the Homeless." Parents can purchase or donate new books, and students can donate their extra change. All books go to children in local homeless shelters.

"Giving Tree" - At Christmas, we partner with the Salvation Army to help make the holidays brighter for local children.

## Testing:

We serve as the School Test Coordinators for ITBS in the fall for second graders and PASS in the spring for third-fifth graders.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact us:

Allyson Blackwell – K-5, 1<sup>st</sup>, & 2<sup>nd</sup> grades – 355-7103 or [ab-blackw@greenville.k12.sc.us](mailto:ab-blackw@greenville.k12.sc.us)

Gwen Daughtry – 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, & 5<sup>th</sup> grades – 355-7104 or [gdaughtr@greenville.k12.sc.us](mailto:gdaughtr@greenville.k12.sc.us)

## "Life is a Highway – We are on the Road to Success!"

Welcome to the 2012-2-13 school year! Our theme is "Life is a Highway – We are on the Road to Success!" In our Guidance Program we use words from the LifeSkills Program which reinforces good behaviors and traits that all students should exhibit. Having a common language throughout the school will help create a positive and consistent school environment. It is important that these

LifeSkills are taught to all students, so the words will be displayed in all of the classrooms. By using these words consistently as a school, our students will begin to understand that these are the skills that will help them to be successful in life.

Instead of referring to the character traits as LifeSkills, we are calling them "Life Signs for Success." We will recognize students who have consistently shown the Life Sign that we discussed in each month's classroom guidance lesson. For this award, our teachers will choose 2-4 students each month, and they will be awarded with a certificate and also be recognized on the morning news, a bulletin board, and in the local newspaper.

We are excited about our program, and we know that this will encourage our students to make good choices in their behavior as they continue on their road to success!



## Box Tops

Danielle Colby and Julie Wells, Co-Chairs



It's that time of year again! Our Fall Box Tops submission is just around the corner. All Box Tops will need to be

turned in no later than **October 17<sup>th</sup>** in order to be counted.

Some things to remember:

Check those expiration dates! Just like coupons, Box Tops also expire.

Clip as close to the Box Top without clipping off the expiration date.

Be sure to put all Box Tops in a sealed bag/envelope with your **child's name, teacher and grade** on the front. This way we can be sure to give credit to your child's class.

Always be on the lookout! Box Tops

are on many items we buy from soups to Kleenex to printer paper packages.

And don't forget, the class that collects the most Box Tops will receive a special treat!

**Each Box Top is worth 10 cents which adds up quickly. Last year we collected over 38,000 Box Tops! All the money goes directly to Oakview. Thanks in advance for all your help!**

## Volunteers

## Francine Morris and Kimberly Masters, Co-Chairs

Oakview is well underway with active volunteers this year! Our Room Coordinators have been hard at work getting schedules prepared and communications out to all of you regarding what to expect in terms of volunteering this year.

Thank you to each and every one of you for your contribution of time! Please remember, those of you that are doing Oakview related work from home, to log your hours. You can do so through the sign in computers at the front office, or you are welcome to email your hours to [Oakviewvolunteer@gmail.com](mailto:Oakviewvolunteer@gmail.com). We submit reports to the district that show exactly how dedicated our

wonderful volunteers are to the success of Oakview!

Don't forget to sign up for Hootenanny! This is our biggest event of the year and one that not only our current students attend, but draws our alumni and former students as well! The HOOT committee is doing a great job of organizing this year and trying to make sign up as easy as possible. Be sure to check out the Sign Up Genius link on our PTA website and see how you can contribute to this fantastic and fun festival! Thank you to those of you who have already

signed up and special thanks to those of you who have signed up multiple times! We could not do the Hootenanny without all of your amazing volunteer efforts!

Please see the calendar for upcoming volunteer training dates. If you have not had a chance to sign up to volunteer in your class yet this year, please contact your Room Coordinator. If you have any questions about your volunteer position or about how to get involved, please contact Francine Morris or Kimberly Masters.



### QR Code:

**Automatically link to  
Oakview Elementary's website using  
your Smartphone, iPhone, Droid,  
Etc.!!!**



## Calendar of Events

### October

- Oct 12 Computer Lab Training, 9am
- Oct 13 Garden Work Day 8:30-11:30am
- Oct 16 Chick-fil-A Night
- Oct 18-19 Teacher Workdays - NO SCHOOL
- Oct 25 Breakfast with Dad for 1st Grade, 7:15am
- Oct 21-26 Fall Book Fair
- Oct 22-26 Red Ribbon Week
- Oct 27 Garden Work Day 8:30-11:30am
- Oct 31 Kindergarten Storybook Parade

### November

- Nov 2 Hootenanny Fall Festival
- Nov 6 No School — Election Day
- Nov 7 PTA Board Meeting 9:00am
- Nov 5-9 Preschool Book Donation Drive
- Nov 14 Chick-fil-a Night
- Nov 21-23 Thanksgiving Break—No School
- Nov 29 Breakfast with Dad for Second Grade, 7:15am



### 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:

Carrie Prochaska

Terri Wheeler-Hawkins

#### PTA President:

Mindy Kupec, [mindykupec@gmail.com](mailto:mindykupec@gmail.com)

#### Newsletter Editor:

Tate Nicolini, [tatenicolini@yahoo.com](mailto:tatenicolini@yahoo.com)

#### Newsletter Assistant Editor:

Jane McBride, [jmcbride@ghs.org](mailto:jmcbride@ghs.org)

#### PTA Website:

[www.Oakviewpta.com](http://www.Oakviewpta.com)

#### The Acorn can be found online at:

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

Next issue copy deadline: **November 7, 2012**

Next issue publication: **November 13, 2012**

### 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.

