

Newton Middle School

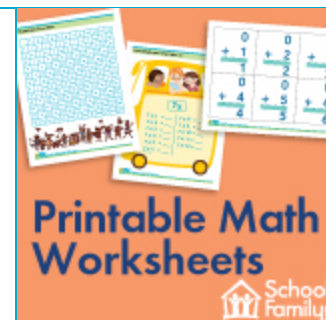
Parent Express



December 05, 2016

Newton PTO Newsletter

December 2016



Newton Discovery Fund Drive

The 2016 NMS Discovery Fund Drive raised a record \$31,321.80!

Our heartfelt thanks to everyone who participated in this primary annual PTO fundraiser for our great school. Through the generous support of families, students, teachers, Bad Daddy's Burger Bar, Public Service Credit Union - DTC Branch, Oracle Corporation and CO Bank, we achieved 125% of the original goal. Donation dollars are already making a difference! In November, initial work began to upgrade the AV equipment in the gym and we are now excited to report that this phase of work will be completed in time for the holiday concerts before winter break! Donation funds also support enrichment programs that benefit every student: PTO recently paid \$2,600 for this year's Reading Counts program and purchased 25 books from the Book Fair, fulfilling all the Language Arts teachers' wish lists.

There was a fine sprint to the finish by all the homerooms in the participation contest. The winners are:

In 8th grade: Pattie Andrews' Knight Notes Treble Makers with 70% participation.

In 7th grade: Gardner with 86% participation.

In 6th grade: Osthoff's Overlords with 78% participation.

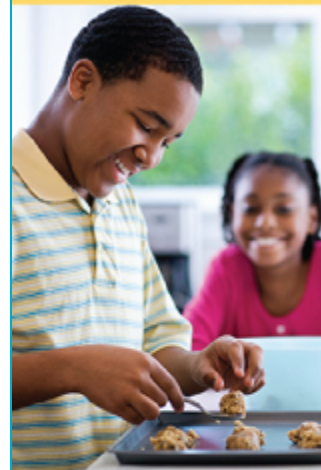


The parties in 6th and 7th grade were held last week and as you can see, were a great treat! The 8th grade party is later this month.



While the Fund Drive may be over, donations may still be made and will be gratefully accepted throughout the school year. **If you have yet to donate, please consider doing so tomorrow on Colorado Gives Day, December 6, or at year-end, when employers may well be in a position to make a tax-deductible corporate match on your behalf.** Please refer to the NMS PTO link on Newton's

Get Recipes Kids Can Make Themselves



[Why ads?](#)

homepage and click on Newton Discovery Fund Drive. Feel great - donate! Thank you so much for your support.

Newton Community KNights

Newton Knights love community! On Friday November 11, Yogurtland hosted a community fundraiser for all of the schools in the surrounding area. Newton was the top participating school, with 185 customers who helped generate over \$864 in sales. That's a lot of fro-yo! Yogurtland donated 20% of the sales, or approximately \$173, back to Newton for support of student programs. Thank you for your support!

The next Newton Community KNight is tomorrow, **Tuesday, December 6 at Tokyo Joe's in SouthGlenn from 4-8:30pm**. It's the evening before LPS late start so enjoy a break from making dinner in a busy holiday month and support Newton! Just mention Newton and 25% of your sale from dine-in or take-out will be donated to our school. See you there!

Save the dates below for Newton Community KNights in 2017!

Tuesday, January 24 at Chipotle on University & Dry Creek

Tuesday, February 21 at Mellow Mushroom SouthGlenn

Tuesday, March 14, location pending



Please Donate Cookies and Treats for Staff Cookie Exchange

Last year's Cooke Exchange was a great success! Join with the PTO Staff Appreciation committee by providing yummy cookies and confections for our teachers and staff to take home a selection to sweeten their holiday season. This is in conjunction with the Staff Silent Auction.

On Friday, December 16, please bring your donation to the school as early as 6:30 a.m. and no later than 8:00 a.m. Please just drop at the front desk.



Thank you so much for your generosity! Please click on the link below to sign up.

[Staff Appreciation Cookie Exchange](#)

A Message from PTO Presidents Clare Ambrose and Cody Sherrod



Warm holiday greetings to our Newton families!

We are so grateful for your support in 2016! With the help of your donations to the Discovery Fund Drive, our school was able to put new carpet in the STEM room, upgrade the AV system in the gym including new stage lighting, new sound

system, a projector with a drop down screen and new control systems as well as fund the Reading Counts program, the fall dance, technology upgrades, along with teacher appreciation, supplies and grants. Every student at Newton benefits from your generosity! We would also like to thank everyone who has volunteered their time in 2016 to make Newton such an excellent school!

Interested in learning more or getting involved with the Newton PTO next year? We welcome you to come to a PTO meeting which are held the second Tuesday of each month at 9am. Also, all are invited to a PTO Holiday Get Together on Thursday, December 8 from 5-7 p.m. at Hodson's Bar & Grill (Streets of Southglenn)

Appetizers provided, drink specials available until 6 p.m.

You are also welcome to call or email Cody or myself and we are happy to answer any questions you might have!

Have a happy and safe holiday season!

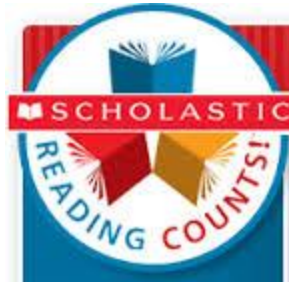
Clare Ambrose (clareambrose@comcast.net or 303-434-2138)

Cody Sherrod (csherrod@daniels.du.edu or 303-345-3352)

2016-2017 PTO Co-Presidents

Fund Drive donation dollars are making a difference every day to Newton students

Reading Counts has been a priority at Newton for the past ten years. Long before internet-based reading programs were available, PTO invested \$6,000 in the purchase of a server to house the Reading Counts program. Reading Counts is vital to our daily instruction and since its implementation, reading scores have increased. Reading Counts has evolved over the years. Today it is a technology tool used by all students and our teachers. Students self-select books to meet their reading goals, and the program assists students by monitoring lexile reading ranges, recommending books, tracking comprehension progress and recording the total number of words a student has read. The program individualizes student reading goals and is used to provide feedback for quarterly goals. Reading Counts is also a tool that teachers use for reading conferences with their students. Reading Counts constitutes between 10 to 15% of all students' language arts grades.



Over the years students have checked out more books from Newton's library in a year than all of the other secondary schools in LPS combined. During the awards/recognition ceremonies held each semester, the top three readers in each grade level are recognized. Those six students will have read in excess of between 18 and 20 million words.

The Reading Counts program is engrained in the literacy culture of Newton Middle School. Thanks to Fund Drive donation dollars, PTO recently paid the annual fee of approximately \$2,500 for the Reading Counts program. We are delighted that PTO is committed to funding this vital program for the benefit of every student at Newton.

Volunteer Opportunities at Newton

School Clinic Volunteers: Your assistance is greatly needed in Newton's clinic. Volunteer anywhere between 1 1/2 to 3 hours during the school day. Shift times are very flexible so you can come a little earlier or stay a little later. Sonya Lewis, our LPS staff member who runs the clinic, would really appreciate your assistance. Sign up available here for the remainder of November. **NO SPECIAL TRAINING OR EXPERIENCE IS REQUIRED** . She could just really use some help. [Clinic Volunteer Sign-Up](#)

Library Volunteer Opportunity: Parent volunteers are needed to help shelve and organize non-fiction books in the library on a very flexible schedule for 1-2 hours per month. Volunteers are asked to commit by selecting 1 week a month (1st or 2nd or 3rd or 4th) and coming in for 1-2 hours during your week at any time that's convenient during the school day. Contact Tish Lawler at lawler@lps.k12.co.us to arrange this.

CODE Card Volunteers: Rachel Bryan, Social Studies Teacher, is looking for adult volunteers to help hand out fun prizes during lunch once a month on Fridays. Students earn CODE cards from demonstrating awesome behavior. This is a great way to get directly involved with the kids at school. It's fun and super easy. Simply visit this [CODE Card Volunteer](#) link to sign up!



Please join us at a PTO Holiday Get Together on Thursday, December 8 from 5-7 p.m. at Hodson's Bar & Grill (Streets of Southglenn). **Everyone is invited!**