

# Newton Middle School

Parent Express



April 17, 2017

## Newton PTO Newsletter

April 2017

**In This Issue** — Be Sure to Mark your Calendars!

- ASAP** PTO positions-We Need YOU for next year
- Saturday, April 29** Shred-a-Thon Volunteers needed!
- Tuesday, May 3** Community KNight Chick-Fil-A
- Thursday, May 5** LPS Appreciation Night at the Rockies
- Sunday, May 21** Colfax Marathon Series Team LPS
- Tuesday, May 23** Run with the Knights-Volunteers still needed!
- Thursday, May 25** "End of Year Award Assemblies" -CODE Awards

Letter from LPS Superintendent, Brian Ewert asking for your support regarding SB 061



### A Message from PTO President's Clare Ambrose & Cody Sherrod

Hello Newton families,  
Happy Spring!

## WHAT'S YOUR STORY?

**2017 CONTEST  
NOW OPEN!  
WIN \$10,000**

**FIND OUT MORE**



On behalf of the Newton Middle School Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO), we would like to thank all the volunteers for their positive contribution to the Newton community. From fundraising, to the community activities, special projects, CODE cart and much more we could not function without your generous contributions. We have a great group of incoming 6th families joining the community next fall. After the 6th grade orientation we were able to fill a few positions on the board. That said, we have a few remaining positions we would like to fill before the end of the year:

- **The Fall Party** - work with the student council to plan and execute the fall party for all grades.
- **Community Relations** - Work with the Littleton Public Schools Foundation to promote community events such as the Stride (fundraising run), the Sprit Celebration (provide a donation basket for the silent auction) and the Shred-a-thon.
- **Vice President** - Support the President(s) and tackle special projects on an as needed basis. The VP likely moves into the President position after one year

If you have questions or interest in any of the above-mentioned positions, please contact your PTO Presidents Cody Sherrod or Clare Ambrose at [newtonptopres@gmail.com](mailto:newtonptopres@gmail.com)

**You're Invited! Come join us for our PTO End of Season Happy Hour on Tuesday, May 9 from 5-7 p.m. at Hodsons in Southglenn, this will be in lieu of a meeting and all are welcome!**

Clare Ambrose & Cody Sherrod

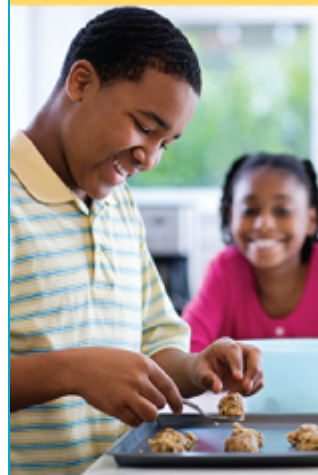
2016-17 Newton PTO Co-Presidents

### **2017 Shred-a-thon Saturday, April 29th**

Newton Middle School is partnering with Arapahoe Credit Union. to provide the county with free shred-a-thon and electronics recycling!

Feel free to bring any documents for ON-SITE destruction (watch it

**Get  
Recipes  
Kids  
Can Make  
Themselves**



 **School  
Family**

*Why ads?*

happen!). Bring old bank statements, check registers, receipts and anything else with personal information on it. Additionally, feel free to bring your small electronics and we will get those recycled as well! (Unfortunately, we are no longer able to accept ANY box/ tube/rear projection screens. We also are unable to offer electronic data destruction.)



Shredding Services are Free, Colorado Vault and Safe Deposit Box CO. and Arapahoe CU are covering all expenses for this event. However, we will also be taking donations to help local school programs. Anything you want to donate will go directly to extra-curricular student activities at Newton Middle School.

Click on this link to Volunteer: [Shred-a-thon Volunteer](#)

**Date: April 29th, 2017 - Newton Middle School (4001 E Arapahoe Rd)**

**Time: 9:30 am until 2:00 pm**

**Location: Newton Middle School in the North-West Parking Lot**



**Streets at  
Southglenn**

### Newton Community KNights

Thank you to the Newton community for your tremendous support of our Community KNights program! The spirit nights have raised over \$2700 so far, including almost \$600 at the event at Noodles last month. The final

Newton Community KNight for this school year will be on **Tuesday, May 2 at Chick-fil-A SouthGlenn from 5pm-7pm**. Let's end the year right! It's the evening before LPS late start so enjoy a break from making dinner and support Newton. Chick-fil-A is being very generous and will be donating to Newton 10% of ALL SALES that evening from dine-in or take-out from 5pm-7pm. Please spread the word and see you there!

## **RUN WITH THE KNIGHTS**

On Tuesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>, Newton students will have their annual Run with the Knights event. The 2 mile run starts and ends at the Newton track with the course on trails around Newton and surrounding neighborhoods. Having a DJ, food from Snooze and Great Harvest Bread Company (a Newton family) as well as many other terrific sponsors make this a wonderful event.

Thank you to those who have already volunteered! All gift card donations have been filled-please have your donation to the Newton office by the end of April with your name, address and gift card amount noted.

We still need a few race course marshals, especially for 8<sup>th</sup> grade, to keep our kids safe and headed in the right direction. At the run's conclusion, head to the track for the festivities or you can leave as soon as all of the kids run by your station. Maps, station numbers and instructions will be emailed to everyone before the event. Please sign up at this link:



### **RUN WITH THE KNIGHTS**

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

Questions about volunteering? please contact  
Sweetland at 303-882-5973 or  
[christine.sweetland@gmail.com](mailto:christine.sweetland@gmail.com)

## **CODE (Caring, Open-Minded, Disciplined & Engaged) Awards:**

Thanks to you and your students for your nominations! What a response! See nomination information:

- 509 total nominations between the three grades
- 256 6<sup>th</sup> grade nominations, encompassing 127 total 6<sup>th</sup> grade students nominated
- 119 7<sup>th</sup> grade nominations, encompassing 75 total 7<sup>th</sup> grade students
- 134 8<sup>th</sup> grade nominations, encompassing 68 total 8<sup>th</sup> grade students
- 270 Total Students Nominated

All 120 finalists will be recognized and receive a medal at our "End of the Year" assemblies on May 25th.

Please see the sample letter below and the letter from LPS Superintendent, Brian Ewert, regarding SB 061. Consider sending a letter to your legislator's to support his position.

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**SAMPLE LETTER to send to:**

- [susan.beckman.house@state.co.us](mailto:susan.beckman.house@state.co.us)
- [jeff.bridges.house@state.co.us](mailto:jeff.bridges.house@state.co.us)

Dear House Representative,

Please vote NO on SB 061. The LPS Superintendent said it best below. Please consider doing what you can to make sure this bill does not go through. Thanks!

Your name

Street Address

City, State ZIP

Littleton Public Schools Supporter

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### Brian Ewert's letter

March 14, 2017

Dear Friends of Littleton Public Schools:

**The relationships, agreements, and collaboration that the LPS Board of Education has worked so hard to nurture with our charter schools are threatened under SB 061.**

Littleton Public Schools places a high value on choice, and this is reflected in the thousands of students who choose to attend LPS from surrounding areas. The LPS Board of Education values and supports its two charter schools, Littleton Preparatory Charter School and Littleton Academy Charter School. Both are integral to the culture and tradition of the district, and they add to the entire portfolio of our schools. Littleton Public Schools has shared its mill levy overrides with our existing charter schools provided that they were in existence when the measures were passed. The LPS Board of Education has successfully negotiated mutually beneficial service agreements with both charter schools over the years and has a strong partnership and vested interest in both schools' successes.

**Senate Bill 061** will undermine the thoughtfully negotiated agreements between LPS and its charter schools. It also pits charter schools against neighborhood schools in a manner that is unhealthy. In LPS alone, this bill would essentially take \$1 million dollars

away from 22 neighborhood schools and give it all to two charter schools. The redirection of these dollars would seriously impact programs that provide support for the majority of our most at-risk students who are served in those 22 neighborhood schools.

Littleton Public Schools strongly believes in public accountability and transparency for taxpayer dollars. SB 061's proposed requirement to assign local voter-approved funds to schools or programs not approved by the voters undermines the local control requirement of the constitution and feels like the state is forcing a "bait and switch" on local taxpayers.

It's important to remember that since 2009, the Colorado legislature has withheld more than FIVE BILLION DOLLARS of voter-approved funds from Colorado's public schools -- funding approved by Colorado voters in 2000 under Amendment 23. About \$100 million has been withheld from Littleton Public Schools alone. There is currently no plan from the legislature to carry through with the promises it made to Colorado voters at the time of Amendment 23's passage. Instead, there is SB 061, which would force local school districts to also break their promises to their local taxpayers.

SB 061 is moving quickly and may come to a vote in the next few days. **We need your help! Please contact your legislators and ask them to oppose SB 061 Additional Funding Charter School Operating Costs.**

Promises made to Colorado's taxpayers must be promises kept, and forcing districts to use locally approved mill levy funds in ways not approved by the voters is simply wrong.

Thank you for your continued support. It makes all the difference!

Warmest Regards,

*Brian Ewert*  
Superintendent

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**LPS UPCOMING EVENTS**



**Discounted**

**Tickets**

Please join us May 5th for LPS Appreciation Night at Coors Field when the Rockies host the Diamondbacks.

[Learn more.](#)

**It's Not Too Late**

Raise your virtual paddle to provide necessary and vital funding for mental health wellness in our schools. Watch our video.

[Learn more.](#)

**Join TEAM LPS**

Help us run for LPS students by joining our fun Colfax team. There's a distance for everyone! Get your shoes and let's go!

[Learn more.](#)

**BECOME A DONOR**

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