



Waters Landing
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The Dolphin News

November 2016 Issue

www.waterslandingpta.com

A Publication of the Waters Landing Elementary School PTA

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**2016-2017
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Dear Waters Landing Families:

The first quarter has come to an end and parent/teacher conferences are quickly approaching on November 10th and 11th. Please contact your child's teacher to schedule a conference if you have not had the opportunity to do so yet. It is very important that you keep an open line of communication with your child's teacher. You can reach the teacher by sending a note, email, or phone call. Sometimes that is all it takes to help understand or to answer a question.

Our book fair in October was a huge success. Thanks go out to PTA volunteers for the hours you volunteered to ensure everyone had an enjoyable shopping experience! Thank you to all of the shoppers who supported this important fund raiser! We were delighted to see so many families come in for our October Open House. Please make certain that this isn't the only time you come to visit. We are working together to ensure that your child gets the best education to challenge him or her to learn new skills. In case you want to email us, our staff email addresses are listed on our website.

November is always associated with cooler weather, beautiful multi-colored leaves and being thankful for family and friends. We have so much to be thankful for at Waters Landing Elementary School. We have fabulous volunteers who unselfishly give their time and talents to our school. We have amazing staff members who go above and beyond every day to ensure that all of our students are safe, learning, growing, and happy to be at school. We also have the best students, parents, and families in Montgomery County!

We appreciate this special partnership with you and couldn't do it without the support that you provide every day. Thank you for everything you do for our children and Waters Landing ES!

Sincerely,

Ms. Srelyne A. Harris, *Principal*

Mrs. Chris Troffkin, *Assistant Principal*

WLES Spirit Night
Buffalo Wild Wings
Wednesday, November 30



Mark your calendar! Spirit Night, Nov. 30 from 5pm-8pm at Buffalo Wild Wings in Gaithersburg (668 Clopper Road). You **MUST** bring a copy of the flyer with you to turn in so that Waters Landing gets credit for your order. WLES PTA will receive 15% of food totals (alcohol and tax doesn't count) for all flyers that are turned in. Dine in or carryout and Kids' meals are \$1.49 that night!

Congratulations to Mrs. Mallick's 2nd grade class! They won the Spirit Night contest at Chick-fil-a in September by having the most participation. The class will receive coupons for free Chick-fil-a!

Thank you to everyone who came out to support WLES!

Thank you to all the families and friends who came out and dined at Ledo Pizza in support of our School.

From the PTA President ...

Dear WLES Families,



Thank you to those of you who have joined the PTA! We have had a great membership drive the first two months of school. Haven't joined yet? It's not too late- you can find membership forms at the PTA table outside of the school office or on the PTA website at www.waterslandingpta.com.

We greatly appreciate all of the families who participated in our Shoe Drive. We haven't finished calculating the totals for the winning class but several PTA members developed some major muscles carrying around all of those shoes! Stay tuned in our December Newsletter to hear the winning class.

On Monday, November 21, the PTA will host one of the teachers favorite days: PIE DAY. We host this day every year on the Monday before Thanksgiving. It's a really great way to say THANK YOU to all of our wonderful WLES staff. Please look for a flyer about how you can participate.

Our next PTA meeting will be Tuesday, November 1 at 7:00 PM in the school library. We are looking forward to another amazing year and hope to get many more of you involved with the PTA and assisting with our mission to enrich and enhance the social and educational opportunities for the children of WLES. If you have any questions or would like to share some of your ideas and thoughts, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you,

Sheri Schully

Waters Landing Elementary School PTA President, 2016-2017

Proud mother of Madeleine (3rd grade), and Corinne (Kindergarten)

sherischully@gmail.com

Box Top News

Congratulations to Zachary Allanach, Marcus Dancik, Corinne Schully and Gavin Shea for collecting the most Box Tops, and to Annett Cervantes, winner of our random drawing. They all won 2 movie theater tickets and received a Thank You certificate. Thank you to everyone who participated. With your help we collected over 4000 Box Tops for our fall submission which converts into over \$400 for our school. Make sure to keep collecting as we will announce our next contest soon, but for now please send in any Box Tops you may have with an expiration date of 12/01/16. We will need to send them in before then to receive credit.



For more information please visit: <http://www.boxtops4education.com/bonusapp> or contact our Box Tops Coordinator at wlesboxtopscordinator@gmail.com

Tips to Prepare for the Parent-Teacher Conference

Parent-teacher conferences will be held Nov. 10 and 11. The conferences are an opportunity for parents to spend some one-on-one time with their child's teachers and to discuss how they are doing in school. Conferences also can help parents and teachers find ways to work together to improve student learning.

The tip sheet below provides information that suggests ways that you can make the most of parent-teacher conferences, to best serve your child. ***Tip Sheet: Preparing for the Parent-Teacher Conference***

English - http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/uploadedFiles/community-engagement/0499.16_ParentTeacherConference_FLYER_web.pdf

Spanish - http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/uploadedFiles/community-engagement/0499.16_ParentTeacherConference_FLYER_SPANISH.pdf

French - http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/uploadedFiles/community-engagement/0499.16_ParentTeacherConference_FLYER_FRENCH.pdf

Chinese - http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/uploadedFiles/community-engagement/0499.16_ParentTeacherConference_FLYER_CHINESE.pdf

Nan Iuculano, Parent Community Coordinator

Waters Landing Elementary School PTA Membership

We are still welcoming new family members, so please take the time to show your support and send in your membership form. Forms are available for download on the PTA's website or you can join the online. Simply visit our website at www.waterslandingpta.com and click on the MEMBERSHIP tab. Fill out the membership form at the bottom enter your payment information and click submit! Paper applications are still welcomed and can be downloaded on our website as well or picked up at the PTA table at the school.

Click here to read more about some of the great reasons to join the PTA: <https://waterslandingpta.com/about-us/>

There are many ways to stay up to date with what is happening with WLES and the PTA.

- ◆ Follow us on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/WLESPTA/?fref=ts>
- ◆ Follow us on Twitter - [@WatersLanding](https://twitter.com/WatersLanding)
- ◆ Visit our website - www.waterslandingpta.com

As always, you are welcome to contact any of us via the contact us link on our website.

Top Ten Reasons to Join the WLES PTA

1. **Your child benefits.** Research shows children whose parents are involved get better grades, do better on tests, and have fewer discipline problems at school.
2. **We make a difference.** Our mission is to help create a school where teachers, parents, and administrators come together to help all WLES children. We provide support for teachers in and out of the classroom and help create growth opportunities for all WLES children.
3. **We pledge to honor your time constraints.** People are often reluctant to participate because they are afraid they will get pulled into a black hole of never-ending time commitment. We will not push you to commit more than you want to or are able to. An hour or two a semester really makes a difference.
4. **We have fun.** We accomplish a lot, and not everything we do is easy. We do not take ourselves too seriously, and we try to enjoy ourselves.
5. **Meet nice people who share your concerns.** We all have a common bond- we care about creating the best possible educational experience for our children. Many friendships have developed as a result of those connections.
6. **There is a lot to be done.** These days, schools are asked to do more with less. Our help is needed more than ever to fill the gaps.
7. **We can match jobs to your interests and abilities.** The work we do covers a broad spectrum: planning and events, writing and editing, working directly with children, managing budgets and cash flow, and lots more. We encourage creative ideas and we are thrilled to have people take on tasks that meet their skills and interests.
8. **We are welcoming.** To us, there are no "outsiders." We are people who have come together to work toward common goals. We couldn't be happier to have you join us in working toward those goals.
9. **We are focused on parent involvement, not fundraising.** Our number one goal is to get more parents connected to the school. Building parent involvement in education is the number one thing we can do to create a great school. However, to provide many of our programs, we need to raise funds.
10. **The work is very rewarding.** It is seeing the smile that shows we are making school a little more fun. There are lots of rewards for those who get involved.

PARENT COMMUNITY COORDINATOR'S CORNER

Social Skills Groups from the Jewish Social Service Agency. Within the context of a small, therapeutic group setting, children and adolescents who have difficulty in social situations learn desirable social behaviors such as initiating friendships, making conversations, sharing, group cooperation, showing care and empathy, problem solving, self-control, and handling teasing and strong emotions.

Cost \$75-85 per session (\$180 per session for parents, where applicable. Sessions may be insurance-reimbursable. A \$25 materials fee (covering handouts, parents' guidebook, snacks etc.)

Will be collected at the first session of each group.

Pre-registration is required. Contact 301-816-2633 Rockville-Fallsgrove Groups

K-1 Social Emotional Play Group Tuesdays Nov. 1-Jan 31 4:30 pm Leaders: Liba Rappaport LCPC and Jill Jerome-Parsons LCSW-C

3rd and 4th grades, Boys Ages 8-9 Twelve sessions for boys and three group sessions for parents Wednesdays Nov. 2 -Feb. 1 4:30-5:30 pm Dr. Stanley Fagen

For questions about a group, please call JSSA's Inquiry and Screening Department at 301-816-2633 or email JSSA at contactus@jssa.org

COUNSELOR'S CORNER –Ms. Lauren

GETTING TO KNOW YOU, MR. JASON DEAN – FIFTH GRADE TEACHER

Interviewed by Jackson Kaminski and Gavin Shea – Fifth Grade Students

I have been teaching for 10 years. I taught first, fourth and fifth grades.
I am married for 15 years to my wife, Natalie. We have a five year old daughter named Elizabeth.
I was born in Washington D.C. My family originally came from Scotland and Ireland.
I received my teaching degree from Mt. Saint Mary's College in Frederick County. Also, I received my Master's Degree from McDaniel University in curriculum instruction and administration.
My favorite hobby outside of school is riding my mountain bike.
I have many favorites: Food: Sushi Color: Blue Movie: "Band of Brothers"
Actor: Christopher Walken Vacation: Beach Holiday: Thanksgiving
What I love most about teaching at WLES is the students! They are great kids!
My dream place to visit: British Columbia, Canada
If I had one message to pass onto my students, I would tell them to always work hard
My favorite season of the year is the summer. I like the freedom to do whatever I want
When I was in elementary school, my favorite subject was science.
My proudest accomplishment is graduating with honors from college while working a full-time job.
One thing I would like to improve upon is gaining more patience.
If I could pass a new law in Congress, I would stipulate that politicians get paid based on what they get accomplished.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU – MRS. ANDREA BERNAL, COMPACT MATH TEACHER

Interviewed by Jed Ivan Valenzuela and Preston (David) Porter—Fifth Grade Students

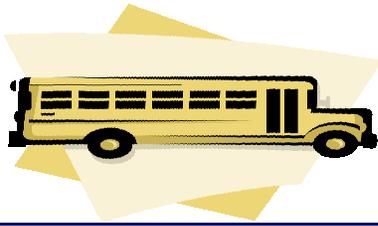
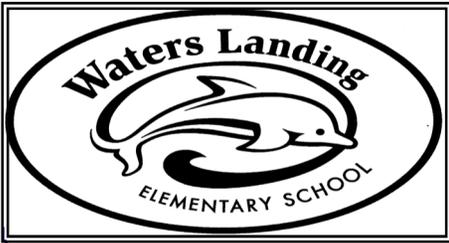
I have been teaching since 2003. I have taught third, fifth, sixth and seventh grade math.
I have a wonderful family, a husband and three children, two sons and a daughter.
My parents are from Central and South America. My Mom was born in LaPaz, Bolivia and my Dad is from Nicaragua.
I graduated from University of Maryland, majoring in psychology and education.
My hobbies are exercising and spending time with my family.
I have many favorites: Food – chili and lasagna Color: orange/yellow Movie: Titanic Author: Roald Dahl Actor: Sandra Bullock and Tom Hanks, Vacation: Bahamas Holiday: Thanksgiving Music: Spanish rock Quote or slogan: "Just do it!" Season: Spring (because everything is growing and the sun is shining.)
I really enjoy teaching the compact math curriculum at WLES. My students are very eager to learn.
If I could visit one place in the world, I would like to visit Jerusalem because I want to see the place of the Jewish people.
I celebrate a special tradition from my culture. It is the Independence of Bolivia.
My favorite subjects in elementary school were math, writing and art.
My proudest accomplishment is starting a family while working, getting my Master's degree, and taking care of my health.
One thing I would like to improve upon is having more patience.
One message I would most like to teach all children is to be kind. Everyone has their own battle they are fighting.
If I could pass one new law in Congress, I would want to make sure that food and water that we eat and drink is safe and free of harmful chemicals.

Montgomery County Youth Programs for all Students in Grades 3-6

Saturday, November 5 8:30am-3:30pm - Germantown Campus

BLACK ROCKET provides unique enrichment and educational programs in Creative Sciences, Digital Arts and Leadership. These are technology based workshops in Robotics, Code Creators, Video Game Design, Digital Animation, Minecraft Modders, Minecraft Animators and Maker Lab: 3-D Modeling and Design

For more information, check the website at <http://cms.montgomerycollege.edu/wdce/youthmcadventures.html>
Online registration is available. Please contact Sharon Wolfgang or Karla Espinoza for any questions: 240-567-7917 Asistencia en Espanol Disponible



November 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 WLES PTA Meeting 7pm Media Center	2	3	4	5
6	7 No School Teacher Professional Day	8 Election Day No School	9	10 Early Release Parent Teacher Conferences	11 Early Release Parent Teacher Conferences	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 Staff Appreciation Pie Day	22	23 Early Release	24 Thanksgiving No School	25 No School	26
27	28	29	30 WLES Spirit Night Buffalo Wild Wings			