

Harrison Township PTA

2011-2012 Handbook

Harrison Township School

120 N. Main Street
Mullica Hill, NJ 08062
856 478-2016



**“Home of the
Harrison Hawks”**

Pleasant Valley School

401 Cedar Road
Mullica Hill, NJ 08062
856 223-5120



**“Home of the
Pleasant Valley Panthers”**

www.harrisonpta.org

Harrison Township PTA Officers 2011-2012

President	Kathy Deacon	(856) 863-9986
Treasurer	MC Visalli	(856) 223-9147
Recording Secretary	Tracy Connolly	(856) 223-1409
Corresponding Secretary	Kelly Urbaczewski	(856) 223-9035
VP of Communications	Lin Millard	(856) 417-3636
VP of General Fundraising	Cristie Clark	(856) 207-6174
VP of Merchant Fundraising	Theresa Vaites	(856) 417-3593
VP of Parent/Teacher Events	Shannon Murphy-Reilly	(856) 223-0275
VP of Student Events	Tracie Kniaz	(856) 478-4430
VP of Student Programs	Nicole Olsen	(856) 478-0881

Handbook Contents

**The Harrison Township PTA welcomes you to the
2011-12 school year!**



Harrison Township PTA Mission Statement

It is our mission to enhance and maximize the education, health and well-being of every child while helping them to achieve their highest potential through strong parent, family and community involvement and commitment; to advance and encourage partnerships and teamwork between parents and teachers through parental education, classroom support and joint undertakings; and to cultivate a sense of community within our schools by providing educational opportunities as well as social events for our students and families.

Your PTA dollars at work:

2010-2011

- ★ 10 SMART Boards to help with Administration's goal of getting SMART Board technology into each classroom
 - ★ BrainPOP software for the teachers

2009-2010

- ★ SMART Board for each library
- ★ BrainPOP software for the teachers
- ★ \$5,000 toward mini laptops at both schools
- ★ \$1,000 donation to each Music dept
- ★ \$500 donation to each Spanish dept
- ★ \$1,500 donation to each library
- ★ \$25 stipend to each classroom for supplies

Every year

- ★ Educational assemblies
- ★ Weekly Readers (Time, National Geographic)
- ★ Pizza & snacks for class picnics
- ★ Teacher & Transportation Appreciation
 - ★ Parental education
 - ★ Recess equipment & games
 - ★ 6th Grade t-shirts
 - ★ Talent Show
- ★ Ice Cream Social, Holiday Shop, Breakfast with Santa, Dr. Seuss Night, School Store

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Message from the President

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Dear Parents,

It is amazing how quickly the summer has gone! I look forward with anticipation and enthusiasm to the 2011-2012 school year.



I would like to begin the school year with an expression of gratitude to the parents and members of the school community that have financially supported our PTA fundraising efforts. As a result of those efforts, I am able to report that the PTA will be advancing the School Administration's goals to get SMART Board technology into *every* classroom by purchasing **10 SMART Boards** for our schools! The 2010-2011 PTA Board felt so strongly about the Administration's effort that we voted to reach down into our reserves to purchase the remaining SMART Boards, so that this goal could be accomplished. We believe that this purchase will further the PTA's mission of enhancing and maximizing the education of our children.

The PTA would like to thank all of you who continually give freely of your time to volunteer at our events and programs (and do it without pay)! The PTA would not be able to exist without you. I would like to encourage everyone to volunteer.

vol·un·teer 1. a person who voluntarily offers himself or herself for a service or undertaking. 2. a person who performs a service willingly and without pay.

“Volunteering is the ultimate exercise in democracy. You vote in elections once a year, but when you volunteer, you vote every day about the kind of community you want to live in.”

Marjorie Moore

New for this year: the PTA will be holding our first “Fall Family Night” that will include Bingo and fall activities. The success of our Spring Basket Auction is not just financial, but the opportunity that we have as a school community to come together—to meet and enjoy each other's company—and have a good time. We are hoping that the same will be true for this fall event.

It has been a privilege to serve as President of the Harrison Township PTA. As I enter my last year in this position, I would like to take the opportunity to acknowledge and thank the many people that have touched my life throughout the last three years. It has been a time of great pleasure and personal growth. In closing, as always, I encourage you to get involved in the PTA. As you can see from the contributions that this PTA has made over the last several years, the PTA is an important part of our schools and has significantly impacted the educational experience of our children.

“One hundred years from now it will not matter what kind of car I drove, what kind of house I lived in, how much money was in my bank account nor what my clothes looked like. But the world may be a better place because I was important in the life of a child.”

Forest Witcraft

Kathy Deacon, PTA President

Calendar of Events

SEPTEMBER

- 7 First day of school
- 12 Coupon Book Fundraiser begins
- 13 Back to School Night: 5th & 6th grade
- 14 Back to School Night: 4th grade
- 15 Back to School Night: 2nd & 3rd grade
- 20 PTA Chairperson Meeting: 7pm/PVS
- 22 Back to School Night: Pre-K, K & 1st
- 26 McDonald's Night: 4-8pm

OCTOBER

- 1 Fashion Republic Fundraiser
- 3 PTA Meeting (Room Parent Meeting): 7pm/HTS
- 4 School Store HTS
- 11 School Store PVS
- 18 School Store HTS
- 21 Fall Festival/Bingo Night
- 25 School Store PVS
- 28 Halloween Parade (HTS)
- 31 Halloween Parade (PVS)

NOVEMBER

- 1 School Store HTS
- 7 PTA Meeting: 7pm/PVS
- 8 School Store PVS
- 8-17 HTS Book Fair
- 14-18 Holiday Shop PVS
- 15 HTS Evening Book Fair
- 15 School Store HTS
- 22 School Store PVS
- 28-30 Holiday Shop HTS

DECEMBER

- 1-5 Holiday Shop HTS
- 6 School Store HTS
- 10 Breakfast with Santa: HTS
- 13 School Store PVS
- 19 McDonald's Night: 4-8pm
- 20 School Store HTS

JANUARY

- 3 School Store HTS
- 9 PTA Meeting: 7pm/HTS
- 10 School Store PVS
- 17 School Store HTS
- 24 School Store PVS

FEBRUARY

- 14 School Store PVS
- 21 School Store HTS
- 25 Talent Show
- 28 School Store PVS

MARCH

- 2 Dr. Seuss Night: HTS
- 3 Talent Show "snow" date
- 5 PTA Meeting (Room Parent Meeting): 7pm/PVS
- 6 School Store HTS
- 8-9 Third Grade Visitation to PVS
- 13 School Store PVS
- 16 Silver Graphics Fundraiser begins
- 20 School Store HTS
- 26-30 Book Swap
- 27 School Store PVS
- 30 Basket Auction/Family Fun Night

APRIL

- 2 PTA Meeting: 7pm/HTS
- 3 School Store HTS
- 10 School Store PVS
- 17 School Store HTS
- 24 School Store PVS

MAY

- 1 School Store HTS
- 7 PTA Meeting (Election): 7pm/PVS
- 7-11 Teacher Appreciation Week
- 8 Teacher Appreciation Day
- 8 School Store PVS
- 18 Transportation Appreciation Day
- 15 School Store HTS
- 16-24 PVS Book Fair
- 21 PVS Evening Book Fair and Ice Cream Social
- 22 School Store PVS
- 23 Track & Field Day Kindergarten
- 31 Track & Field Day 4th Grade

JUNE

- 1 Track & Field Day 1st Grade
- 4 Track & Field Day 5th Grade
- 5 Track & Field Day 2nd Grade
- 6 Track & Field Day 6th Grade
- 7 Track & Field Day 3rd Grade
- 12 Last day of school

Volunteer Opportunities

PTA Function	Chairperson	Description
Baking/Refreshment Committee	Susan Weng 478-4531	Provide baked goods and healthy snacks at various events.
Basket Auction <i>Fundraiser</i> March 30, 2012	Theresa Vaites 417-3593 & Cristie Clark 207-6174	Help with ticket sales, refreshments, art contest, kids activities, set up and break down of event.
Book Covering	Debbie Wagner 307-4896	Help cover books throughout the year; need volunteers in school and at home.
Book Fair <i>Student Program</i> HTS-Nov 14-18, 2011 PVS-May 16-24, 2012	Karen Mullen 478-4269, Rosemarie Froio 223-9632 & Anna Brown 417-8534 (HTS) & Patti Schusler 223-0533 (PVS)	Help set up and break down the book fair, "man" the registers, and help students shop.
Book Swap <i>Student Event</i> March 26-30, 2012	Renee Rizzo 478-0810	Help collect and organize books, set up and break down of event.
Box Tops <i>Fundraiser</i>	Diana Allen 419-5118 & Amy Reuter 589-5444 (HTS) & Kathy Grubb (PVS) 223-9511	Help needed to collect, trim and count BoxTops.
Breakfast with Santa <i>Student Event</i> December 10, 2011	Colleen Hahn 478-2531 & Erica Salmon 417-3522	Help with purchasing items, set up and serving, as well as clean up.
Class Picnics <i>Student Event</i> Spring 2012	Susan Washburn 223-8890	Help purchase items and distribute to the classrooms in each school.
Clerical Committee	Vicky Kaestner 478-0709 (HTS) & Teresa Ruelicke 223-1659 (PVS)	Help make copies for the PTA at the schools and put copies into teachers' mailboxes.

PTA Function	Chairperson	Description
<p align="center">Coupon Books <i>Fundraiser</i> Fall 2011</p>	<p align="center">Diana Allen 419-5118 (HTS) & Kathy Deacon 863-9986 (PVS)</p>	<p align="center">Help collect and process orders and distribute additional books to classrooms.</p>
<p align="center">Dr. Seuss Reading Night <i>Student Program</i> March 2, 2012</p>	<p align="center">Lin Michael 223-9345 & Debbie Rabottino 223-1111</p>	<p align="center">Help organize readers, set up & break down of event & “man” the activities/reading stations.</p>
<p align="center">Fall Festival/ Bingo Night <i>Fundraiser</i> October 21, 2011</p>	<p align="center">Theresa Vaites 417-3593 & Cristie Clark 207-6174</p>	<p align="center">Help with ticket sales, set up & clean up, assist with crafts, bingo room and refreshments.</p>
<p align="center">Fashion Republic <i>Fundraiser</i> October 1, 2011</p>	<p align="center">Chairperson needed</p>	<p align="center">Help collect bags on the day(s) of fundraiser and load onto truck (Dads and kids welcome too)!</p>
<p align="center">Holiday Shop <i>Student Program</i> PVS-Nov 14-18, 2011 HTS-Nov 28-Dec 5, 2011</p>	<p align="center">Lori DiVerneiro 478-2428 Denise Teiper 218-8042 & Lori Wells 223-1759 (HTS) & Susan Ferguson 478-6359 Lisa Hill 223-1533 Karen Maier 478-0450 & Jennifer Waldman 582-7414 (PVS)</p>	<p align="center">Help with set up, break down, student “shopping” and check out.</p>
<p align="center">Ice Cream Social <i>Student Event</i> May 21, 2012</p>	<p align="center">Jen Schwartz 889-9674</p>	<p align="center">Help set up, clean up and “man” ice cream stations.</p>
<p align="center">Inkjet Cartridges <i>Fundraiser</i></p>	<p align="center">Chairperson needed</p>	<p align="center">No volunteers needed</p>
<p align="center">McDonald’s Night <i>Fundraiser</i> Sept 26, 2011 & Dec 19, 2011</p>	<p align="center">Nicole Olsen 478-0881</p>	<p align="center">No volunteers needed</p>

PTA Function	Chairperson	Description
Membership	Tina Byers 223-1464	Help process membership forms, plan and promote new ways to encourage membership and “man” membership tables.
School Store <i>Student Program</i>	MC Visalli 223-9147 (HTS) & Terri Marion 223-1254 & Lori Muller 256-1271 (PVS)	Help during lunch periods throughout the school year, set up, clean up and helping with student purchases.
Silver Graphics <i>Fundraiser</i> Spring 2012	Lin Millard 417-3636	Help sort artwork and distribute products to classrooms.
Spirit Wear <i>Student Program</i> Fall 2011	Nicole Olsen 478-0881	No volunteers needed.
Talent Show <i>Student Event</i> Feb 25, 2012	Anita Mills 535-2112	Help with organizing and supervising participants during rehearsal and on the day of the event.
Teacher Appreciation May 7-11, 2012	Jamie Roes 417-3119 & Anna Brown 417-3534	Help distribute “tokens of thanks” to teachers and staff during the week; help with set up, break down and serving on luncheon dates.
TD Bank <i>Fundraiser</i>	Kathy Deacon 863-9986	No volunteers needed
Transportation Appreciation May 18, 2012	Tracy Connolly 223-1409	Help needed to set up and clean up a “thank you” brunch for our school bus drivers.
Yearbook <i>Student Program</i>	Kelly Sweeney 223-2652 (HTS) & Lori DiVerneiro 478-2428 (PVS)	Photographers needed for various school events. Help needed for collection and distribution of yearbook.

PTA Membership

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WHY JOIN THE PTA?

Stay in touch and stay informed. The PTA has a busy network of online and email communications to let you know about the many fundraisers, events and programs that are sponsored by the PTA. As a member, you will be kept up to date on our busy calendar.

Benefit your children. Studies show that children whose parents are involved in school activities get better grades, attend school regularly, have fewer disciplinary problems and have a more positive attitude towards school.

Get inside the building. PTA programs are a great way to be a part of what goes on in your child's school...yearlong activities like school store and the yearbook, as well as special events such as the book fairs and holiday shop. Not everyone has time in his or her schedule to be a room parent or classroom volunteer, but there are many other ways to participate in school activities with the students.

Get involved in ways that suit your schedule. The PTA has numerous events, fundraisers and activities. Your volunteer commitment can be as great or as little as your schedule allows, but any help the PTA gets is needed and appreciated.

Vote. Your PTA membership entitles you to vote in all levels of PTA business. Your voice makes a difference!

Stay connected to your school community. If you submit your contact information for inclusion in the e-directory, you will receive a password to access the e-directory free of charge, along with an app for your Smartphone.

WHERE DO YOUR PTA MEMBERSHIP DUES GO?

New Jersey PTA. A portion of your membership dues goes to the New Jersey State PTA Association, which provides our PTA with support, guidelines and other resources.

The remaining funds are deposited in the PTA budget, which funds purchases for items like SMART boards and recess equipment and amazing events like school assemblies and class picnics, to name just a few.

HOW YOU CAN JOIN

Two ways to join: Either complete the form in the Back-to-School packet and return it to school with a check payable to *Harrison Township PTA* -- \$7.00 for a single membership or \$12 for a family membership OR go to the PTA website and fill out the form online, with the option to pay through PayPal.

www.harrisonpta.org

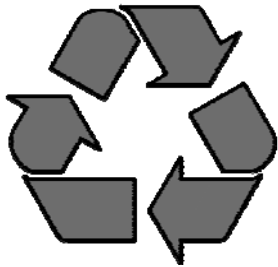
Online Communication

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Last year, the PTA started several initiatives in an effort to “go green.” We are continuing these efforts this year and we urge parents to consider taking advantage of our “green” methods of communication below!

Why go green?

- ★ Cut down on paper use
- ★ Make sure that forms don't get “lost” in backpack mail
- ★ Use PayPal to make sure your cash/checks don't get lost
- ★ Stay up-to-date on deadlines with email reminders



Parent Express Email (PEX)

The PTA utilizes *Parent Express Email (PEX)* to communicate with parents online. Parents can stay up-to-date on PTA fundraisers, programs and events by receiving email reminders as well as all backpack mail through PEX!

See the “Go Green Form” to sign up!

Website

Have you visited the PTA website lately? It is full of information on upcoming events, programs, fundraisers and volunteer opportunities as well as information on Room Parent responsibilities. You can also find downloadable copies of our forms, flyers and newsletters!

You will also find contact information for PTA Board members and chairpersons of fundraisers, programs and events should you have any questions!

Visit our website at www.harrisonpta.org.

Facebook

Join our Facebook page to receive updates and reminders, join our discussions and RSVP to our events!