

Gator Gazette

A Bi-Weekly Newsletter for the Agnor-Hurt Community

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January 8, 2019

Mark Your Calendar...

Jan 18 – Early Release from school

Jan 25 - Talent Show, 6:30pm

Jan 21 & 22 - No School

Jan 29 - PTO meeting, 7pm

Happy New Year!

Welcome back from break students, teachers and families. We hope you have a wonderful 2019.

Message from the PTO

Our AHES PTO is ready to kick off the 2nd half our 2018-19 school year, and we are in the mood for a bit of a PTO Reboot. In a school as large as AHES, it is vital for both parents and teachers to be active participants in our PTO in order to reach our mission and purpose and to maintain a sustainable organization that continues to reach new goals for our community. Over the past couple of years, we've worked to make changes in our meeting schedule, communication modalities, volunteer opportunities, and fundraising efforts in order to meet the various needs of our community. Now it's time for us to begin to think toward the future of the PTO and we need everyone's help.

We have a number of PTO Board members and committed PTO volunteers who will be stepping out of their roles next year as their children move onto middle school and others who are ready to step back a bit and allow for new, fresh ideas and takes on the PTO. Our existing Board is looking for ways to engage our community more in the happenings at AHES and in the Albemarle County Public Schools, encourage more volunteer involvement in our events and fundraising, and figure out which activities we should continue with and where we might want to make changes or shifts. Our next PTO meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 29 at 7pm in the AHES library. Please mark your calendar now and plan on attending and participating in this very important meeting that will help lead the way into the end of this school year and beyond!

3rd Annual Talent Show

The annual 3-5th grade Talent Show will be held on Friday, January 25 at 6:30pm. If you would like to participate: Return your registration form by January 15. Each act may be solo or group, and is limited to 3 minutes. There will be two mandatory dress rehearsals, January 16 and January 24, from 2:30-4:30pm. 5th graders: We are looking for a few outgoing kids to "emcee" the event. If interested, please return the registration form and indicate you would like to emcee. If you would like to support and cheer for our students, come on the 25th and enjoy the show! Everyone is welcome and encouraged to come.

Parent Counsel Update

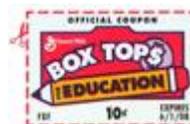
Superintendent Dr. Matt Haas met with all of the parent council reps at the beginning of the year and outlined his priorities for ACPS in the coming year. He encouraged continued engagement from the ACPS community and stressed the importance for the PTOs to continue to facilitate opportunities for community involvement and input. Dr. Haas also provided updates regarding the ACPS anti-racism policy development process, bus

driver shortage, and his first 100 days report. The Parent Council toured Albemarle Tech and Woodbrook Elementary School- two buildings that are/have undergone extensive renovations and Murray High School and Community Public Charter School. Community Public Charter School (CPCS) provides opportunities for more individualized, "passion based" curriculum and all ACPS families, including AHES are invited to tour CPCS to learn more about this middle school option.

Golden Apple Award

Nominations are now open for the 2018-2019 Golden Apple Awards, a program designed to honor outstanding teachers in public and private schools. One winner is selected from each school, and eight winners also will receive a \$1,000 Golden Apple Grant, which can be used for classroom materials or to support the recipient's professional development. Nomination forms are available in the front office or at the website noted. Nominations must be received by February 4th. More information can be found: <https://www.k12albemarle.org/dept/instruction/Pages/golden-apple-award.aspx>

Box Tops are collected all year long. You can save them up for a contest, or send them in anytime. Thank you to all students, parents, and staff that have sent in Box Tops since the start of school.



Direct Donation REBOOT!

We are still looking for donations to meet our Direct Donation goal of \$5000 for the year and now is a great time for you to contribute.

1. If we reach \$4000 before January 25, our super cool PE Teacher, Mr. Rivard, will perform on stage at the Talent Show! Yep, he'll strum that guitar and sing for us and that is definitely going to be a performance we all want to see.
2. So why are we asking for the remainder of our Direct Donations now?
 1. We use the money we receive through this fundraising effort to support our staff throughout the school year. Knowing we've hit our goal helps us to say "yes" to all of their requests for 2018-19.
 2. The PTO is a non-profit organization so your donations are tax deductible to the extent of the law for your tax submissions.
 3. A donation to a non-profit makes a great gift! At your request, we will happily create a festive letter for you to insert in a card or package to share that you made a donation to our PTO on behalf of your recipient (perhaps a retired teacher, an AHES alum, or a current teacher who you want to show your appreciation for).

Send in cash or a check made out to AHES PTO in an envelope marked PTO Direct Donation in your child's parent/teacher folder. Hop onto our website www.agnorhurtelementarypto.org or our Facebook page and hit the "Donate" button to donate online. Swing by the office to leave cash or a check and the wonderful front office staff will get it to us. Thank you for all your support!

Contact Us/Stay Informed

Agnor Hurt PTO

agnorhurtpto@gmail.com

School Website

www2.k12albemarle.org/school/AHES

The next Gator Gazette will be published Jan 22. The submission deadline is Jan 16.

PTO Website

www.agnorhurtelementarypto.org

Do you have information for the Gazette? Please send submissions to agnorhurtpto@gmail.com

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