



BEALL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION

APRIL 2016 NEWSLETTER

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Upcoming PTA Events

May 5

PTA Dine Out at Five Guys & Marble Slab (Rockville Town Square)! Five Guys & Marble Slab both will donate 20% of proceeds from our orders **from 5-9 PM** to Beall! When you pay, show the cashier the printed flyer (sent home in backpack mail). See [website](#) for details and link to flyer: http://www.beallpta.org/may_pta_dine_out_five_guys.

May 2-6

Staff Appreciation Week! There are many ways to get involved and help show our appreciation to Beall teachers and staff ALL WEEK. Thanks to Rachael Wong for organizing our efforts! Check out our [SignUp Genius](#) for SAW volunteer needs. Consult the flyer sent home in backpack mail for activities to do each day!

May 13

Dragon Read-a-Thon Kicks Off on May 13 (& runs for three weeks). Details will follow soon regarding this exciting event – this is a great way to get our Dragons excited about Summer reading. Thank you to our Coordinator, Susan Gorant!!!

May 19

Save the Date for Food Truck, Family Reading and PJ Night, 5-8 PM at Beall. Check our website for updates! We will enjoy a variety of food trucks and some reading fun! **See our President's Message on p.2 for a preview!**

Hello Dragon Families, from Kimberly Heifetz, VP of Communications

March Madness was a blast! It was an exciting game, down to the last minute with the teachers winning the game! Thanks to the generosity of our newest sponsor, FJ Capital Management! FJ Capital covered our costs for the event. **This allowed us to net \$4,640 for this popular event.** We raised an additional \$440 from the raffle. Thanks to Dian & Andy Jose (FJ Capital Co-Founder/Managing Partner), our March Madness Coordinators who took on and expertly executed this huge event. Thanks to both our Teacher and Parent Teams; referees Doug Lunenfeld and Mark Koenig, who donated their time and enthusiasm; and Kelly Carr, Beall parent alum, who donated his time, supplies and know-how at the always popular concession stand. Thanks also to our parent and SSL volunteers who helped behind the concession stand, with ticket sales, etc. This truly was a huge team effort!

Our inaugural **Spring Silent Auction was a success!** Our community really came together to collect and provide donations for the Auction, and we had a great showing the evening of the event at the Auction at Global's Parents Night Out. Special thanks to Mara Miller, our Silent Auction Coordinator, as well as her team – Vivi Cowl, Keida Kostreci and Noelle DeFazio who worked very hard to pull off this new PTA event. Thanks to our Beall community for coming to the event and bidding on the wide array of items and services that were up for auction. We earned approximately **\$4,800!**

Thanks to everyone who came out to support Beall at our **March DINE OUT at Chipotle. We raised \$410.56!** We also enjoyed DINE OUT at Hard Times & Carmen's in April with great food & company (\$\$ raised - not yet in). **Help us match or exceed that amount for our next DINE OUT by joining us at Five Guys & Marble Slab (Rockville Town Square) on May 5, 5-9 PM!**

Finally, kudos to our **many** volunteers who diligently cut and submitted Box Tops and Labels for Education this school year. Due to your efforts and those of our Box Top Coordinator, Rob Ritter, **we raised over \$1,300 for Beall!**

Message from our President, Paula Tully

There was a great turn out with nearly 30 people at the most recent Dragon Men event at VisArts. I know that my house was buzzing for days as my daughter recounted everything from the evening. It was a great bonding opportunity for the Dragon Men and their trusty sidekick(s).

We are into the last quarter of a busy but very fun school year. In a few short days, we will begin meeting the class of 2029 at Kindergarten Orientation. This means we also prepare to say goodbye to the class of 2023 and some of our beloved families as our 5th graders are promoted to Julius West. This is always a bittersweet time. Please make a plan to join us for the last few events so that you can make new friends and enjoy old ones.

One of those events is Food Truck and Family Reading Night on May 19. In addition to a PJ party and reading by Shannon Jones at Family Reading Night, we are pairing the evening with a community favorite event – Food Truck Night. Twice the fun packed into one great evening. Some of the food trucks will include the fan-favorite Carmen's Italian Ice and some newbies to our event – Chix N Stix and The Rolling Brick. Invite friends and neighbors.

We have just two PTA meetings left for the year. Come out and vote this week at the May 3rd meeting. Then join us again in June to celebrate all of our fabulous volunteers! From the Board to the Coordinators to the setup / cleanup crews, our year would not have been nearly as fun and successful without each one of them. We will have food, drink, and a little business to cap off the year. Then we take a break until October (tentatively 10/4).

Fundraising Updates

Throughout the year, including in this newsletter, we report on the dollars raised by our Beall Community through PTA-sponsored events and other initiatives. We raise this money so we can help support our students and staff by spending it where they need it most. Some of the areas that we have spent the money raised include:

- Cultural Arts Assemblies: nearly \$3,000
- New books for the Media Center: \$3,500
- Field Trip Support: more than \$300
- Bella's Wish List: nearly \$4,000
- Parent Events and Workshops: more than \$500

We aren't finished! We have Staff Appreciation Week, Read-A-Thon (with a Family Reading Night), End-of-the-Year Picnic, and other great things to come as we wind down the school year and look ahead to next year.

Remember to register for our "painless fundraising initiatives" – earn FREE MONEY for Beall by shopping as you ordinarily would:

http://www.beallpta.org/painless_fundraising.

In & About the Community

Beall PTA Board Slate & Volunteer Opportunities

Plans for 2016-17 are already well underway! Thanks to the tireless efforts of our Nominating Committee – comprised of Keryn Saffell, Dina Manevich and Tracy Saltarelli – we have a complete slate of 2016-17 Beall PTA Board positions. They are:

- Paula Tully, President
- Melissa Scales, Vice President of Programs & Planning
- Gotthard Saghi-Szabo, Treasurer
- Tyra Estwick, Vice President of Communications
- Janet Brown, Secretary

Plan to attend our May 3rd PTA meeting to vote them in! We are looking for volunteers to help with a variety of other PTA positions next year. Please express your interest to Paula at President@BeallPTA.org or complete the [Volunteer Interest Form](http://www.beallpta.org/volunteer_signup) at www.beallpta.org/volunteer_signup. **Your involvement matters A LOT!**

Spring After School Activities

Spring after school activity classes are in full swing! If you haven't signed your child up yet for this session, please consider the two Science classes that are starting on Tuesday, May 3rd and will run until June 7th. "Wearable Circuits" is for grades K-2; "It's Electric" is for grades 3-5. Check out our [website](#) for details.

Butterfly Garden Help Needed

Our lovely Butterfly Garden could use some TLC this Spring (and a Coordinator for 2016-17). Please contact Melissa at Programs@BeallPTA.org to help.

AmazonSmile is one of our painless fundraisers that we hope will help us increase our dollars raised while programs we've previously used are cutting back on donations. Help us ensure we capture available dollars from Amazon! **Simply select** "Beall ES PTA" as your charity of choice and consistently make Amazon purchases through AmazonSmile **every time** you buy something! It's easy to bookmark AmazonSmile on your desktop or Smartphone so you are sure to order through AmazonSmile (rather than Amazon.com) each time. Go ahead and login to [AmazonSmile](#) – it's easy to sign up! Visit <http://www.beallpta.org/amazonsmile> to see how and download a flyer that provides step-by-step guidance. Encourage friends & family to sign up, too!

Rockville Rewards Cards –

Good News! **The price for Rockville Rewards cards has been discounted from \$25 to \$10.** The card expires August 31, 2016, which means you have 4 months left to use it **FOR ONLY 40% OF THE ORIGINAL PRICE!** This fundraiser, sponsored by the City of Rockville to promote local businesses and to support non-profits (including Beall PTA), provides **unlimited discounts** on many favorite businesses for goods and services. For example, Dawson's Market currently offers 10% off purchases of \$50 or more. The card pays for itself, and 100% of all card sales goes to Beall! **We have already earned \$1035 for Beall, and we'd like to increase that to \$2000.** Help us reach that goal (and help yourself gain some hefty discounts). Go to http://www.beallpta.org/rr_cards_holiday for more information. Purchase directly from Paula (President@BeallPTA.org) or Juliana (Fundraising@BeallPTA.org) or at any PTA-sponsored event.



Download the **ORDER FORM** at this [link](#) on our website (link above) to order 1 or more cards. Buy them while supplies last! Send the form in an envelope labeled "PTA Fundraising" via backpack mail or drop at the school's front office and we'll get the cards to you!

Membership Update

Beall PTA Membership for 2015-16 is at 377 members strong, with 134 members enjoying family memberships! If you have not yet joined, why not? We need you. Please do so [online](#) at www.beallpta.org/membership or complete the [membership form](#) (available at www.beallpta.org/membership) and send it to us via backpack mail in an envelope labeled "PTA Membership." You can choose from 3 different types of membership: Individual @ \$25 covers 1 adult per family, Family @ \$40 covers 2 adults per family, and Beall Staff @ \$15 covers 1 Beall Staff member. In addition to supporting Beall, you will enjoy many membership benefits, including discounted entry to PTA-sponsored events, a printed Student Directory, and access to the Student Directory mobile/smartphone app.

Please consider submitting a tax-deductible [donation](#) to the Beall PTA (<https://beall.nationbuilder.com/donate>). We welcome & appreciate donations, using them to help pay for the **many** ways the PTA supports Beall. For more information about membership or donations, please contact Xi Zhou at Membership@BeallPTA.org.

MCCPTA Delegates Report

Now is the time for our dedicated and vocal community to become inform and act! Please see below information from MCCPTA VP of Advocacy, Lynne Harris, about proposed legislation pending before the County Council that would increase the "school increment" portion of the county recordation tax which goes into the county's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) budget *exclusively to fund school construction*. As explained by Lynne, if passed as proposed, the increased "school increment" would be expected to generate an additional \$155 million for school construction over the next 6 years. This would be good news for the future of RMES #5!

Below is a [link](#) to the County Council materials on the proposal, which explains the what, why and how of the proposed bill. Please learn about it here:

http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/Viewer.php?view_id=149&event_id=4549&meta_id=105450

Lynne credits the MCCPTA Summer Area Meetings held last summer with county elected officials as facilitating this proposal. The County Council member who proposed the bill was invited to - and attended - every one of these Summer Area Meetings, and in her memo explaining the proposed bill said: *"As I talk with residents across the county, it becomes increasingly clear to me that our capital needs, particularly in the areas of school construction and affordable housing, far outweigh our available resources."*

We encourage you to learn about the proposal and contact your elected county officials if you wish to show your support for Expedited Bill 15-16 and perhaps also thank Council President Floreen for taking this initiative. You can use the following [resource](#) to see in which district you live so you can determine which councilmember to contact.

<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/elections/index2.html>

And - here's a [link](#) to the contact info. for each councilmember:

<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/COUNCIL/contact.html>

Lynne has provided the following encouragement for action, which we'd like to share: "it's both easier, and more important, than you think to SPEAK to the things you care about! Power to the people!"

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