



BEALL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION

## DECEMBER 2015 NEWSLETTER

[www.beallpta.org](http://www.beallpta.org) • [Beall PTA Board Members](#)

Hello Dragon Families from Kimberly Heifetz, VP of Communications:

Thanks to everyone who attended our **Dec PTA Meeting & Workshop on Tuesday, December 1, 6:30-8 PM**. We hope you picked up and possibly already implemented some helpful guidance and ideas from Pascale Brady, our guest speaker from the Parent Encouragement Program (PEP), who talked to us about **The Stuff of Life: Your Child's Responsibilities at Home & at School**. We are thrilled to invite another speaker from PEP to our January 5<sup>th</sup> PTA meeting, who will talk about Friendship & Bullying. See column, left, for details and to RSVP.

Dine Out on December 2<sup>nd</sup> at Fuddruckers was a yummy blast. Thanks to everyone who came out to Fuddruckers, which was a new dine out venue for us! Meet us on January 13<sup>th</sup> at **Zoës Kitchen for our next Dine Out!** (See column, left, for details.) Gluten-free, veggie & vegan options on the [menu!](#)

The **PTA Staff Holiday Luncheon** on December 9<sup>th</sup> was another success, greatly appreciated by our dedicated Beall staff and teachers! We extend a huge thank you to Luncheon Organizer, Julianna Panzer, for coordinating this event again this year. Teachers and staff enjoyed their entrée from Buca di Beppo and tasty side dishes, drinks and treats provided by our families. Gift cards were raffled off to teachers and staff, too, which would not have been possible without the generous donations of gift cards from our community. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

The numbers are in! The Beall PTA **raised over \$3,800** for Beall from the Book Fair! Thanks to everyone who helped make the Book Fair a success by volunteering time and shopping at the Fair! Another round of thanks to our Book Fair Coordinator, Amy Bulson, for taking on this major role again this year. This is an annual favorite and a significant fundraiser for Beall.



### Upcoming PTA Events

#### January 5

PTA Meeting & Workshop: **6:30-8 pm** (childcare provided by Global, but you must RSVP). We welcome a guest speaker from the Parent Encouragement Program (PEP) who will speak about Friendship & Bullying. More details and RSVP at

[http://www.beallpta.org/january\\_pta\\_meeting\\_workshop](http://www.beallpta.org/january_pta_meeting_workshop).

#### January 13

PTA Dine Out at **Zoës Kitchen**. Zoës will donate to Beall a percentage of sales **ALL DAY (11 am – 9 pm)**. Just say "Beall" when you order/checkout. See [http://www.beallpta.org/dine\\_zoes](http://www.beallpta.org/dine_zoes).

#### Jan 26 (Jan 28 snow date)

Get ready for the Beall PTA Science Expo, **7-8:30 pm** in the Beall Gym. (Participating Beall Dragons arrive at **6:45 pm** to set up.) Visit [http://www.beallpta.org/sci\\_expo\\_2016](http://www.beallpta.org/sci_expo_2016) for links to register, volunteer and see information about ideas and important dates. **Registration is due Wednesday, January 6<sup>th</sup>**. Contact Sci Expo Chair, Kay Newhouse, [BeallSciExpo@gmail.com](mailto:BeallSciExpo@gmail.com) with questions.

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## Message from our President, Paula Tully

What a great turn out at Grandparents Day!! It was so nice to see the participation of grandparents, great grandparents, and special friends! There were roughly 350 visitors. We hope that everyone had a great time.

As the year comes to a close, please consider making a donation to the PTA. Your donation is tax deductible, and the funds will help us realize our goals for supporting the school! We are getting new books for the Media Center, supporting field trips and cultural assemblies, and so much more. Go to <https://beall.nationbuilder.com/donate>. No amount is too small.

In the coming days, New Year's Resolutions will abound. Please make one of your resolutions to help us continue to grow and improve our community. We have a lot of GREAT events coming up – including the Science Expo, Silent Auction, Multicultural Night, and the very popular March Madness showdown – and we will need a lot of hands on deck to make them successful. Please let us know if you are interested in stepping up to help with planning or volunteering for any of these.

Happy Holidays to all! I hope you have the best Winter Break yet, and I look forward to seeing you at our January 5<sup>th</sup> meeting to kick off the year right!

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## More Important News & Updates

### Fundraising

#### *SpiritCups – Order Online*

Didn't get your order submitted by the deadline? You are not too late! **Our SpiritCups Fall Fundraiser continues online.** Just follow the simple registration and ordering steps at [http://www.beallpta.org/online\\_spiritcups](http://www.beallpta.org/online_spiritcups)! Once registered, please send your Participant Link to your friends, family, etc. and post to your social media pages to increase orders for Beall. **Questions?** Contact Fall Fundraiser Coordinator, Susan Read ([zwschen@gmail.com](mailto:zwschen@gmail.com)), or Fundraising Chair Juliana Lutwin ([Fundraising@BeallPTA.org](mailto:Fundraising@BeallPTA.org)).

#### **Box Tops and Labels for Education – Contest & Cash Prizes in Early 2016**

Help earn money for Beall by collecting from thousands of products you probably already have in your home! You can collect both Box Tops and Labels for Education. Seeing friends and family over the holidays? Ask them to pass theirs along to you, too! Visit our website at [http://www.beallpta.org/collection\\_of\\_box\\_tops\\_and\\_labels\\_for\\_education](http://www.beallpta.org/collection_of_box_tops_and_labels_for_education) for more information on how to participate and to download a flyer you can print as a reminder or forward along to others to generate support for our effort (a copy was sent home in backpack mail last week).

Look for the pink Box Tops on hundreds of participating products: <http://www.boxtops4education.com/participating-products> OR collect UPC symbols and beverage/sauce caps for the Labels for Education program: <http://www.labelsforeducation.com/Earn-Points/Participating-Products>.

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**BRAX**  
*Fundraising*

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## In & About the Community

### Volunteer Opportunities & Other Important Info

Kick off the New Year with a commitment to get **more involved** in your child(ren)'s school and activities by becoming a volunteer. Complete our new [Volunteer Interest Form](#) at [www.beallpta.org/volunteer\\_signup](http://www.beallpta.org/volunteer_signup). Volunteer Coordinators Mary Newcomb & Tracy Saltarelli ([Volunteer@BeallPTA.org](mailto:Volunteer@BeallPTA.org)) will use the form to match your interests & availability with the perfect role(s)! Your involvement matters.

### Winter After School

Registration for **Winter After School Activities is OPEN.** Check out the many enriching options at [http://www.beallpta.org/after\\_school\\_activities](http://www.beallpta.org/after_school_activities). Register now to save your spot (Hip Hop classes are already FULL). Questions? Contact VP of Programs, Melissa Scales, at [Programs@BeallPTA.org](mailto:Programs@BeallPTA.org).

### March Madness Parent Basketball Team

Want to play on the parent team for the **2016 PTA March Madness Parents vs. Staff Basketball Game** on Friday, 3/11? Stay tuned for details!

The Beall PTA will conduct a **contest and reward cash prizes** to the classrooms that collect the most Box Tops and Labels for Education early next year. Stay tuned for more details about the contest! Get a head start and start collecting now (or keep collecting)! For more information or to ask questions, please contact Box Top & Labels for Education Coordinator, Rob Ritter, at [ritterrob15@gmail.com](mailto:ritterrob15@gmail.com) or 240-723-7379.

### ***Painless Fundraising –***

It's never too late to register for our various painless fundraising initiatives, which include Giant, Harris Teeter, Target RedCard, and AmazonSmile. Please take a few minutes & make sure you've registered for all: [http://www.beallpta.org/painless\\_fundraising](http://www.beallpta.org/painless_fundraising). Some of these programs are being phased out by their sponsors this year, so we are making a big push for **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. Holiday shopping this season? Visit our website at [http://www.beallpta.org/beall\\_pta\\_holiday\\_shopping\\_guide](http://www.beallpta.org/beall_pta_holiday_shopping_guide) for our holiday flyer. Contact Karen Folkart ([kfolkart@hotmail.com](mailto:kfolkart@hotmail.com)) for questions about painless fundraising or to share ideas. Help us earn free money for Beall by shopping how you ordinarily do.

### ***Rockville Rewards Cards –***



Rockville Rewards is an ongoing PTA fundraiser that kicked off on September 1. 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. At \$25 each, this card pays for itself, and 100% of all card sales goes to Beall! Go to [http://www.beallpta.org/rr\\_cards\\_holiday](http://www.beallpta.org/rr_cards_holiday) for more information. Purchase directly from Paula ([President@BeallPTA.org](mailto:President@BeallPTA.org)) or Juliana ([Fundraising@BeallPTA.org](mailto: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 currently at 372! Let's boost that number for 2016. If you have not yet joined, why not? Please do so [online](#) at [www.beallpta.org/membership](http://www.beallpta.org/membership) or complete the [membership form](#) (available at [www.beallpta.org/membership](http://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](https://beall.nationbuilder.com/donate) to the Beall PTA** (<https://beall.nationbuilder.com/donate>). We appreciate donations and use 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](mailto:Membership@BeallPTA.org).

## **MCCPTA Delegates Report**

Interested in better understanding the MCPS budget? Last month, MCPS launched [Budget 101](#) at [http://www.mcps.org/about\\_us/budget/2014-2015\\_budget\\_planning/budget\\_101](http://www.mcps.org/about_us/budget/2014-2015_budget_planning/budget_101). We encourage you to look at this site to understand the MCPS perspective on the budget pressures and dynamics.

Save the Dates! On **January 7th and 14<sup>th</sup>**, there will be public hearings on the MCPS operating budget. For additional historic capital budget details, you may also look at the [budget Montgomery data explorer](#) to see a breakdown of where dollars are being spent. **Questions?** Reach out to either of our MCCPTA Delegates, Andrew Breycheck ([delegate2@beallpta.org](mailto:delegate2@beallpta.org)) or Nicole Santiago ([prpeace7@gmail.com](mailto:prpeace7@gmail.com)).

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We currently have **273** "Likes" on our Beall PTA Facebook Page.

*That is the same number we had last month!*

Over winter break, please help us get to **400** "Likes" by 2016 by following the link above and Liking Us!