

**Welcome back Hornsby Middle School Students to a new school year, 2013-2014!**

**Welcome to Hornsby Middle School!**

Dear Hornsby Families:

We hope that your child is beginning to understand the routines and expectations of Hornsby Middle School. No matter what grade your child entered, there is much change with increasingly difficult academic tasks. It is important to talk with your child about the work that he or she is doing in school. More than likely, when you ask your child what he or she did in school the answer is, "Nothing." Now is the time to dig deeper and ask more questions about the classes, teachers, and friends. The questions allow you to better understand how your child is managing school and friends, as well as demonstrating that you care. We want to thank you all for keeping up the good work.

**SOAR**

We are giving "Wings" to our students to recognize the good things that they do every day. Each Friday we take some time during lunch to raffle off some fun items to celebrate their accomplishments. This is a celebration for all the good things our students do during the day including participating fully in class, being prepared, showing initiative, or simply showing kindness and respect for others.

**Ground Base**

Our first Ground Base was today. Students were assigned to different faculty across the building into mixed grade level groups of 15. Name games, goal setting, and team building activities were used throughout the building. We hope this is one more way for your child to become better connected to the school.

**PTSA Program**

Officer Reed, our Security Resource Officer, will present information regarding the dangers present in the landscape of social media. The seminar is presented by the PTSA regarding the type of sites that are popular today and the threats present within the internet to include cyber-bullying and sexting. There will be time for questions and answers. The program begins at 5:15 p.m. on September 19 prior to our Back-to-School night. Those who have RSVP'ed and attend the seminar will receive a Chik-Fil-A meal immediate following.

**EdLine Code**

Please use your activation code to access your child's EdLine. Our teachers update weekly to support the parents at home. This is an important part of communication between teacher and family.

**Morning Announcements**

Remember that our Morning Announcements are posted everyday on our EdLine page. This is important information regarding activities, events, and opportunities for our Hornsby students and their families.

**Student Pictures**

Spring Picture day will be held on September 20th. Information will be given to the students next week. You may also make a payment on line or simply bring payment and order form on Picture Day.

**Random Student Drug Testing**

Your child brought home the Voluntary Random Student Drug and Alcohol Consent to Test Form. Basically this is an opt-in form for your child to be in this program. This WJCC sponsored program provides random testing to students under parent and student consent. Please return the form in the envelope provided.

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**Fall Fundraiser**

Our Fall Fundraising effort is underway beginning today. We hope that you will be able to participate in this effort. All the funds made will be used for programming and other educational materials for the students. We have many great ideas to engage our students, but sometimes it takes a little more than the idea itself. Please take the time to look over the catalogue.

**Back-to-School Night**

We will be hosting our Back-to-School night on September 19, 2013 from 6-8pm. The PTSA will be hosting an event regarding Internet Safety on the same date prior to the evening event. More information regarding this will follow. We hope that you will be able to come out to go through your child's schedule of classes.

As always, thank you for your continued support.

Regards,

Dr. Byron Bishop  
Hornsby Middle School Principal  
bishopb@wjcc.k12.va.us

## Getting Ready for Middle School

Here are tips for keeping cool while your child makes the leap to middle school:

### 1. Buy your child a combination lock.

Lockers are a major source of anxiety for students. Buy your child a combination lock so s/he can practice. Once at school, he'll be confident s/he can get into his locker quickly.

### 2. Learn the dress code.

New middle school students stress out about fashion. They want the latest styles, while parents want them to dress demurely. Check with the school and find out what type of clothing is allowed. Take note of what 7th graders are wearing, shop accordingly, and try to let your child win the battle of the wardrobe.

### 3. Find out about extracurricular activities.

Middle school students have more opportunities for extracurricular activities. Talk to your child about what interests she would like to cultivate.

### 4. Remind your child s/he won't be the only one new kid at school.

Everyone in her grade will be new. "We go back to the Girl Scouts: 'Make new friends and keep the old, some are silver and the other gold,'" says Terry.

### 5. Familiarize yourself with how middle school operates.

Does your school have team teaching? How does the school communicate with parents? Are homework and project assignments posted online?

### 6. Show your school spirit with spirit wear.

If your child is less than enthusiastic about the school, check out the school spirit shop and purchase some T-shirts for the family. Wear them all summer. By identifying yourself as a Hornsby Hawk, you might meet other families at the local pizza place or at the pool.

### 7. Get to know the middle school kids in your neighborhood.

Chances are they're good kids and there's nothing to be afraid of. "Once parents get into the building they're like, 'These are nice kids,'" Terry says.

### 8. Help your child learn the invaluable lifelong skill of being organized.

Many kids who struggle in middle school have problems with organization. They get overwhelmed, procrastinate, and don't ask for help until it's too late. Give your child some responsibilities that will help him build time-management and other organizational skills.

### 9. Join the PTSA.

Many parents think they aren't needed or wanted at the middle school, but that's not true, Terry says. Kids, believe it or not, want their parents involved.

### 10. Don't fall prey to neighborhood rumors about the middle school.

Find out the facts for yourself by visiting the school and talking to the principal.



The step from elementary to middle school can be a big one, but these tips will help ease the transition for both parents and children.

## Moving Up to Middle School

by Patti Ghezzi (schoolfamily.com)

Your child is headed to middle school. Don't panic! You can take steps to make sure you and your child are ready.

Mark Terry, principal of Eubanks Intermediate School in Southlake, Texas, has been helping families make a seamless transition from elementary school to 6th grade for years. The secret: getting parents inside the school. "The thing we find the most successful is simply communicating with parents," he says. "They feel like their kids will get lost, and we want to assure them that they won't."

Enrolling your child in middle school is scary. It's a bigger school. Your child will go from being one of the oldest kids in school to being one of the youngest. The homework load will probably increase. The pace will speed up. The good news? Your child is ready. With your support, your child will rise to the challenge.

*Journalist Patti Ghezzi covered education and schools for 10 years for the Atlanta Journal-Constitution. She lives in Avondale Estates, Ga., with her family, which includes husband Jason, daughter Celia, and geriatric mutt Albany.*



Order your **Official Hornsby Spirit Wear** at:

# WmsbrgGrafix

<http://wmsbrggrafix.com/product-category/hornsby/>

# hornsby middle school calendar of events

september

october

november

16-20  
Book Fair Week

19  
PTSA Meeting  
Back to School Night

20  
Picture Day

27  
Last day of Fall  
Fundraiser

18  
Purple and Gold  
Dance

21  
PTSA Meeting

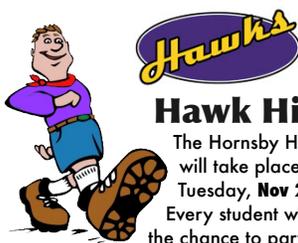
26  
Hawk Hike



## Let's Dance !!!

The first Hornsby Middle School Dance of the year will be held on Friday, **October 18** from 6:30-8:30 p.m. The PTSA is currently looking for anyone interested in helping

organize and/or chaperone. If interested, please contact Louise Denkins at [secretary@hornsbypts.org](mailto:secretary@hornsbypts.org).



## Hawk Hike

The Hornsby Hawk Hike will take place on Tuesday, **Nov 26th**. Every student will have the chance to participate in this one mile walk/run during their related arts time. The PTSA would like to provide healthy snacks to all our hike participants. If you would like to donate water or fruit for our students please contact Tami Flowers, Hawk Hike Chair, at [4flowers@cox.net](mailto:4flowers@cox.net) or (757) 508-7349.



## PTA's "Reflections" Program

Express yourself by participating in the PTA Reflections Program. This Year's Theme (2013-2014):

**"Believe, Dream, Inspire"**

You can submit an entry in one or more categories: Dance Choreography, Film Production, Literature, Music Composition, Photography and Visual Arts, if you can create it, you can enter it. There's also a Special Artist Division. You can enter as many creations as you like, but make sure the work is all yours - group projects aren't eligible. Look for rules and entry forms in the coming weeks.

Reflections contest entries must be submitted by Friday, October 25.

For more information, please contact Hornsby PTSA Reflections Chairs, Lisa Stoddard ([lisas@cox.net](mailto:lisas@cox.net), 757-682-1020) or Cindi Webber ([barbiegirl@weberkids.com](mailto:barbiegirl@weberkids.com), 757-903-1771)

## Ways to Earn Money for Our School

Dear Parents,

Here are some super **EASY** ways to help earn **LOTS of money, equipment, and supplies** for our children at Lois Hornsby Middle School! The **box tops** and **grocery receipts** (participating partners) can all be turned into your child's homeroom teacher! Thanks for your support!

**MARTINS** Just register your Martin's card at [www.martinsaplus.com](http://www.martinsaplus.com) and assign Hornsby Middle School as the benefactor. You need a valid Martins bonus card.

**FOOD LION** Enroll your MVP Card at [www.foodlionmvpwards.com](http://www.foodlionmvpwards.com) and link your card to Hornsby Middle School (219242). Then shop for qualifying Food Lion Brand Products at a Food Lion Store. Food Lion will credit one point per dollar spent. Hornsby can redeem the points for free equipment and supplies.

**TAKE CHARGE OF EDUCATION** Reward your school! The REDcard

**classroom rewards**

**1234 COMMUNITY**

**FARM FRESH** Just save the bottom of your receipts and send them in with your child! Parents like you have helped us gain valuable equipment and supplies for our children through this program in the past.

**together in education**

**HARRIS TEETER** Hurry and link your card to Lois Hornsby Middle School (8469). If you linked in the past, you must re-link every school year. You can link up to 5 schools with your card and proceeds will be evenly split. Here's how it works: Shop at Harris Teeters! At the checkout line, simply tell your cashier to link the number to your Harris Teeter VIC card. Once the account number is linked, every time you shop during the program, 2% of the Private Label purchases will be contributed by Harris Teeter to the organization's account. It's that easy!

**BOXTOPS FOR EDUCATION** Just neatly clip this label and send to school with your child. The individual and class with the most will win fun prizes!

**TARGET REDcard** Help Us Help Our School! Here's how it works: Visit [Target.com/tcoe](http://Target.com/tcoe) or call 1-800-316-6142 to designate our school, then use your REDcard whenever you shop. When you use your REDcard<sup>SM</sup> (Target<sup>®</sup> Visa<sup>®</sup> Credit Card, Target<sup>®</sup> Credit Card<sup>SM</sup> or Target<sup>®</sup> Check Card<sup>SM</sup>), Target will donate up to 1% of your purchases to the eligible K-12 school of your choice.\*



edline

Students new to Hornsby receive a new Edline account that must be activated. Teachers distribute activation codes to their students and respective families during the first week of school. Please contact your student's homeroom teacher for your Edline activation code.

Once you receive your activation code, you can activate your Edline account using the directions on the Edline web site ([www.edline.net](http://www.edline.net)).

Students and parents receive different activation codes and should keep their Edline accounts separate.

# Hornsby Middle School

## 2013-2014 PTSA Board

**Donna Jones**  
President  
President@HornsbyPTSA.org

**Trish Armstrong**  
Vice President  
VicePresident@HornsbyPTSA.org

**Michael Wells**  
Treasurer  
Treasurer@HornsbyPTSA.org

**Louise Denkins**  
Secretary  
Secretary@HornsbyPTSA.org

**Dr. Byron Bishop**  
Principal  
bishopb@wjcc.k12.va.us

**GINNEY TENNEY**  
PTSA Membership

**Penny Jo Adams**  
Spirit Wear

**Erin Schleicher**  
Hospitality

**Kelly Kelly**  
Blayton Liaison

**Christine Estep**  
Spirit Night

**Danny Mangosing**  
Publicity/PR

**Ruth Larson**  
Council Rep / Legislation

**Tami Flowers**  
Hawk Hike

**Aaron Williams**  
Beautification

**Jeannine Colarossi**  
Honor Roll

**Crystal Thibeault**  
Spring Fundraiser

**Amy Unger**  
Dances

**Cindi Exton & Allison Williams**  
Coffee Cart

**VACANT**  
Teacher Appreciation Week

**Lisa Stoddard & Cindi Webber**  
Reflections

**VACANT**  
8th Grade Dance

**VACANT**  
Sweet Talk

**VACANT**  
Collections

**VACANT**  
Mini Grants

**Stacey Petruszynski**  
Hawk Eye Helpers

**Kelly Metcalf-Meese**  
Spelling Bee

**VACANT**  
Teacher Rep

### — Committee Chairs —

Hornsby PTSA web site: <http://www.hornsbyptsa.org>

### Welcome from the PTSA President

Welcome to a new and very promising year at Hornsby Middle School. Each year, the PTSA sets out to assist our administration in creating the best possible environment for our Hornsby students, teachers and staff. The 2013-2014 school year continues that tradition. This year, the PTSA will contribute its time, energy, and resources to the Hornsby Community in many ways. We have many exciting plans as we start the new school year.

The PTSA will continue its tradition of offering Mini-Grants to deserving Hornsby staff. Thanks to the hard work and generous donations of our PTSA members, we plan to increase the number of Mini-Grants this year. These grants allow teachers to obtain special classroom equipment and supplies to assist in reaching their students, but which are not available in the school budget.

Our PTSA will continue the tradition of raising health and fitness awareness as funds for the school all at the same time through our 5th Annual Hawk Hike to be held in November.

### What is the PTSA? Why join PTSA?

The number one reason to join the Parent (family) Teacher Student Association is to benefit your child. You also help your school. But there are many more PTSA advantages:

- ★ **Get connected** - know what's happening in your school.
- ★ **Discover Resources** - Leadership training, networks of people,

ideas and resources, grants, scholarships.

- ★ **Tap into a Network** - Membership to VA PTSA and NATIONAL PTA are a part of your Hornsby PTSA Membership. Go to [www.VAPTA.org](http://www.VAPTA.org) and/or [www.PTA.org](http://www.PTA.org) to activate your card and get more membership benefits.
- ★ **Watch Yourself Grow** - Just by joining, you are supporting your child and your school. There is no time commitment

Students are already anticipating the renewal of our Annual Purple & Gold Dance in October.

Those Sweet Talks with student PTSA members will be held periodically throughout the year, providing not only a sweet treat for our members but a sweet (but short) break from class.

Our Honor Roll recognition celebrations will continue to provide treats and recognition to those hard-working students who make the Honor Roll each marking period.

These wonderful activities are only the beginning.



Look for more information to come!

Two years ago we changed our organization by recognizing the need for a Student voice and becoming a State-Recognized Parent/Teacher/Student Association, or PTSA. This change means that we

when you join. By choosing to volunteer with your PTSA, you put your skills and hobbies to use for a great cause — your child and all children in the community.

- ★ **Speak Up** - Every PTSA member has a vote. The first function of the PTSA is an advocacy group for our children and families. You do make a difference.
- ★ **See Improvement** - Be a part of the solution,

help make positive changes. Local PTAs play an important role in fundraising to provide teacher support, provide family and student programs, and engaging social events.

- ★ **Be a Role Model** - Demonstrate to your child the importance you place on education.
- ★ **Enjoy the Benefits** - At Hornsby, PTSA students enjoy Sweet Talks and other special PTSA privileges throughout the year.

Individuals and local units can take advantage of a host of benefits — **Go to [www.PTA.org](http://www.PTA.org) to activate your card** for even more from our Partners.

Everyone—parents, educators, students and other citizens active in their schools and communities—is invited to join our not-for-profit parent teacher student association.

offered memberships to our student body in addition to our parents and teachers. And what a great way this has turned out to be to get our students more involved in their school!

Student involvement lets our children play an active part in PTSA activities, from providing meaningful input into dances, Mini-Grants, Website and Membership, to deciding how to raise and spend PTSA funds. This provides involvement, opportunities for developing leadership and decision-making skills while giving the children a meaningful voice in school activities.

We would love to expand on the theory this year, with a goal of bringing more students into the committees and operations of the PTSA. If you have a student that would like to get more involved and play an active role in deciding how some things run at Hornsby, have them contact us!! If they have specific desires about helping with a specific committee, we would love to have them.

Keep checking our website. The PTSA is working on several exciting announcements for Spring 2014.

**Donna Jones**  
Hornsby Middle School PTSA President  
e-mail: [President@HornsbyPTSA.org](mailto:President@HornsbyPTSA.org)

### Why put the 'S' in PTSA?

- ✓ We want to make every child's potential a reality;
- ✓ We recognize our students and encourage their involvement in this organization;
- ✓ Students are intergenerational collaborators and advocates;
- ✓ Students will gain useful skills: community service, decision making, conflict resolution, teamwork and public speaking;
- ✓ They are liaisons from the student body to the PTSA;
- ✓ They are full of great ideas and wonderful input;
- ✓ Putting the S in PTSA allows the students to take ownership and responsibility in their school; and finally because
- ✓ They are ready for this.

### 2013-2014 Lois S. Hornsby Middle School PTSA Membership Form

Yes, I want to join Hornsby's PTSA. I know that as a member of the Hornsby PTSA, I will automatically become a member in the Virginia and National PTA and will be able to take advantage of the benefits of the PTA.

Parent/Adult Memberships: _____ @ \$6.00 each \$ _____	Member Name: _____	Circle one	Type of Membership	Grade
Student Memberships: _____ @ \$6.00 each \$ _____	Member Name: _____	M / F	P T S	6 7 8
Faculty/Staff Memberships: _____ @ \$6.00 each \$ _____	Member Name: _____	M / F	P T S	6 7 8
Community Memberships: _____ @ \$6.00 each \$ _____	Member Name: _____	M / F	P T S	6 7 8
Donation to the PTSA: \$ _____		Circle one	Circle one	Circle one
<b>Total Enclosed: \$ _____</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input type="checkbox"/> Check Check# _____			

Please make checks payable to: **Hornsby PTSA**. There will be a fee of \$38 on all returned checks.

Return completed form and membership / donation funds to: **Hornsby PTSA, c/o Membership Chair, 850 Jolly Pond Road, Williamsburg, VA 23188**

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: 6 7 8 \_\_\_\_\_ Homeroom: \_\_\_\_\_ (For Card Distribution)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Family E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ (E-mail addresses will be used for Hornsby PTSA Signup Genius, Updates and Opportunities)

Family Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ My children are in the following Grades: 6 7 8 (circle all those that apply)

I hereby **OPT OUT** of any use of my name, number, photos of my child or myself that are used for PTSA purposes only.