

# **SOUTHERN**



# **SEARCHER**

*A Monthly PTA Newsletter*

## **Fine Arts Night & 1st Grade Musical**

William Southern's Fine Arts Night is coming up soon! Activities to celebrate the arts will begin at 5:30 pm on Tuesday, April 15<sup>th</sup>. It will be a fun evening filled with hands-on arts activities, refreshments, and every student will receive a blue ribbon award for their masterpiece on display. There will also be a guest speaker sharing about Japanese culture. All activities will wrap up at 6:45 in preparation for the 7 pm musical performance of *The Tears of the Dragon* by Southern's first graders. Come join us for a fun evening celebrating the Arts! Please contact Mrs. Bagunu if you have any questions about this event. [Laura\\_bagunu@idschools.org](mailto:Laura_bagunu@idschools.org)

## **Skating Party**

Please join us on April 10<sup>th</sup> for the last skating party this year. It is at B & D South Skate Center from 6-8 p.m. and it is only \$4.



## **April 2014**

### Calendar

#### April

- 3 ICPTA Council Meeting, Bridger, 7-8 p.m.  
PTA Papa John's Night
- 10 Skate Party No. 4. PTA, 6-8 p.m., B&D South Skate Center, \$4
- 15 Fine Art Night & First Grade Musical 5:30-7:30pm(PTA Unit Meeting)
- 16 Preschool Grad Pictures
- 17 ICPTA School of Information Night,
- 18 No School, Good Friday
- 28 Talent Show Tryouts

#### May

- 6-22 **MAP Testing**
- 8 PTA School Wide Picnic 5:30-7:30pm
- 13 Kindergarten Program 6:00pm
- 13 Yearbook Delivery
- 20 Preschool Graduation 6:00pm
- 21 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Awards 2:00
- 22 Field Day & Signing of Year books
- 23 Talent Show – 10:00-11:30 am
- 23 Last Day for Students Early Release 1:45pm



**William Southern  
Elementary  
PTA Board  
for 2013-2014**

**President**

Sheryl Trick

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**Facebook**

William Southern Elementary School PTA

Missouri PTA Website

[www.mopta.org](http://www.mopta.org)

National PTA Website

[www.pta.org](http://www.pta.org)

## Message from the PTA President

Dear William Southern Parents and Staff,

Congratulations to the newly elected William Southern Elementary School PTA Board of Directors for the 2014-15 school year. These people will be installed at the May 7 board meeting.

President...Lucia Ferrara  
Vice President-Programs...Sheila Rancatore  
Vice President-Membership...Amy Jacoby  
Treasurer...Maggie Lesnak  
Recording Secretary...Dana Conley  
Co-Chair-Kelly Nelson  
Corresponding Secretary...Sarah Jarvis  
Historian...Stephanie Weathers

Now comes the task of finding the chairmen to help the board plan and present the events and activities for the next school year. Current chairmen who are eligible to continue with their positions will be contacted to verify their willingness to continue for another year. If they are unable to continue because their youngest student is graduating from William Southern, or other changes in their life, they will be asked to suggest the names of other parents who would be a good candidate to fill the position.

The chairman positions are:

T-shirt Sales, Mother/Son Event, Watchdog Program, Father/Daughter Event, Campbell's/Box Tops collections, May Picnic, Free Movie Night, Skating Party Coordinator, Room Parent Coordinator, Bulldog Costume, Holiday Cafeteria Tables, Restaurant Nights, School Picture Day, Newsletter, Hospitality, Teacher Appreciation, School Sign, Legislation, Reflections Contest, Nominating Committee, Birthday Book Club, Bulletin Boards, Volunteer Coordinator, Yearbook.

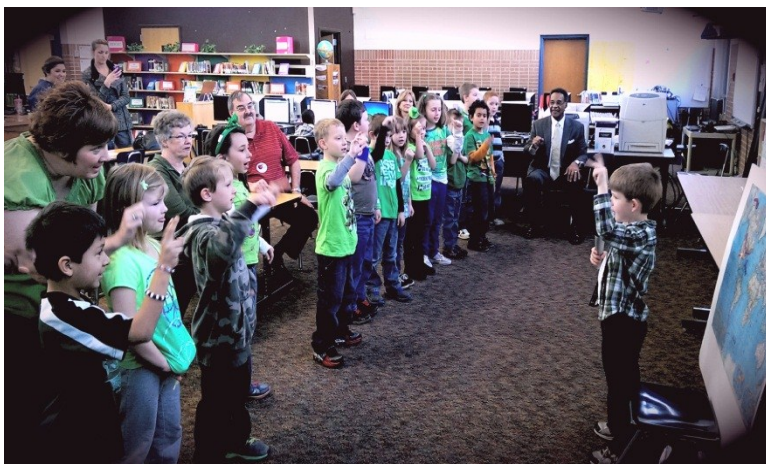
- We will need parents who enjoy planning parties to coordinate some of our activities and events.
- We will need parents who are social and have people networking skills to help find volunteer helpers for our events and activities.
- We need parents who like helping with advance work like making copies for take home fliers, laminating materials, driving around town to get supplies and food/drink items for meetings and events. And,
- We need parents who can help acquire resources for activity supplies through business donations or funding for things like teacher grants by filling out grant applications.

There are many different opportunities out there for PTA to help make William Southern a "Pawsitive Place to Be" for everyone!

Sheryl Trick, PTA President

# Mrs. Countryman's First Grade Class

On March 17th, Congressman Emanuel Cleaver put education first by visiting Wm. Southern Elementary and reading to First graders. Mrs. Countryman's first grade class had the opportunity to present their 17-step project called "It's Our Country, Man Roll Call." This project helps the first graders learn their place in the world. They learn their birth date, street, city, county, state, country, continent, planet, solar system, galaxy and more.



## Legislative Info From Around our State

The number of bills filed will decrease as the Missouri General Assembly heads into the second half of session. Both the house and the senate were on spring break from March 13<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup>.

### Action on bills:

Currently there are several bills in the House and Senate dealing with transfer issues. These bills have the potential to have voucher language attached to them. The Missouri PTA is asking for members to contact their legislators and let them know PTA does not support any type of voucher system. Vouchers divert public funds from public schools. These types of systems do not ensure parental choice.

There are also several bills that would ban common core in our state. PTA is in support of voluntary, clearer, higher academic standards for all students. National PTA has developed Common Core State Standards Initiative resources including State Assessment Guides. These can be found at National PTA's website under their Advocacy tab. Missouri PTA asks you contact your legislator and urge them to support our schools and the Common Core State Standards Initiative.



### *School Phone Numbers*

William Southern Office	521-5475
	Fax 521-5646
Early Education	521-5477
Kids' Safari	521-5478
Inclement Weather Hotline	521-5305
Nutritional Services	521-5371
Transportation	521-5335
Central Office	521-5300
Cafeteria	521-5599

## Reminder from the School Nurse

Students' clothing gets wet/soiled at school for a variety of reasons. Since there is a **very limited supply of clothes at school**, please provide your student with a change of clothes either in their backpacks or in the classroom.

## How Damaging is Failure to My Child's Self-Esteem?

Here's What concerned Parents Can Do

From the Winter 2013 *GAMbit* - By Dennis O'Brien, MA, LCSW

Start by assessing your priorities. Are you as aware as you should be of the importance of helping your child grow emotionally and socially? Do you sometimes get too caught up in what your child can learn or accomplish at the expense of his development as a well-rounded person?

Next, assess your child's situation. Does your child take risk? How involved is your child with activities where he may not be the best? Does he enjoy them for the fun, challenge, and companionship they offer, or does he withdraw, brood, or get critical of others? How well does your child interact with peers? What kind of coaching or support does he need from you in order to take more risks or expand his scope of activities and relationships with peers?

Arrange for your child to become involved in activities in which he may not be "the best" so that he learns he is okay as a person, valued and valuable for whom he is. Be sure to include group activities that teach cooperation with others - and where success is not measured by academic prowess.

Team Sports provide wonderful opportunities for gifted children to both experience the frustration that most of us feel at being just good enough at something, not great, and to learn about working together with others. In addition to giving your child opportunities to learn to cope with adversity by participating in activities where he may not be the best, activities like these also help your child become more well-rounded.

Should you force your child to participate? Yes, if you must. Obviously it is better if your child participates in activities that interest him, but sometimes a child who fears "not-being-the-best-at-everything" must be compelled to participate in activities that are healthy for him. "I want you to try soccer now. If you really don't like it at the end of the season, you can try swimming, dance or theater."

Praise and encourage your child for participating, always keeping the focus on the process of making the effort rather than the results.

Enroll your child in classes where he will be challenged by chronological peers who are his intellectual equals and nurtured by master teachers specially prepared to make it a safe environment for children who may be facing this situation for the first time in their lives.

Sheila Bonner '521-5450 © IMPACT & Teacher of the Gifted

<http://IMPACT4gifted.org> :Twitter: Mrs. B @IndepIMPACT

Gifted Association of Missouri Board Member - *GAMbit* Editor

# Fourth Graders visit Jefferson City

William Southern 4th grade students and teachers, Mr. Amos, Mrs. Coone, Mrs. Higgins, and Mrs. Howell, traveled to Jefferson City on Thursday, March 13th. The weather was perfect as they toured the Capital building, Supreme Court building, and Governor Nixon's office. Students also had the opportunity to sit on the house floor of the House of Representatives and ask their State Representative, Noel Torpey, questions about his job and how things run. They ended the day by walking to see the Governor's Mansion before making the trip home.



Deadline for this newsletter is the 25th of each month. If you would like to put something in the newsletter, please e-mail Lisa Patrick at Patrick.Lisaann@att.net.

We collect Box Tops for Education and Label's for Education so please keep sending your Box Tops and Campbell's labels. There is a collection box in the front lobby.



Word of the month  
Perseverance – to continue trying in spite of difficulties.

## Items Wanted for Fine Art's Night

We need empty paper towel &/or toilet paper tubes for a project for Fine Art's Night.

If you have any, please send in as soon as possible to me.

Thanks,  
Mrs. Bagunu  
Art Teacher

**Duane M. Blankenship**  
partner

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If you can dream it, you can do it.

Walt Disney



**Chris Trick**  
Agent

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