

TEACHER APPRECIATION  
WEEK

EXTRA!



EXTRA!

MAY 4-8TH

# THE BEAVER GAZETTE

Volume 5

May 2015

Free

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## PTA'S PURPOSE

To make every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children.

Be a hero! Join Today!



## CALLING ALL HEROES!

The PTA needs your help!

Be on the lookout for ways you can volunteer and participate on the Beaver Tech PTA board. Board Positions for the 2015-2016 school year are still available!

For more information, please contact [Kassandra Hart](mailto:Kassandra.Hart@gmail.com) [Kassandra.hart@gmail.com](mailto:Kassandra.hart@gmail.com)

## SUPER BIRTHDAYS

May 12	Jenny Arango
May 15	Erica Ramirez
May 21	Monica Aldana
June 1	Odilia Espino
July 15	Veronica Pelayo
July 16	Amy Sinclair
July 17	David Martinez
July 17	Marisol Cardona
July 23	Kathy Alrid
July 23	Kellie Barerra
July 23	Kimberly Lowery

## PTA NEWS

by *Kassandra Hart*, PTA President

The school year is winding down and it's a good time to reflect on what we've accomplished this past year. We set four main goals at the beginning of the school year that we felt supported both Beaver Tech's mission and the PTA's mission.

We allocated fifty dollars for each teacher to spend on resources and classroom materials that they may not be able to purchase through the district's vendor program. Many teachers took advantage of this money to buy needed supplies for their classrooms.

We purchased spirit sticks with character and leadership messages to support Beaver Tech's Character and Leadership program. As students learned about honesty, trustworthiness, responsibility, and other admirable character and leadership traits, they were able to earn corresponding spirit sticks from school staff when they exhibited these behaviors. At the end of each semester, there is a drawing with a chance to win one of ten ToysRUs gift cards provided by the PTA. This program rewards and reinforces model behavior in students at Beaver Tech!

The PTA helped bring Minecraft to the Clubs/Electives program this year. This elective gave students the opportunity to collaborate on group projects to solve problems and build solutions. It's a fun way to learn valuable skills that will be used in their education and later in life.

We also helped purchase supplies for the new 3D printer at Beaver Tech. Ms. Ariza's grant proposal for a 3D printer was approved and it is now being used in the Tinkering Thinkers elective. 3D printing is the future of manufacturing. I think it's wonderful that Beaver students are getting the opportunity to literally create solutions and products via the 3D printer. They are only limited by their imagination.

Lastly, we wanted to bring more educational programs for students and parents to Beaver Tech. The PTA covered the cost for the Morris Brothers to speak to the students about Drug Awareness during Red Ribbon Week. PTA member, *Huong Le*, worked all year to bring parents, professionals, and businesses to Beaver Tech to support classroom PBLs and the Clubs/Electives program. Beaver Tech has turned Career Day into an all-year-long learning experience for students.

PTA's mission is to make every child's potential a reality and I think we are doing just that at Beaver Tech. When you start with great teachers and staff and combine that with great volunteers, together we're able help provide and support amazing educational experiences for our children that they would not be able to receive at any other school in this district. It feels a little cheesy to say, but there really is no place like Beaver Tech.

We still have openings on the PTA board. Please contact me if you're interested in making 2015-2016 the best year yet at Beaver Tech – [Kassandra.hart@gmail.com](mailto:Kassandra.hart@gmail.com).



## CONTACT US

Jason Adams, Principal  
3232 March Lane, Garland, TX 75042  
972.494.8301

Sheri Flinn, Assistant Principal  
Marcie Romero, Counselor  
Kassandra Hart, PTA President

# PTA NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## BEAVER TECH NEWS

by Jason Adams, Principal

As another school year comes to an end, I wish to extend my sincere thanks to all members of the Beaver Tech community. Through the combined efforts and actions of the students, staff, and parents, we can celebrate and take pride in another successful year.

Our goal is to foster a 21<sup>st</sup> Century learning environment, so one of the highlights of the year was that Beaver Tech maintained its distinction as an Apple Distinguished School. The Apple Distinguished School designation is reserved for schools that have demonstrated Apple's highest vision of a successful 21<sup>st</sup> Century learning environment. This recognition can be attributed to all of the hard work and dedication of our students, parents, and teachers in supporting innovation, educational excellence, and an exemplary learning environment. I am very proud of our Beaver Stars!

It is hard to believe that our fifth graders are moving on to middle school. I would like to wish them the best of luck next year. I know they will represent Beaver very well no matter what school they attend in the fall. We will all miss their energy, spirit, and leadership. Be sure to come back to visit.

The end of the school year provides us with time to reflect, celebrate, recognize, and to say goodbye. As the year comes to an end, I would like to sincerely thank our students, parents, and staff for making this past year productive and successful. We hope everyone can take some time this summer to relax, rejuvenate, and reflect on our many achievements.

Have a fantastic summer.



## BEAVER TECH-NICOLOR RUN 2015

by Heather Bryant

When we first had the idea to do a color run for our spring fundraiser, we were just thinking of a way to get out of having to sell something out of a catalog. We were looking for a way to involve more of the student body with teachers and families in an activity that everyone could participate in and benefit from. The participation we got with the color run was phenomenal. We had a whopping 85% of our students here at Beaver Tech, along with their families, running to support our school. With almost 600 runners and more than 40 volunteers, our campus was full of color and smiles.

I would like to personally thank all of the volunteers who came to help on race day. As you know, that was a big messy job and you all jumped right in. I would also like to thank the PTA board members who put in their own time helping me in the weeks leading up to the race. And last, but definitely most importantly, thank you to Mr. Adams and our amazing staff here at Beaver for all that they did to help us prepare for and execute this entire event. We could not have done any of this without all of your help.

Just another one of the 3,462,876 reasons why we love our school!!!

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

by Valerie McElroy

I want to thank all the Beaver families that came to Jam the Gym in April. It was such a fun night and there's nothing that warms a P.E. teacher's heart more than watching our families actively moving and having fun! Our students love showing their families the activities we enjoy in P.E.

Our next HUGE event is **Field Day on Friday, May 22!** This year's theme is "Commit to be Fit" which will look awesome on our 2015 Field Day T-shirts!

We need parent volunteers to make this a safe, fun day for our students. Volunteer request forms have been sent home so please make plans to join us. We need helpers to run activity stations from 8:45-10:45 (K-2nd) and from 12:30-2:30 (3rd-5th) Please contact Valerie McElroy at [VDMcElro@garlandisd.net](mailto:VDMcElro@garlandisd.net) or call 972.494.8301 with questions. We also need cases of 16-ounce sized water bottles to keep our students and workers hydrated. Please send water to gym. We look forward to a great May in P.E. and hope you can join us for Field Day 2015!



## YEARBOOK

by Rebecca Thiehoff

Hi Beaver Star families and students. I am very excited to announce that we will be passing out the yearbooks to classrooms on June 1st. Parents may want to remind their children to only bring the yearbook out during lunch and recess. They are fun to look through and have our friends sign them, but we shouldn't bring them out during class. Thank you for your purchase.

## THANKS, DON'T STOP!

by Susan Elliott

We have a great Box Tops for Education program. This year we have replaced the old sound system cables with cables custom-made for the new system; added to the classroom instrument collection so that more students can play at once; purchased sheet music; and (drum roll, please) purchased two iPad Minis. By the time this newsletter is published, we hope to have 2 or 3 more Minis on the way. All of that was made possible from those little Box Tops. Thanks!

Note: Box Tops have expiration dates. If you have any Box Tops at home, please send them in soon. It's really sad to have to toss out the expired ones.



## E-WASTE - LAST CHANCE

by Susan Elliott

The final pick-up for E-Waste this year will be on **May 29**. Look around for your discarded computers, peripherals, and other electronics. Statistically, 85% of unused electronics are still in homes and garages. Think of the space that could be reclaimed! Just drop off your items, and we'll take care of the rest.

Unsure if what you have is recyclable? As a rule of thumb, anything that runs on a cord or battery (except lightbulbs) is probably good to bring. If you want verification, email me at [sdelliot@garlandisd.net](mailto:sdelliot@garlandisd.net), or call Beaver at 972-494-8301 and leave a message.

# PTA NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

by Esteban Mojica

We will need volunteers to cover lunch and recess duty for our teachers on **May 8th** as the PTA honors them with a luncheon. Please contact me at [beaverPTAvolunteer@gmail.com](mailto:beaverPTAvolunteer@gmail.com), if you are interested in helping the PTA and teachers this day.

As we come to the end of the school year, I want say thank you to everyone who took the time to help support our kids and our school through our many volunteering opportunities. Although we had many events throughout the year, they would have been successful without your help and participation.

To our Watch DOGS Dads, thank you for helping to get the program up and running here at Beaver! Your support and participation truly made a difference and has helped us build a strong foundation for future success. I hope that you had fun volunteering, because I know the kids really enjoyed having you there.

If you didn't get a chance to volunteer this year or still want to be a part of the group, please send us a message so we can get a head start on next year's calendar. I would like to encourage current Watch DOGS to recruit other dads to join our group. We are always looking for more dads to make an impact. Please be on the lookout for more information on Watch DOGS.

It was truly a pleasure working with you all and I'm happy to have worked with so many great parents, grandparents, great-grandparents, friends and family members of our children. I hope you rest up this summer and bring the same energy and enthusiasm that you did this year. I wish you all a safe and happy summer and look forward to what next year brings for our children.

## MEMBERSHIP

by Mariah Rice

Thank you for supporting the Beaver Tech PTA! Your membership this year has contributed to providing supplies for the electives program, providing luncheons for our teachers, hosting numerous family events, including our award winning carnival and last month's TECH-nicolor Run. We couldn't do it without you!

## HEALTH, SAFETY, & LEGISLATION

by Christina Craig

Jam the Gym was a great success!!! Thanks to Mrs. McElroy for putting on such a great event. We had a great turn out and the kids seemed to enjoy the time with their family and friends.

Just a reminder, temps are getting warmer and our kids will be asking to play outside more and more so don't forget the sunscreen. If possible, you should apply before they head out to school in the morning to help protect them during recess later in the day.

With warmer temps, dehydration from outside play can occur. Remind your kids to drink plenty of fluids, especially water to stay hydrated. Sugary drink like soda and fruit juices can dehydrate kids if drunk in large quantities and they lead to our kids being overweight, so water really is the best drink of choice.

Stay safe and have fun this spring and summer season.

## NOTES FROM MUSIC

by Susan Elliott

### Choir Performance Approaching

The 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Choir, Honor Choir, and iBand have been working on some wonderful music selections to share in May.

- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Choir is singing selections from "The Sound of Music."
- Honor Choir is singing a wide variety of music, including a sailors' song, a Kyrie sung in Latin, a piece from a Broadway musical, and an Irving Berlin classic.
- The iBand will share music with their special twist.

Please join us for the PTA performance, on **Tuesday, May 12 at 6:00.**



## PARENT INVOLVEMENT

By Claudia Mojica

I want to thank all of the parents and families who have taken the opportunity to volunteer and be engaged at your child's school and education. With your support, our annual events were successful and look forward for next school year's events!

Why should parents get involved? Because involvement can make a dramatic difference for their children. So for next school year, I challenge parents and families to become involved and engaged at Beaver and our community.

I truly enjoyed serving as your Parent Involvement and Campus Community Chair for the 2014-2015 school year. I want to wish you all a safe summer and thank you all for your support!

## SPIRIT STICKS

by Heather Bryant

Time is running out to get your hands on the latest craze at Beaver Tech. Spirit sticks will be sold for the last time during lunches on Friday, May 1st. Don't forget to bring your dollars because we will have some fun ones you can't pass up.

There will also be a Spirit stick table out on field day with every stick we have available for sale. This will be the absolute last chance to get spirit sticks this year. Come check out the Lego, Minecraft, animal tails, sports sticks and many, many more!

With all the spirit sticks we have sold this year, we were able to purchase the spirit sticks that the school has given out. Maybe your child has come home with a Caught Being Safe or Marvelous Manners. Kudos to them for showing us what Beaver's Leadership program is all about. What kind of Spirit Sticks would you like to see next year?

### Final Spirit Stick Sales Events:

**May 1, 2015 (during lunches)**

**May 22, 2015 (Field Day)**



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# PTA NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## ART ROOM HAPPENINGS

by Dixie Nambo

Fun continues in the art room as we explore the world of 3-D art! Students have been making 3-d shapes with Crayola Model Magic. This medium is great for students to practice their hand building skills as well as mixing the primary colors to make secondary colors. It is also a great way to learn about tints and shades. We will continue this unit with students making clay pinch pots, creating paper sculptures and folding origami pieces.

Art Portfolios of students in grades 2nd-5th will be sent home this month. The portfolio has student work that has been done throughout the year. I hope you enjoy talking with your child about their artwork as they share with you the type of artwork created along with the process involved.

Art Club enjoyed having their artwork on exhibit at the Dallas Museum of Art in April. The work is now on display throughout the school. All artwork will be returned to students during the last week of school.

Our Thanksgiving Square - Expressions of Gratitude Art Contest winners have their artwork on exhibit at the J. Erik Jonsson Central Public Library in downtown Dallas. Students, friends and family were treated to a special reception honoring all competition winners.

It has been a great year in the Art Room! We have learned so much and made some beautiful art! So many shining star artists right here at Beaver Tech!



The Art Club's work on display at the DMA



"Cherry Blossom Tree" by Maggie Bryant  
"Garden" by Edna Dabi



## MORNING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Parents can access the Morning Announcements at any time from the Beaver Tech homepage. The link will take you to the High School Cube website where you can log in with Facebook or create and account to watch.

## YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD PTA BOARD AND CHAIRMEN



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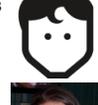
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**Yearbook**  
Rebecca Thiehoff  
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# PTA NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Using LED Lights

by Susan Elliott, Environmental Chair

You probably know that incandescent bulbs are the least efficient and most expensive to run. Compact Fluorescent Lightbulbs (CFLs) have been available for several years, and now another kind of light bulb, LED, has become a viable option.

Consider these advantages:

**Energy efficient** - LED's are now capable of outputting 135 lumens/watt.

**Long Lifetime** - 50,000 hours or more if properly engineered.

**Rugged** - LED's are also called "Solid State Lighting (SSL) as they are made of solid material with no filament, tube, or bulb to break.

**No warm-up period** - LED's light instantly, in nanoseconds.

**Not affected by cold temperatures** - LED's will startup even in subzero weather.

**Directional** - With LED's you can direct the light where you want it, thus no light is wasted.

**Excellent Color Rendering** - LED's do not wash out colors like other light sources such as fluorescents, making them perfect for displays.

**Environmentally friendly** - LED's contain no mercury or other hazardous substances.

**Controllable** - LED's can be controlled for brightness and color.



	Incandescent Bulbs	CFLs	LEDs
Watts of electricity for equal light	60 Watts	13-15 Watts	6-8 Watts
Lifespan	1,200 hours	8,000 hours	50,000 hours

LEDs are expensive to purchase, but over time, more than pay for themselves in energy and replacement costs.

*Information for this article from:*

<http://www.continental-lighting.com/led-basics/advantages-disadvantages.php>

<http://www.designrecycleinc.com/led%20comp%20chart.html>

## LIBRARY NEWS

by Cheryl Brooks

The Book Exchange will take place during Field Day on Friday, May 22nd. Starting Monday, May 4th through Thursday, May 21st, students may bring up to 5 gently used books to the library for Book Exchange Day. Remember students will choose from the books that were brought in by other students, so please bring books that are appropriate for the student's grade level. Students also have the opportunity to bring more than 5 books to be donated to children in need. On Field Day, students who brought books to exchange may pick out new books that were brought by other students and enjoy new stories!

May 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> is Children's Book Week. What is your favorite book? Who is your favorite book character? Let's celebrate on Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup> by dressing up as your favorite book character. There will be prizes for all students who dress up!

**Other important dates to remember:**  
**May 15<sup>th</sup> – Last day to check-out books**  
**May 21<sup>st</sup> – All library books are due**

## TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

# May 4 – May 8



### STAY CONNECTED

Stay Connected with Beaver Technology Center on Twitter [@BeaverMST\\_Stars](https://twitter.com/BeaverMST_Stars). Don't miss any important updates by turning on "mobile notifications" under the settings tab (the gear symbol) on the [@BeaverMST\\_Stars](https://twitter.com/BeaverMST_Stars) profile page!

Don't forget to check the Beaver Technology Center website ([www.garlandidschools.net/beaver](http://www.garlandidschools.net/beaver)) often for the latest school info and calendar.

Subscribe to Beaver Tech's eNotes by going to [www.garlandidschools.com/beaver](http://www.garlandidschools.com/beaver) click on the eNews icon and follow the instructions.

Follow Beaver Tech PTA on Twitter ([@BeaverPTA](https://twitter.com/BeaverPTA)) and Facebook ([www.facebook.com/BeaverPTA](http://www.facebook.com/BeaverPTA)). Handy QR codes and links can be found on page 3.

# PTA NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## HOSPITALITY

by Melissa Elliott

WOW!!!! I can't believe the school year is coming to a close already. What an exciting and fun year we've had. I would like to extend a HUGE appreciation for everyone that has volunteered, participated, donated, or offered suggestions during this year. If you have not had an opportunity and would still like to help.....IT'S NOT TOO LATE!!

We have one of our biggest Hospitality events of the year coming up. During the week of May 4-8, we will celebrate Teacher Appreciation Week. We will need volunteers for the following:

- Desserts – Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>
- Lunch/Recess Volunteers, Friday, May 8<sup>th</sup>
- Luncheon Items, Friday, May 8<sup>th</sup>

Let's end this school year with a BANG and show the teachers and staff how much we truly appreciate them.

Please watch your Thursday folders for more details.

If you have any further questions, or would like to get more information on how you can volunteer, I can be reached at [melliott0508@yahoo.com](mailto:melliott0508@yahoo.com)



## ROOM REPRESENTATIVE

by Cassandra Hart

The end of the school year is approaching and with it, end of year parties! If you would like to help out with your child's class party, please contact your teacher this month to volunteer.

The PTA has allocated \$2.00 per student for this party and board members will be on hand that day to process your reimbursements. The PTA does not reimburse sales tax, so please use a tax exempt form, if needed, for your party purchases. You will also need to submit a reimbursement form and receipts to receive reimbursement from the PTA (up to the allotted amount per student). Copies of these forms are located in the PTA room at Beaver Tech - there are labeled boxes just inside the door. If you have any questions you may contact Cassandra Hart at [kassandra.hart@gmail.com](mailto:kassandra.hart@gmail.com).



## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### May 2015

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	Fri	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

### May

- 1 Spirit Sticks sold during lunch
- 4-8 Teacher Appreciation Week
- 12 General PTA Meeting and Choir Performance
- 22 Field Day
- 25 Memorial Day-No School



### June 2015

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	Fri	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

### June

- 5 Last Day of School/Early Dismissal

\*All listings on this calendar are subject to change. Please check your child's Thursday Folder for up to date information regarding school events and activities.

