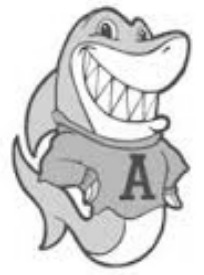


# AMHERST NEWSLETTER



News and events for Amherst families. Go sharks!

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE FROM MS. YARBROUGH

### New Staff

There are some new faces here at Amherst, and we want to welcome the following staff members:

Lorie Collier: Assistant Principal  
Emily Craig: PreK SPED Teacher  
Carol Rudolph: PreK Teacher  
Morgan Miller: Kindergarten Teacher  
Sarah Doty: 1st Grade Teacher  
Jacqueline Limonchi: 2nd Grade Teacher  
Beth Ann McDonald: 4th Grade Teacher  
Meagan Thompson: 5th Grade Teacher  
Sheila Sickau: SPED Teacher  
Kara Birdwell: SPED Assistant  
Tamesa Brown: SPED Assistant  
Wayne Sharp: PreK Assistant  
Kristin Seabolt: Music Teacher  
Caitlin Lunsford: ELL Part-time Teacher  
Mary Clair Szukelewicz: Hearing Impaired Teacher



## Important Dates

- Sept 3-21 School Coupon Book Campaign
- Sept 7 Labor Day - no school
- Sept 9 End of First 4 ½ Weeks of School
- Sept 14 PTA Membership Drive Ends
- Sept 17 General PTA Meeting at 5:30 pm in the Gym
- Sept 28 Student Holiday/Staff Development Day
- Oct 2 Box Tops for Education Due
- Oct 19 Reflections Contest Deadline

### Morning Drop Off

Morning drop off has been wonderful. We begin at 7:07 in the back. The traffic flows smoothly until 7:30-7:45 then it becomes congested. So the earlier you can drop your child/children off the quicker the line. The first day for Kindergarten was Monday, August 24<sup>th</sup>. This will affect the traffic flow. Please adjust your schedules so your child will arrive on time.

### Afternoon Pick Up

If your child is not standing out waiting on you to get into the car please pull over to the left, and we will go into the building to get them. If you should need to buckle your child in or help them in some way please pull to the left after your child has gotten into your car and help them with the task. This will help our traffic continue to move and not back up in the afternoon.

Remember, if you should need to come into the school building, you will need to park in the front and check-in through the office. You must get a visitor sticker and sign in before you go out into the school building.

### Volunteers

In order to volunteer at a Knox County School, volunteers must complete required paperwork. This also includes chaperoning field trips. Please see the front office staff for this paperwork.

### Kindergarten Parents Walking Students to Class

As we begin our 1<sup>st</sup> full week of Kindergarten, please adhere to the following guidelines. On August 24<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>, parents may still park and walk their Kindergarten students into the building. The week of August 31<sup>st</sup>- September 4<sup>th</sup>, parents may only walk your child into the building and stop at the Kindergarten hallway door. Beginning September 8<sup>th</sup>, please stay in the car line and drop your child/children off.



## PTA MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Help us BUILD OUR SUCCESS by joining the PTA! Memberships are \$7.00 per person. It's just one simple way to show your support!

Top class in each grade will receive an ice cream party. Top seller in each grade will receive an Amherst prize pack (spirit wear and a free yearbook). Top two students overall grades will receive a free yearbook. The 1<sup>st</sup> place overall winner will receive a tablet and the 2<sup>nd</sup> place overall winner will receive an MP3 player!

Membership forms were sent home with students and are on the PTA page of the Amherst website.



## Stay Connected

Like us on Facebook!

Amherst Elementary School PTA



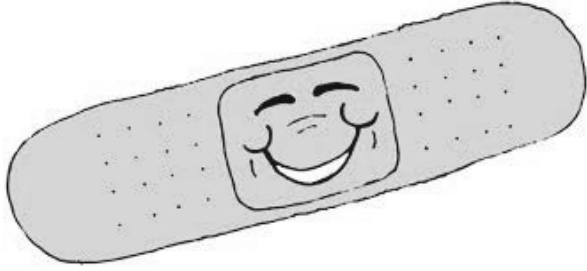
## Visit us on the web

[www.knoxschools.org/amherstes](http://www.knoxschools.org/amherstes)

(Look for PTA under "For Families.")

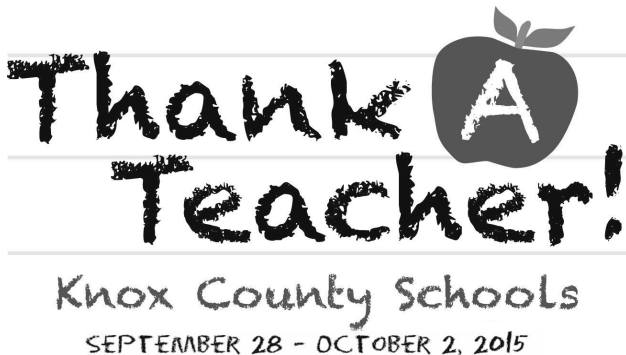
## A Note From Our School Nurse

If your child/children has asthma, food allergies, or is allergic to insect stings, please have a physician fill out orders and bring medications to the school. It is imperative that we have this medication on hand while your child is in school.



## Amherst Clinic Workers Needed

Are you able to spare a day to help in the Amherst health clinic? East Tennessee Children's Hospital will train volunteers to work in the Knox County Schools' clinics. Amherst needs a pool of volunteers to assist in the clinic. The first training for Amherst is September 18. Please contact Sherri Simmons at isaiah41.13@hotmail.com or 696-1221 if you would like more information.



## Thank A Teacher Week

The week of September 28—October 2 is an opportunity for our community to celebrate the work of Knox County educators. Let's do something special to thank our wonderful Amherst teachers!

## Reflections Contest

The Reflections Contest is a part of National PTA's Student Enrichment Programs. It encourages students to participate in the arts through competition. This year's theme is **Let Your Imagination Fly**. PreK through 5<sup>th</sup> Grade student entries are accepted in the following categories:

- \* Dance choreography
- \* Film production
- \* Literature
- \* Musical composition
- \* Photography
- \* Visual arts

All entries must be received by October 19. Entry forms and guidelines will be sent home with students.

## Next General PTA Meeting

The next General PTA Meeting will be held on Thursday, September 17 at 5:30 pm in the Amherst Gym. We'll present information on the Reflections Contest and discuss the Walk-A-Thon. Please attend this brief meeting!

## PTA Board Opportunities

Our PTA needs you! There are a few remaining positions available on the Amherst PTA Board. Please consider volunteering to support our school by serving as President or 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President (Student Contests)! If you are interested in these opportunities or have questions about joining the PTA Board, please contact Kim Venable at pta.president.amherst@gmail.com.

## Amherst PTA Board Members 2015-16

President -  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President (Student Contests) -  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President (Membership) - Shannon Strahan  
Secretary - Valerie Stanley  
Treasurer- Amanda McConaha  
Room Parent Coordinator - Philip Goodlet  
Book Swap Chair - Danielle Voyles  
Clinic Chair- Sherri Simmons  
Hospitality Co-Chairs- Alishia Kennedy and Melissa Lindsey  
Playground Chair - Christine Gilmore  
Volunteer Coordinator - Amy Ottinger  
Yearbook Co-Chairs - Kelly Testament and Lori Gray  
Communications Co-Chairs - Alanna Hunsaker (Digital) and LaToya Myles (Newsletter)  
President Emerita - Kim Venable

Principal - Sharon Yarbrough  
Assistant Principal - Lorie Collier

