

## **Amherst PTA's Fall Carnival** **Friday, November 21<sup>st</sup> from 5:00pm-8:00pm**

Bring the entire family for a night of fun activities for kids of all ages. This year's event will feature jazzy jars, a basket auction, inflatables, and lots of games! Profits from the event will be earmarked for a couple of big-ticket items (fixing drainage issues on campus and installing a shade structure near the playground), and some more typical expenditures (providing teachers with mini-grant opportunities, providing teachers with classroom supply funds, and helping pay for field trips). Your family's participation in this event helps ensure that we can reach our fundraising goals! Please come out and volunteer to support our terrific school! *See you*

*there!*

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## **Help Fix Our Playground**

This year, Amherst PTA continues to work toward improving our school playground. We have three goals in mind:

1. To fix the drainage problems that currently leave our playground muddy and hazardous for students.
2. To create a shade-giving structure where students and teachers can find respite from the sun on hot, bright days.
3. To add additional swings, (if possible,) so that more children can have a turn on this very popular play fixture.

We are currently collecting bids from landscapers. If you know of a company to recommend or have experience with these sorts of issues, please let us know. We intend to present proposals for consideration at the next General PTA Meeting on November 6.

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Please also keep in mind: making these fixes to the playground will require funding above & beyond the money that our PTA usually raises to support our school each year. Your support and generosity are needed to help reach our goals! Please help us make our playground a more functional and pleasant place for our kids to spend their recess time. Thank you!

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## ***Fall PTA Clothing Drive***

**CLOTHES:** Boys and Girls clothes size 6-14 and small Men's clothing. (All sizes from about 4T are accepted.)

**UNDIES:** ***New, packaged*** socks and underwear (Boys and Girls, sizes 6-14).

*October 20<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup>*

Help us donate clothing to replenish the Knox County Schools Clothing Center. The Center benefits students from every Knox County school.

Please send clothing donations to Amherst  
**by Friday, Oct. 24<sup>th</sup>.**

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## **Reflections Contest**

The theme of this year's Reflections® Contest is "The World Would Be A Better Place If..." Use this theme to create an original art work in one of six art categories: Dance Choreography, Film Production, Visual Art, Literature, Music Composition, & Photography.

Entry forms for the National PTA Art Contest will be available soon. **The deadline for submission is November 7<sup>th</sup>.**

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## **Next General PTA Meeting**

The next General PTA Meeting will be held on Thursday, November 6, at 5:30 pm in the Gym. We'll talk about the Carnival and present information on our playground project.

We really want your opinion on the playground plans; please attend this brief meeting!

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## Join Us On The Web

Stay up to date by liking our “Amherst Elementary School PTA” Page on Facebook and by visiting our info on the school website: [www.knoxschools.org/amherstes](http://www.knoxschools.org/amherstes) (Look for PTA under the “For Families” tab.)

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## Membership Drive

Thank you to everyone who supported our Amherst PTA Membership Drive this year! We had a wonderful turnout with 404 members.

The top 2 students in the school brought in fifteen memberships each!

The top classes in each grade are as follows:

K: Lawson- 35  
1<sup>st</sup>: Davis- 25  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Shanton- 16  
3<sup>rd</sup>: Bryant- 26  
4<sup>th</sup>: Post- 10  
5<sup>th</sup>: St. Clair- 24

*Thank you for supporting our Amherst PTA!*

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Amherst Elementary School Yearbooks will be available for presale in November!

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Spirit Wear Order Forms are coming too!

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## *Principal's Corner*

- Thank you to all Amherst Families for working with our morning traffic flow at the beginning of the year. It is working much better now. If you are dropping off your child after 7:45 the back doors are locked so you will need to bring your child to the front of the school and walk them into the office.
- Class begins at 7:45. To help your child, please have them in school prior to this time. The students are in class beginning at 7:35. This gives them time to unpack their things, sharpen

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pencils, talk and get ready for the start of the day. It is very hard on students if they are coming in every morning late. We want to have them prepared and ready for the day.

- For safety: If you need to come into the building in the mornings, please check in through the office. You will need to sign in and get a visitor's pass. Thank you.
- Please make sure you are checking your child's folder/notebook each week. This contains important information from the school to you. It is a great communication tool.
- McDonalds on Western Ave is hosting McTeacher's Night. It will run from 4 – 7 pm. Amherst Teachers will be there to greet all who come out. A percentage of the proceeds from purchases made during that time will be donated to Amherst, so come on out and support! We look forward to seeing everyone there!

*-Sharon Yarbrough, Amherst's Principal*

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## Up Coming Dates

10/20: Flu Mist

10/24: All Pro Dad's **RSVP <http://allprodad.com/3866>**

10/20 – 24: Clothing Drive

11/6: PTA General Meeting

11/7: Reflections entries due

11/7: School Picture Day

11/14: All Pro Dad's **RSVP <http://allprodad.com/3866>**

11/17: End of 4 ½ weeks

11/18: Flu Mist phase II

11/21: PTA Carnival, 5 – 8 pm

11/24: Interim Reports home

11/26 - 28: Thanksgiving

12/10: Nine-week Munchies

12/12: Hat Day

12/22 – 1/5: Winter Break

Also in December & January: Our first-ever Book Swap!

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