

AMHERST NEWSLETTER



News and events for Amherst families. Go sharks!

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE FROM MS. YARBROUGH

Parent Engagement Nights

Thank you for coming to our Parent Engagement Night on February 25th. It was so much fun for everyone! We will have another Parent Engagement Night on Tuesday, March 29th from 5:30 – 6:30 pm. Please mark your calendar to attend.

Upcoming School Holidays

Spring Break is the week of March 14–18th. Good Friday Holiday is Mar 25th. School will be closed on these dates.

Reminders

It is getting close to the end of the year, so here are a few important reminders. Please do not check out siblings to go to their siblings' field day, class party, or awards day. There is limited space, and each grade level has their own time and day. Please refer to the Parent Handbook for Amherst policies. During these fun events, please enter through the back doors to check-in and have an ID ready.

Field Days

Wednesday, May 11 th	Kindergarten 8:30 – 10:30 am 3 rd Grade 12:15 – 2:15 pm
Thursday, May 12 th	2 nd Grade 8:30 – 10:30 am 1 st Grade 12:15 – 2:15 pm
Friday, May 13 th	5 th Grade 8:30 – 10:30 am 4 th Grade 12:15 – 2:15 pm



Class Parties

Kindergarten: Monday, May 16th at 1:00 pm in classrooms
 1st Grade: Tuesday, May 17th at 1:00 pm in classrooms
 2nd Grade: Wednesday, May 18th at 1:00 pm in classrooms
 3rd Grade: Tuesday, May 17th @ 1:00 pm in classrooms
 4th Grade: TBD
 5th grade : Wednesday, May 18th @ 1:00 pm in the gym



Awards Days

Kindergarten: Monday, May 16th at 12:30 pm in classrooms
 1st Grade: Tuesday, May 17th at 12:30 pm in classrooms
 2nd Grade: Wednesday, May 18th at 12:30 pm in classrooms
 3rd Grade: Tuesday, May 17th @ 10:30 am in the gym
 4th Grade: Tuesday, May 17th @ 8:30 am in the gym
 5th grade : Wednesday, May 18th @ 8:30 am in the gym

Important Dates

Mar 14-18 Spring Break –no school
 Mar 25 Good Friday –no school
 Mar 29 Parent Engagement Night
 Mar 29 Amherst Spirit Day at Chili's on Clinton Hwy
 Apr 4-8 Amherst Spirit Week
**new dates due to testing*
 Monday – Decades Day
 Tuesday – Favorite Book Character
 Wednesday – Wacky Wednesday
 Thursday – Hat Day
 Friday – Amherst Spirit Wear Day
 Apr 8 Spring Carnival
 Apr 12 Kindergarten Round-up
 May 19 Last Day of School
 Half-day for Students

thank you!

The PTA would like to thank you for coming out to Wendy's on Feb 3rd for Amherst Night. We had a record crowd and received the top donation of

\$500. You may have noticed the new banner on the fence facing Schaad Road. Wendy's has officially adopted our school and will be partnering with us on events. Also, our Spirit Night at Jason's Deli was a big success. We will receive close to \$250 from them.

Our next "Amherst Spirit DAY" is March 29th at Chili's on Clinton Hwy.

Register your Kroger Card and Amherst will benefit from your grocery shopping! Go to www.krogercommunityrewards.com and link your Kroger Card to our account. Amherst Elementary PTA's account number is **51846**.

Want a Sneak Peek at the Baskets before the Auction? Like our Facebook Page! PTA will be sharing photos of baskets and donations up to a week before the Carnival.



Stay Connected

Like us on Facebook!
Amherst Elementary School PTA



Visit us on the web

www.knoxschools.org/amherstes
(Look for PTA under "For Families.")

It's carnival time at Amherst!



Come to school on Friday, April 8th from 5:00-8:00 pm for fun & games, baskets & jazzy jars, food & more fun! Preparations are underway to make this year's Carnival great!

The Basket Auction: Each class donates items to create a basket for the Basket Auction. Class baskets should be turned in by March 30th. Come see the creative basket themes and experience the competition of bidding for the best ones! Auction starts at 6:30 pm in the cafeteria. We will accept cash or checks only for the basket auction.

Jazzy Jars: Decorate them! Fill them! Bring Jazzy Jars to school before April 1st! "Shopping" for just the right Jazzy Jar is a popular Carnival activity, so help us give the kids the best jars ever to choose from. Students need to put their own name and their teacher's name on the bottom of the jar. There will be boxes at the front and back doors to set them in. Prizes will be awarded for the most school spirit, most jazzed up, and most creative. Plus the class with the most jars will win a class party!

Volunteers: Each class is responsible for helping run the carnival activities. Teachers and Room Parents help recruit parent/family member volunteers. We encourage people to sign up for 30 minute shifts – which would allow everyone a chance to experience the carnival while helping make it fun for the kids.

Not only is the Carnival an exciting way to support our school, but it's also an enjoyable evening of family togetherness. *See you there!*

Did you know?

- Did you know that the Amherst PTA provides each full-time teacher with money for purchasing needed supplies or that the Amherst PTA sometimes helps pay for replacing old or broken computers and ActivBoards? We support our teachers and help provide all our students with the best tools to learn.
- Did you know that the Amherst PTA offers to pay up to \$500 per grade for buses for field trips this year? This will help hold down each family's cost for their child to go on these fun and educational adventures.
- Did you know that the Amherst PTA provides the medals and trophies that our school's most outstanding students will earn this year?
- Did you know that Amherst PTA sponsored the new STEM Scouts enrichment program for interested 3rd through 5th graders, and we paid for all of the adult volunteer leaders to receive training and background checks?

Our PTA succeeds with your support. Thank you!

Board Positions

Beginning March 21st, we accept nominations of candidates to fill our PTA Board positions for the 2016-2017 school year. Some board positions are less intensive than others, and all of them are rewarding! Your involvement would help us continue to successfully support our teachers, students, and school! If you have any questions, please contact us.

Future 6th Graders

Karns Middle School PTSA is looking for people who would be interested in being board members for the next school year. It's a great way for parents who will be new to KMS to get acquainted with the school, teachers, and other parents. If you would like more information, please contact Christine Keegan at christinekeegan4pta@yahoo.com or Leann Cooney at leanncooney@gmail.com.

Amherst PTA Board Members 2015-16

President -
1st Vice President (Student Contests) -
2nd 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
Student Contests Chair - Melissa Tingle
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

