**NEWS TO KNOW**

**April 2015**

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Phone: (616) 819-2848  Fax: (616) 819-2849

- **Mental health (after general PTA meeting April 21)**
  This month’s special topic is a focus on Health & Wellness. A community specialist will join us to share tips for helping our children deal with things that make them sad as well as recognizing some differences between healthy sadness and childhood depression. Thank you to Theresa McPherson for her help in coordinating this month’s presentation!

- **First Annual Spring Gala - April 25**

**Tickets going fast. Get yours before they're gone!!!**

[http://npmpta.nonprofitsoapbox.com/springgala2015](http://npmpta.nonprofitsoapbox.com/springgala2015) and join the community!

Hello North Park families,

The gala is quickly approaching and we are so excited! Our families and community have been beyond generous. Due to spring break, we have not been able to reach people with a reminder for the early ticket price. We are extending the $20 ticket price through this Friday, April 17. After that, they go up to $30. Here is the link to purchase tickets. [http://npmpta.nonprofitsoapbox.com/springgala2015](http://npmpta.nonprofitsoapbox.com/springgala2015). We look forward to a fun night with you!

- **Spirit Wear Update**
  The order form has been revised (see attached and it's in the digital backpack). Some colors were added and some were discontinued. Take another look. Next order deadline is APRIL 21 at the PTA meeting. We also have lanyards, window clings and shopping bags for sale at the meeting. NORTH PARK LOGO PENCILS ARE IN THE PENCIL MACHINE on top of the collection bins that are now located in hallway by library.

**Upcoming Events**

**April 25, 2015**
Adult Gala & Silent Auction

**Saturday, May 16, 2015**
Rummage Sale & Bake Sale

For all school events, go to [www.northparkschools.org/calendar](http://www.northparkschools.org/calendar)

**PTA GENERAL MEETINGS:**

6:00 – 7:30

- Monday, Sept. 15
- Tuesday, Oct. 21
- Monday, Nov. 17
- Tuesday, Dec. 16
- Monday Jan. 26
- Tuesday, Feb. 17
- Monday, March 16
- Tuesday April 21
- Monday May 18
Digital Backpack

What is this “digital backpack” you keep reading about?
It's a place on our website (www.northparkschools.org & click on tab at top that says backpack) that you can go to and find forms that might not make it home in the backpack...or it is not readable...or it gets lost in a pile of paperwork on the counter...or it doesn't make it from the mailbox of your child to the backpack. It's a pretty cool thing actually. You should check it out!

Pie Sale Update

We sold 1,050 pies. Many volunteers worked hard that Friday evening and Saturday day. Fun, fun, fun. Look for pics on North Park Montessori Village Facebook page.

Annual Rummage Sale UPDATE - May 16, 2015
Due to our new uncluttered space at school when you walk in the front door and awesome decor, we don't want to start just dropping stuff off. So, we will have drop off days when somebody from the PTA will be there to help carry small items to the boiler room in the basement of the school. Large items: furniture, lighting fixtures, big stuff that won't fit in a box or bag, can be brought to the school Friday evening during set up (May 15, 2015- 3-7 p.m.). We have no space to store big items and will not be putting it in the basement.

Donations can be dropped off at the school on the following Fridays:
April 17, April 24, May 1, May 8 (2-4) and set up date, May 15 (3-7).

Habit-Based Fundraising

How does the My Coke Rewards for Schools program work?
My Coke Rewards for Schools enables parents and others in the community to support local schools by donating My Coke Rewards points and/or cash to help schools purchase physical education, sports, technology, art and/or classroom supplies.

The paper gator earns between $100 - $120 quarterly. Keep bringing in your papers/junk mail/cereal boxes/etc.

Box Tops bring in about $2000 a year that goes to the teachers (about $100 per teacher per year)

Labels for Education: We have 28,475 points in our account. There are products that we can buy for the school. Arts, athletics and academics are the categories of the merchandise catalog. Keep bringing in those labels.

Spartan Labels: For every 1000 labels, we get $20.

Ink Cartridges: We get different amount of money for each cartridge (ranging from .05 - $4)

Nominating Committee

We are still trying to fill 1 position for next year’s PTA board. We still need a Parent Vice President. So if you are coming to the meeting April 21 be prepared to volunteer. Nominee for President is Ashima Saigal; Nominee for Corresponding Secretary is Tanya Chanter; Nominee for Recording Secretary Theresa McPherson; Nominee for Treasurer is Melissa Hale (if by-laws get changed) and nominee for Teacher Vice President is Nia Davidson. Please consider joining the PTA Board. It is a fun group and a great school and an awesome PTA community!

2014-2015 PTA Officers

President - Mike Waldron, president@northparkschools.org, (616) 581-5511
Vice President (parent) - Ashima Saigal, vpresident@northparkschools.org, (616) 304-7804
Vice President (teacher) - Pamm Lee, LeePa@grps.org
Treasurer - Melissa Hale, treasurer@northparkschools.org, (616) 520-3677
Corresponding Secretary - Tanya Chanter, csecretary@northparkschools.org, (616) 560-4181
Recording Secretary - Amy Barto, rsecretary@northparkschools.org, (616) 855-3099

PTA online: Website www.northparkschools.org
Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/northparkschools
Twitter: https://twitter.com/nparkschoolsgr