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### Mark Your Calendars

### December

**5:** Parkway Pizza - Hale School gets 5% of any orders that day

**8:** Parent Forum 8-9am in the lunchroom

**9:** Hale Holiday Helper gift distribution

**14:** PTA meeting at 7pm at Mt. Zion Church

**21:** Scooter City Night

**25-Jan. 5:** Winter Break

### PTA Meetings

**PTA meetings are open to anyone wishing to attend .**

**This month, our meeting will be held on Thurs., Dec. 14 at 7pm at Mt. Zion Church.**

If you have a topic to discuss

## Hello Hale Community,

I hope you had a **happy Thanksgiving & a restful long weekend.** I am thankful for a lot of things this year, but when I put on my PTA hat I am so thankful for the outpouring of donations on **Give to the Max day! The Hale/Field PTAs raised over \$43,000, with an additional \$5000 prize** for raising the most money in the small organization category! This money goes **directly back to our school**, so Thank You for your donation! Also, please make note of **our new meeting place, Mt. Zion Church**, on Chicago & 57th. We will meet on Thurs., Dec. 14 at 7pm & **everyone is welcome** to attend!

Sincerely,  
**Stef Thompson**  
**PTA co-chair**  
[haleptacochair@gmail.com](mailto:haleptacochair@gmail.com)

## Hale Holiday Helpers Needs Volunteers Like YOU!

Since 2005, the Hale Holiday Helpers Program has been making a difference in the lives of Hale students & their families who could not afford some of the things many of us may take for granted during the holidays. **Last year alone, over 100 Hale students & family members** had a brighter holiday season **thanks to generous contributions** from Hale students, families, staff & local businesses. There are several **volunteering options** to choose from:

you must be on the agenda prior to the meeting.

Please contact [Stef Thompson](#) or [Samantha Turnock Mendiola](#) to be added to the agenda.

#### Quick Links

[Hale PTA Website](#)  
[Hale School Website](#)  
[Mpls Public Schools](#)  
[National PTA](#)

[Hale/Field School Handbook \(link opens PDF\)](#)

[Hale PTA on Facebook](#)

**Gift drop off - morning shift (week of Dec. 4-8)**

**Gift drop off - afternoon shift (week of Dec. 4-8)**

**Gift Prep/ lunchroom staging - evening of Fri., Dec. 8**

**Gift wrapping/Distribution Day - morning of Sat., Dec. 9**

If you would like to volunteer, please complete the [online form](#).

If you have any immediate questions, please contact Lindsey Daugherty at 612-270-2839 or Meggan Berlute at 651-226-0530.

Thank you!

## Amazon Smile for Hale :)

Now that holiday shopping is upon, a few simple clicks can make **your purchase on Amazon a win for Hale school!**

Start your shopping at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) & use your normal Amazon login. Choose your charitable organization by searching something simple like "Hale 55417" & you'll find us as "PTA Minnesota Congress 004912 Nathan Hale PTA". And that's it!

Whether you're buying Legos, cute boots, or toilet paper, they'll all **earn 0.5% of your total purchase for Hale school!** Just remember to start at [smile.amazon.com!](https://smile.amazon.com)

## Crayon Recycling

I don't know about your kids, but mine hate using broken crayons. **Before we add another thing to our trash can, stop**, because there's a better way. **Crayons can be recycled!**

**Collection boxes for broken or unwanted crayons are located in the main office & the copy room.** We'll then ship them to Crayola, where **they'll be recycled & made into new crayons that Crayola will donate to hospitals.** Win-win!

For more information, contact Lori Kaufman at [lorigramlich@yahoo.com](mailto:lorigramlich@yahoo.com).

## Let's Do Lunch

Have your kids told you about the great things happening in the Hale lunchroom? **We sort the remains of our lunches into Recycling, Organics, & Trash.** It's a great way to **teach our kids environmental responsibility** at a young age.

There are friendly **volunteers in the Hale lunchroom everyday** who help the kids sort the stuff they want to get rid of. If you don't have time to help, that's okay. But maybe someone you know does. **Grandparents & community friends in your life might love it** if you mentioned it to them, or even sent them [this link](#) . Thank you!

## How About Dinner, Too?

We are in immediate **need of someone to chair our Family Dine-out night fundraisers.** Throughout the year, **we partner with area restaurants** who agree to **donate a percentage of profits to the Hale PTA** on designated days. Our coordinator would be in charge of finding places & promoting the events. Contact Stef Thompson at [haleptacochair@gmail.com](mailto:haleptacochair@gmail.com) if you're interested!

## New Volunteer Policy

**We LOVE our adult volunteers** but we need to let you guys know about a **small change in policy.**

**The school district now requires a simple form be filled out** before you volunteer. It's good for 9 years, so you really only have to do it once. Easy peasy, would you pleasey? For more information, [click here](#).

## New PTA Meeting Location

We've changed our meeting location to **Mt. Zion Church at 5645 Chicago Ave.** Use the door closest to Chicago Ave. **We'll be in the library.** We're still meeting the **2nd Thursday of the month at 7pm.** Hope to see you there!

## Lost & Found Reminder

Has your child lost one, two, fifty things recently?

**The Lost & Found is overflowing!** It gets emptied at the end of each month, so very soon. The next time you're at school, have a look **next to room 109** & reclaim what was once yours before its banished to Goodwill forever!

## **Register for the Minne-Loppet for FREE now through Nov. 30!**

The Minne-Loppet is a **FUN, cross-country ski event** for youth that is part of the larger Loppet ski festival near Lake Calhoun Center on Lake Calhoun. Hale students learn **cross-country skiing skills** in PE, & the Minne-Loppet is their opportunity to show off those skills. Plus, everyone is a winner & receives a medal, cookie, & hot chocolate!

**Registration is free through Nov. 30!** After that, there is a registration fee. There are two course choices: 1.5K & 3K. Last year, Hale had participants in each course. You don't need your own equipment. The Minnesota Youth Ski League will **provide equipment for the event for FREE.**

The Minne-Loppet is on **Sat., Jan. 27 at 4pm** near Lake Calhoun Center **on Lake Calhoun.**

**Register [here](#)** & don't delay!

If you have questions, please email Lori Kaufman at [lorigramlich@yahoo.com](mailto:lorigramlich@yahoo.com).

## **Make Some Scientific History**

The University of Minnesota has been **selected to be a research site** for the groundbreaking Lifespan Human Connectome Project Development (HCP-D) Study, and so tasked to **recruit participants representative of our community & nation.** The HCP-D Study will enroll 1,300+ healthy children, adolescents, & young adults (**ages 5-21**) to discover how different parts of a child's brain are connected & how these connections (the "connectome") change as the brain develops. **Participants will be compensated.**

For more information or to sign up, visit <https://humanconnectome.org/study/hcp-lifespan-development>.

## PTA Numbers

The PTA is continuing to pay out **teacher stipends**. We also recently purchased **RazKids for 1st grade**, put money toward the **bus payment for the 2nd grade field trip**, & contributed to the purchase of **movie tickets for each teacher** before MEA break. **Thank you for your continued support!**

## We can help (or at least try :)

Is there **something at Hale that you don't understand** ? Or maybe you're **curious & you don't know who to ask**. Every parent at Hale was new or under-informed (way more than) once!

**Ask us** at [haleptainfo@gmail.com](mailto:haleptainfo@gmail.com) & we might be able to **help** .

## Volunteer Opportunities

- We need a new **coordinator to plan fundraising dine-out nights** at local restaurants. Contact Stef Thompson at [haleptacochair@gmail.com](mailto:haleptacochair@gmail.com).
- Hale Holiday Helpers **wrap & distribute donated gifts** for over 100 people. To help, sign up [here](#).
- To help **book the Hale choir at local events/venues**, contact [haleptacochair@gmail.com](mailto:haleptacochair@gmail.com).
- Are you a **CPA** ? Great! Would you be willing to do the **PTA's taxes** this year? Double great! - Contact Stef Thompson at [haleptacochair@gmail.com](mailto:haleptacochair@gmail.com).
- Parent volunteers are needed everyday in the **Hale lunchroom**. Sign up [here](#).
- **Teachers need parent volunteers in the classroom every day!** [Contact your child's teacher](#) to find out how to help.
- Do you or someone you know work for a **large retailer that sells school supplies** (i.e. Office Max, Target, etc.)? The school supply drive was a huge success but we think it could be even bigger & better next year with a connection to **introduce the PTA**. Contact Amanda Huber at [haleptasupply@gmail.com](mailto:haleptasupply@gmail.com).

## Thank You Corner

Thank you to **Kim Holen** for organizing the Open Gym nights for our kids. Thank you to **Casey Roberts** & all the volunteers who raked & cleaned up the school grounds on clean-up day. And again, **THANK YOU for your generosity on Give to the Max Day!**

### PTA Executive Board Members

Co-Chair - Stef Thompson [steflenz@gmail.com](mailto:steflenz@gmail.com)  
Co-Chair - Samantha Turnock Mendiola [samanthaturnockmendiola@gmail.com](mailto:samanthaturnockmendiola@gmail.com)  
Secretary - Laura Randgaard [troylaura@earthlink.net](mailto:troylaura@earthlink.net)  
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Communications Chair - Dawn Feddersen-Poindexter [tralfamadawn@hotmail.com](mailto:tralfamadawn@hotmail.com)  
PTA Membership Chair - Anne Krocak [annekrocak@yahoo.com](mailto:annekrocak@yahoo.com)  
Advisor - Rachel Walker [rachel\\_hale@robandrachel.org](mailto:rachel_hale@robandrachel.org)

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### Follow us on Facebook

Get timely updates and reminders about school happenings and news, by **following Nathan Hale PTA** on Facebook!

<https://www.facebook.com/PTAHale>

**Confirm that you like this.**

Click the "Like" button.