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February

1: Barnes & Noble Book Fair

5-9: Book Cafe

6: Hale gets 5% of any Parkway Pizza orders

7: Winter Walk-to-School Day; MPS Budget meeting 6-8pm at Southwest High School

8: PTA meeting at 6pm in the Hale lunchroom; MPS Budget meeting 6-8pm at the Davis Center

15: MPS Budget meeting

Hello Hale Parents!

Well, **January has certainly flown by!** So much so that I needed a reminder about this newsletter! But here we are, looking right at February & **I see books. Lots of books.** The Barnes & Noble **Book Fair is this Thurs., Hale Book Cafe the week of Feb. 5,** and hopefully some quiet reading done at home on chilly February nights. Our **next PTA meeting** will take place in the **Hale lunchroom on Thurs., Feb. 8 at 6pm.** Everyone is welcome to attend.

Stef Thompson

PTA co-chair

haleptacochair@gmail.com

Cozy Cafe for Kids

It is time for **Hale Book Cafe** again! Once a year we **turn our Media Center into a cozy space for the kids.** They get to **eat snacks, read books, & relax!** This year it is scheduled for **Feb. 5-9.** We use **parent volunteers to set up the cafe, pass out snacks to the children, & clean up when it is over!** If you are interested, click [here](#) to sign up. If you have questions, email Stephanie at stephanie.loes@gmail.com.

6-8pm at the Transition Plus Wilder Complex
16: NO SCHOOL - Conferences; Teacher Appreciation Lunch
19: NO SCHOOL - Presidents' Day
21: Art Adventure Ends
22: Arty Party
23: Box Tops Due
27: Hale gets 25% at Cafe Zupas

PTA Meetings

PTA meetings are open to anyone wishing to attend . This month, our meeting will be held on Thurs., Jan. 11 at 7pm at Mt. Zion Church.

If you have a topic to discuss 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](#)

Barnes & Noble Book Fair

The Barnes & Noble book fair for Hale is **Feb. 1 at the Galleria in Edina.**

A portion of all book & cafe sales during store hours (10am-8pm) **benefit the Hale PTA - & that means teachers & students!**

Make sure to mark your calendars for these fun events during the book fair:

After-school choir at 5:30pm
Story time with Principal Fitzgerald at 6pm
4th grade band at 6:30pm

If you are **interested in helping to staff the Hale table** (welcome parents, hand out benefit vouchers, & keep teacher wish list items organized) please contact Rachel at rachel_hale@robandrachel.org.

Dine Out Night Success!

The MyBurger Dine-Out Night brought in nearly \$500! THANK YOU to the many Hale families and friends who dined out at MyBurger on Wednesday. Our burgers and fries netted a nice chunk of money that will be **put to good use right here at Hale.**

Our next Dine-Out for Hale night is **Feb. 27 at Cafe Zupas** in Richfield (1840 E. 66th Street - right by the Richfield Target). We can **earn up to 25% of the sales** we drive to the restaurant between **5-9 p.m. Make sure to tell them you're there for Hale School!**

And don't forget that **Parkway Pizza** will donate **5% of orders to Hale on the first Tuesday of every month.**

Can We Collect 2018 Worth of Box Tops?

The Hale school community is so giving. We regularly collect \$1500 or more in Box Tops in a school year. This year **if we reach \$2018 earned in Box Tops, we'll have a school-wide celebration with a special prank on Principal Fitzgerald!**

In the fall collection drive, we turned in more than 12,000 box tops & earned \$1200 for Hale! **We only have \$800 worth of Box Tops left to go!**

Please send in all your Box Tops before Feb. 27!! The spring collection is our final chance to get to \$2018!

These small labels are found on all sorts of products so please clip them & **bring them to the collection boxes in the main office window.** Only bring Box Tops that haven't expired, please.

The funds Hale earns help pay for things like iPads, Chromebooks, classroom equipment (rugs, tables), classroom supplies, field trips for students, teacher appreciation meals, & more!

Thank you for turning in your Box Top labels!

Hale collects Box Tops all year, so any you collect that don't get turned in before Feb. 27 can still be turned in later this spring too, but those will count toward next school year.

If you have questions, please contact Amira Holden at amiraholden@gmail.com.

Being an Ally for Racial Equity, an ongoing conversation

The Welcoming Equity (WE) Committee will be holding this important event on **Mon., Feb. 5 in the Hale Media Center from 5:30-7:30.**

Childcare will be provided and pizza available for adults & kids.

Our schools & children have never been completely insulated from the realities of **racial, economic, & gender injustice** swirling around us. And today we find ourselves living through an undeniably challenging moment in American history when it would be **easy to feel discouraged & disempowered**. In response to the more immediate political climate & continuing disparities & racist incidents in our schools, many of us have been in conversation about **how to respond in ways that are thoughtful, ethical, & effective**.

In this context, the WE Committee would like to invite white parents to a forum on being an ally for racial equity in our public schools. The forum is designed to create a space and process for discussion, reflection, organizing, & resource-sharing. The two central questions of the forum will be: What does it mean to act as an ally and how can we be the best allies possible? And how can we do so in a way that doesn't just perpetuate the power structures we're trying to challenge?

For more information contact Brooke Darst Rice at brookedarstrice@gmail.com or Andrew Williams at williamsandrew5201@gmail.com.

Staff Appreciation Lunch

We are gearing up for the February Winter **Staff Appreciation lunch on Fri., Feb. 16 & we need your help!**

The lunch will include a **contest for the best salad** and the staff will vote on their favorites! Those families that compete will have a **chance to win a popcorn party for their child's classroom**. To sign up or get more information, click [here](#) .

Room Parents

Room parents are a new addition to Hale that we're hoping to try out this year - **with your help!**

Being a room parent can be whatever you make it. If some ideas sound fun, great! If there are other ideas you prefer not to have to do, that's fine, too. It's also great if there's more than one parent in a room that wants to help out.

Our hope is to **share ideas, test some out this winter & spring**, & then meet up in June to share what worked well & prepare for a **school-wide roll-out next fall**.

Help Us Stay Connected With You

If you haven't already, please take a minute to **add or update your family & student's information** in the Hale [online directory](#). A lot of parents use it to schedule play dates, birthday parties, & more.

How about your other **parent friends**? Ever wonder why they don't know what's happening at Hale? This may be because they aren't **receiving the PTA's communications** yet. Help them out by sending them [this link](#) to sign up.

Signing up is as easy as 1, 2,3! Visit [the directory](#) or the [PTA communications sign-up](#) today!

Art Adventure

Art Adventure is an amazing program that **brings art from the Minneapolis Institute of Arts into our children's classrooms**. Our many volunteers go through training at Mia, then present pieces in the classroom they've learned about at Mia. There are 75 sessions in all, covering 6 pieces of art in **this year's theme: Family, Friends, & Communities**.

The classroom sessions are taking place now through Feb. 9. At the end of Art Adventure, **grades 2-4 will tour Mia** to see the art they've learned about in the classroom! Be sure to ask your child what they're learning in Art Adventure!

Be a Science Fair Mentor

Who's got what it takes to be a Science Fair Mentor? YOU!

We are looking for **adult volunteers** interested in **being paired up with students** to work on Science Fair projects. You will be helping students to **develop ideas, research, & experiment** after school this winter in preparation for the **Hale Science Fair** on **March 22**.

Contact Mr. Uhler for more details at stephen.uhler@mpls.k12.mn.us.

New Year, New Yearbook

Yearbooks are on sale now for just \$16! Start [here](#) to order your yearbook & to **add fun options**. Personalization (to have your child's name

put on the front cover) is available for an additional \$5. You can also add an icon for \$3.

If you are **unable to go online, please bring a check** made out to the Hale PTA to the Hale or Field School offices. Please Note: personalization is not available after Feb. 16. After that date, the cost of a yearbook will also increase to \$18, So Hurry & Order Today!

But if you forget to order before Feb. 16, never fear, **you have until May 15** to order [here](#). And even after that, some yearbooks will be available to buy on a first come, first serve basis until they are gone. What we're trying to say is that we really want you to make & keep lasting memories of Hale & Field!

If you have any questions, contact Michael Lieb at liebc1@msn.com.

Winter Walk Day

February 7 is Winter Walk-to-School day! Bus students will also have an opportunity to walk around the block on the north side of the school once their bus arrives at Hale. We will even have some prizes!

Parents & students--WE NEED your help! You can **volunteer to give stickers** to participants at each corner that morning **OR to walk with bus students** around the block at Hale. Both volunteer jobs run from **7:10-7:30 am**. Please use [this link](#) to sign up.

If you have any questions, please email Lori Kaufman at lorigramlich@yahoo.com.

Serve as a Snow Steward

Snowflakes on noses
And shivering kittens,
Temperatures dropping
And warm woolen mittens,
Ski boots & snowshoes are waiting for thee,
It's time to go play in the snow in P.E.!

Ms. Bruun and Ms. Parr need YOUR **HELP tying boots & strapping in snowshoes** during P.E. winter activities Jan. 29 - Feb. 9. Sign up [here](#) to help with this fun P.E. unit!

If you have any questions, contact Greta Wicker at ggarbog@gmail.com, Ms. Parr at larissa.parr@mpls.k12.mn.us, or Ms. Bruun at ashley.bruun@mpls.k12.mn.us.

MPS Budget Conversations with YOU

Minneapolis Schools wants you to know **how the budget shortfall may affect our & other schools**. They also want to **hear your ideas** on what we can do about this situation we're now in.

Join them at any of 3 upcoming meetings:

Wed., Feb. 7 6-8pm at Southwest High School

Thurs. Feb. 8 6-8pm at the Davis Center

Thurs. Feb. 15 6-8pm at the Transition Plus Wilder Complex

Childcare, light refreshments, transportation, & interpretation will be available.

No School Days

School will not be in session on **Fri., Feb. 16** for conferences & **Mon., Feb. 19** for Presidents' Day. Let your imagination run wild because you still have time to plan a fun getaway for the long weekend!

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 & we might be able to **help** .

Volunteer Opportunities

- To help on **Winter Walk-to-School-Day**, sign up [here](#) or email lorigramlich@yahoo.com for more information.
- Serve as a **Snow Steward!** Contact Greta Wicker at ggarbog@gmail.com, Ms. Parr at larissa.parr@mpls.k12.mn.us, or Ms. Bruun at ashley.bruun@mpls.k12.mn.us.
- Interested in being a **room parent or their helper**? Contact Katy Sen at katysen@gmail.com.
- Like to party? Be part of **planning our adults-only Summer Soiree!** Stay tuned for information about our next planning meeting. You can

also contact Stef Thompson at haleptacochair@gmail.com for more information.

- What about plants? Maybe they're your thing! If you want to be a part of the **Hale/Field spring Plant Sale**, even in a small way, we have jobs available for everyone interested! Please contact Dawn Feddersen-Poindexter at tralfamadawn@hotmail.com.
- To help staff the Hale table at the **Barnes & Noble Book Fair**, contact Rachel Walker at rachel_hale@robandrachel.org.
- 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.

Thank You Corner

A big thanks to **Marie Yarroll** for organizing Dine-Out Night at My Burger. Thanks to **Lori Kaufman** for her work organizing Hale participation at the Minne-Loppet. And thank you, divine intervention, for our snow day.

PTA Executive Board Members

Co-Chair - Stef Thompson steflenz@gmail.com
Co-Chair - Samantha Turnock Mendiola samanthaturnockmendiola@gmail.com
Secretary - Laura Randgaard troylaura@earthlink.net
Treasurer - Katie Frey HalePTAtreasurer@gmail.com
Communications Co-Chair - Dawn Feddersen-Poindexter tralfamadawn@hotmail.com
Communications Co-Chair - Lisa Roberts lisajeannotroberts@gmail.com
PTA Membership Chair - Anne Krocak annekrocak@yahoo.com
Advisor - Rachel Walker rachel_hale@robandrachel.org

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