

# The Knightly News

T. A. Howard's PTA Newsletter

April 2010

Go Knights!

You can get the daily announcements on T.A. Howard's website!

Just go to [www.mansfieldisd.org](http://www.mansfieldisd.org) and click on *schools*. Select *T. A. Howard* from the drop-down list and click the *campus website* link. Scroll down to find the Daily Announcements link. You can also access other information on the school's website, such as extracurricular happenings and PTA information.

PTA Executive Meeting  
May 3—6:00 p.m.

PTA General Meeting  
May 3—7:00 p.m.

Our Knights need Kleenex! The pollen is out & noses are sneezing!

The Clothes Closet needs gently used clothes, new socks, & new underwear.

Please join PTA! It's only \$6.00.

## A Message From Our PTA President, Kristi Cates

Happy spring! It's been a smooth school year so far! We just wrapped up our last Book Fair of the year. It was a great success. Thank you to everyone who purchased books at our Book Fairs this year! Your support is very much appreciated! We were able to get many free books for the library, as well as raise funds for the PTA. Thank you also to the many volunteers who gave of their time working throughout all of the Book Fairs this year. We could not have done it without all of you! I would also like to thank all of the PTA Board Members who have supported the school this year in their various capacities. I truly appreciate all of your hard work and dedication.



We have several openings on the PTA Board for the next school year. Please see the volunteer form included with this newsletter, and consider helping out!

Also, please remember that May 3-7 is Teacher Appreciation Week. Be sure to show your student's teachers how much they are appreciated that week with an email, card, or gift. We are blessed to have so many wonderful, caring, hardworking teachers at TA Howard Middle School. I hope everyone has a wonderful last six weeks. Good luck to all of the Knights taking the TAKS tests. I know you'll do a great job for TA Howard Middle School!

## ☺ Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week ☺ May 3-7

Teacher Appreciation Week is May 3-7 and the PTA Teacher Appreciation Committee is asking parents to **please donate the following items to help show our teachers and staff how much we appreciate all of the hard work, long hours, and dedication to our students.** There are 80 staff and teachers at Howard. Items we need for Appreciation Week:

- Box or bag of individual packages of chips
- Bags of chocolate candy bars (regular sizes or mini)
- Gift cards in any value to Starbucks, movie theaters, restaurants, etc.

Please start turning donations in to Julie Koenig (Principal Neal's Secretary) in the front office on Monday, April 26 through Friday, April 30.

Please email Teacher Appreciation Chairman Kelly Norman if you can donate any candy, chips, or gift certificates at [kellypdf@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kellypdf@sbcglobal.net) or 817-726-8846.

## PTA Reflections Contest Winners

This year's theme was "Beauty is..." and we are excited to report that several Knights won at the Area Level, and three went on to win at the State Level! In fact, TAH had more winners than the rest of the district combined. Way to make TAH proud!

Grace L. — Award of Excellence in Visual Arts at Area Level and at State Level

Justice N. — Award of Excellence in Literature at Area Level and at State Level

Tia D. — Award of Excellence in Film Production at Area Level and Award of Merit at State Level

Caleb J. — Award of Excellence in Photography at Area Level

Molly R. — Honorable Mention in Literature at Area Level

Congratulations to these very talented students! Their hard work paid off and they will be receiving their awards at the District Reflections Reception on April 19 at 6:20 p.m. at the MISD Great Room. Many thanks to Mrs. Gerik for all of her time and effort in coordinating the PTA Reflections Contest!



Thank you to all of the parents that took time out of their busy schedule to attend the Mandatory Parent Meeting for Middle School Cheerleading Tryouts on either March 1st or March 24th. We were delighted to see the number of girls showing interest in trying out to become a part of one of the finest organizations at our school and we look forward to seeing them at clinic in May! Being a member of the TA Howard Cheerleading Squad has many rewards and is a valuable experience your daughter will remember for a lifetime. Additionally, your child will give pride and spirit to our school, students, and community through their participation!

Just a friendly reminder that emergency cards, your child's medical physical, and the athletic code paper work are due to me by the 1st day of cheer clinic. You may bring the paperwork to TA Howard and leave it in the office for me or you may send it with your child the 1st day of clinic.

Clinic will be held at TA Howard Middle School May 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, and 14<sup>th</sup>. Clinic begins promptly at 4:30 pm and ends at 6:30 pm. Tryouts will be held at Legacy High School on May 15<sup>th</sup>.

If you have any questions concerning tryouts or expectations after tryouts, don't hesitate to contact Mrs. Adams at [adamcr@mansfieldisd.org](mailto:adamcr@mansfieldisd.org) or myself at [watsje@mansfieldisd.org](mailto:watsje@mansfieldisd.org).



*Go Knights!*  
-Mrs. Watson

### \*\*\*PTA Spiritwear\*\*\*

Available for sale!! Howard spirit tee shirts and hoodies. To place your order, please email Nancy Petrou at [gotspirit1@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gotspirit1@sbcglobal.net).

### AVID Good News!

AVID students are excited about their trip to Baylor University, located in Waco, that is scheduled for April 19. Students will participate in a guided tour of this beautiful campus, visit some of the classrooms, and see the real-life Baylor Bear mascot!

During the month of May, many additional activities are planned for AVID students, including our end-of-the-year student and tutor recognition awards program.

Ms. Daniel, AVID Site Coordinator, wishes to thank students, parents, teachers, and site team members for their support of the AVID program!

### Congratulations!!

Mrs. Toombs and Mrs. Lammert recently received a grant for "No Paper Cuts!" from the MISD Education Foundation. Way to go!

## T. A. Howard Middle School PTA Volunteer Form 2010-2011

Thank you for your interest in volunteering in the Howard PTA. Please fill out the form below and return it to the PTA. When the PTA gets involved, students benefit! When you get involved with the PTA, the student who benefits most is your own.

First Name	Last Name	Home #	Cell #	Work #
Mailing Address		Home Address (if different)	City	Zip
E-mail Address			2 <sup>nd</sup> E-mail Address	
Your Student's Name			Grade Level for 2010-2011	

**Openings for the PTA Executive Board and Standing Committee are listed below, as well as other volunteer opportunities. Please indicate your area of interest.**

\*\*\*\*\***Executive Board**\*\*\*\*\*

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 <sup>st</sup> VP Membership       | <input type="checkbox"/> Parliamentarian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <sup>nd</sup> VP Budget & Finance | <input type="checkbox"/> Historian       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <sup>rd</sup> VP Programs         | <input type="checkbox"/> Treasurer       |

\*\*\*\*\***Standing Committee Members**\*\*\*\*\*

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arts in Education | <input type="checkbox"/> MISD Council Rep.    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Book Fair         | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clothes Closet    | <input type="checkbox"/> Spiritwear           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dance             | <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher Appreciation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising       | <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer Services   |

\*\*\*\*\***What would you like to volunteer for?**\*\*\*\*\*

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher Appreciation | <input type="checkbox"/> Scholarships                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Book Fair            | <input type="checkbox"/> General volunteering (office area, etc.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clothes Closet       | <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising                              |

If interested, please mail or return this form to the school *as soon as possible* or contact either:

- Kristi Cates, Howard PTA President for 2009-2010, at [kcates001@tx.rr.com](mailto:kcates001@tx.rr.com)
- Julie Baker, Nominating Committee Member, at [julie.baker2@tx.rr.com](mailto:julie.baker2@tx.rr.com)

