



Warrior's World From the Chief

Dear Parents and Guardians:

We certainly have a busy month ahead of us with a flurry of activities around here! Our Academic Fair is on Thursday, February 7th, and I know that our students have been working very hard on this. That night we will be having our "Sweet on Technology" parenting night, which will also give you an opportunity to see the finished projects of the students. Our starting time is at 6 PM, and more details will be coming on that night's topics. The following week is our Mardi Gras holidays, from February 11-15. In between this, we are preparing your children for the upcoming standardized testing.

With the ever-important testing coming up, I would like to address tardies and absences. We understand that sometimes a child's tardy arrival or absence is unavoidable, especially with this being the time of year for colds and flu. When a student is tardy, especially habitually, they are missing important learning and interrupting the learning of their classmates. The teacher has to stop what he or she is doing to get the child caught up to speed. In the case of absences, when a child returns, there is some re-teaching that a teacher must do to catch the child up, and again this interrupts the learning of other students. What I am asking (begging J) is that you get the students here on time each day, and that they are absent only when absolutely necessary. I know some of you may be thinking, "I know this, this is obvious," but we still have chronic tardy students and absences. Our school score, which is a B, comes not only from our test scores, but attendance is also factored in to that score. This is where you can really help us by getting those students here on time. Since I began here over 15 years ago as a counselor, our enrollment has grown by almost 200 students!!! That is a lot of cars and traffic. Our little town's streets have not grown, and that leaves us with a traffic issue, especially on rainy days. Please keep this in mind and consider using the bus system or leaving earlier in the mornings when you know that the traffic will be an issue. Thank you, as always, for your support of our school. We all have the same mission, to make this school the best place it can be. We cannot succeed without you!

Have a great February. Be sure to spend some special time with those you love on Valentine's Day and make time in the hustle of life to remember how important your children are, and how important YOU are to your children.

Donna Forrest and Rhonda Meyers

Working Together As One

Upcoming Events



February 7
Science & Social
Studies Fair

"Sweet on
Technology"
Parent Night

Picture Day

Interim Reports

February 11-15
Mardi Gras Holidays

February 28
Free Dress Perfect
Attendance

National
PTA
everychild.onevoice.®

Membership Goals

Unit Goal: 490
LA Goal: 225
Dads: 100
Grandparents: 50
Corporate Sponsors: 20

Unit Actual: 380
Students: 69
Dads: 68
Grandparents: 54
Corporate Sponsors: 10

www.pta.org

Membership Levels

Parent/Dad: \$5.00

Grandparent: \$5.00

Student: \$5.00

Corporate: \$25

The Mission of the Parent Teacher Association®

PTA® serves as:

- A powerful voice for all children,
- A relevant resource for families and communities, and
- A strong advocate for the education and well-being of every child.

Members Only

We are in the final home stretch for our membership sales. We are so proud of all that our families have accomplished this year. We have far surpassed our goal set by the State PTA of 225. We have actually sold 380 memberships this year. YEA! We have also accomplished our diversity goal of 50 grandparents. It is so important that students know that they have a variety of people standing behind them in their education. We are still in need of 32 Dad memberships and 10 corporate memberships in order to reach those diversity goals. If you would consider purchasing just one more membership for your family or a corporate for your business it will go a long way to helping us accomplish our goals. Thank you again for all of your support this year.

B1 “Take a Stand, Lend a Hand”

February will be a busy month for B1/FOR Club/PBIS! We will be selling Valentine candy grams in the cafeteria for \$.50 from Wednesday, January 30th until Wednesday, February 6th. All proceeds will go to help B1! Also, the "Gotcha Gossip" website is up and running! We encourage everyone to follow the link from the Abita Middle homepage and post some positive comments! We have a lot of inspiring, positive comments so far and we hope it grows and grows! For the month of February, B1 will be focusing on cyberbullying. Homeroom teachers will teach a short lesson on the topic and each homeroom class will create a poster which will be hung around campus. Lastly, the FOR club will be meeting on Wednesday, January 30th to work on some great ideas which will hopefully be implemented starting in February!

“Never do a wrong thing to make a friend--or to keep one.”
— [Robert E. Lee](#)

4-H



Hello fellow 4H members! I expect that you are working on your 4H books because they are due March 29th. Please let us know if you have questions or need help. Congratulations to everyone who go in to 4H camp! It is sure to be a fun time. Don't forget that club meetings are every Tuesday of the month from 2:30-3:30 after school.

If you didn't join 4H this year consider becoming involved for next school year. Stop one of the members or officers and they can tell you all about the club and why it is an awesome organization to be a part of.

Thank you to everyone who has supported us this year! We couldn't do it without you.

Grace Dufrene
4H Secretary

PTA Gets Technical

There are many ways that you can get information about what is happening at the school and with the PTA. The first is to call or email one of the Board members.

President	Dan Curtis	dcurtis0135@charter.net	985-373-2971
Vice President	Jeff Ruth	jruth@22global.com	985-966-5315
Secretary	Jill Barringer	jbarringer002@att.net	985-892-2070
Treasurer	Janet Dufrene	jnorth1007@aol.com	985-966-7371

We also have a link on the school's website at <http://abitaspringsmiddle.stpsb.org/>. We have boxes in the office at school where you can drop off items for us to pick up. The PTA has gone technical and now has a Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/AbitaSpringsMiddleSchoolPta>. Just "like" our page and you will get updates directly to your news feed as they are posted. This is also a great way for you to give us suggestions, feedback and questions. Please do not post student or teacher specific information on this site. Those questions should be sent to the teacher or administrators. Finally, we have an email address for the PTA at asmspta@gmail.com. We welcome your feedback and questions .

Box Tops For Education

This will be the last contest and shipment for this 2012/2013 school year. Will be running the contest from February 1 - 28 .There will be one class from every grade with the most box tops who will get a treat. Please make sure to put the teachers name on the bag or the sheet. You can go to boxtops4education.com and register for our school and we can earn points and there are some fun games to play. Thank You for all of your support this year. We have far exceeded our goals already. We will be sending home collection sheets in the next week.

ASMS Spirit Cart

Spirit Cart sales have started and the kids are loving it! Spirit Cart opens during lunch every Tuesday unless weather prohibits it. We have been very busy and have been trying different things in order to allow all children a chance to purchase something. We may limit the number of items a child can purchase at one time and ask them to get back in line so that others will have a chance before the bell rings. There is a limited amount of time for the kids to shop so we don't want to miss out on anyone. Please bear with us as we give them a shopping experience while also teaching patience and respect for others. Thank you for your support. Please let us know if you are interested in helping out by working the Spirit Cart with us.

ASMS Spirit Items Order Form School Year 2012-2013

Parent's name: _____ **Phone #** _____

Child's name: _____

(If you have more than one child at ASMS, please put the name of the child to whom you wish the order to be delivered.)

Homeroom teacher: _____ **Grade (circle):** 4th 5th 6th

Item	Description	Quantity	Price	Total
ASMS shoelaces, pair	navy w/white "ASMS", 36" (5-6 pairs of holes)	X	2.00 =	
ASMS logo keychain	white/navy, vinyl w/metal ring, logo & phone #	X	0.75 =	
ASMS logo pencil bag	clear/white, vinyl with zipper and binder holes	X	1.00 =	
ASMS logo sticker	clear/white, 4" round <i>(not reversed/not a window cling)</i>	X	1.00 =	
ASMS lanyard	navy w/white "ASMS"	X	1.00 =	
ASMS pencil	navy/silver	X	0.25 =	
Total (Enclose payment with order. Make checks payable to ASMS PTA.) =				

Please return completed orders with payment to your child's homeroom or the school office in an envelope marked "Spirit Cart." Orders will be delivered to your child's homeroom on Tuesdays by the Spirit Cart volunteers.

FOR STAFF USE ONLY. PLEASE DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE. _____

Cash Amt _____ OR Check Amt _____/Date _____/Number _____

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Helping Your Child Succeed
Is Our Number One Priority

Empty box for additional information.

Empty box for additional information.

Empty box for additional information.

Empty box for additional information.

Empty box for additional information.

Empty box for additional information.

February 2013

Breakfast is served with juice & milk.

Lunch is served with a choice of milk.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				01
				Pancakes Grilled Cheese Corn & Cucumbers Fruit Choice Oatmeal Cookie
04	05	06	07	08
Muffins Beef Taco w Shell Cheese & Salsa Lettuce & Fruit Cinnamon Roll	Beignets Meat Loaf Potatoes w Gravy Broccoli & Fruit Vanilla Cookie	Ham Biscuits Chicken Tenders Macaroni & Cheese Black Beans & Fruit Texas Toast	Cinnamon Rolls Hamburger w Bun Potato Wedges Salad Fruit	Breakfast Pizza Gumbo w Rice Carrot Sticks Fruit Choice Texas Toast
11	12	13	14	15
NO SCHOOL MARDI GRAS HOLIDAY	NO SCHOOL MARDI GRAS HOLIDAY	NO SCHOOL MARDI GRAS HOLIDAY	NO SCHOOL MARDI GRAS HOLIDAY	NO SCHOOL MARDI GRAS HOLIDAY
18	19	20	21	22
Cinnamon Roll Beefy Mac Green Beans Fruit Salad Bread Sticks	Ham Biscuits Chicken Nuggets Potatoes w Gravy Broccoli & Fruit Texas Toast	Beignets Figs-in-a-Blanket Baked Beans Carrot Sticks Fruit Choice	Ham & Cheese Wrap Turkey Roast Rice w Gravy Black Eyed Peas Carrots & Fruit Choice	Grits / Oatmeal Pizza Corn Fruit Choice
25	26	27	28	
Muffins Red Beans w Rice Spinach & Fruit Fruit Bar Cornbread	Beignets Beef Taco w Shell Cheese & Salsa Lettuce & Fruit Cinnamon Roll	Waffles Fish Patty Baked Potato Broccoli & Fruit Texas Toast	Cinnamon Roll Chicken Tenders Macaroni & Cheese Celery Sticks & Fruit Texas Toast	

Abita Springs Middle School PTA Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee is seeking nominations for officers to serve on the 2013-2014 Executive Board of the ASMS PTA. Duties will begin officially on July 1, 2013 and will continue through June 30, 2014. The slate of nominated officers will be presented and approved at the PTA General Meeting in March and will be inducted at the final PTA meeting in May. Please read carefully the job descriptions of the officers, and consider serving on next year's board. It is a very fulfilling job that takes responsibility, honesty, and love for all children and staff of ASMS.

Duties of the Executive Board Members:

President: The president is elected to direct the affairs of the PTA in cooperation with the other Executive Board members and committee chairs.

Vice-President: The vice-president serves as the ASMS PTA Membership chair, and is responsible for working with all committees to promote membership. Also, acts as an aide to the president.

Secretary: The secretary is responsible for keeping accurate records of the proceedings of the association and is also the custodian of the PTA records.

Treasurer: The treasurer, as the authorized custodian of the PTA funds, receives and disburses all money as prescribed in the bylaws or authorized by the action of the association.

We are currently taking nominations for a two-week period to run from Monday, January 28, 2013 until Monday, February 11, 2013. All nominations will be kept confidential, as an honor code is required for this committee. You may nominate yourself, if you are interested.

Serving as a board member is both a privilege and a responsibility. Please return completed nomination form below to the office in a sealed envelope marked "NOMINATING COMMITTEE". Thank you!

Nominations for Executive Board 2013-2014

Name of Nominee: _____

Contact Info for Nominee: _____

Position being nominated for: _____

Person Nominating: _____