

## PTA INFORMATION

The MEHMS PTA (Parent Teacher Association) is delighted to support the MEHMS PEPP Program. Research indicates that parental involvement positively impacts students, and the PTA strives to support our school, staff and children.

Our local PTA supports the national PTA's goals of being:

- 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.

By partnering with the MEHMS staff, we support the educational program of our children, and increase our opportunities to stay connected and nurture our relationships with our children as they move through early adolescence.

For more information, or to join the PTA, please contact Kathleen Donovan, MEHMS PTA President, 2009-2010.

### PTA Board 2009-2010

Kathleen Donovan, PTA President

[Kathleendonovan@cox.net](mailto:Kathleendonovan@cox.net)

Annette Hennessey, PTA Vice President

[annettehennessey@yahoo.com](mailto:annettehennessey@yahoo.com)

Jill Martin, PTA Treasurer

[jmartin2@aol.com](mailto:jmartin2@aol.com)

Catherine Beddow, PTA Secretary

[cgbpta@aol.com](mailto:cgbpta@aol.com)

PTA Google Group:

<http://groups.google.com/group/mehms-pta?hl=en>



### Mary Ellen Henderson Middle School

7130 Leesburg Pike

Falls Church, VA 22043

Grades 5-7

703-720-5700

School Hours: 7:30 am- 2:30 pm

**Ann McCarty**

Principal

[mccartya@fccps.org](mailto:mccartya@fccps.org)

**Gail Lovette**

Assistant Principal

[lovetteg@fccps.org](mailto:lovetteg@fccps.org)

## Parents as Educational Partners Program (PEPP)



### Mary Ellen Henderson Middle School

*At MEHMS, we recognize that a strong, collaborative partnership among students, parents, staff, and the community is essential. Open communication and engagement of our community stakeholders is important to the success of our school.*

## **What is PEPP?**

At Mary Ellen Henderson Middle School, we believe that parents play a pivotal role in the lives of adolescents. Parent engagement in school life is an important part of the social and academic development of our students. The Parents as Educational Partners Program (PEPP) is a framework designed to form an effective, cooperative educational team of the school community and parents. The goal of PEPP is to increase and foster parental involvement and engagement.

PEPP partners Team Parents and Teacher Liaison(s) at each grade level to collaborate and identify volunteer opportunities and specific needs for parent involvement and support. Team Parents will channel volunteer efforts from the school community to provide resources, time, assistance, and support for our teachers and students.

### **2009-2010 Team Parents**

5<sup>th</sup> grade: Marybeth Connelly  
[mb.connelly@rcn.com](mailto:mb.connelly@rcn.com)

6<sup>th</sup> grade: Kathy Washa and Megan Schlitt  
[kwasha@gmail.com](mailto:kwasha@gmail.com) and [dschlitt@starpower.net](mailto:dschlitt@starpower.net)

7<sup>th</sup> grade: Christine Nowroozi and Amy Casillas  
[cnowroozi@aol.com](mailto:cnowroozi@aol.com) and [apmcas@yahoo.com](mailto:apmcas@yahoo.com)

## **Six Types of Parent Involvement**

The National Middle School Association defines parent involvement as:

**Parenting Activities** are designed to help families understand young adolescent development, acquire developmentally appropriate parenting skills, set home conditions to support learning at each grade level, and help schools obtain information about students.

**Communicating Activities** focus on keeping parents informed through such things as notices, memos, report cards, conferences about student work, and school functions.

**Volunteering Activities** incorporate strategies to improve volunteer recruiting, training, and scheduling.

**Learning at Home Activities** allow coordination of schoolwork with work at home (e.g., goal setting, interactive homework).

**Decision Making Activities** are designed to solicit the voice of parents in decisions about school policies and practices.

**Collaborating Activities** acknowledge and bring together all community entities (e.g., with the community businesses, religious organizations) with a vested interest in the education of young adolescents.

*Pate, P. E., & Andrews, P. G. (2006). Research summary: Parent involvement.*

## **Volunteer Guidelines**

*Volunteers who contribute their time and talents to MEHMS are a valued asset. We acknowledge and appreciate their support and partnership. We ask our volunteers to follow a few guidelines to ensure a safe learning environment for our teachers and students.*

### **Contact the Team Parent**

The Team Parents at each grade level work cooperatively with the Teacher Liaisons to determine the opportunities for volunteering and the areas of need.

### **We're Counting on You, so Please Be Here**

As an educational partner, you know that every moment is precious. If you have committed to volunteering, our teachers are depending on you to be here at the assigned time.

### **Sign In at the Office and Wear a Visitor's Badge**

As outlined in our School Policy to maintain and ensure a safe learning environment, volunteers must always sign in at the office and obtain a Visitor's Badge.

### **Keep Confidential Information Confidential**

As a volunteer, you may learn confidential information. Please respect the students' right to privacy as defined by state and federal education regulations.

### **Learn the Emergency Procedures**

Each classroom has a copy of the Emergency Procedures. Please become familiar with evacuation routes and the locations of the fire alarms and exits.

**Have Fun!**