



# Shawnee Mission Northwest News

March 2014

[www.smnwptsa.org](http://www.smnwptsa.org)

A SMNW PTSA Publication

## Contents

Calendar .....	2
From the SMNW Library .....	2
Key Club .....	2
SLAB.....	2
Drill Team Try Outs.....	2
Got Pictures .....	3
Yearbook.....	3
Bowling Fun Night/Afternoon .....	3
Join PTSA.....	3
PTSA Meeting Schedule.....	4
PTSA Newsletter Deadline.....	4
StuCo.....	4
StuCo Garage Sale.....	5

## 2014 National Merit Finalists

The highest honor that the National Merit Scholarship Corporation bestows is that of National Merit Finalist. The following students have been named Finalists in the 2013 National Merit Scholarship Program: **Sam Gross, Ben Huddleston, and Connor McDonald.** Less than 1% of the nation's high school seniors were named finalists. These students are eligible to receive one of the coveted National Merit Scholarships. Being named a National Merit Finalist is an outstanding accomplishment. Congratulations!!

The final PTSA meeting for the 2013-2014 school year will be held on Wednesday, May 7<sup>th</sup> at 3:00pm in library.

## From the President

Thank you to everyone who attended February's PTSA meeting. We were treated to an amazing display of Reflections entries from Northwest students ... there's a lot of talent within our walls! Lisa Gruman and Erin Barnett shared information regarding student achievement, as well as enrollment info for next year. Conner Johnson filled us in on StuCo happenings around the school ... our students are busy! Elections were held for next year's PTSA officers; congratulations to Pam Hale (President), Ann Zimmerman (VP), Rebecca Slattery (Treasurer), Barbara DeBose (Recording Secretary), and Missy Anderson (Corresponding Secretary) ... your service is greatly appreciated!

Are you a PTSA member? Membership fees and your tax-deductible direct donations are PTSA's only funding sources for our general budget. If you have not yet joined PTSA this school year, we'd appreciate your support now. Please look for the membership form in this newsletter, complete it, and return it as indicated on the form.

Planning for this year's "Wild Wild NorthWest" After-Prom is rolling along, and your help is needed to make this PTSA event a wild success! Donations are needed, and volunteer opportunities are plentiful! Lots of information about this extraordinary event is included in this newsletter; read all about what you can do to help! Just a reminder ... students do NOT have to attend Prom to attend the After-Prom party!

Have a safe and relaxing spring break! Enjoy!

Marianne D'Amato  
[marianne@magnaplus.com](mailto:marianne@magnaplus.com)

## SMNW Calendar

### March

- 3 Spring Sports tryouts begin
- 4 Blood Drive
- 6 Top Sophomore Meeting, Little Theater, seminar
- 7 Jazz Cabaret, Cafeteria, 6pm
- 14 **End of 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter, 1:10 dismissal**
- 17-21 **NO SCHOOL, Spring Break**
- 24 **NO SCHOOL, School Improvement Day**
- 27 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Grade Cards given to students

### April

- 1 Orchestra Festival Concert @SM West, 7PM
- 3-5 Rep Musical, *Dames at Sea*, 7pm, Aud.
- 5 StuCo Garage sale, 8AM – 2PM
- 9 District Area Band Festival, SM East, 7 PM
- 10 StuCo Rep elections, seminar
- 12 ACT Test, NW, 8am
- 14 Pre-Festival Music concert, Aud., 7 PM
- 17 Poetry Slam, Library, periods 4 and 6
- 18 Poetry Slam, Library, periods 4,5,6,7
- 18,19 Forensics Tournament, NW
- 21 Meet the Coaches Aud., 6:30-7:30pm
- 21 Sleep-in-a Box
- 22 **Early dismissal, teacher workday; 1:10pm**
- 24 **Late Start, 9:40am**
- 24 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Progress Reports handed out in 4<sup>th</sup> hour
- 25 Poetry Slam finals, Gym, during prom assembly
- 25 Spring sports/Prom assembly, Gym, TBA
- 26 Plant sale begins; ends 5/14
- 26 Prom, Shawnee Civic Center, 8:30 – 11:30pm
- 27 After Prom party, NW, midnight-3am

## 2014-2015 Drill Team Try Outs!!!!

If you are interested in trying out for the 2014-2015 Drill Team, you need to contact Christin LaMourie ([christinlamourie@smsd.org](mailto:christinlamourie@smsd.org)) prior to spring break to complete the necessary paperwork and get the tryout information. If you are currently an 8<sup>th</sup> grader, please contact Stefanie Forbes ([stefanieforbes@smsd.org](mailto:stefanieforbes@smsd.org)). Tryout clinics begin March 31<sup>st</sup>!

## SLAB (Student Library Advisory Board)

Student Library Advisory Board meets every other Wednesday at 2:50 in the library. This is an enthusiastic group of students who love libraries, books and all things reading! We are also still collecting used books for “Books For Love”. These books will be donated to an area elementary school and a retirement home. Contact Mrs. LaFever at [nwlafeve@smsd.org](mailto:nwlafeve@smsd.org) COMING SOON!!! Scholastic Book Fair, March 25-April 1! If we sell \$1000 we get to “pie” 3 staff members at the prom assembly!

## Key Club

Key Club is a community service group sponsored by Kiwanis. Meetings are held every other Friday morning in room 155. Members have a wide range of service opportunities, including collecting pop tabs, box tops, volunteering at grade school carnivals, baking cakes and buying gifts for City Union Mission kids to name just a few!

Our 32 members are working to complete at least 50 hours of volunteer service by the end of March...and many have well over that number.

Caring—Our Way of Life

## From the SMNW Library

Celebrate the birthday of Dr. Seuss March 2 with a good book! Make books and reading important in your home. Have books, magazines or newspapers available. Check out books from the public library. Encourage your child to check out books from the school library. Set aside time for reading. Choose reading over television or computers.

Students check out books for 30 days at Northwest. They are not charged late fines but when the books are one month overdue a “Charges Due” slip is completed and sent to the bookkeeper. Students may always come to the library to recheck a book.

## Got Pictures?

[smnwphotos.com](http://smnwphotos.com) will be test-marketing the sale of 99 cent digital images beginning immediately. For a limited time, the images you love on [smnwphotos.com](http://smnwphotos.com) can be purchased for just 99 cents. There is no limit to the number of digital images that you can purchase. Prints are still available (at a far more reasonable price than anywhere else) on the site. Junior Clara Davison has done an amazing job of keeping the site up-to-date and easily searchable. Whether your child is in orchestra, football, jazz band, cheerleading, the talent show or a drama production, you'll find images from all of these and more on the site. Recently posted events include WPA, Talent Show and all winter sports. If you haven't checked out what's available at [smnwphotos.com](http://smnwphotos.com), be sure visit the site today.

## Bowling Fun Night/Afternoon

Where: Park Lanes, 7701 Renner Rd, Shawnee

When: Friday, April 4<sup>th</sup> from 3:30pm -5:30pm

Cost: \$5 at the door, includes shoes

Bring your friends for an afternoon of fun and money for snacks!



## Yearbook

Did you miss out on purchasing a yearbook? Never fear, contact yearbook adviser Susan Massy at [susanmassy@smsd.org](mailto:susanmassy@smsd.org) to get your child's name placed on the wait list. Be sure to include your child's name, grade, a cell phone number for either you or your student and an email address where further instructions can be sent. We have ordered 50 books which will go to the first 50 names on the wait list. About half of those books had been spoken for as of Feb. 21. In addition, the yearbook company generally sends several "over run" copies that will go to waitlisted students.

Wait-listed books can be purchased in the order that students appear on the list on May 13. Students on the wait list will need to have \$65 cash with them on that day. Information regarding the process will be sent out to those on the wait list in early May.

## Would you like to win \$1000 for your PTA?

National PTA is doing a membership drive from February 1 thru May 31, 2014. If you get 14 new members between these dates and you fill out the attached form and send it into the Kansas PTA office along with your membership list and dues your PTA will be entered in a chance to win 1 of 14 \$1000 prizes.

Kansas PTA is sweetening the deal by adding to the Membership Drive! For every 14 new members submitted between February 1 and March 15, 2014 your PTA will be entered in the Kansas PTA drawing and you could win 1 of 3 prizes: \$50 cash, 1 free Kansas PTA Convention Registration and \$20 certificate to spend in the PTA store at Convention.



Hello everyone! Hope Spring is treating you well! StuCo is very busy this spring semester! Mark your calendars as this is what we have going on...

- The 5th Annual Talent Show event was rescheduled for Monday, February 10, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium. We raised over \$400 for club scholarships that StuCo awards to clubs at SMNW to help with their funding issues and requests.
- StuCo organized a Matchmaker event. It was a fun way for students to find who they are most compatible with in the school!
- Our WPA Dance, "Escape Through the Wardrobe," was Saturday, February 15, 2014 from 8-11 p.m. in the SMNW Cafeteria. It was a great night, enjoyed by many students!
- The ISC council, a group of all the districts' executive boards, met on February 25. The students discussed the new food regulations for public schools; please let us know if you have any questions.
- The 6th Annual Dodgeball Tournament was held on Saturday, March 1, 2014. Proceeds will benefit the Johnson County Christmas Bureau.
- Student Council Presidential Elections were held during Seminar on Thursday, February 27, 2014. Juniors Tom Green (President) and Sam Nobrega (VP) ran against Harrison Chen (President) and Griffin Robinson (VP). The new 2014-2015 StuCo Student Body President and Vice President will be accepting applications for their exec board and will make a decision before Spring Break.
- The Spring Blood Drive has been canceled. The district is currently working on a district fall and spring blood drive at a blood donation center. We would like to encourage everyone to give blood at a local Community Blood Center or American Red Cross.
- StuCo will be hosting the 3rd Quarter President's Council on Thursday, March 6 during Seminar. Presidents and Captains of all clubs and varsity sports at SMNW are invited to talk about leadership issues facing our school and share about what's going on in their respective activities.
- Sleep in a Box MANDATORY informational meetings will be on Wednesday March 12 and March 26 in the Little Theatre at 7:00 a.m. The event will be held on Monday, April 21 into Tuesday, April 22 to benefit the Shalom House, a local homeless shelter for Kansas City men.

Thank you so much for all your support! If you have any suggestions, comments, or questions for Student Council, please feel free to contact a representative or the Sponsor, Sarah Dent at [nwdents@smsd.org](mailto:nwdents@smsd.org). Thank you!

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## PTSA Newsletter Deadline

Northwest News is a publication of the staff and PTSA of Shawnee Mission Northwest High School. The current issue is available at [www.smsd.org/schools/smnorthwest](http://www.smsd.org/schools/smnorthwest). Past issues of the newsletter, as well as other information about SMNW PTSA, are available at [www.smnwptsa.org](http://www.smnwptsa.org).

Information and articles for the April newsletter are due by Friday, March 21<sup>st</sup> for publication on April 1st. Submissions should be emailed to [smnwptsa@gmail.com](mailto:smnwptsa@gmail.com).

## StuCo Garage Sale

SMNW Student Council is sending approximately 15 students to leadership camps across the state and country this summer! We're very excited to have our students trained in leadership skills that they will bring back and implement at SMNW.

We are trying to fundraise to send students to these various camps this summer. Therefore, we're having a **giant garage sale** on **Saturday, April 5, 2014 from 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. in the SMNW Cafeteria**. We're advertising in the KC Star and on Craigslist. Tell your friends!



Here's how you can help! If you've been **spring cleaning and purging unneeded items**, and you're wondering what to do with all the "stuff" you don't want around your house anymore, **donate** it to

StuCo! We'd love to take it off your hands! You can bring in donations of ANYTHING you don't want any time before the sale (we can store it)! **We're looking for**

**clothing of any size, shoes of any size, books of any type/age level, housewares, kitchen items, bedding/linens, toys, electronics, toiletries/personal care items, furniture, knick knacks, holiday decorations, etc.** – if you don't want it, we'll take it! Whether it's one sack full of "stuff,"

boxes and boxes, or an estate, we'll take your donations! Whatever is remaining afterwards will be given to one of the local thrift stores (Community Services League). If you need help getting furniture to SMNW, we could help – we've got several students/families with trucks

and trailers...

Here is some additional information (Frequently Asked Questions)

- You can drop off donations in the SMNW office ANYTIME from now until Fri. Apr. 4 from 7 am – 3:30 pm and StuCo will store it until the sale.
- Our school does not have tax deductible forms. BUT we can give you a **receipt** for the items you donate, however our school cannot represent that your donation is tax deductible. That information would need to be between you and your accountant.
- If you need help getting large furniture items out of your house, please contact me and StuCo will arrange to have students pick these items up from you. Students will coordinate with you a pick up time probably the first week of April.
- Other questions please contact [nwdents@smsd.org](mailto:nwdents@smsd.org)



Another way you can help is to **come shop the sale** on **Saturday, April 5!** You just never know what kinds of treasures you will find at a garage sale of this magnitude!

# 2013-14 SMNW PTSA Membership Form

## PTSA MAKES MEMORIES!

**PTSA** is THE organization representing Parent, Teachers and Students at SMNW, and we want you to be a part of the SMNW team. Please join us in creating great memories like After-Prom and Fun Nights, as well as supporting important service programs like Student Recognition, Drug and Alcohol Prevention, Staff Appreciation, SMNW Newsletters, Email Communication, Legislative Awareness, and Grant Fund. Membership dues are our primary source of funds, so we need you! Please join today!

### ***Yes, we want to join PTSA!***

\_\_\_\_\_ Adult Membership(s) @ \$10.00 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Student Membership(s) @ \$10.00 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ \*\*

**\*\* Students who join before August 23rd will be entered into a drawing for a \$25 gift card!**

Check here if you are a: \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher/Staff Member \_\_\_\_\_ PTSA Board Member

### ***PTSA Class Funds***

PTSA membership dues and student ticket prices do not cover all that is needed to sponsor student events during the year. It is important to provide safe, drug-free and alcohol-free celebrations for your students ... so we need your help! Class funds are used together with STUCO funds to provide refreshments, decorations, and prizes for events throughout the year, including: **Mixers, Homecoming Dance, Queen of Courts, WPA, After Prom Party, Senior Breakfast, and After Grad Party.** These funds make a BIG difference in making these events memorable!

\_\_\_\_\_ Freshman @ \$10.00 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_ Junior @ \$15.00 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Sophomore @ \$10.00 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_ Senior @ \$20.00 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Other Donation** \*\*\*PTA is a 501(c)3 nonprofit agency & donations are tax-deductible\*\*\* = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total PTSA Memberships & Class Fund Contributions Enclosed** = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(Please make checks payable to SMNW PTSA)

Parent Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email\* \_\_\_\_\_

Has this information changed from last year? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Not sure

\*If you include your email, we will put you on our PTSA notification list. You will receive volunteer opportunities, PTSA & SMNW activity updates and reminders.

**Please** place this form and your payment in an envelope marked "PTSA Membership" and put it in the PTSA mailbox in the NW mailroom. You may also turn in your envelope at **Registration/Fee Payment** or **Back-to-School Night** or mail to: **Ann Zimmerman, 4845 Alden St., Shawnee, KS 66216**