

Heather Hills PTO Post

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DECEMBER 2016

Mandatory PGCPS Parent Volunteer Training

On August 18, 2016, Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) updated the Volunteer Services policy. The policy now includes mandatory background checks and training for all volunteers, including parents and guardians. In an effort to help parents receive the mandatory background checks and training, the Heather Hills Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization (HHES PTO) partnered with the PGCPS's Department of Family and Community Engagement to sponsor a Fingerprinting

and Volunteer Training at HHES. This opportunity is



open to all PGCPS parents/ guardians and volunteers.

Per the updated policy (Administrative Procedure 4216.6), volunteers, mentors and chaperones do not have to complete a fingerprint back-

ground check if they are escorted and under the supervision of a PGCPS employee at all times while on campus for a onetime event, such as parents volunteering for career day, book fairs, school dances, etc. However, those who are exempted from completing the fingerprint background check, must still undergo a commercial background check and provide a copy of their government issued identification to be scanned into the Raptor Visitor Management System, as required by Administrative Proce-

Just 2 Hours

If we can get every Heather Hills Elementary School parent to commit Just 2 Hours to helping out, we can do amazing things for our kids and our school.

Will you please take the 2 Hour Involvement Pledge?

We've started using a program called 2 Hour Power that emphasizes that all help, any help

makes a huge difference for schools. The research is so clear – kids at schools with a broad base of involved parents perform markedly better on all kinds of key school measures.

Mandatory PGCPS Parent Volunteer Training (con't)

dure 0500, when visiting school property.

The volunteer clearance process consists of a mandatory completion of a Child Protective Services (CPS) form and a Fingerprint Background check. Any parent/guardian of a student eligible for free and reduced meals is entitled to receive a fingerprint background "free of charge." The parent/guardian must provide proof of eligibility in the form of a letter from PGCPS. The letter must be presented at the time

of service. Parents/Guardians of students ineligible for free and reduced meals, will need to provide payment in the amount of \$56.57. Acceptable forms of payment include, cash (exact change preferred), money order or credit card (American Express not accepted).

Parents are encouraged to register for fingerprinting and to participate in a parent volunteer training session. Fingerprinting will take place from 4:00 –

6:00p.m. and the parent training will take place on January 4, 2017 from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. The registration link may be found on the HHES PTO website:
www.myheatherhills.org.



Classroom Volunteers Needed

Mr. Ethredge, 4th Grade Teacher, is looking for some amazing volunteers to assist him in the new year. He is requesting volunteers to help organize his classroom (i.e.: filing, centers, etc.). Volunteer artists are also needed to help spruce up Mr. Ethredge's classroom. If you are unable to donate your time and talents, Mr. Ethredge is in need of wicker baskets for this class. If you are able to assist, please contact Mr. Ethredge as soon as possible. Mr. Ethredge may be reached via email at mike.ethredge@pgcps.org



Just 2 Hours (con't)

The Heather Hills Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization (HHES PTO) would love to help you get involved in any way that works for your schedule and interests. What would you like to do? When would you like to do it? We'd like to work with you to make sure all parents can pitch in. Involvement is for everyone.

We'd love your 2 Hours, and --Really! We promise! -- there's no

obligation beyond helping out in this small, but important way. If you'd like to do more – great, but we know that's not a fit for everyone.

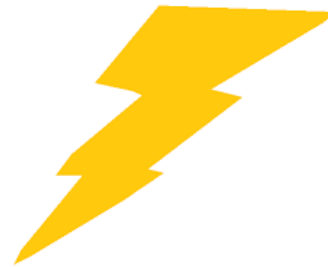
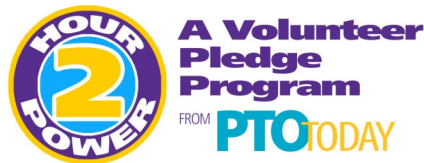
Participating in our 2 Hour Power program is easy. Simply contact the HHES PTO. We'll then be in touch with opportunities

that fit your interests and availability.

Together, we can make a huge difference at our school! As always, please feel free to email if you have any questions or concerns.

myheatherhillspato@gmail.com

**We'd love
your 2
hours!**



Important Dates

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| December 21: Progress Reports Released | January 16: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday |
| December 23-January 2: Winter Break | January 17: PARCC Parent Night |
| January 3: BOE Policy, Legal and Legislative Meeting | January 18: STEM Fair Variables Due |
| January 4: Volunteer Training | January 19: End of Second Quarter |
| January 5: Deadline to postmark private/ homeschool TAG testing application | January 19: BOE: Executive Session and Board Meeting |
| January 5: BOE Executive and Work Sessions | January 19: ESSA Listening Tour by MSDE |
| January 6: STEM Fair Research Paper Due | January 20: Professional Development Day for Staff/ No School for Students |
| January 10-12: Winter Fest | January 20: Inauguration Day |
| January 10: BOE: Family, Parent and Community Engagement Committee Meeting | January 23: Family Engineering Night Maryland Science Center |
| January 11: Reading Rewards (Submit 750 Reading Minutes) | January 24 & 31: BOE: Budget Work Session and FY2018 Operating Budget Public Hearing |
| January 11: STEM Fair Hypothesis/ Prediction Due | January 25: STEM Fair Materials and Procedures List Due |
| January 12: Discover PGCPs: Showcase of Greatness | January 26: PARCC Parent Night |
| January 13: Skating Party– Skate Zone | January 27: Charter Schools Lottery Application Deadline |
| January 13: "Juno@Jupiter" Planetarium Program | |



**Thank you
for supporting the
HHES PTO!!!!
We'll see you next
year!**