

Gator Bytes

April, 2019

Welcome to April!

By Jana Lambeth, President

It's hard to believe the school year is coming to a close. There are just over two months left in the school year – time to sprint to the finish line!

The PTA has a couple more events planned for the rest of this school year. The PTA is excited to host the annual Tech Fair at General Greene on Thursday, April 4th (usually on a Friday; this year on Thursday). This is always a favorite event, as students experience a fun, hands-on way how technology is used in everyday jobs. The next school restaurant Spirit night will be Thursday, April 4th at Texas Roadhouse. The restaurant is open from 4-10 pm and will give General Greene a portion of sales during this timeframe **when patrons mention to their servers they are with General Greene**. This month's restaurant spirit night funds go towards reducing the cost of next year's overnight field trip for current 3rd grade families.

The April PTA meeting is Tuesday, April 9th from 6-7 pm in the Media Center. Come join us as we wrap up this year's business, hear the latest details on current committees, and get an update on future PTA leadership. I will provide recommendations for next year's executive board and a list of accomplishments made this year.

Come join us and get involved! The PTA will host the April Skate Night on April 20th from 5-7 pm at Skateland West on Stage Coach Trail. The cost is \$5 per skater and includes skate rental. The kids love meeting their General Greene friends at this kid-friendly night out! Spring break is coming up April 19th–26th. Enjoy your break and we will see the kids back in school on Monday, April 29th with fresh energy to complete the rest of the year. When we return from Spring Break there will be 30 days of school left! The PTA will be hosting a new event in May – a school-wide Spring Fling Dance on Friday, May 3rd from 6-7:30 pm. Please stay tuned for more details on how to pre-pay for a dance ticket, how to sign up to volunteer, and information on all the fun to be had!

And finally, Staff Appreciation week will be May 6th-10th. The PTA Hospitality committee is putting together a week of fun ways to show the teachers and staff at General Greene how much they are appreciated! Stay tuned for more details and see how you and your student can participate and shower the General Greene staff with well-deserved recognition!

Your PTA President,

Jana Lambeth



Upcoming Events:

- **April 4:** Tech Fair – 8:15am-2:00pm
- **April 4:** Spirit Night – Texas Roadhouse 4-10pm
- **April 9:** PTA Meeting – Media Center 6-7pm
- **April 20:** Skate Night - Skateland West 5-7pm
- **April 19-26:** Spring Break!
- **May 3:** Spring Fling Dance 6-7:30pm
- **May 6-10:** Teacher Appreciation Week

Greene Gator Spirit Wear

Coming Soon – new styles and looks for you!

GET THE

Gator Spirit

Top Reasons to Sport Gator Spirit Gear:

1. General Greene students are the coolest!
2. Your monies go to making the educational experience great for every Gator, every day!
3. Show others your Gator Pride in your own unique way!

Online Store Deliveries Coming Soon

We re-opened our GG Spirit Wear store one more time this school year. If you ordered your gear March 1 – March 22. Items will deliver to homerooms the week of April 8th.

<https://gatorspirit.itemorder.com>

Calling All Skaters – Skate into Spring!!!

Looking for a way to enjoy the Spring weather? Come hang out with your Gator pals and capture those end-of-year memories!

And remember, the classroom with the most skaters will win the coveted Gator Skater trophy!!

Join Us!

March Skate Night

Saturday, April 20th

5 - 7pm at Skateland West



from our PTA President.

Gator Happenings – Big News from Ms. Cannon

The PTA would like to congratulate Ms. Canon who got married on March 30th to Mr. Jordan Nix-Denmark! When she returns on April 8th, the Gators will start getting used to calling her Mrs. Nix-Denmark. Congrats Mrs. Nix-Denmark and we wish you the best on this new adventure!

Have you tried MemberHub yet?

If you have joined the PTA, you automatically have a MemberHub account. Take some time and play around with this great tool that the National PTA has provided to its charters.

Need some tips? Please see the steps below:

-In a browser go to: generalgreene.memberhub.com

-This takes you to the main General Greene PTA page, which is the same view as My Dashboard.

-At the bottom you'll see recent announcements and activity.

Across the top you see choices like, My Hubs, Join Hubs, My Dashboard, Main Calendar, Directory and Shop. Hubs are different groups within the school and PTA. For example, each class has been set up with a Hub.

-Also, each PTA committee has been set up with a Hub. Click on Join Hub if you would like to be part of a group, like your child's class, or to help on a certain PTA committee. Did you forget which Hubs you joined...just click on My Hubs to see your list. The Main Calendar view provides you with the important PTA dates on the calendar. The Directory is an electronic contact list of everyone in MemberHub and YOU have complete control over your information and what is shared. To manage your own/family visibility in the Directory, click on your name at the very top right corner. Then go to "Your Profile" and select "Adjust Your Profile Visibility" to determine the level of visibility you are comfortable with for the Directory information. Easy!

The main places you'll want to go are My Dashboard and the Hub named the Lobby. Let's go to the Lobby and take a look at the Hub Navigation links on the left side. You will find Homepage, Messages, Calendar, Files, People, Photos, Whiteboards, and Signups. Explore each of these various places to see the valuable information they hold. Each Hub has a different set of information under each of these navigation links. For example, the Walk for Greene committee uses the Whiteboard for shared planning and collaboration, as well as the Signup (that's where the W4G committee will send you to sign up to help with the Walk for Greene event). Files allows every to file share, so communication and the latest information is always at your fingertips.

And here's the best part of MemberHub > you can download the app for free to your smartphone (both iOS and Android) and have all this information with you at all times. Here's the icon to look for:



We will talk more about MemberHub during the April 9th PTA meeting from 6-7pm in the Media Center.

Camp Cheerio 4th Grade Trip Fundraiser @ Texas Roundhouse

Help our future fourth graders raise money for their overnight fieldtrip to Camp Cheerio! Join us at Texas Roundhouse on Thursday, April 4th, from 4:00-10:00pm. Don't forget to tell the server you are there for General Greene Elementary and leave your receipt in the General Greene box at the registers. We will see you there!

~4th Grade Team M4

GG Media Center Corner

Introducing Mrs. Collins

What Does a Media Specialist

“Do?” “I do a lot of coordinating in my position. I work with parent/ PTA volunteers, members of the community to encourage donations to our library collection and recognitions for our online reading minute program, as well as ensuring a social media presence for our school library. I am a member of the literacy committee that provides meaningful experiences for our General Greene readers, such as author visits, literacy nights, Dr. Seuss Week. I complete district reports (Monthly Reading Minutes, GCS Reading Challenges), catalog/process new books, inventory our library collection, repair books, coach our Elementary Battle of the Books Team. And like my fellow specialists, I also have school duties such as tutoring students, lunch duty and afternoon walker duty. There is never a dull moment and I am always seeking new ways to incorporate our magnet focus into library learning.”

Why I Love My Job?

“One thing's for sure...there is NEVER a dull moment in the day of our Media Specialist! Teachers are super helpful --- providing information about what is currently being taught in the classroom and offering their insight and suggestions for lesson plans.”

Make sure you check out some of the awesome resources in the Media Center...and don't forget to wish Ms. Collins a Happy National Library Week! It is incredibly challenging to find ways to engage students that do not always involve high tech methods.

Suggested Student Resource Web Sites from Ms. Collins

Resources for digital citizenship: Interland (Grades 3-5): abcya.com (K-1 - Hippo and Hedgehog in Cyber-Five Internet Safety)

Research: DKFindOut, Ducksters, and Wonderopolis

Literature: Storyline online, YouTube TeacherTube

We're so thankful for all the amazing things Ms. Collins does every day, things that many of us don't even see. HAPPY National Library Month Mrs. Collins!

Exciting GGMC Accomplishments

- STEM combined with literature is referred to as "Novel Engineering." Students in different grade levels have approached a problem within a story and used STEM to solve the problem. Students used items from our library's makerspace to design a bed that would support a paper Goldilocks weighted with a few coins. It was so interesting to see the different designs!
- Digital Citizenship is always important and students in grades three through five used coding to direct Ozobots on a path to answer questions about Internet Safety. They also enjoyed the interactive site, "Interland" to learn more about digital citizenship
- Every year students have researched, designed, constructed, reconstructed in the library, integrating classroom curriculum yet taking classroom lessons in new and different directions. One group of fifth graders used paper circuitry to create greeting cards that lit up and researched the importance of light in diverse cultural celebrations.



It's a Tech XTravaganza!

Thursday, April 4th is our annual General Greene Technology Fair. This year, we are looking to expand our playroom and have 10-12 presenters. If you or someone you know uses technology, coding, or engineering in ways that would help our students get some real-world experience with the ways technology surrounds us and makes our lives better, please be a part of this fun day!

In the past we've had Honda Jet, UNCG students from the Self-Design Studio, Greensboro Police Department, Syngenta and many others from our Greensboro Community present anything from micro-robots, to 3-D printers, to prosthesis.

If you are thinking "I use my computer every day, but that's not fun" but you'd like to help, please contact Jeanie Reynolds (jeanie.m.reynolds@gmail.com) - we have lots of ways you can help make Tech Fair a fantastic learning experience for every Gator - including you!



It's time to Sing and Swing at the General Greene Spring Fling Dance!

When: May 3rd from 6 pm - 7:30 pm

Who: General Greene students only

Price: \$7.00 advance purchase \$8.00 at the door

Price includes 2 slices of pizza, a cookie or chips and a water

Enjoy music and lights from the DJ, dance contests and prizes, food/drinks, and a photo booth with props!



Final Bytes...

Please consider submitting an article for the May Newsletter – it's our last Newsletter of the year.

THANK YOU!