



Blake Blue Note

September 2009

Please share this issue with your spouse and students

From the President

Monthly Message from your PTSA President
Robina Barlow

Welcome to a new school year. Over the summer your PTSA has been working diligently to prepare for a new school year, just as many of you have. And now it has arrived. What can we do together to make this year better than the last? We have several ideas but we'd like to hear a few of your own.

Our mission as expressed by the National PTA is to be a powerful voice for the students, a relevant resource for families and community, and a strong advocate for the education and well-being of every student.

As the PTSA, we would like to:

- Improve our parent outreach
- Encourage student participation in all types of extra-curricular activities
- Increase our educational advocacy and support educational progress
- Host programs, speakers, and workshops
- Increase the number and size of our Scholarships
- Increase the visibility of the arts & humanities at Blake to the wider community
- Grow the PTSA membership
- Print a new directory and have a secure online

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Principal's Corner

Carole C. Goodman

Welcome to the start of a new year at James Hubert Blake High School. We anticipate welcoming approximately 1,810 students this year and invite every student and parent to be a part our school community. We have an extremely busy and exciting year ahead of us. Last year you may recall, we entered a self-study year for the Middle States Accreditation for Growth process, referred to as AFG. We anticipated having an independent committee of evaluators visit us in the fall; however, MCPS, in collaboration with Middle States has decided to no longer participate in the individual school accreditation process and will now explore a new protocol for county-wide accreditation. There were many reasons for this change; one being our school improvement planning process replicated much of the information in a less labor-intensive way. Another concern was the expense for each school which came to over \$6,000 per visit with all expenses including training, accommodations for the visiting team, dues to Middle States, etc. What this means to Blake, in terms of our school being accredited, is nothing as accreditation has been extended as MCPS looks at the more global process. The self-study process itself for AFG, proved to be very useful for us and we used the valuable data we collected in our summer planning for our School Improvement Plan. The incredible amount of work the student, parents and staff stakeholders invested in the process was absolutely not wasted as we learned much through the process. The structure we used for the planning committee will be repeated in quarterly update meetings on school improvement planning.

In a simplified version, without all of the accompanying action plans, our goals are as follows:

Goal 1: Students of Blake High School will engage in a rigorous educational experience and receive support to enhance their academic achievement.

Goal 2: Students of Blake High School will develop the

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directory

- Initiate the first independent Blake PTSA Website
- Participate in community-building Activities
- Increase number of parent volunteers
- Increase our fundraising, to support our other goals

First, we would like to encourage parents to Attend Parent Peer Group Meetings. These meetings occur a few times a year for each grade level. The parents come together with a parent leader and a school administrator, in the evening, to discuss how best to support your student at the school. It is often difficult for many parents to come to the school during the day, and so we want to have an opportunity for the parents to get to hear from an administrator, who will provide pertinent information about students and how things work at the school. This is a time to ask questions, and to network with other parents.

PTSA meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. The first PTSA General Meeting of the year will be held on September 15, in the Media Center at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome. Mrs. Goodman attends just about every meeting, and always takes time to inform the group about important issues.

Attending PTSA meetings is one of the best ways to stay abreast of happenings at the school, and to participate in the democratic process at the meetings.

Be certain to come to Back-to-School Night, both to attend the Table Fair, at 5:30 p.m., visit your student's classrooms at 7:00. You will meet each teacher and may hear from them about class content, expectations, how to prepare for class, and supports that are in place to assist students. The Table Fair will give parents a chance to view clubs, activities, and displays of upcoming events at Blake. You will also have an opportunity to join the PTSA, the Booster Club, support organizational fundraisers, and speak with club sponsors. Ask questions of the various Class sponsors or Parent Peer Group Leaders.

Please encourage your student to get involved in school activities; it will greatly enhance their high school experience. There will be an Activities fair during the school day for the students in October.

Staff from the counseling department will also be on hand at Back-to-School Night. Please don't forget to get your student's schedule and bring it with you on Back-to-School Night. A copy will be given to students during the day to give to parents.

In addition to Back-to-School Night and Parent Peer Group

Meetings, look for other announcements about workshops for parents including Edline, Financial Aid, and others. The PTSA, along with SGA and with a generous grant from State Farm insurance, is sponsoring Race for a Dream, which will be held on Sunday, October 18. The event will involve the Blake community plus outside friends, families other supporters to benefit teen driver education safety, and the Blake After-Prom. October 18, is the start of Blake's Spirit Week. Let's start the week of with Race for a Dream Run/Walk. Grab a friend and "just do it"!

Now, I want to encourage you to join the PTSA, and sign your student up, too. When you join the PTSA, sign your student up, too. Every membership and direct appeal donation counts towards helping us (all) support the students. We will also have a few daytime student PTSA meetings during the day to accommodate student schedules. They will be held at lunchtime. But in case your student asks, the meetings are optional.

We love our supportive parents. Many have stepped up over the summer to volunteer for various leadership positions. And some have simply asked, "How can I help?" You can help by volunteering for a committee, or supporting one or more activities such as: Back-to-School Night, Comedy Night, Race for a Dream, the Silent Auction, the Used Books and Media Sale, and others. Trust me, we want you involved. We want your ideas, your talents, your energy....and your contributions, too.

What else can you do? Come out for games and attend the evening arts programs. They are inexpensive, or free (music concerts), and they are first rate. May you and your student(s) have a great year.

Sincerely,

Robina Barlow, President, Blake PTSA 2009-2010
Blakeptsapresident@gmail.com

Trip to Spain and Portugal

Ms. Beth Shepherd (Beth_E_Shepherd@mcpsmd.org) and Ms. Patricia Kompare (Patricia_A_Kompare@mcpsmd.org) are planning a 2010 Spring Break trip to Spain/Portugal. The trip is open to all Blake students.

For more information about the fees and itinerary, go to www.explorica.com. Tour Center ID Shepherd-3871. The trip is limited to 36 travelers and is filling up. Join us for a trip of a lifetime that includes matchless educational and cultural experiences.

skills necessary to become productive and contributing members of their communities.

We also spent a great deal of time crafting a new mission statement that reflected input from all stakeholders about what we value most in the Blake High School community.

Our Mission:

James Hubert Blake High School actively engages our diverse and inclusive school community with challenging learning opportunities in and beyond the classroom that foster a passion for learning, an appreciation of the arts, and a commitment to productive citizenship.

I am delighted that our administrative team is intact from last year. Mr. Christopher Berry is the ninth grade administrator and will be working with the 9th Grade Academy. Mr. Berry is also acting principal when I am absent from school. Ms. Beth Thomas is responsible for students in grade 10, Mr. Joseph Du Boyce has administrative responsibilities for students in grade 11 and Mr. Rudy Tyrell has administrative responsibilities for grade 12. In addition, Mr. Mike D'Anna is the Signature Program Coordinator, and Ms. Barbara Jeweler is the Academy Coordinator. We are extremely fortunate to have professionals of this high caliber working on behalf of the students at Blake High School.

We had very little turn-over among staff this summer but I am extremely pleased by the new staff that is joining us. We are so fortunate to have such a talented, creative and energetic staff that dedicates themselves to students and their learning. I am certain parents will be as impressed as I am at Back-to-School Night on Thursday, September 24, 2009, when you get a chance to visit your children's classrooms and meet with their teachers. More information will be coming but parking is always at a premium so carpooling is strongly encouraged, as well as planning for an early arrival.

As you are probably aware, there is a great deal of concern about a significant outbreak of the H1N1 (Swine Flu) virus in the fall. We have developed a plan to continue communicating with parents and students in the unlikely event that school is closed. It is imperative that we have accurate home and cell phone numbers so our ConnectEd messages reach all stakeholders with important information. Our Latino parent group, PALA, has worked closely with us to make sure we have an accurate list of Spanish-speaking families so we can also get the word out in Spanish in a timely manner. Teachers will be trained to ensure they are all comfortable with using Edline. This communication tool is an outstanding resource to ensure students keep up with their school work should school be

closed. Parents need to access the information that will be coming home and subscribe to Eubiemail as a valuable source of information.

There are several other considerations with the H1N1 virus. Students and staff need to wash their hands frequently and use hand sanitizer. Sneezing and coughing into elbows is preferable to into hands as it is shown to reduce contamination. The other critically important thing is for parents to keep us informed if your child has flu-like symptoms. No one wants to panic but we all need to be communicating and aware of what is happening. I am hopeful that much of the concern will be unwarranted, but we all need to be sure we are doing our part to keep everyone healthy and informed.

Encourage your children, regardless of their grade level, to get off on the right foot this school year by practicing good work and study habits from day one. Homework is important, as are deadlines, asking questions, being self-advocates and putting forth one's best effort. Success breeds success and students who keep up, but ask for help when they need it, ultimately feel more invested in school. Our goal is to proudly post the name of every student on the honor roll. We will do our best to provide regular communication to both students and parents. In your summer mailing, you received a list of who to contact with issues or concerns; I urge you to keep it for future reference. Each teacher has an E-mail address, which is often the easiest way to reach them, but in many instances phone calls and/or conferences are the best communication tool. Please check the school website for accurate E-mail addresses. Parents and students will be issued a PIN number to access student grades on-line and keep up on student academic progress.

Over the past year, we have worked very hard and seen a significant drop in student suspensions and have made a commitment to continue to be proactive and work to prevent issues and problems that accelerate to the point where students are suspended from school. Research shows that suspension is an effective deterrent for the student who values their education. However, for students who get into a behavioral cycle where they are suspended frequently, their academics suffer and the behaviors do not abate. We are asking parents to work closely and cooperatively with us to break this cycle and support students so behaviors are appropriate, safe and conducive to every student experiencing school success both academically and socially at Blake High School.

On a related note, theft of student belongings remains a

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significant concern. Very often; however, we learn that items were stolen when students leave their belongings unattended. Backpacks left in the hallway when students go get their lunch are an invitation for dishonest students to rifle them. Locker rooms are a big issue as the majority of locker room thefts are not of items locked securely in lockers, but of items left out, assuming that because the locker room is locked after students exit, their belongings will be safe. Parents can also assist us if you see your child with an iPod, phone or calculator, etc. that you did not provide them with. Students need to be conscious of their belongings and their surroundings and good citizenship needs to be applauded.

Advocacy for student involvement continues this year, particularly for freshmen. Activities are announced daily on our award winning "Eubie TV News", but are also posted on the school website under "Daily News." The web page address is:
<http://mcps.k12.md.us/schools/blakehs/>.

Students who are involved in sports or extracurricular activities are more invested in school and tend to do better academically and enjoy school more. Most students find it easier to stay organized when they have activities that help structure their time. Ninth graders tend to be more reluctant to join; if they can drag a buddy along it really helps. There is a great deal going on and new opportunities pop up continually. It's the best way to make new friends and feel more connected to school.

This will be a very busy year, particularly for seniors and their parents. College visits and the application process can be overwhelming at times. Please use the expertise of Ms. Kathy Moore, our College and Career Information Coordinator, and our outstanding counseling department when wading through the process. We are strongly committed to providing as much information and assistance as possible to ensure that our students have the best possible opportunities for their post high school plans, be they college, the military or the work force.

Please read the "Blake Blue Note" very carefully for information about parent meetings as well as the many activities that go on at Blake. Subscribing to Eubiemail is another excellent way to be connected as is monitoring information on our web page. For parents new to Blake, we welcome you and hope you will volunteer in whatever capacity works best for you. Our PTSA and Booster Club provide a multitude of ways to

get involved, plus it's a great way to meet other parents. High school students sometimes won't admit it, but they like seeing that their parents are involved and invested in what happens in their school life. We welcome your involvement and hope to see you volunteering and at the many games, concerts, plays, meets, matches, and performances that make the high school experience even more meaningful for your children. Have a great school year!



Instrumental Music Events

Burtonsville Day Parade – September 26 Come see our new Marching Band!!!

Come out for the Burtonsville Day Parade and see our new Marching Band in their new uniforms. The parade begins at 10:00am at Paint Branch High School heading north and ends at the Piasner Community Center. Come support our Roaring Bengals and enjoy the Burtonsville Day festival after the parade! Go to:
<http://www.burtonvilleday.org/> for more information.



Sunset Jazz in the Courtyard Sunday, October 4th Blake Courtyard

Back by popular demand is our afternoon in the courtyard on Sunday, October 4th as the Eubie Blake Jazz Ensemble performs old standards and new jazz hits for your casual listening. Bring a picnic basket, lawn chairs, and blankets to this wonderful afternoon of music. This concert will also feature the return of the Blake Street Dixieland Band and the EubieTones vocal jazz ensemble. This concert will be FREE but will be calling for donations to help our program... Thank you for supporting the sound of our Bengals.

First After Prom meeting:

Monday, October 5, 7:00pm in the Career Center

Are you aware that the second-largest student attended event at Blake is the After-Prom? Blake's After-Prom event (sponsored by the PTSA, Boosters, parents with staff support) draws approximately 800 juniors and seniors and is also one of the best attended post prom events in the county!

The "After-Prom" is an all-night, fun-filled evening open to Blake juniors, seniors and their prom dates held at Dave and Busters. The evening is loaded with exciting activities, games and food creating an atmosphere which is not only thrilling but also safe and supervised!

As with any successful event there's plenty of pre-planning that needs to take place prior to the big night. We're putting out an all call for lots of good people to pitch in and help plan the 2010 After Prom. Meetings, organizing, or behind the scenes help-we'll need it all! Parents of freshman and sophomores are especially encouraged to get involved now in order to build the long-term support necessary to carry on this tradition in the upcoming years.

Please consider joining a committee, attend any of the meetings, or send us an email to see how you can get involved! It's a great way to get to know the Blake community and support our school for a worthy cause! For more information about this event, contact Maura McMullen at McMullens2@verizon.net or Diane Bush at dbush10892@verizon.net

Race for a Dream

The 6th annual Race for a Dream 5K Run/3KWalk will take place on Sunday, October 18th. This event is being moved from a May activity to the kick-off event for Spirit and Homecoming Week!

This fun run, organized by Blake parents, students, faculty, staff and alumni, honors the memory of junior Blake student Alicia Bentancourt, who was killed in a car crash on Norwood Road in September 2004. The Race promotes teen driver safety which is an important focus for all high school students and parents, especially at Homecoming time. On race day, we have information materials on teen driver safety as well as driving related statistics along the race course. It's a great learning experience and a good reminder of safe driving tips for all ages.

The registration fee is \$10 through Friday, October 16th and \$20 on race day. Money raised will be donated to Blake's After Prom, an all-night alcohol-free and drug-free celebration. The Race registration form is included in this newsletter and it's also available on Blake's website. Additionally, you can register for the Race at Back-to-School nite on September 24th.

If you are interested in volunteering or becoming a Race Sponsor, please contact Janice Hylton at janicehylton0@aol.com.

YEARBOOK

Welcome back to school, and I hope you had a great summer. It's early, I know, but now is the time to start thinking about ordering your yearbook and purchasing a personalized space for your senior student. Soon, you will be receiving pricing and ordering information from Jostens not only for your book, but also for your ad; again we are offering early bird prices for both, so the earlier you purchase the less you will pay. We will also be providing information at Back to School Night this year.

SENIOR PORTRAITS:

Over the summer, all seniors should have come to the school to have their pictures taken, but if a student missed the appointment, Blanton Studios will be in after school on Monday, September 14th. All other photos will be taken by appoint at the studio in Rockville - if you would like to make an appointment there, you can call 800-399-8044. The final deadline for senior portraits that will appear in the yearbook is Thursday, October 1st, 2009. Any pictures taken after this date cannot be included in the book. If you have any questions or concerns, you can call Blanton or Allison Finn, yearbook sponsor.

UNDERCLASSMEN PORTRAITS:

All underclassmen will have their pictures taken during their math classes either on Tuesday, September 15th or Wednesday, September 16th. Please be sure to send students to school wearing appropriate clothing. All ordering for school portraits is done online; students will be given information before the day of their portraits. Make-up portraits will be taken on Friday, October 30th, 2009.

2009 YEARBOOK SALES

There are a few books leftover from last year's sales, and we will be offering them to student and parents for a discounted price during lunch in the week of September 8th - September 11th. They will be \$45 - half of the price of the book last year - and they will be on sale outside the cafeteria.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Allison Finn, yearbook sponsor, at allison_finn@mcpsmd.org.



Blake Music Boosters

Blake Music Boosters needs your help. Everyone knows about the "other Booster club" that supports the athletic teams, but few are aware that there is a lesser known Music Booster club that supports the instrumental music and choral programs at Blake High School. The music department at Blake includes the Marching Band that performs at the football games; and ensembles that perform in concerts and competitions during the year. These talented musicians need our support so that the Music program at Blake and continue to provide the quality music that has become our standard! Donations to the Blake Music Boosters supports instrument repair, music, concert

attire, costumes and props for the choirs and more.

Please join the music boosters and look for other opportunities to support us through our Sally Foster sale, car washes, etc! Visit our website for more information and details. Stop by our table at Back-to-School Night, September 24. The membership form is attached to this newsletter.

Booster Club Officers:
 Ellen Zaika, President
 Polly Seal, Vice President (Instrumental Music)
 Vacant, Vice President (Choral)
 Dennis Kaye, Treasurer
 Michele Setton, Secretary

Blake Music Boosters
 Join today and be a part of the music:
Membership and Donation Drive 2009-2010

Here are some of our estimated costs each year for running such a great music program:

New Sheet/Concert Music	\$4400.00	Office Supplies	\$360.00
New Instruments/Repair/Replacement	\$14535.00	Marching Band Equipment	\$8148.00
Performance Needs	\$4955.00	Dry-clean & Upkeep of Uniforms/Concert Attire	\$2125.00
TOTAL:	\$ 34,523.00		

YOU CAN HELP MAKE THE DIFFERENCE BY JOINING THE MUSIC BOOSTER FAMILY:

Music Booster Club Member fee of \$25.00

Music Patron gifts of \$50.00 (*Patrons will receive a special Music Booster Club Car Decal*)

Music Benefactor gifts of \$100.00 (*Benefactors will receive a special Music Booster commemorative gift*)

Conductor's Circle gifts of \$400.00 or more (*Circle members will receive a special commemorative gift, 2 tickets to Jazz Swing Night & special invitations to conductor's circle events only*)

All Donators will be listed in every music program for the entire year.

Your time, dedication, and financial support will ensure continued success for the Instrumental Music Department at James Hubert Blake High School. All donations are tax deductible. In addition, your time and energy at activities such as reception set-up, fundraising, uniform management, student support services such as refreshments at games and rehearsals, and other opportunities; are invaluable to the department's success.

NAME(S): _____
(as you'd like it listed in programs)

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

____ Included is our check for \$25 for basic membership in the Blake Music Booster Club

In addition, we would like to make the following tax-deductible donation: \$ _____

Your single check is greatly appreciated and can be made payable to Blake Music Boosters

____ We want to help out and volunteer at activities supporting the music program at Blake. Please contact us for the following: _____

____ I do not want my contact information to be included in a music booster directory. I understand if I do not check here, information will be included in the directory.

*Please mail this form back to Blake Music Boosters at the school's address
 300 Norwood Road, Silver Spring MD 20905 or return to one of the music directors*

Blake Booster Club

The Blake High School Booster Club is a partnership of Parents and Guardians, Staff Members, Coaches and Club Sponsors, Community Leaders, Businesses and Fans of the Blake Bengals. Our goal is to provide assistance, whether financial (grants or equipment) or volunteer services (parent power, concessions, etc.) to athletic teams and affiliated sports clubs.

Stop by our table at Back-to-School Night, September 24

Our website page can be reached from the Blake Main page under 'Other Links' or 'Athletics' or our URL address

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/blakehs/athletics/boosterclub.htm>

Incoming 9th Grade Parents! What Can I Do?

Volunteer to help at concessions: Blake has a growing reputation among our competitor schools of showing visitors a good time at our events. We provide concessions or help sponsor events for Football, Field Hockey, Volleyball, Basketball, Wrestling, Soccer, Baseball, Softball, Lacrosse and Gymnastics as well as the Poms and Cheerleading Squads. Many JV parents volunteer during the Varsity games, and vice versa. It's a great way to meet new friends at Blake! Contact Mark Wannan (mark@wannan.com or 301-593-0013) for details.

Help stock concessions: In addition to manning the concession stand during athletic events, we need help stocking and organizing concessions. Parent volunteers are needed to shop and deliver. Contact Sally Beach (sallybeach@msn.com) for details.

Volunteer to help at any number of other Booster or PTSA sponsored school events: The Booster Club has a presence for membership, spirit wear sales and hospitality at Back to School Night, 9th Grade Parent Night, Athletic Awards Night and other events. Contact Mark Wannan (mark@wannan.com or 301-593-0013) for details.

Have your company purchase a Stadium Banner: Support Blake Athletics and advertise to thousands of local residents at the Blake Stadium. Contact Mark Wannan (mark@wannan.com or 301-593-0013) for details.

NEXT MONTH!! - Fall Golf Tournament: The Booster Club is looking for someone to head a committee for our largest Fall fundraiser. The Tournament has been done very well in past years by delegating specific parts of the tournament to multiple people, so the Committee Chair just makes sure everyone is up to speed and doing individual jobs. Contact Laura Matusek (laura_matusek@comcast.net)

or Mark Wannan (mark@wannan.com) for details.

Spring Mulch Sale: The Booster Club is always looking for assistance for our largest Spring fundraiser. Student-Athletes volunteer the labor for loading the trucks and delivering the mulch. We need parents with trucks to volunteer to make deliveries. Contact Anne Grenaldo (agrenaldo@comcast.net) for details.

Booster Club Officers

[Mark Wannan](#) (President)

[Sally Beach](#) (Concessions)

Jody Morstein (Membership)

[Rick Morstein](#) (Treasurer)

[Joanne Stevens](#) (Board Member)

[Laurie Tarner](#) (Board Member)

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The PTSA is looking for volunteers to work on the Membership/Direct Appeal Committee. As a member of the committee, you will help build our membership, coordinate membership events and work with the direct appeal drive.

Don't have time to be a committee member, but would still like to help out? Here is a list of upcoming volunteer opportunities. If you are interested in helping in any area, please e-mail Robin Ford – roblexi@verizon.net or Edith Salazar – ediarchi@yahoo.com.

- Volunteers to help at Back-to-School Night. Collect forms and money, hand out membership cards
- Volunteers to help plan student luncheon/meetings. Do shopping prior event – 1 to 2 hour time commitment; prepare invitations – 1 to 2 hour time commitment, work at the student lunchtime meetings – 1 hour time commitment. All expenses for envelopes, paper and stamps are reimbursed
- Volunteers willing to set up and work a PTSA table at school functions - 1 hr time commitment: 1/2 prior to event starting and during intermissions. Materials can stay on table during events
Ex. Sporting events, Theatre Shows, Concerts
- Volunteers to process thank you letters working with Word and Excel files. This can be done evenings / weekends. All expenses for envelopes, paper and stamps are reimbursed



Mark your calendar for the 4th Annual Bengal Classic !!!

- ✓ Argyle Country Club, Silver Spring, MD.
9:00am Shotgun Start – Scramble Format
- ✓ Sponsored by the Blake Booster Club
to benefit Blake Athletics.
- ✓ Special Guest – **Chris Knoche** - color man for the
Maryland Terps Basketball Radio Network
- ✓ Visit www.bengalclassic.com for more information and
to download the registration form !
- ✓ Chances to win cash, trips and prizes on all
of the Par 3's !!!
- ✓ Round up your foursome and spread the word!
Register before 9/17 to receive the early bird discount!

Questions??? blakebooster@comcast.net



xoxo Janice

Race for a Dream

5th Annual 5K Run / 3K Walk
To Benefit Blake's After-Prom
And To Promote Teen Driver Safety

Sunday, October 18, 2009

James Hubert Blake High School
300 Norwood Road, Silver Spring, Maryland

Registration

\$10.00 through October 16, 2009
\$20.00 on Race Day – Register Early!
Additional donations are greatly appreciated
Race Day Registration Begins at 10:00 am
Race Starts at 11:00 am

Course

The fun run will take place on the campus of Blake High School, rain or shine!

Food, T-shirts, Awards, and Prizes

T-shirts for the first 200 participants
Refreshments after the race
Awards and prizes for the top three female and male runners

Become a Sponsor

- Participant Sponsor – give your donation to a runner/walker
- Race Sponsor – All contributions are welcomed

To volunteer or for information on becoming a Race Sponsor, please contact
Janice Hylton at janice.hylton@nreca.coop



Race For a Dream 5K Run/3K Walk Registration Form

One form per runner/walker

Sunday, October 18, 2009 • Registration 10:00 am • Race 11:00 am • Race Entry Fee \$10.00 if received at Blake on or before October 16, 2009 • \$20.00 on Race Day • Make checks payable to Blake High School PTSA/Race for a Dream • Mail to: Race for a Dream • Blake High School • 300 Norwood Road • Silver Spring, MD 20905 or turn in at Blake's Main Office

Name _____ Age _____

Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ Email Address _____

Runner [] Walker [] Race Entry Fee _____

Liability Waiver MUST be signed before submitting registration form. You will not be allowed to participate if it is not signed!

I know that running a race is a potentially hazardous activity and that I should not enter and run/walk unless I am medically able and properly trained. I agree to abide by any decision of a race official relative to my ability to safely complete the run. I assume all risks associated with running/walking in this event, including, but not limited to, falls, contact with other participants, the effects of the weather, including high heat and/or humidity, traffic, and the conditions of the course, all such risks being known and appreciated by me. Having read this waiver and knowing these facts and in consideration of your accepting my entry, I, for myself and anyone entitled to act on my behalf, waive and release the organizers of the Race for a Dream, Blake High School, and all the sponsors, their representatives and successors from all claims or liabilities of any kind arising out of my participation in this event or carelessness on the part of the persons named in this waiver. Further, I grant permission to all the forgoing to use any photographs, motion pictures, recordings, or any other record of this event for legitimate purposes.

Participant's Signature _____

Parent or Guardian signature necessary if participant is under 18.

Participant's Sponsors

Participant's Name _____

Raise additional funds through donations that sponsor a participant. Make checks payable to Blake High School PTSA/Race for a Dream.

Complete Name	Mailing Address	Phone	Email	Donation

Join the Blake High School Administrative Team, Staff and Teachers
at
Back-To-School Night
Wednesday, September 24th, 2009
5:30 – 9:00p.m.

Back-to-School Night is an opportunity for parents to:

- Meet administrators, teachers, and staff
- Learn about educational requirements and curriculum information
- Visit student classrooms, meet teachers, and learn of plans for the academic year
- Join the PTSA (you, your student, your family)
- Join the Booster Club
- Learn about other clubs and school activities
- Learn about upcoming School Fundraising Events: Golf Tournament, Used Book Sale, After Prom, Race for a Dream, Comedy Night
- Sign up to volunteer - Three for Me (consider volunteering 3 hours or more this year)
- Learn about Parent Peer Group Meetings for each grade level

The Table Fair will begin at 5:30 p.m. and continue until 6:45 p.m. in the cafeteria

- Visit tables with information on clubs, extracurricular activities, class (2010-2013) information, SAT/ACT Prep and other services
- Sign up for Eubie Mail (e-mail announcements)
- Sign up for the Blake Blue Note (monthly news) – hardcopy or electronic copy
- Consider making a contribution (Direct Appeal) – see PTSA membership/direct appeal envelopes
- Pay class dues
- Find out how to order a class ring and/or yearbook
- Review and sign the ***Parent Pledge Form***
- Pick up a copy of the ***Blake Directory*** (free with PTSA membership)

Classroom Visits begin at 7:00 p.m. and continue until 9:00 p.m.*

- Pick up a map when you and follow your student's schedule of classes
- Receive class syllabi and information regarding expectations and grading
- Ask questions regarding expectations and grading

The PTSA will sponsor a Staff Appreciation Dinner at 4:30 for Blake Staff members.

***Ask your student for a copy of his/her printed class schedule and bring it with you to Back-to-School Night.**



What is the BBN?

The Blake Blue Note is your PTSA newsletter. Please feel free to submit articles about upcoming events, activities, etc. The BBN will be published for Sept., Oct/Nov, Dec/Jan, Feb/March, Apr/May and June. It is posted via Eubiemail and on the school website, and mailed to families who want a hard copy. To save the PTSA money and time, we urge you to get it electronically only. After the electronic copy is posted, it takes another 2-3 weeks to get a hard copy by mail.

To get on the email list for reminders about submitting articles, to request your name be removed from the hard copy mailing list, or to submit articles, send emails to blakebluenote@yahoo.com. (To remove your name from the list, send your child's name, zip code and graduation year.)

Many thanks to Ms. Beth Shepherd and her class for preparing the BBN for mailing.

Your BBN editors -- Sara Watson (editing) and Michele Setton (design and layout).

Calling All Artists

Blake is participating in the National PTA's Reflections program, which recognizes achievements in the arts, in an effort to raise community awareness of the arts and arts education. The winners of Blake's contest will go on to the county level, and can compete, up to the national level.

The Theme for this year is "Beauty is....". Original works are a requirement and there are guidelines which entries must adhere to. The six categories of the arts are:

- ◆ Literature
- ◆ Musical composition
- ◆ Photography
- ◆ Visual arts
- ◆ Dance Choreography
- ◆ Film/Video Production

Students should speak to their teachers about entering into the contest. The Blake PTSA co-chairs for Reflections are Mimi Browne and Jack Goble.

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