



Holmes MS PTA 2017/2018 Goals & Priorities

General Goals/Priorities:

- Support an inclusive, welcoming organization for all families in school and PTA activities.
- Create organizational structure and adhere to best practices as we establish a vibrant Holmes MS PTA.
- Invigorate parent and community support for Holmes MS.
- Recruit volunteers and raise funds to support students, teachers, and parents through a variety of programming, events, and opportunities.
- Provide financial and volunteer support for the development of a robust after school program.
- Schedule community service programming, outside PTA membership meetings, to address important issues such as bullying; online safety; gang violence and human trafficking; financial literacy.
- Celebrate Holmes Middle Schools 50th Anniversary!

Specific Programs:

- Support teachers and staff: Establish teacher mini-grants: four (4) \$250 grants based on criteria to be determined by committee; serve meals for 75 teachers prior to the November Mini-Conferences for all grades; organize Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week; and strive to provide an “act of kindness” every month.
- Support students: fund student awards and scholarships; organize and fund After School Program Challenge Grants and recruit parent volunteers. Support 8th grade advancement celebration.
- Support parents: host hospitality events prior to mini-conferences and PTA meetings; provide topical information at PTA meetings; and organize community-wide events.
- Support parent liaisons and community activities such as Thanksgiving food baskets; collection of travel shampoos and soaps for FACETS (helping homeless individuals and families); and specific projects such as Picture Day.
- Partner with Holmes MS to organize 50th Anniversary Celebration. Raise funds for new electronic sign.
- Conduct outreach at Hispanic family night and coffee; priority to welcome/ support all families in school and PTA activities.
- Organize Basketball fundraiser, Spring 2018. Reestablish Heritage Night, Winter 2018.
- In conjunction with Heritage Night, create a Holmes Family Cookbook to showcase and celebrate community diversity and family traditions. The cookbook may be a fundraiser.
- Promote affinity/rebate programs, which provide free money to schools, e.g., Harris Teeter, Giant, Box Tops for Education. Funds would be credited to PTA budget. The PTA has established new programs this year: AmazonSmile and Shutterfly. Such efforts (especially grocery store rebate programs and Box Tops) allow all families regardless of income level to take an active role in supporting Holmes.
- Fund 8th grade field trip to Virginia Capitol in Richmond, VA.
- Schedule Family Dine Out fundraisers throughout the year.
- Explore innovative approaches to fundraising such as Kennedy Center and sporting events; ticket savings obtained through group sales are donated back to PTA, e.g., FCPS/Holmes Night at DC United; Holmes Night at the Kennedy Center/Wicked production.