



The Buzz

SEPTEMBER 2017

BEE THE CHANGE...

- **Become a PTA member!**
- **Make a donation!**
- **Volunteer your time!**
- **Attend meetings!**
- **Come to events!**

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Message from the PTA President

Welcome back SPES families! It was great to see so many smiling, happy faces during the Kindergarten Orientation and Grades 1-5 Open House. I hope you enjoyed coming by school to meet Dr. Slaughter and the teacher(s) and visit the classroom (s) before the chaos and excitement of the 1st day.

Please be sure to fill out the forms from your Back to School folder. Some of them can be done online. Or you can complete the paper form(s) and return them to your child's teacher.

In just a few days, we will have our first PTA board and general meeting followed by Back to School night. Everyone is invited to come to the board meeting starting at 6:30pm in the multipurpose gym. The general membership session will start around 7:00 and we need your vote on the audit and proposed budget for 2017-2018. After the business portion, parents can proceed to your child's classroom.

Finally, many of you will notice a different format and distribution method for our newsletter. The

PTA is switching to a monthly newsletter sent through the school's system. Don't worry! We will still be sending the Special Buzz for important reminders and deadlines.

Enjoy the start of the school year! It goes by quick.

Jennie Kazzie

SPES PTA President



Message from the Principal

Greetings Short Pump Stinger Families:

I am so excited that the 2017-18 school year has begun! First, thank you for entrusting us with the care and education of your most precious possession—your child (ren). It is indeed an honor and a privilege for us to partner with you in cultivating all the young minds that enter into our building.

We look forward to seeing you all at Back-to-School Night on Thursday, September 14th

beginning at 6:30pm. I will be sharing our school and community goals for the next couple of years. This event is also an opportunity for you to be able to hear about classroom expectations and the academics your child will be receiving this school year. Because our schedule will be pretty rigid, keep in mind that this event is not the best time to talk about a specific matter regarding your child. However, please schedule a conference time with your child's teacher should you need to discuss an important matter with him/her.

Additionally, please support our school through joining the PTA and the Stinger Fund. Doing so helps to fund many initiatives of our school. For instance, this year, part of the Stinger Fund is a Capitol Project devoted to enhancing our reading resources for our students. Strong readers make strong students!

Thank you in advance for your support, and I, as well, as the entire Short Pump Elementary School faculty and staff, look forward to working with you in this school year.

Educationally yours,
Sarah E.M. Slaughter (Dr. S)

Join the PTA!!!



PTA Membership is open to all people of the SPES community—parents, guardians, teachers, and administrators. To be recognized as an official member of the SPES PTA, you must pay the annual membership dues of \$5.00 per person. Of this amount, \$2.25 goes to the National PTA organization, \$1.00 goes to the Virginia PTA, and the remaining monies are used for SPES PTA events and activities.

It's easy to sign up. Go to <http://www.pta.org/About/Join.cfm> or complete the Easy Registration form found in your back to school folder or on the PTA's website at <http://spespta.com/support/membership/>.

And don't forget to make a donation to the Stinger Fund while joining the PTA!

What do families get in return for their membership?

- Welcome pack with local coupons!
- Short Pump Elementary printed directory!
- Discount to Fall Festival (if you sign up by October 13)!
- A certificate for your child to spend at the Stinger Store!
- Ability to vote in SPES PTA elections, approve budget and bylaw changes.
- Funding and volunteer support for school-wide cultural arts and science events, parent programming, student directories, teacher resource fund, Fifth Grade Celebration, staff appreciation, room parent support and

Rewards Programs—Sign Up, Collect & Shop

Sign up!

Kroger Community Rewards

During the last reporting quarter, 36 families enrolled their Kroger Plus card to support Short Pump Elementary School generating \$328 (\$660 for the 2016-2017 school year). The Community Rewards program requires almost no effort and really helps out the PTA. Let's see if we can add 14 families during the next reporting quarter!

Registration is easy. Go to www.kroger.com/account/enrollCommunityRewardsNow and walk through the steps to update your Community Rewards enrollment. The number for SPES is 89756. You must re-enroll annually. So please verify your enrollment.



i9Sports Hanover/Henrico

For every registration, SPES PTA earns \$5. Go to www.i9sports.com to support the PTA and save with early registration prices.



Collect!

Box Tops for Education

Box Tops are available on many products (Ziploc, Green Giant, Hefty, Kleenex, Mott's, Annie's, Nature Valley, Lysol, Betty Crocker, Reynolds, Trix, Cheerios, Chex, Totino's, Old El Paso, and many more). Each label is worth 10 cents. Visit www.boxtops4education.com for more details and to enter online contests. You can also download the app.

For the 2016-2017 school year, we collected 6,800 Box Tops. Let's see if we can increase that by 10%! Here are a few ways to add to your submissions:

- Ask your neighbors that have "graduated" elementary school to save for your students.
- Put a collection bin in your work break room.
- Have grandparents, uncles, aunts, cousins and friends collect them too!



Tyson Project A+

New for 2017-2018 is Tyson Project A+. Labels can be found on Tyson products and are worth 24 cents. Visit projectaplus.tyson.com for more information.



Shop!

Papa John's

Order online at www.papajohns.com and use code SHORTPUMP when you checkout. 10% of all orders will be donated to SPES PTA. Every ten dollar order will also earn 1 pizza. More participation by SPES families increases the chances of winning Papa John's Dollars for Dough contest.



Amazon

Do you shop on Amazon? Shop through <https://smile.amazon.com> and Amazon will donate 0.5% of eligible AmazonSmile purchases to SPES PTA.



Get Connected

Don't miss out on valuable information and reminders! Keep track of school closings, holidays, activities, events, etc.

Bookmark our website



Subscribe to the PTA calendar

Got to <http://spespta.com> and click the Add button under Upcoming Events or on the calendar to subscribe to the calendar and have new items and updates delivered right to your personal calendar!

Like Our Facebook page



<https://www.facebook.com/shortpumpespta/>

nList & Student Directory

Be sure to join you child(ren)'s nList classroom site(s)! nList is a simple and secure online group organizational tool used by room parents, teachers and the PTA as a means for individuals to sign-up for volunteers shifts, item donations or to RSVP to an event. "Bulletins" are also sent via e-mail to communicate information regarding your child's classroom, community service vents, fundraisers, etc. to SPES families.

Why sign up for nList?



SIGNUPS—As a member of nList, you will be able to view and sign up for volunteer opportunities, such as a mystery reader, classroom helper, etc. Members can also view and sign up to donate supplies for classroom activities.

BULLETINS—Only those individuals who register on nList for the classroom or PTA committee site(s) can view and/or receive bulletins from nList.

STUDENT DIRECTORY—Only nList members can add students to the student directory on nList. If a student is not listed in the nList student directory, he/she will not be included the hard copy of the student directory.

More information and instructions can be found on the [PTA website](#). If you still have questions or problems with nList or the student directory, contact the SPES nList Administrator at spesnlist@gmail.com.

2017-2018 Memory Book

ORDER NOW

It's time to order the SPES Memory Book for the 2017-2018 school year! This full color, hardback book will be filled with pictures of the students and staff, and will highlight special events throughout the school year. Memory Books are \$25 each. Personalization (child's name of front cover) is available for an additional \$6.

Don't delay! Order by October 6th with personalization and receive 4 FREE icons for your child's book!

Orders will be accepted ONLINE only.

Go to: <http://jostensyearbooks.com/?REF=A09887196>



SNAP AND SHARE YOUR PICTURES

We want your pictures for the Memory Book! First day of school, field trips, Fall Festival and more! It's easy to upload

Order at [Jostens](#)

Share pictures at [ReplayIt](#)

them on Replay It.

Just sign-in (use your Jostens.com log in) or create a new account at www.replayit.com. Click "Get Started" and search for Short Pump Elementary School. Even better, download the free App and submit pictures straight from your smart phone.

Questions: Contact Angie Fairman or Kelly McGuire at spesmemorybooks@gmail.com.

Get Involved...

Volunteering is a great way to meet people and enhance your child's experience at SPES. Don't feel overwhelmed and pressured to participate in every event. Just pick the ones you find most interesting or personally valuable.

Wondering how to get involved? Chair or join a committee. Volunteer at school or during events.

There are a multitude of ways to get involved in our PTA! Big or small, at school or at home, creative or administrative, there truly is something for everyone!

Consider this your invitation to volunteer today!

The PTA still needs a Community Service chair and Fitness/Music Resource Helper chair. If interested, email spesvolunteer@gmail.com

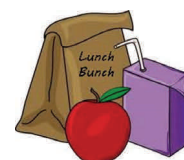
VOLUNTEER
all that's missing is U!

Step 1: All volunteers must return the [HCPS Volunteer Mentor Application](#) form. This is required every year prior to volunteering in the school. Additionally, all volunteers must provide their own transportation.

Step 2: Complete the [PTA Volunteer Interest](#) form if you did not fill one out last year or if your interests have changed.

Step 3: Be sure to join or accept invitation(s) to classroom and PTA committee nLists to receive bulletins about volunteer opportunities and to access signups.

Kindergarten Lunch Bunch



A great way to help out at school AND see your children (and their new friends) is to volunteer for Kindergarten Lunch Bunch, which runs from 10:40 to 11:30am daily.

Veteran PTA volunteers are taking care of the first two weeks. So check your calendars beginning with September 18 to see if there is a day you could spare an hour to spend some time with our kindergartners!

Signups are available on the Kindergarten Lunch Bunch nList site. If you were a member of the Incoming Kindergarten group, you already have access. If you would like to join us, fill out the PTA Volunteer Interest form and check Kindergarten Lunch Bunch.

Email Amy Bush, the PTA's Kindergarten Coordinator, at amy@thebushes.org with questions or help signing up.

Reflections



The National PTA Reflections program encourages students to explore the arts and express themselves by giving positive recognition for their artistic efforts.

Students can create theme-based artwork in the following areas:



This year's theme is "Within Reach". Stretch your creative muscles and participate in this exciting program. Review the [official rules](#) for more details on requirements for each entry.

Ready to participate? Complete the [entry form](#) and turn in submissions by Friday, October 6!



Attention 3rd, 4th, and 5th girls! Registration is now open for the Fall 2017 SPES team.

Meeting dates are Mondays and Thursdays after school (2:45-4:15). The 10-week program starts Monday, September 18th.

Register online at <http://gotrrichmond.org/program-registration/>.

Questions? Check out the [flyer](#) or contact SPES Teacher and GOTR Coach Lauren West (llwest@henrico.k12.va.us).

School Information



SHORT PUMP ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

3425 Pump Road
Henrico, Virginia 23233

Phone: (804) 360-0812
Fax: (804) 364-0845

Website:
<http://schools.henrico.k12.va.us/shortpumpes>

School Hours
8:10am to 2:40pm

Office Hours
7:00am to 4:00pm

Mascot: Stinger Bee
Colors: Blue and Yellow



Follow HCPS on Twitter

CORRECTION!!!

The [spirit wear order form](#) in the Back to School folder did not include a long sleeve shirt option; however, we are offering a long sleeve shirt.

The “Hive” design is available on a Navy long sleeve shirt in the standard youth and adult sizes for \$14 (+\$2 for A2XL and A3XL).

If you would like to order a long sleeve shirt, just write it on the order form. Be sure to indicate the size.



Important Dates—Mark Your Calendars!!!

- Sep 14 @ 6:30—PTA Meeting & Back to School Night
* Parents ONLY please!!!
- Sep 22 @ 5:00—Back to School Pizza Picnic
- Oct 6—Reflections entries due
- Oct 13 @ 5:00—Freaky Friday Fall Festival
- Oct 19 @ 6:30—PTA Meeting & Reflections Ceremony
- Nov 16 @ 6:30—PTA Meeting & Math Night
- Jan 18 @ 6:30—PTA Meeting & 5th Grade Concert
- Feb 15 @ 6:30—PTA Meeting & International Night
- Mar 15 @ 6:30—PTA Meeting & 4th Grade Concert
- Apr 26 @ 6:30—PTA Meeting, Election & 3rd Grade Concert

* All PTA Meetings are in the Multipurpose Room

2017-2018 SPES PTA Officers

Jennie Kazzie, President
spesptapresident@gmail.com

Heather Jensen, 1st VP
spespta1vp@gmail.com

Melissa Murchison, 2nd VP (Fundraising)
spesfundraising@gmail.com

Elizabeth Gunn, 3rd VP (Communication)
spescommunication@gmail.com

Autumn Zaborowski, 4th VP (Volunteers)
spesvolunteer@gmail.com

Cathy Coulter, 5th VP (Programs)
spesprograms@gmail.com

Michele Stehle, Secretary
secretaryspespta@gmail.com

Heather Wagner, Treasurer
spesptatreasurer@gmail.com