



HUNTERS WOODS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
2011 – 2012 PTA BUDGET
Beyond the Numbers



Welcome to Hunters Woods PTA! We invite you to visit the [PTA website \(www.hwpta.org\)](http://www.hwpta.org) to review the full details of our proposed 2011 – 2012 PTA Budget. Please join us at our first meeting **September 27th** to approve our budget. As you review these numbers, you may wonder what the line items represent. The Beyond the Numbers will provide you with a brief overview of our income and expenses. Note that the expenses included below do NOT include many of the PTA's initiatives provided at no cost, thanks to the volunteer time and effort donated by parents/families. Also, in consideration of the current economic environment and the challenges many families in our community face, we have trimmed several expenses this year. We are pleased to present a fiscally responsible budget that fully finances our PTA mission, our programs and our school. Thank you in advance for your support of the PTA, which is critical to empowering us all to serve our students, teachers, staff and school!

INCOME

Mustang Pride and Donations

Last Year Raised: \$20,700 GOAL: \$25,000

In response to parent input, we are excited to kick-off our second year of a simplified donation program, [PTA Mustang Pride](#). This puts your money directly to work supporting Hunters Woods students and teachers, *without having to sell products to your neighbors and family*. When enough families join PTA Mustang Pride, there is no need for other fundraising! Benefits include PTA Membership, a School Events Calendar, a Student Directory, a Mustang Pride Car Magnet, and Family Admission to PTA Winter Dance and Bingo Night. To donate or for more details contact Jo Wechselblatt at Membership@hwpta.org.

Many companies have **matching gift** programs through which they will match charitable contributions made by their employees. We welcome and encourage this support! If interested, please contact Doug Kasper at treasurer@hwpta.org.

It takes a village to raise our children . . . and to support our schools. Do you have ideas about local businesses that benefit from the patronage of families in our school community? If so, please contact our VP of Fundraising, Alexis Shield at vp2@hwpta.org, as we will also begin exploring opportunities for **corporate support**. The generosity of our community is amazing, and we are the grateful recipients of donations now and through the year – thank you!

Earn Cash for HWES When You Shop

Last Year Raised: \$2,408 GOAL: \$2,500

Our school earns thousands of dollars each year [from local retailers](#) when you sign up for their programs. Grocery stores (i.e. Giant and Safeway), retailers (i.e. Office Depot, Target, Macy's), even credit card companies (AMEX, Discover) reward our school with cash thanks to your purchases. Contact Cynthia Cook at grocery@hwpta.org. Additionally, by simply cutting out the [Box Tops or collecting labels](#) on a variety of products, you can help support our school. Simply return these to your student's teacher, the main office, or contact Nancy Mamros at boxtops@hwpta.org.

Book Fair

Last Year Raised: \$5,495 GOAL: \$6,000

Parents, teachers and students all look forward to the PTA Book Fair! Held in the fall and spring, the Hunters Woods community can purchase new and favorite titles and support the PTA at the same time. For details contact Eleanor Weis at bookfair@hwpta.org.

Original Works

Last Year Raised: \$2,194 GOAL: \$2,300

Original Works is an optional participation, art-based program that turns your student's artwork into a variety of products: t-shirts, note cards, aprons, and potholders, just to name a few. These items make great holiday gifts! Watch for information about this program in your child's Tuesday folder or contact Jo Wechselblatt at originalworks@hwpta.org.

INCOME, continued

After School Activities & Programs

Last Year Raised: \$8,769 GOAL: \$8,000

Every year, hundreds of HWES students benefit from the amazing PTA-supported after-school programs. Our students learn chess, acting, foreign languages, music, sports, “mad” science, and participate in enriching programs like Odyssey of the Mind, Spelling Bee and Wordmasters! Our business partners contribute to our scholarship funds allowing any student interested to participate! Contact Karen Mohindra at afterschool@hwpta.org.

EXPENSES

Field Trips, Career Day & Science Fair

Last Year Contributed: \$7,973 ALLOCATED \$8,600

Our students learn many lessons outside the walls of the school – including visits to Jamestown, Mount Vernon, Pamplin Park and the Smithsonian. The PTA helps defray the costs of field trips and ensures these experiences are available to all. We’re also pleased to help support Career Day and the Science Fair, both held at HWES.

Arts Education

Last Year Contributed: \$11,415 ALLOCATED \$10,000

The PTA supports several arts initiatives at our school. HWES’s participation in the [Kennedy Center’s CETA program](#) provides staff training for integrating standards of learning instruction (SOLs) through the arts. The **Artist in Residence program** is also an annual favorite, as we watch our 6th graders build a sculpture project that is always a beautiful addition to the school! (Learn more at <http://www.fcps.edu/HuntersWoodsES/>.) The **Saturday School for the Arts and Sciences** is an initiative by HWES in partnership with Southgate Community Center and George Mason University, that is designed to expand our school's magnet program into extra instructional support for our less advantaged students and for their parents. Lastly, our **Cultural Arts Chair**, Mr. Loftus brought in musicians and storytellers to support Black History Month and the Middle Ages curriculum.

PTA Scholarships

Last Year Contributed: \$1,622 ALLOCATED \$1,750

The PTA provides need-based scholarships to students to participate in all of our programs and activities – from After School Activities to Family Fun Events. The PTA also provided lunch for students who run out of lunch money. For assistance, contact HWES Parent Liaison Diane Beers at dnbeers@fcps.edu.

Distance Learning

Last Year Contributed: \$3,805 ALLOCATED \$3,000

Distance Learning programs are among our students’ favorites! Students and teachers have the opportunity to talk to students, teachers, and experts all over the world. Last year, the entire school participated in the world’s largest concert, with children from around the world.

Mini Grants

Last Year Contributed: \$3,947 ALLOCATED \$3,000

Mini Grants are requested by teachers to supplement services or supplies in classrooms. Last year, Mini Grants were used to pay for a variety of items, including new reading and science materials, and K-1 classroom support. Teachers [can apply directly](#) through the PTA website.

Staff Appreciation & New Teacher Support

Last Year Contributed: \$3,310 ALLOCATED \$1,350

Every year, the PTA contributes to gifts and other forms of recognition for HWES staff and teachers. The PTA also provides gift cards to help new teachers purchase supplies for their classrooms. Contact staff@hwpta.org.

Mentoring Program

Last Year Contributed: \$300 ALLOCATED \$800

HWES has launched a pilot mentoring program for boys, with PTA support, to bring together male role models for students who could benefit from this type of positive example in their lives. For information on the program or to volunteer, please contact Assistant Principal Jason Skerker at jsskerker@fcps.edu.

Parent Education Resources

Last Year Contributed: \$464 ALLOCATED \$2,300

The PTA is pleased to launch a parent education initiative this year. Topics of interest identified in a parent survey include Homework Strategies, Standardized testing, Friendships and Peer Pressure Bullying (includes cyber-bullying), among others. A Homework Strategies speaker is scheduled Oct. 26th at 6pm. Contact Amy Guerber, Sandy Angel or Karen Montagne at ParentEd@hwpta.org. Deb Kasper is also leading a Fitness and Nutrition initiative this year. Contact fitness@hwpta.org.

These are just a few examples of programs funded by the PTA. Visit www.hwpta.org to view the full budget.

For information on how to volunteer at HWES, visit <http://www.hwpta.org/volunteer.htm> or contact VP of Volunteer & Member Services, Jeri Thomas at VP4@hwpta.org.