

From the PTA President

Spring has finally sprung! Thank you to everyone who supported Longfellow by attending our Spirit Nite fundraiser at Whirlz Yogurt and Crepe Bar on April 22nd. If you didn't get a chance to come out, don't worry, we have a lot of fun things planned for the month of May so mark your calendars.

International Nite is **May 1st** so come and learn about some of the cultures represented at our school. If you would like to showcase your country, it's not too late. **May 5-9** is *Teacher Appreciation Week* so don't forget to send your *Candy-Gram* order in. PTA will also treat teachers and staff to lunch this week. **May 10th** is our *Annual Spring Fair* and our biggest fundraiser of the year. A lot of hard work has gone into this event so we hope to see you there. We could still use more donations for our silent auction and volunteers to help the day of the event. **May 14th** is our next *PTA Meeting* and we still need committee members for next year so please attend if you can. On **May 21st**, *Boys Nite Out* is back at the Sports Park with mini golf, batting cages and Ritas. Phew! That's a busy month! Looking forward to seeing all of our Longfellow families in May!

Lisa Terry, PTA President

Stand Up HoCo Town Hall Event

New York Times best-selling author and *Slate* editor Emily Bazelon is coming to Columbia on **Wed., May 7, 6:30-8pm**, Bridgeway Community Church, 9189 Red Branch Road, for a StandUp HoCo Town Hall event. The author of *Sticks and Stones: Defeating the Culture of Bullying and Rediscovering the Power of Character and Empathy* will engage members of the community in a productive conversation about the impact of bullying and best practices for prevention and response. Led by our Local Children's Board, StandUp HoCo is a community-based campaign to end bullying. The event is Free!

Parent Pages

Howard County's **Department of Citizen Services** has released the Spring 2014 Edition of *Parent Pages*, a newsletter designed for families raising children in Howard County. The Spring issue contains articles about children's mental health, the relationship between food and a child's mood, car seat law changes, and more. Check it out at www.howardcountymd.gov/parentpages.

Dates to Remember

- May 1**– International Night, 6:30pm, Longfellow E.S.
- May 5-9**– Teacher Appreciation Week
- May 10**– Spring Fair, 10am-2pm, Longfellow E.S.
- May 21**– Boys Nite Out, 6-8pm, Columbia Sports Park



The Longfellow Spring Fair

Saturday, May 10th
10am - 2pm

**At Longfellow
Elementary School**

Come out and enjoy a wide variety of fun activities for the entire family!

Inflatables ★ Carnival Games
Face Painting ★ Silent Auction
Kona Ice Truck ★ Games
Raffles ★ DJ ★ Hair Braiding
Cupcake Walk ★ Larry's Pit Beef
Concessions ★ Photo Booth
and More!

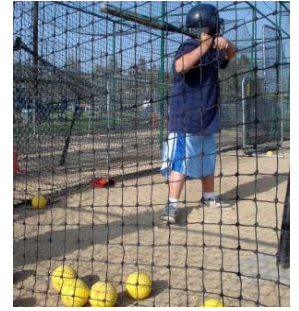
Cost: \$10 per wrist band for unlimited games and inflatables. Families of 5 or more kids will receive wrist bands at a discount. Tickets are \$1 each or 12 for \$10 and can be used for Face Painting, Cupcake Walk, Hair Braiding, Photo Booth and Raffle Items.

Consider Volunteering!

The Spring Fair is right around the corner. We need your help! Please consider volunteering. The volunteer sign-up form is on the PTA website. The link is <http://longfellowelementarypta.org/node/add/spring-fair-sign-up>. You may also go to longfellowelementarypta.org and click the link "Spring Fair Signup". Please contact Jane Benfer at jmbenfer@gmail.com or 240-464-6830 with any questions.



Boys Nite Out Sports Extravaganza!



Our Boys Night Out event this year will take place at the Columbia Sports Park! Boys (grades K-5) will be able to bring their Dad, Mom or significant adult to participate in this FUN event!

The pavilion will be open for picnic dinners and the sports park will have unlimited mini-golf, batting cages, and access to the CA field next to the park.

Fliers will be distributed by May 1st and forms are due back by May 8th.

When: Wednesday, May 21st (Rain date 6/4/14)

Where: Columbia Association Sports Park
5453 Harpers Farm Road
Behind Harper's Choice Village Center

Time: 6-8pm

Cost: \$5.00 per family. Package Plan Plus members will be able to enter the Sports Park for free.

Can't wait to see you there!

Congratulations to Nurse Amy Spencer!

She was the winner of the Staff March Madness PTA Membership Drive. She won a basket of sample artisan balsamic vinegar/olive oils, local honey, and Mediterranean salt from Secolari at Columbia Mall.

Also, March 31st ended this school year's PTA membership drive. Our membership total ended with 143 members. Thank you to all who joined the PTA this school year. We appreciate your support of our many wonderful events and activities for our school, students, and families.

Wendy Jackson, Co-Chair, PTA Membership Committee
Pat Marshall, Co-Chair, PTA Membership Committee

Candy Grams - Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week is May 5-9th. CandyGrams are available for order. The form is attached.

International Night - The 1st Annual International Night will be held on May 1, 2014 at 6:30pm. There will be a Student Talent Show, Information Tables on Countries represented at Longfellow, and food from around the world. For details, please contact Nikee Singh at nikeesingh@yahoo.com, Rosa-Maria Gamble at (410) 313-8172 or Gabriela Russin at (410) 730-6429. See attached flier!

Harpers Choice Swim Team -



Looking for a fun activity for kids this summer. Attend the kick-off event on May 17th from 2-4pm at the Longfellow Pool. This is a great time to meet the coaches, register, and get questions answered. Cys will be there to show off this year's suit choice. All are welcome! For more details, email hcchallengemanagers@gmail.com.




Longfellow PTA is on Facebook!

Learn about events, get reminders & connect with other Longfellow PTA members. 'Like' our page: 'Longfellow Elementary School PTA'

Longfellow PTA Fundraising Opportunities... Easy ways to help!

Ongoing

- **Viridian Energy** – Longfellow PTA is excited to announce our continued partnership with Viridian Energy, an affordable greener energy supplier. Viridian's Everyday Green supplies electricity that is at least 50% renewable and their Pure Green is 100% sourced from the wind. When you choose Viridian as your energy supplier, you can save money over time and do something good for the environment while still receiving the same delivery, service and billing from BG&E. For more information or to enroll, go to www.Viridian.com/longfellow. Our Associate ID is 7998.
- **AmazonSmile** – Our newest fundraising venture is a simple and automatic way for you to support LOES every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to our school. Go to <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7111263> to select Longfellow as your choice charity. Please note that our name is listed as PTA MARYLAND CONGRESS OF PARENTS & TEACHERS INC.
- **Escrip (Safeway card)** - Shop and earn money for LOES with your Safeway card. In order to participate in the eScrip program, you must first register your Safeway Club Card on-line by logging on to www.escrip.com and click on **Sign-Up It's Free!** Then choose Longfellow Elementary School for your contribution. Our **Group ID# is 6530250**. Present your registered Safeway Club Card at a participating Safeway store at checkout to track your qualifying purchases and contributions to LOES. Safeway eScrip contributions are not earned on purchases paid for with a credit card. Please use any of the following to earn for LOES: Debit Card, Check, Cash, SmartCheck, Gift Card, WIC, SNAP*, CalFresh*, and Fast Forward*. We also encourage you to have your friends and family members register their Safeway Club Card. All monthly qualifying purchases earn the following:
 - 1% earned on \$0-\$300
 - + 2% earned on \$300-\$500
 - + 3% earned on \$500-\$600
 - + 4% earned on purchases above \$600
- **COKE Rewards**- Please look under caps or inside packaging of twelve packs of any Coca-Cola products (including Dasani water, Minute Maid juices and all sodas) for code numbers. Go online to MyCokerewards.com. Enter the code, then press donate points. Find & select Longfellow Elementary. We can use points to buy equipment, school supplies and more. If you'd like to collect the lids but don't have time to enter codes, send them into school with your child. There is a place in the lobby next to the Box Tops where they can be dropped off for collection.
- **Recycling Printer Cartridges and more** - The following items are accepted for recycling and reimbursement to the Longfellow PTA: Inkjet and laser printer cartridges; Toner cartridges; Cell phones; GPS devices; MP3 players; Laptops; digital cameras. Place in box across from the main office or contact Renee at rrbp68@hotmail.com.
- **Box Tops**  - Please continue to submit your box tops labels located on Betty Crocker, General Mills, Green Giant and many more grocery items. Each label is worth 10 cents. Make sure to include your child's name, grade & teacher on the bag/envelope. Our collection bin is located on a table near the front office. Points are redeemed for equipment, books, field trips and more. For a list of participating products, visit <http://www.boxtops4education.com/products/participating-products>

Longfellow PTA Fundraising Opportunities...Easy ways to help!

Ongoing

- **Labels for Education-** Please send in your participating UPC's and beverage and sauce caps from the participating partner's (Campbell's, Pepperidge Farm, BIC, Prego, Post, Glad, Dannon, Pop Secret, and People Magazine) with your child's name, grade and teacher marked on the bag.
- **Target RED Card-** Save money and help earn money for Longfellow while shopping at Target. Target donated over \$700 to Longfellow as of August 2013! Please register your Target RED card (Debit or Credit) and Target will donate money to our school. If you do not have a RED card, consider getting one to automatically get **5% off whenever you use your card in Target stores in the United States and on Target.com, free shipping and 30 extra days for returns.** To sign up online, visit Target.com/tcoe or call the Target offices to register your card.
- **Direct Donations** – In addition to joining PTA membership at \$10 per person/\$15 per family, you can write a check at any time to the PTA. All monies go to cultural arts programs, family nite events, scholarships and more.
- **Bake Sales** – Through the remainder of the year, we will host bake sales to offset the costs of our new school newspaper. We have raised money for 2 months already! You can buy and/or bake to show your support.
- **Joe Corbi's** – Each year during the Fall, Joe Corbi's supports our school through the sale of great tasting, easy to use food products. Joe Corbi's offers delicious pizza kits, cookie doughs, calzones, an assortment of pretzels and other tasty foods. Throughout the year, you can purchase their products on-line at www.joecorbi.com. Use our Online Group Code "00LONGES" when you create your own Seller ID by clicking on "Seller Login".

LIMITED TIME

- **Gold Party Event –Schedule an appointment to sell unwanted gold and silver for cash**
Call or email Staci Gilreath at 410-227-8608 or staci@goldpartyevent.com to schedule an appointment at their Kings Contrivance office. Bring any gold, silver and platinum jewelry, coins, sterling flatware, dental gold, or other questionable metal pieces for a free, no-obligation appraisal. There is nothing to buy and if you decide to sell your items, you keep all of your cash. Gold Party Event makes the donation to the Longfellow PTA from their profit not yours!
- **Spring Fair, Saturday May 10, 10am-2pm**– Purchase a wristband the day of the event, enjoy concessions, play games and enter raffle drawings and silent auction. All proceeds go to Longfellow PTA programs. If you can help with raffle and silent auction donations or in any way, contact Jane at jmbenfer@gmail.com. Wristband sales coming soon!



LOES Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week Candy Grams

May 5-9 is Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week

Please remember all of our wonderful teachers and staff this week !!

If you would like to send a candy-gram (similar to photo above), please use the form below. Please print clearly so that we can get the message to the correct person and make sure that they know who sent it ! (if you need additional space, please make a copy of this form)

What: "Thank You" Candy Gram

When: Delivered Week of May 5th

Cost: \$1.00 per Candy Gram
Cash or Check to "LOES PTA"

Other: Orders Due to Homeroom teacher 4/25/14.
Cut off & submit the bottom of this form & place in an envelope (with payment) marked "Front Office/PTA".

TO: (example: Mrs Smith)	FROM: (ex. John Jones or The Jones Family)	AMOUNT: (1.00)
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
	TOTAL:	_____



LONGFELLOW ELEMENTARY'S
1ST ANNUAL
INTERNATIONAL
NIGHT

6:30 P.M. • MAY 1, 2014

Please join us for an evening filled with fun activities, entertainment and delicious food!

Travel the world as we share our different cultures!

THE EVENING WILL FEATURE:

- A student talent show
- Information tables about countries represented at Longfellow
- Food from around the world

If you are interested in volunteering for the event by representing a country, please contact Nikee Singh at nikeesingh@yahoo.com. We are looking for cultural entertainment (dance, poem, song), ethnic cuisine to share and a display table with country photos, souvenirs, costumes, etc.