



PANTHER PRESS

PAINT BRANCH HIGH SCHOOL PTSA NEWSLETTER



◆ February - March - April 2003 ◆

2002-2003 Paint Branch High School PTSA Executive Board

EXECUTIVE BOARD

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Vice President	Lesleyann Samuel	301-388-0505
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Delegates	Ron Leung	301-384-6958

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Council	Alean Miller	301-388-0240
Cluster Coord.	Anne Carson	301-890-6785
	Geri Ginsberg	301-622-1822
	Renee Macklin	301-622-3769

COMMITTEES

After-Prom Awards	Geri Ginsberg	301-622-1822
	Laura Robey	301-890-7729
Destination Imagination	Don Smith	301-384-3854
Drug/Alcohol Awareness	Bonnie Williams	301-421-1035
Giant/Safeway Receipts	Cheryl & Jim Becker	301-421-1110
Hospitality	Kathy Hubscher	301-549-0904
Membership	Kate Thompson	301-236-0437
	Sue Albert	301-236-7654
News Editor	Margaret Pratt	301-879-0913
Newsletter	Nancy Murray	301-989-2563
Distribution		
Parent Involvement	Alean Miller	301-388-0240
Parent Volunteers	Carol Kahn	301-384-7791
	Shelley Jolles	301-384-2724
Special Needs	Wanda Johnson	301-890-1542
Student Directory	Karen Taylor	301-384-1226

From Your President's Pen

It is hard to believe that the school year is half over! The PTSA has been very busy on many fronts.

The After-Prom committee is very busy. They got off to a late start due to my difficulty in finding a committee Chair. In fact, for a while it looked as if there might not be an After-Prom this year. I am very thankful that Geri Ginsberg stepped forward and accepted the challenge, since this event is extremely important to our students!

The Parent Involvement committee is busy putting together a parent forum on communicating with your teen. Finding a date for the spring has been a challenge, since there is so much going on at the school in March and April has spring break. However, as soon as committee Chair Alean Miller has a date nailed down, we will let you all know. This is certainly a topic all parents are interested in!

The 5K Run/Walk is April 26, rain or shine! Committee Chair Maria Hoey is working hard to make this community event a big success, so plan on either helping or participating! It rained last year, so we have to have nice weather this year, right?

On February 9, at 2 p.m., our PTSA is bringing you a professional hypnotist for your entertainment. Russ Peak puts on an entertaining show for the entire family, and while this is a fundraiser, we tried to keep the tickets affordable at \$12 - just a little more than a movie! Our auditorium only seats 600, so buy your tickets early!

Patti Twigg
PTSA President

More from President Patti Twigg on page 2....

Paint Branch High School
14121 Old Columbia Pike
Burtonsville, MD 20866-1799
301-989-5600, phone ◆ 301-989-5609, fax

Jeanette Dixon, Principal, Paint Branch High School
Renay Johnson, Assistant Principal
Mary Beth Waits, Assistant Principal
Maychel Harris, Student Support Specialist

President's Message continued....

As I am sure you have read in the newspaper, the Board of Education is in the process of revising the policy on grading and reporting. The Board periodically reviews and amends as necessary all its policies. The proposed changes include: 1) increasing the value of the semester exam when calculating the semester grade from 25% to 30%, 2) changing the requirements for the sending of progress reports and interims, and 3) changing the loss of credit rule for 5 unexcused absences. There are those that feel the loss of credit rule is really an attendance issue, not a grading issue, since the State Board of Education uses attendance numbers to rate schools. The complete revised policy can be read on the MCPS website - <http://www.mcps.k12.md.us/> - just click on revised policy on grading and reporting. Three community meetings have been scheduled to provide a forum for discussion of proposed changes to the policy. Staff members from the Montgomery County Public Schools Office of Curriculum and Instructional Programs and Office of Shared Accountability will provide information on proposed changes concerning attendance, feedback to parents and students, the weight of the final exam, progress reports, and other topics. Parents, community members, teachers, and other interested school staff are encouraged to attend. All three meetings are scheduled from 7:30 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. Dates and locations are: Thursday, January 30, Eastern Middle School - Media Center, Wednesday, February 12, Gaithersburg High School - Media Center, Thursday, February 13, Montgomery Blair High School - Student Activity Center. For additional information on the meetings, contact Jody Silvio, Department of Curriculum and Instruction, at 301-279-3522.

In fact the MCPS website has a wealth of information, like links to information on the statewide High School Assessments, which affect all children in grades 8 and below. These children will need to pass these assessments to graduate high school. If you have not had a chance to look at them, be sure to view the sample tests. There are also curriculum revisions underway which you can submit feedback forms on! I encourage you to explore the MCPS website!

**Patti Twigg
PTSA President**

~Principal's Message~

January 2003

Dear Parents and Guardians:

As I write this letter we are in the midst of first semester final exams. Final exams count for 25% of the first semester's final course grade which is calculated by averaging the final exam grade with both nine-week grades. Students will receive their grades on the report cards issued on February 7th . The final course grade is the only grade that will appear on the student transcript.

I am looking forward to reviewing the report card data to see if our mentoring program made a difference in our 9th graders' achievements from last year to this year. Personally, I have enjoyed the opportunity of talking with and encouraging my mentees. Ninth grade parents are encouraged to contact your child's mentor with questions or concerns.

During the second marking period we will also begin the articulation/ registration process for the 2003-2004 school year. I request that you work closely with your child on course selections for next year. The courses selected by students will determine the use of Paint Branch's staffing allocations. Some important dates related to this process are:

1. Parent Information Night for Parents of Incoming 9th graders: February 19th (Snow date-February 26th)
2. Advanced Placement Information Fair for 9th, 10th and 11th graders and parents: February 12th 7:00 pm
3. Counselor Distribution of Course Registration Materials: February 18-20th

4. Course Registration Materials to be returned to Counseling Unit: February 27th

The Advanced Placement Information Fair, which will be held on February 12th will be an excellent opportunity for students and parents to learn about the Advanced Placement Program at Paint Branch. AP classes are an excellent way for students to “stretch” themselves academically and earn college credit. Paint Branch was one of nine MCPS high schools (the others were B-CC, Churchill, Walter Johnson, Magruder, Richard Montgomery, Poolesville, Whitman and Wootton) that met the 40% college rigorous standard for the Class of 2002 with 43.9 % of our students graduating in the college rigorous category.

I am pleased to announce that Paint Branch has been selected as an Academy of Finance School by the National Academy Foundation. This is an excellent program which will enhance our outstanding business program by providing additional opportunities for scholarships, internships and jobs for our students. Special thanks goes to Mrs. Becky Baber, Business Resource Teacher for her leadership in obtaining this program for Paint Branch.

I hope you will attend our wonderful Starstruck Production on February 21-22. Our students will get another opportunity to showcase their talents in this traditional Paint Branch show. Paint Branch Perspectives presents its spring musical, “Kiss Me Kate” on March 20-22.

The student basketball teams will try to avenge last year’s 42-38 loss to the staff at our Student-Staff “March Madness” Basketball Game on March 28. Tip-off time is 7:00 P.M. in the gym. Tickets are \$4.00 for all, and can be purchased at the door. All profits will go to the general fund to benefit all students. The sophomore class will run the concession stand as a fundraiser for their grade.

Finally, we bid a sad farewell to English teacher and SGA and Equestrian sponsor Mrs. Sara Norton-Ejnik who has resigned her position with MCPS effective January 29th. We will all miss her and her little girl Grace when she and her husband (who will be separating from the Navy) return to Wisconsin. We are grateful to Mrs. Norton for her service to our students and wish her and her family well.

Sincerely,
Jeanette Dixon
Principal



MCPS INFORMATION MEETINGS SCHEDULED ON
GRADING AND REPORTING POLICY

Three community meetings have been scheduled to provide a forum for discussion of proposed changes to the current grading and reporting policy. Issues will include: Attendance; Feedback to parents and students; The weight of the final exam; Progress reports/interims. All three meetings are scheduled from 7:30 until 9:00 p.m.

Dates and locations are:

Thursday, January 30
Eastern Middle School - Media Center
300 University Boulevard
Silver Spring, Maryland

Wednesday, February 12
Gaithersburg High School – Media Center
314 South Frederick Avenue
Gaithersburg, Maryland

Thursday, February 13
Montgomery Blair High School – Student Activity Center
51 University Boulevard, East
Silver Spring, Maryland

For additional information contact: Jody Silvio, Department of Curriculum and Instruction, at 301-279-3522.

Panther Pride Announcements



Made by Principal Dixon on December 20th

- ❖ Our congratulations go to the following 28 seniors who were inducted into the Paint Branch High School Mathematics Honor Society: Chalita Atallah, Monique Anderson, Amandeep Bakshi, Shannon Bean, Sara Berberich, Christopher Chew, Jina Chung, Jamari Davis, Daniel Grosberg, Alex Hamidi, Charles Hwang, Seong Jang, Joshua Kahn, Prasad Kutty, Peter Kang, Aparna Kothary, Jilna Kothary Jamie Lee, Jean Lo, Daniel Mendelsohn, Alena Naumova, Tambetta Ojong, Daniel Paek, Carlita Phillip, Brian F. Smith, John Speares, Jennifer Twigg and Caitlin Vandevander.
- ❖ After a rigorous and highly selective screening process, senior Joshua White was chosen as an Alternate for the 2003 United States Senate Youth Program. His participation in this program is truly admirable and we offer him our congratulations on being chosen.
- ❖ Paint Branch graduates visited the Career Center on December 20th to share with our current students: “What is College Life Really Like?” The program, organized by our Career Information Coordinator, Ms. Sandy Morse, gives students an opportunity to participate in a question/answer forum to find out what life is like in college. Colleges represented included: University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, Howard University, UMCP, Duke University, Stanford University, Towson University, Allegany College, Hampton University, Johns Hopkins University, Harvard University, UNC-Chapel Hill, Morgan State, Georgetown University, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Ball State University, and Penn State University.
- ❖ Congratulations to the Cheerleaders who won the spirit award and placed 4th in the Montgomery County Cheerleading competition on November 23rd.
- ❖ We are very proud of the 23 Paint Branch students who qualified as AP scholars for their scores 3, 4, or 5 on last May’s AP Tests, including the following current students: Jina Chung, Aparna Kothary, Alena Naumova, Daniel Paek, David Parra, Jack Speares, Josh White and Connie Yeh.
- ❖ Congratulations to Jilna Kothary who is a candidate for a Special Scholarship to be awarded through the 2003 National Merit program. This scholarship is funded by the May Dept. Stores Co.
- ❖ Christina Coleman and Dan Perret, 11th grade trumpet players, have been selected to participate in the 2003 Senior All-County Honors Band. Nick Gann has been selected as an alternate for tuba. Congratulations are also in order to their teacher Bill Phalen. This is a nice honor!
- ❖ Congratulations to Social Studies teacher, Mrs. Faye Johnson who was selected as Paint Branch’s nominee for the Washington Post Agnes Meyer Outstanding Teacher Award. We are very proud of the outstanding job that Mrs. Johnson does teaching psychology and sponsoring the senior class.
- ❖ Congratulations are also in order to Mr. Brian Eichenlaub our signature coordinator who won a \$500.00 Grants in the Arts award from *The Washington Post* for the Animation Workshop project.
- ❖ We are proud of Josh White who was selected third and is therefore the first alternate for the 2003 United States Senate Youth program from among the 11 finalists. Josh’s standing among the top three candidates after a rigorous and highly selective screening process speaks very high of him.
- ❖ Thank you to the following Paint Branch students who participated in the Homeless Walk-a-thon: Alena Naumova, Kaleb Berhe, Jeremy Esperano, Amid Khan, Nancy Kim, Chris Hughes and Scott Templin.
- ❖ Chalita Atallah, Isha Gupta and Brooke Meade were selected to attend the prestigious Howard Hughes Medical Institute Holiday Lecture Series at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute Headquarters in Chevy Chase. The two-day series included a panel of world-renowned scientists who discussed their research with a select group of 45 high school students from around the country. Science teacher, Pam Leffler participated as one of 11 teachers in a Teacher-Scientist Discussion that was webcast live from the Institute. Thank you to all of you for representing our school.

- ❖ Congratulations to Sara Kim, Andrew Brimmer and Justin Jacob who auditioned and were selected for the All State Junior Chorus. We are all very proud of you and your teacher Mrs. Chris Mitchell. The chorus was drawn from nearly 1200 students who were registered to audition. Sara is one of 82 altos and Andrew and Justin are two of 68 tenors.
- ❖ Special thanks to Mrs. Nancy Hebdon, Math Resource Teacher, and Ms. Terri Fromme for their vision and work in starting the first ever Paint Branch Mathematics Honor Society. Twenty-Eight seniors were inducted in Mathematics Honor Society on December 16th. These students have a GPA of 3.5 or better in all of the math courses that they have taken at Paint Branch.
- ❖ Finally, thank you to Mr. Kevin Daney and his students for all of their hard work in making beautiful wooden toys that were given away during the holiday season.

Correction: First Marking Period Honor Roll (Dec. 2002-Jan. 2003 Newsletter): Christopher Tabisz, grade 9, should have been listed as receiving all A's for the period. Congratulations Chris.

PAINT BRANCH YOUNG INVESTORS

The February meetings for the PBHS Young Investors will be held on **February 6** and **February 20** in room E111. Mr. Don Regnell, a financial planner will be conducting the meetings. Students will learn how to evaluate a company and how to make sound investments for the future. Everyone is invited. Refreshments will be served. For more information, please come by E114 to see Mrs. Rebecca Baber or call (301) 989-5618.

ACADEMY OF FINANCE COMING TO PBHS

The National Academy of finance (AOF) is a two-year academic program that exposes students to careers in finance. The AOF augments the standard curricula with one or two specialized courses each semester. There is a four to eight week paid internship during the junior and senior year. A college-level course is to be part of the offering during the senior year. Job shadowing, mentoring, and field trips are included. Students may also complete this career interest with another such as medical careers. There are many benefits to students which include scholarships, experience with a college-level course involving accounting/finance concepts, authentic "one-the-job" experiences, connections with adult role models and mentors, which all adds up to a student that is highly motivated and confident. Students in grades 9-11 are eligible. If interested in this program, students need to sign up for the courses during the course selection in February and March. For more information or for an application, call Rebecca Baber, Resource Teacher for Art/Business/Computer Science at (301) 989-5618 or email at Rebecca_Baber@fc.mcps.k12.md.us.

paintbranchnet: The Paint Branch High School Electronic Mail Network

What Is It?

The Paint Branch HS PTSA has established paintbranchnet as its electronic mail network of Paint Branch families so we can exchange information related to PTSA business, school affairs, and educational topics. This is a great forum for announcing meetings, sending reminders for school events, and discussing hot topics. Be the first on your block to get the PTSA newsletter? It is being distributed electronically as well as being mailed to every home. Electronic distribution is definitely faster than the post office?

How does it work?

Anyone who is a member of paintbranchnet can send a message to the entire group. To do so, a member would send an electronic mail message to paintbranchnet's email address, paintbranchnet@egroups.com, and it will be received by everyone who is a subscriber.

How to subscribe?

Send your name and email address to Patti Twigg via email. Patti's email address is: lptwigg@erols.com If you are not receiving paintbranchnet mail and want to, please contact Patti. You do not have to be a PTSA member to receive paintbranchnet mail.

LET'S SEE YOUR PANTHER PRIDE !

The Pantherettes would like to thank their spirited fans for their continued support and invite the Paint Branch community to attend an upcoming pom competition.

The Paint Branch Pom Squad is led by Senior Captain, Emily Quinn, Junior Co-Captain, Kelli Wilson and Sophomore Co-Captain, Carelys Tovar, assisted by Senior Officers Colleen Carey, Val Gatewood and Caitlin Vandevander. The squad is coached by Mrs. Kim Sweet and Ms. Nicole Hopkins.

Additional squad members are seniors Arjoo Bhandari, Diana Kim, Stephanie Leith, Ramona Narine, Kellie O'Neal, and Lisa Rhoderick, juniors Imani Asher, Teri Jackson, Rachel Whidden and fall Co-Captain Kristen Templin, sophomores Sabrina Heman-Ackah, Erica Jean-Baptiste, Cynthia Jean-Philippe, and Juliana Ssemenda, and freshmen Dayna Callow and Lindsey Kisliuk.

The 2002-2003 Pantherettes have enjoyed fun and successful performances at football games and various school and community events throughout the fall season. This winter season they look forward to showcasing their talents at basketball games and competitions.

COME OUT AND SHOW YOUR SPIRIT !

★ **River Hill/Hammond Pom Classic**

at River Hill HS Saturday, February 1st Division 2 competition – 11:30am
Doors open at 11:00am

★ **MCPS Pom Championships**

at Blair HS Saturday, February 8th Division 2 competition – 12:30pm
Doors open at 12noon

Tickets for all competitions cost \$4.00 and can be purchased in advance or at the door.

Please plan to arrive early ... **tickets and seating are limited.**

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Kim Sweet, Pom Coach (301)989-5600.



COME TO THE PAINT BRANCH HIGH SCHOOL ART SHOW
WEDNESDAY NIGHT MARCH 5TH IN THE SCHOOL GYM BETWEEN 6:30-9:00 PM

THE WORK WILL ALSO BE ON DISPLAY
DURING THE SCHOOL DAY ON THURSDAY MARCH 6TH

ART WORKS WILL BE DISPLAYED FROM:

FUNDAMENTALS, STUDIO ART 1/2/3, PAINTING, CERAMICS 1/2/3, COMMERCIAL ART,
DIGITAL ART, PHOTO 1/2/3, AND AP ART CLASS.

**REGISTER AND START TRAINING
FOR A DAY OF FUN AND FITNESS!**

**THE PBHS 5K RUN/WALK IS
JUST A FEW MONTHS AWAY!**

Register to participate in the PBHS 5K Run/Walk to be held on **Saturday, April 26**. Suited for runners and walkers of all ages, the race is open to everyone in the school and community. The race route starts on Old Columbia Pike in front of Paint Branch High School (PBHS), winds through Banneker Middle School neighborhoods, and ends back at PBHS. Register using the registration form below. Brochures will also soon be available at PBHS, businesses throughout the community, and local races. The registration fee is \$15, if postmarked or received by April 4; \$20 after that date. All participants will receive a T-Shirt with their registration packet and refreshments after the race. There will be awards for the first three men and first three women runners in each age group (only runners will be timed).

Volunteers are still needed to help with pre-registration and on the day of the race. Student Service Learning Hours can be earned by students who help. Contact Maria Hoey, 301/476-7616, to get involved or for details.

**Race held rain or shine.
Sorry, no refunds of entry fees**

Late Registration and packet pick-up: Paint Branch High School, Friday, April 25th, 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm; Race day, 7:00 am to 8:00 am (T-shirt sizes not guaranteed with late registration)

Location: Race begins and ends at PBHS and winds through Banneker Middle School neighborhoods. Roads will be closed to traffic, from 8:00-10:30 am.

Time: Race begins at 8:30 a.m.

Awards: To first three male and first three female runners in age groups: 8 and under, 9-10, 11-14, 15-19, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60 and up.

Race Restrictions: Please no baby joggers/strollers, dogs, roller blades, skates, skateboards, scooters, bikes or headphones on the racecourse. Runners start first, walkers follow. Roads reopen to traffic at 10:30 am.

You Get: PBHS 5K T-shirt, refreshments after the race, water along race course, awards ceremony following race.

Paint Branch High School

5K Run/Walk Registration Form

(Please print information. Photocopy for additional participants.)

Participant first name, initial, last name

Address, number and street

City, state, zip

H: _____ W: _____
Telephone numbers (home and work)

E-mail address

Age on race day _____ Sex (circle one) M F

Runner or walker (circle one)

Adult shirt sizes (circle one)
S M L XL XXL

Entry Fee

\$15 postmarked by April 4, 2003
\$20 thereafter and on race day

Please accept my additional donation

\$ _____

Total amount enclosed: \$ _____

Make checks payable to: PBHS/PTSA

Send to:
PBHS/PTSA 5K
Paint Branch High School
14121 Old Columbia Pike
Burtonsville, MD 20866

Waiver:

In consideration of the acceptance of my entry I, for myself and my administrators, executors and assignees, hereby release and discharge Paint Branch High School, the PTSA, Montgomery County Government, Montgomery County Road Runners Club and all volunteers and sponsors from all claims, damages, demands and actions, in any manner arising out of my participation in said athletic event. I knowingly and voluntarily assume all risk arising from such participation. I attest and verify that I have full knowledge of the risks involved in this event and I am physically fit and sufficiently trained to participate.

Signature:

Waiver must be signed to participate. Parents must sign if participant is under 18 yrs.

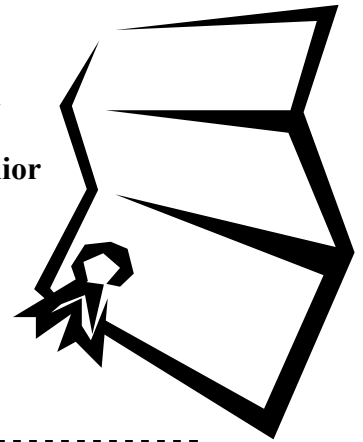
SPECIAL NEEDS

Parents, please remember that I am at your disposal to be the Point of Contact or interface for you and the Special Needs Staff at Paint Branch. Please feel free to call (301-890-1542) or e-mail (jonsunw@aol.com) me at any time if you need help with anything. Thank you.

Wanda Johnson

PTSA All-Around-Achiever (AAA) Award

Applications are now available in the guidance office for the PTSA All-Around Achiever (AAA) award. The AAA award is for those students that have shown involvement in the community and the school. To be eligible you must be a **junior** or **senior** with a minimum GPA of 2.5. Students winning last year are **not** eligible to apply this year. Applications must be submitted to the guidance office no later than **Friday April 11, 2003**. Winners will be announced at the May awards ceremony where they will receive their name on a plaque and a monetary award. If you need further information please call Laura Robey at 301-890-7729.



The Paint Branch PTSA is sponsoring a show by Master Hypnotist Russ Peak

This is a fundraiser for the PTSA, and will be held on Sunday, February 9 at 2 pm in the Paint Branch Auditorium. Tickets are \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door. The auditorium only seats 600 people, so be sure and get your tickets ahead of time. This show is fun for the entire family! Here's a little information on Russ: Across the nation hypnosis is chosen by campuses and corporations as the #1 choice of variety entertainment. We are bringing to you a master hypnotist. His name is Russ Peak. Russ is a performing member of TV and LA's Magic Castle, the National Speakers Association, and the infamous Psychic Entertainers Association. He has been recognized as one of the nation's most creative and original stage hypnotists who performs over 200 outstanding presentations each year for a variety of audiences including high schools, universities, cruise lines, fairs, conventions and corporate giants including IBM, Hewlett-Packard, Intel, and Disneyland.

Russ Peak will mesmerize us and entertain us, as he takes us on an incredible exploration into the last great unexplained mystery -- The Human Mind. To find out more about him, visit his website at www.russpeak.com.

Tickets will be on sale during school starting Jan. 29, or call 301-384-3847 for tickets.

We would like to thank ***Ink Impressions*** for their generous donation of the tickets for this event!



Introducing the Ambassador Corps



The Counselors' Corner



Mr. Jack McKeon
Resource Counselor
(A – CAM)

Ms. Kay Haller
(CAN – GE)

Mr. Greg Cornnor
(GF – KHAN)

Mrs. Beatrice Newell
(KHAND – MOR)

Ms. Darlene Hairston
(MORR - ROSS)

Ms. Cherie Roginsky
ROTH - SOM

Mrs. Rebecca Long
Mrs. Dorothy Williams
(SON– Z)

Ms. Patti Hill
Registrar

Mrs. Sandy Morse
Career /College Coordinator

Ms. Joyce Fisher
Guidance Secretary

Registration for Next Year's Classes

Counselors will be visiting 11th grade English classes on February 18th, 10th grade English classes on February 19th, and 9th grade English classes on February 20th to distribute registration materials for next year's classes. The registration cards are due back to Guidance by February 28th.

On January 7, 2003, Paint Branch High School's Guidance Counselor, Kay Haller, presided over the first ceremony inducting 38 students into the newly formed Ambassador Corps. The Corps was created to involve students in their school, community, and with each other and is based loosely on the Foreign Service's ranking system. It is divided into the 3 rank divisions of

- Attaché
- Envoy
- Ambassador

The mission of the Corps is to foster a welcoming environment for students, staff, guests, and community by employing Corps members to share and reflect student pride and school accomplishments and to broaden members' horizons and increase self-confidence through experiential learning. Students achieve promotion through participation in a variety of enriching activities where internal Corps credits can be earned. Members carry a passport which serves as their record of the events and initiatives they undertake within the seven areas that cover the activities of

- Diplomatic Work
- Mentoring
- Tutoring
- Fundraising
- Committee Work
- Confidence Building Activities
- Cultural/Enrichment Activities

Each rank will present its own challenges and reap its own rewards. Envoys will be eligible to receive Enrichment Program Grants and Ambassadors will be eligible to receive Ambassador Corps Scholarship Money.

At the Induction, members received a shirt, a rank pin, a certificate, a photo identification card, and a photo identification passport. In addition, members received their committee assignments and the name of the individual that they will tutor. There will be two additional Induction ceremonies in the spring of 2003. Applications are now being accepted for admissions. Applicants must have a minimum GPA of 2.0, 60 Student Service Learning hours, and currently be involved in at least one extracurricular activity. Students who meet two of the three requirements and are close to meeting their third can apply for probationary status. Although this postpones official entry into the Corps, it does allow students the opportunity to earn passport credits and community service. Students can pick-up an application from Guidance Depart.

Getting started on career/college planning requires decision making.

NINTH GRADERS should be taking steps in decision making now. Class selection, earning the best grades possible, excellent attendance and extracurricular activity participation will impact and influence the options a student has when it comes time to choose a career path in the 12th grade. Remember that the grades a student earns in the ninth grade become part of their official high school transcript. *Planning tip: READ – this will help when it comes time to take the national testing programs (PSAT/MNSQT to SAT or ACT) that most colleges require for admissions.*

TENTH GRADERS took the PSAT for practice this past October and should now be adding an inventory to identify career interests, aptitudes, and abilities to their list of decision making tools. Students who have completed Algebra I and Geometry or PGA may also choose to sign-up for the single semester 11th grade SAT Prep Course. If the verbal skills section of the PSAT was a particularly difficult section, 10th graders should consider signing up for the single semester 11th grade College Literacy Course instead of the SAT Prep Course. *Planning tips: READ and RESEARCH – this will help as the time to apply to colleges nears.*

JUNIORS will be receiving The Career/College Planning Guide *Getting Ready* prior to the Junior College Night presentation. This program is provided to parents so that they have an opportunity to learn what their 11th graders should be doing in the career/college planning process. The program will be held on Thursday, April 3rd at 7 PM in the PBHS Auditorium. *Planning tips: READ, RESEARCH and VISIT – this will help with college selection and scholarship opportunities.*

SENIORS should be providing Mrs. Morse, Career/College Coordinator, with the results of all their college applications. Meeting deadlines for college applications and scholarships as well as staying on task with attendance and grades is critical during the senior year. *Planning tips: READ, RESEARCH, VISIT and REPORT – this will help 12th graders be successful PBHS Grads, college candidates and scholarship winners. WE LIKE TO BRAG –* Seniors are reminded to let Mrs. Morse know about all scholarships you are offered so that we can continue to brag about you! The Career Center has the program and materials needed to assist with career/college searches, interest, aptitude and ability inventories, and scholarship searches. **Contact** Mrs. Morse for more information.

More PANTHER PRIDE...

Paint Branch High School Students' Animated Video Wins National CINE Golden Eagle Award

“Move Over, Moon,” an animated video created by 22 Paint Branch High School Students in Burtonsville, Maryland, has garnered a national CINE Golden Eagle Award. The prestigious award recognizes the excellence of the production, and makes the video eligible for a Special Jury Award, to be announced at the 44th Annual CINE Awards Event on February 27, 2003, in Washington, D.C.

The three-minute video was created during a five-day animation workshop taught by visiting artist Leila Cabib, funded by Paint Branch’s Signature Program of Science and Media and by an Arts in Schools Grant from the Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County. It has been broadcast on Montgomery County Cable Channel 21, on Montgomery County Public Schools Instructional TV, and was screened at the Hiroshima 2002 International Animation Festival in August 2002.

CINE, (Council for International Non-theatrical Events), a Washington D.C. based non-profit organization, has recognized the work of outstanding filmmakers, video producers, directors and other craftspeople in the film and video industry since 1957. Both professional and pre-professional productions are judged for such criteria as creativity, visuals, and effective communication to the intended audience.

The student animators who created the video were: Kathrina Aben, Hasnat Ali, Nehemiah Bernal, David Cruz, George Dominguez, Michael Evans, Adam Golfer, Rosa Gomez, Derrick Jones, Rebecca Kadushin, Byron Livingston, Chauncy Manguel, Susanna Oresky, Kristine Park, April Stovall, Nghia Tran, Andrew Tsai, John Warner, Katie Waterworth, Garnell Wood, Dru Wooten and Robert Young.

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Upcoming Workshop on Communicating with Your Teenager

The Parent Involvement Committee of the PTA is working to schedule a Workshop on Communicating With Your Teenager. The Workshop is tentatively planned for early April. The date will be finalized in the next couple of weeks.

Tentatively, the workshop will consist of a diverse panel that includes counselors from Paint Branch High School and Montgomery County Mental Health. The Workshop is designed to provide parents and students with tips that will aid in fostering positive communication at home. Workshop planners are striving to pull together a diverse panel group to discuss a variety of issues including cultural differences, generational difference and how they affect communicating with today's teenager. ***Look for future announcements in the Gazette or contact Alean Miller at 301/388-0240 for details.***

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VOLUNTEER AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE...

Make a difference in a child's life one hour a week. Interages, Inc., a nonporfit agency that has been working with students and seniors in Montgomery County for 16 years, will be starting a reading program in January at Fairland Elementary School on Fairdale Road, off Briggs Chaney Road. Training and site support will be provided. Interested volunteers (50+) may call Sharon Gobel, Director of Programs at (301) 949-3551.

Calendar Items – February -April 2003

Feb. 7	Report card distribution
Feb. 9	Russ Peak performance, 2 p.m., Paint Branch Auditorium
Feb. 11	Early release day
Feb. 12	AP Fair, Auditorium/Cafeteria
Feb. 17	Holiday, President's Day, school closed
Feb. 18	PTSA meeting, 7:00 p.m., Media Center
Feb. 19	Parent Information Night for Incoming 9 th Grade Parents
Feb. 21-22	Starstruck, 7:00 p.m., Paint Branch Auditorium
Mar. 14	Pi Day at Paint Branch
Mar. 18	PTSA meeting, 7:00 p.m., Media Center
Mar. 19	No school for students, professional day for teachers
Mar. 20-22	Spring musical production - "Kiss Me Kate"
Mar. 25	Winter Sports Awards Program, 6:30 p.m., Auditorium
Mar. 28	Student-Staff Basketball Game, 7:00 p.m., Gym
April 1-2	Early release days, report card prep.
Apr. 4	Senior Class Banquet
Apr. 6	Daylight Savings Time begins - clocks ahead one hour
Apr. 10	Report Card distribution
Apr. 14-21	Spring Break
Apr. 23	Shakefest - A celebration of Shakespeare's Birthday
Apr. 26	5K Run/Walk, 8:30 a.m., PBHS
Apr. 29	PTSA meeting, 7:00, Media Center (note non standard date)

Athletic Boosters will no longer be using hard copy slides for the Sports Awards slide show. Instead, we will be using PowerPoint presentations to display team photos.

When submitting photos for the presentation, please do the following:

- Have pictures developed into an electronic file. You may deliver us a CD, diskette, or send via e-mail. It is recommended that you use 400 and above speed film for action pictures.
- We will accept one disc or CD per team including no more than 25 pictures. It is up to the team photographer to select the pictures to be included in the presentation.
- All discs or CDs must be properly marked with a team's contact name and telephone number.

For additional information or clarification, please contact Patti Hamilton at Patti42961@aol.com or 301-236-5861.

PANTHER PRESS
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**Paint Branch High School PTSA
Membership Application ● 2002-2003 School Year**

(Please Print)



Parent/Guardian/Faculty Name(s): _____

Student Name(s) & Grade(s): _____

Street Address: _____ City & Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ E-mail Address: _____

(Your email address will be added to paintbranchnet, the PTSA email listserve.)

Dues: \$15 – first adult member, \$7.50 – additional adult member, \$5 – each student/faculty member

In addition to my/our dues, I/we enclose a donation of: \$5 \$10 \$15 \$20 \$50 \$ _____

This donation is to be used for: General PTSA expenses Specific budget item: _____

Enclosed: Dues \$ _____ + Donation \$ _____ = \$ _____ Form of Payment: Cash Check # _____

Please list any committee(s) in which you may be interested: _____

Thank you for your support of our National Blue Ribbon School's PTSA!