

Randolph Middle

A World of Possibilities

4400 Water Oak Road, Charlotte, NC 28211 (980) 343.6700 www.randolphmiddle.org



Calendar

September

5: Labor Day holiday

12-16: Book Fair

13: PTSA Board Meeting

15: Back to School Night:

PTSA General Meeting/

Book Fair Night/Slice and

Scoop Dinner

Wrapping Paper/Gifts

Fundraising Kickoff

Direct Donation Campaign

October

1: School Directory

distributed

11: PTSA Board Meeting

12: Newsletter Distributed

13: Teacher Workday/

Parent Conferences

November

Direct Donations Appeal

Concludes

15: Open House

15: PTSA Board Meeting

17: Newsletter Distributed

23: Teacher Workday

24-25: Thanksgiving Holiday

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Our Theme for the Year: No Bullying

In the midst of cheers, music and a booming local radio personality, Randolph Middle School kicked off a serious, year-long focus on bullying at the "Do The Right Thing" Rally Aug. 29. The rally featured CJ of Radio Station WIBT, Charlotte Beat 96.1, who talked about his own experiences.

Throughout the school year, RMS will hold 6th grade discussion groups, teacher trainings and other school-wide events. The Randolph PTSA will sponsor a parent information forum at 6 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 15, during the PTSA general meeting. The bullying forum will precede Randolph's Back-To-School activities and will include a Slice & Scoop Dinner with pizza, ice cream and drinks for sale.

These activities are aimed at helping the Randolph Family — students, staff and parents — become aware how common bullying is, learn to recognize bullying behavior and develop action plans, said Principal Jackie Menser.

"In most cases, we don't find out about it until it has gone on for some time," said Principal Menser. "Most students don't realize that bullying happens everywhere and there's no shame." A recent Reader's Digest poll found that 70% of parents surveyed said their child had been bullied at school.

The key, said Principal Menser, is for someone — the student being bullied or another student — to tell the right people.

Although society has historically considered bullying a "rite of passage" for adolescents, attitudes are starting to change as more people recognize the psychological and physical damage that bullying can inflict on victims. Experts agree that bullying tends to manifest itself in different ways for females and males. For example, males are more likely to exhibit physical aggression or intimidation, while females are more likely to engage in name-calling or gossip.

One of the most important things any school can do is make it clear that bullying will not be tolerated and encourage students to report incidents as soon as possible. Parents can help by learning how to spot bullying signs in their children. To learn more, go to the National PTA's website at www.pta.org.

Calendar

December

10: Choice Fair
13: PTSA General
Meeting/Slice and Scoop
Dinner
13: Winter Concert
15: Newsletter Distributed
21-30: Winter Break

January, 2006

2: Teacher Workday
10: PTSA Board Meeting
12: Newsletter Distributed
16: Martin Luther King
Holiday
17: Teacher Workday
18-20: Open Houses

February

16: PTSA General
Meeting/Curriculum
Night/Dinner
16: Newsletter Distributed
20: Teacher Workday

March

14: PTSA Board Meeting
16: Newsletter Distributed
24: Teacher Workday
27-31: Spring Break

April

13: PTSA General
Meeting/Spring
Concert/Slice and Scoop
Dinner
13: Newsletter Distributed
14: Easter Holiday
29: International Festival

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RANDOLPH MIDDLE SCHOOL WANTS YOU

There are many opportunities at Randolph to get involved and meet other families. One of the easiest is to join the PTSA and volunteer to help with one of the many committees or activities at Randolph. On page 4, you will find a PTSA membership and volunteer form. Please take a minute to look it over and then ACT NOW and JOIN. Each member family will receive a free Randolph Middle School bumper sticker. Forms may be returned to the school with your student or turned in at Back to School Night.

– Anne Mauldin and Reginald Powe, PTSA Membership Co-Coordinators

COMMIT TO RANDOLPH BE A PART OF OUR SUCCESS!!

The Randolph PTSA raises funds each year to support technology, cultural arts programs, staff training and development, as well as family fun events. These are just a few of the many programs we offer to enrich the educational experiences of our students.

Randolph has a direct donation campaign that allows all of the money collected from parents and friends to go directly to our school, directly benefiting our students. This year the fundraising goal is \$20,000. Please consider making a tax deductible, direct donation to Randolph PTSA to help us to reach this goal.

In September, RMS parents will receive a letter in the mail asking for your participation in this important campaign. If you would like to contribute before then, please fill out the form below and return it to the main office marked, attention: direct mail campaign.

I will commit to Randolph with a direct donation of \$_____.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone # _____

Randolph Student _____

Grade _____

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW FOR THE 1ST
ANNUAL RMS INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL – APRIL
29, 2006**

Calendar

May

9: PTSA Board Meeting
16: PTSA Meeting
18: Newsletter Distributed
29: Memorial Day Holiday

June

9: Last Day of School

International Baccalaureate Report

As summer turns to fall, another academic year beckons students and teachers to explore the many facets of the International Baccalaureate Program at Randolph.

The first newsletter of the year is a perfect opportunity to review the philosophies and progress of the International Baccalaureate program over the past four years. By focusing on a few key questions one will be able to better understand both the program and its development at Randolph.

First, what is the International Baccalaureate (IB) program and how does it affect our school? The IB program is designed to develop academic and individual skills while increasing cultural appreciation for the world around us. Through the eight subject areas, students set goals, experience a wide variety of teaching approaches, support the community through volunteer activities and develop a personal portfolio. Students that finish the program in high school would be eligible to receive an IB diploma.

Second, what is the background of the IB program at Randolph? Four years ago, the IB program was moved from Marie G. Davis to Randolph. Former Sedgfield Principal Jackie Menser used her expertise to set Randolph's new program in motion. Staff training, schedule adjustments and community meetings created the foundation for our current program.

What is the program's progress to date? Randolph's IB program is in its fourth year of implementation. Year one was used to educate the staff, students and community about the program and its philosophies. Year two focused on training and the development of lessons and practices that reflect IB strategies. That same year, Application Part A was submitted and accepted, which allowed Randolph to become an IB candidate school. Year three saw the continued growth of the program and the completion of Application Part B along with a visit from IB mentor Sharon Pope. This summer, Randolph and Myers Park High School were notified that in October, they will host an IB authorization team visit. The team will determine if our program should be authorized by the International Baccalaureate Organization.

As we enter this final phase of the authorization process, we will celebrate our progress as an IB school and the many opportunities it has offered our students, staff and community.

Karen Daniel
IB Coordinator

Differentiated Education Plan Meeting For Parents of Scholars/Accelerated Students

Date: Sept. 15 (before
the PTSA Meeting)
Time: 5:15

Please plan to attend our
annual Parent Meeting
for gifted
students. The location of
the meeting will be
posted in the lobby.

For additional
information contact
Karen Daniel,
(980) 343-6700.

Need a copy of the newsletter?

(Or it didn't make it home with your student?)

Find copies online, at www.randolphmiddle.org, or look for extra copies by the front door the next time you visit the school.

RMS PTSA MEMBERSHIP FORM

Parent/Guardian Name _____

Address: _____

Phone (H) _____ (C) _____ (W) _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Child's Name _____ Grade _____

Child's Name _____ Grade _____

_____ number of members x \$6 per member = _____ total enclosed (Checks payable to RMS PTSA)

Member Names (parent/guardian/student/teacher) to be listed on each card:

RMS PTSA VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteers are needed throughout the year. Opportunities can be weekly, monthly, occasionally or one-time. We hope that you will volunteer in at least one area this year. Please indicate below the areas in which you are able to assist. You will be contacted by a PTSA chairperson as volunteer needs arise.

_____ Book Fair (Hourly shifts during fall and spring book fairs)

_____ International Festival (NEW! Held in April)

_____ Habitat / Beautification (Yearlong outdoor fun! – Regular or occasional help with Habitat and grounds)

_____ Marketing / Open Houses (Fall and early January)

_____ Fundraising (Assist with fall fundraiser and other fundraising projects during school year)

_____ Staff Appreciation (Send treats monthly/occasionally for PTSA staff appreciation events)

_____ Athletic Booster Club (NEW! To directly benefit RMS athletic program)

_____ Student Recognition / Grade Level Parties (A/B Honor Roll Parties & 8th Grade Fever Week – 2-hour commitments)

_____ Family Dinners (Assist with evening family dinners at RMS)

_____ EOG Test Proctors (2 or 3-hour observation shifts in May)

_____ Reflections (Assist w/ judging, displaying and promoting 6th-8th grade artwork in annual PTA contest)

_____ Newsletter (Assist w/ monthly *Raider Review* newsletter)

_____ Miscellaneous / Occasional (Help as needed / when available)

