



The Cavalier Chronicles

Parent-Teacher-Student Organization (PTSO) Publication

August 2016

<http://www.woodsonptso.org>

WT Woodson PTSO Executive Board 2016 - 2017

PTSO President: Raquel Bishop, president@woodsonptso.org; 703-426-4985

1st Vice President (Membership): Melissa French, vp1@woodsonptso.org; 703-978-0962

2nd Vice President (Fundraising): VACANT

Treasurer: Kristin Driscoll, treasurer@woodsonptso.org; 703-268-5068

Secretary, Michele Johnson, secretary@woodsonptso.org; 703-425-8110

Principal: Dr. Scott Poole, sfpoole@fcps.edu; 703-503-4607

WHY JOIN THE WT WOODSON PTSO?

The PTSO's mission is to support the entire school community by building trusted relationships and communication, and providing financial grants and volunteer help where needed. We work closely with our Administration to augment program support where needed most. How do we do that?

- Through Collaboration, Productive and Positive Communication, and Activities and **PROGRAMS** such as the **FAMILY/TEACHER/STUDENT ENRICHMENT** events and workshops where families, students, teachers and staff will be offered resources to address communication building, practical parenting skills, stress reduction and fostering resilience at school and in the home. This is a continuing effort in which we need membership dues to fund these programs.
- Through **FINANCIAL SUPPORT** by way of **PTSO GRANTS** that support projects, activities, and programs for students and teachers. **Last year, the dues paid by PTSO members and parent donations helped us award \$6,000+** to support the Arts, Music, Athletics, Library and Academic programs at Woodson including guest speakers, the Stress-Less-Laugh-More Program, Teacher/Staff Hospitality events and much more.
- By providing **VOLUNTEERS** to support the Baccalaureate, Cavalier Cruise, Cavalier Kickoff, assistance in the Attendance Office, Career Center and Clinic, and to serve as hosts at award ceremonies and appreciation luncheons for our teachers and staff.

To join or to make donations, please visit the Woodson PTSO website www.woodsonptso.org. OR send your Membership Form with a check for the **total** amount (\$15 per adult, \$5 per staff and \$5 per student member) payable to: **WT Woodson PTSO**, 9525 Main St, Fairfax, VA 22031-4099. If you have questions about joining the PTSO, please contact Melissa French at vp1@woodsonptso.org.

**Woodson Back To
School Night
Wed. Sep 20
from 6-9pm
All are welcome!**

WELCOME-TO-WOODSON

is a program designed to help students and families that are transferring from other areas by easing the transition with helpful information and a welcoming family. If you are new to the area and the Woodson Community and would like to have someone to connect with and answer questions about the community and school, please contact one of the coordinators below:

- Karen Moran,
karenmoranuk@aol.com;
703-559-5794,
- Rita Manfredi-Shutler,
philritas@mindspring.com;
703-999-5570,
- Margaret Behning,
margaret.behning@gmail.com;
360-633-5687, or
- Allison Kim,
allisonkim2005@gmail.com,
703-638-9577

4 CRITICAL PTSO POSITIONS NEEDED:

**Special Ed Liaison, Mock ACT/SAT Exam Coordinator,
VP2 – Fundraising, & Cav Cruise (All-Night Grad Party) Director.**

Questions about these positions? Contact Stacey Brahmey at brahmeys@yahoo.com.

WOODSON NEEDS VOLUNTEERS!

Volunteer Coordinator: Stacey Brahmey
brahmeys@yahoo.com

There are many opportunities to volunteer at Woodson! The Library, Hospitality Committee, Teacher Hospitality, Grants Committee, Career Center, Cavalier Cruise, and much more. Please take a moment to look at the Volunteer Form included in your Back-to-School packet, and complete and return it to Woodson. Contact Stacey directly if you have questions at 703-764-4402. We appreciate any time you can contribute. You will be part of truly making a difference for the students, staff, and families at WT Woodson.

THE WOODSON PTSO: FAMILY / STUDENT / TEACHER ENRICHMENT PROGRAM SERIES

Coordinator: Monica Cameron
pastpresident@woodsonptso.org

As part of the PTSO mission one of our objectives is to continue to offer programs to empower families, students, teachers and staff with useful, practical skills and resources to build and strengthen communication skills, resilience and reduce stressors at school and in the home. The PTSO, in collaboration with the Woodson Admin, has developed an Enrichment Series which consists of guest speakers, author visits, parent support groups, topic panels, and much more. Please let us know what topics you'd like to hear about that will best support your family.

GET CONNECTED!

We've got Woodson Pride, and it shows! Woodson is a great high school with a caring staff, involved parents and terrific students! We encourage you and your family to get involved and connected at Woodson this year – join the PTSO, Athletic Boosters, Clubs; attend the many sports, music, art and theater events at the school. It's a great way to meet your kids' friends and other parents.

Attend Monthly PTSO Meetings

Meetings will usually be held on the first Monday of every month at 7:00 pm in the Woodson Library. The first meeting is September 12. Come hear from our Principal Dr. Scott Poole. Hear directly what is planned, what is happening, and what is yet to come!

Look to your CAREER CENTER CALENDAR for Upcoming Events about visiting colleges, Financial Planning for College Workshop, and much More!

Look to your ATHLETICS CLUB CALENDAR for upcoming games, tryouts, and conferences.

We would like to extend a warm invite to all staff and teachers to join the PTSO and attend the enrichment programs and PTSO meetings. Our goal is to have 100% participation from all teachers and staff at WTW. We value you and want to support you. Communication between parents, teachers and students is very important in our efforts to support our Woodson Family.



Mock ACT/SAT Exams – College Entrance Exam Prep!
PTSO NEEDS SOMEONE TO COORDINATE THIS PROGRAM !

The PTSO “mock” exam program offers full-length ACT and SAT exams to help prepare Woodson students take these college entrance exams. Although the mock exams are full-length “real” tests, the scores are not official, not reported to The College Board/ ACT or any college, and should not be confused with the official PSAT, ACT, and SAT exams offered throughout the school year. (For information on official PSAT and SAT, visit Collegeboard.org; for ACT, visit ACT.org – and for information on both, visit the Woodson Career Center at http://www.fcps.edu/woodsonhs/sservices/career/cc_general.html).

This year, the mock exams will again be administered by **MINDWORKS EDUCATIONAL SERVICES**; two different versions of ACT and SAT will be administered.

- Fall Practice Exams & Score Review Session- TBD once coordinator is found
- Winter Practice Exams & Score Review Session- TBD once coordinator is found

The Woodson PTSO is excited about pairing with MINDWORKS to offer this program for our students; benefits include self-scoring (students can get their scores the same day as the test!) and a variety of test-prep options, including online small-group courses for both the SAT and ACT. Please note that the mock ACT and SAT exam program is geared primarily to sophomores and juniors, although younger students are welcome to register. More information will be available at Cav Kick-Off, Back-to-School Night, posted on the PTSO website, and included in WeMail.

ENGRAVED BRICKS FOR SALE

The Woodson PTSO will continue to raise money to help fund various beautification projects at the school by selling engraved bricks. The brick courtyard in front of the School, between the main entrance and the auditorium, still has plenty of room for bricks for you to remember your special student.

Individual brick cost: \$100

Engraved bricks will be intermixed with regular paver bricks. And, they make great graduation presents for your Seniors! The Brick Order form is located on the Woodson PTSO website. If you have questions, or for more info, contact coordinator Linda Vasquez at Lfvasquez88@gmail.com or 703-268-5068.

2016-2017 STUDENT DIRECTORY

Make sure you let the Front Office know if you do not wish to be listed in the Woodson Student Directory. We will let you know when copies are hot off the press this year. Directories for sale will also be available in the Main Office after Back-to-School Night. There are limited supplies!! Contact Sue Taylor at sdetaylor@verizon.net with questions.

ATTENTION ALL PARENTS

CAVALIER CRUISE 2017

THE ALL NIGHT GRAD PARTY FOR SENIORS



The 2017 Cav Cruise is in DIRE NEED of VOLUNTEERS FOR LEADERSHIP POSITIONS for this year’s event. We need a representative from EACH CLASS to be on a Director’s Committee, as well as volunteers for key roles of PR, Prizes, Transportation, Senior Video, Food, & Fundraising.

Parents of all students are needed to make this event happen.

Please contact cavcruisedirector@woodsonptso.org.

FROST WOODSON SPECIAL SERVICES

Frost-Woodson Special Services is a parent-student-teacher interest group, affiliated with both the Woodson PTSO and the Frost PTA, whose goal is to provide information and support to students receiving special education services and their families. *Special education services* comprise a range of supports, most typically delivered via an individualized education program (IEP) or Section 504 (accommodations) plan. As students progress through secondary education, and when planning for the transition to postsecondary life, our group provides essential assistance in helping identify resources and information. In addition to maintaining a Yahoo! group listserv, we work with parents and teachers at Woodson and its "feeder" schools to present special-interest programs and ensure families have easy access to information and services.

During the last school year,

- We hosted a successful parent program on transitions (elementary to middle, middle to high school), designed to help parents support their students in each different environment.
- Our listserv featured postings or messages about local conferences, workshops, and webinars for teachers, parents, and students; tips on preparing for school-year and summer transitions; self-advocacy training for students; and links to county, state, and federal resources, disability law, and news stories about students with disabilities, special education demographics, and postsecondary possibilities.
- Our listserv files grew to include articles on ADHD and learning disabilities, parent resources, College Board/ACT testing accommodations, postsecondary transition, and material geared to help student self-determination and self-advocacy.

Membership in the Yahoo! group listserv is confidential; postings are public; files are accessible to members only. Visit the listserv at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/WoodsonSpecEd> to view representative postings or to join the listserv.

The PTSO really wishes we had someone to take this very meaningful position. Please contact Raquel Bishop at president@woodsonptso.org with any questions.

STUDENT DRIVER IN YOUR FAMILY?

Did you know?

Virginia requires students to complete 45 hours of behind-the-wheel driving with a "qualified" driver *before* they can obtain a license. For your peace of mind and for those around you: Woodson's PTSO offers highly visible yellow & black "STUDENT DRIVER" car magnets to post on all sides (driver's door, passenger door, front & rear) of the vehicle your student drives. You'll appreciate the added awareness of other drivers to your student's driving trials and tribulations. You can find these popular car magnets at major school events or in the Woodson front office.

\$8 each or 3 for \$20 (Compare to the online price of \$14.95 each, plus shipping)

Get them now so you are prepared for when your student starts driving!

For more info contact Cathy Swanton at drivermagnets@woodsonptso.org or 703-426-4282.

BUY SCRIP AND HELP WOODSON

The PTSO will no longer be participating in the SCRIP gift card fundraising program. **However we still have an inventory of gift cards that we would like to sell. Please help us out by purchasing what we have left!** The following are the cards still in our inventory as of the end of July:

Giant, Shoppers, Safeway, Bath & Body-Works, Barnes & Noble, Dominos, Papa John's, iTunes, JC Penney's, Lord & Taylors, Noodles & Company, Panera Bread, Red Lobster/Olive Garden, Subway, Ross, Kohl's and TJ Maxx/Marshalls, Staples

Our remaining gift cards will be on sale during Cav Kickoff, Back to School Night, at PTSO meetings and during other school-wide events until they are gone. **Please help us raise money by depleting this inventory! Want to purchase cards now? Contact Linda Vasquez at lfvasquez88@gmail.com or 703-268-5068.**