



The Cavalier Chronicles

Parent-Teacher-Student Organization (PTSO) Publication

news@woodsonptso.org

Aug 2015

W.T. Woodson PTSO Executive Board 2015-16

PTSO President: Monica Cameron President@woodsonptso.org; monica.cameron@cox.net 703-359-4298

1st Vice President (Membership): Rita Manfredi-Shutler vp@woodsonptso.org; philritas@mindspring.com 703-999-5570

2nd Vice President (Fundraising): Rebecca Phalan Vp2@woodsonptso.org; rebeccaphalan1@gmail.com 808-228-0674

Treasurer: Linda Vasquez treasurer@woodsonptso.org; lvasquez88@gmail.com 703-268-5068

Secretary, Denise Parker secretary@woodsonptso.org; denisel_parker@yahoo.com 703-426-1823

Principal: Dr. Scott Poole: sfpoole@fcps.edu

From the WOODSON PTSO: Family / Student / Teacher Enrichment Program Series

A primary PTSO goal this year continues to be to offer a program series 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 has developed an Enrichment Series which consists of guest speakers and authors, parent support groups, and much more. Please let us know what topics you'd like to hear about that will 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 and attend the many sports, orchestral, 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 are usually held on the **second Tuesday of every month at 7:00 pm** in the Woodson Library. The first meeting is September 15. Come hear from our new Principal Dr. Scott Poole and the new Mission, Values and Goals developed with the feedback received from the surveys taken in May. Hear directly what is planned, what is happening and is yet to come! Very exciting time at Woodson this year! Be part of the solution set!

Critical PTSO Positions Needed:

WeMail Editor , Special Ed Liaison, Mock ACT/SAT Exam Coordinator, Cav Cruise (All-Night Grad - Party) Directors

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

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.



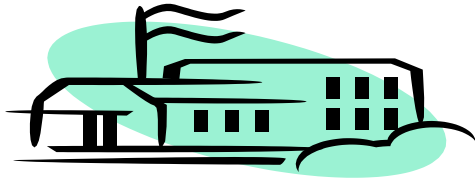
Welcome-To-Woodson is a program designed to help students and families that are transferring from other areas by easing the transition with helpful information and a sponsor family.

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 Coordinator Kris Cole,

colechips@yahoo.com

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.





WHY JOIN THE W.T. WOODSON PTSO?

The W.T. Woodson PTSO exists to support the education of **your student** at Woodson High School. How do we do that?

◆ Through **NEW 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 \$5,000** 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, and assistance in the Attendance Office, Career Center and the Clinic, and to serve as hosts at award ceremonies and appreciation luncheons for our teachers and staff.

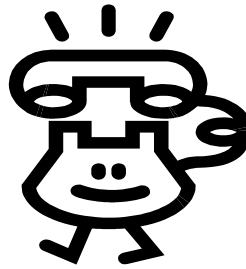
To join, buy directories, or to make donations, please visit the Woodson PTSO website www.woodsonptso.org

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:

W.T. Woodson PTSO, 9525 Main St, Fairfax, VA 22031-4099.

If you have questions about joining the PTSO, please contact Rita Manfredi-Shutler at vp@woodsonptso.org.



2015-2016 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 they are hot off the press this year. Copies for sale will also be available in the Main Office after Back-to-School Night.

Buy one for each car and student!
There are limited supplies!!

Contact Sue Taylor at sdetaylor@verizon.net with 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

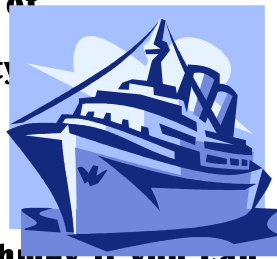
(Compare to the online price of \$14.95 each, plus shipping)

Get them now so you are prepared for when your student starts driving! For more info contact Denise Spaulding at DJSpauld@verizon.net or 703-978-1252.

Attention Junior & Senior Parents!

**Keep Alert for Cavalier Cruise 2016!
(The All Night Grad Party for Seniors)**

**We are in immediate need of
Cav Cruise Coordinators
for the All Night Grad Party**



**We also need many Parent
Volunteers to make this a
successful event.**

**Please contact Stacey Brahmeys if you can
volunteer for this very fun and important
event!**

brahmeys@yahoo.com

WOODSON NEEDS VOLUNTEERS!

Volunteer Coordinator: Stacey Brahmeys

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 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 bricks 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 Lori Taylor at DavidnLori192@verizon.net or
703-978-1045.

Mock ACT/SAT Exams—College Entrance Exam Prep!

**HELP! PTSO NEEDS SOMEONE TO COORDINATE
THIS PROGRAM PLEASE!**

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 PSAT and SAT, visit
Collegeboard.org; for ACT, visit ACT.org—and for information
on both, visit the Woodson Career Center!)

This year, the exams will be administered by Revolution Prep;
two different versions of ACT and SAT will be administered on
the following mock exam dates:

- November – TBD once coordinator is found
- February – TBD once coordinator is found

Revolution Prep will also present

- An evening preview program, “Demystifying the
College Admissions Tests,” in October providing an
overview of the differences between ACT and SAT,
how to decide which test to take, and how to prepare;
and
- Follow-up sessions after each mock exam, with
information on interpreting test scores and preparing
for the exams.

The Woodson PTSO is excited about pairing with Revolution
Prep to offer this program for our students; enhancements this
year 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.
To find the right program for your child, we recommend calling
Revolution at (877) 738-7737 to speak with one of their
Academic Advisors.

Please note that the mock ACT and SAT exam program is
geared primarily to sophomores and juniors, although younger
students are welcome to register. Students who require testing
accommodations will need to self-identify as part of the
registration process (all information collected by Revolution
Prep is confidential, and for Revolution Prep and Woodson
PTSO use only).

For more information, see the flyer enclosed with this
newsletter; information will also be available at Cav Kick-Off
and Back-to-School Night, posted to the PTSO website, and
included in WEMail.

(We need a Coordinator-is it you?)

Frost-Woodson Special Services

THE PTSO NEEDS A COORDINATOR ASAP!!!

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>

(or follow the link from the Woodson PTSO website) to view representative postings or to join the listserv.

The PTSO really wishes we had someone to take this very meaningful position. Please contact Monica Cameron if you need more detail.

BUY SCRIP AND HELP WOODSON —

Put your monthly grocery and retail purchases to work for Woodson at no extra cost to you!

The PTSO has joined up with Great Lakes SCRIP to make available a wide range of gift cards for purchase. You purchase the gift cards at face value and the rebate goes to your PTSO to enable them to continue their meaningful support of the Woodson student and staff! **Make SCRIP a part of your monthly routine!** A starter order form is attached!!

Printed order forms are available in the front office, or at www.woodsonptso.org. Drop your payment and order form in the SCRIP box located in the front office by the second Tuesday of each month, or bring your order to the monthly PTSO meeting. Don't see what you're looking for? Go to **www.shopwithscrip.com** for the full listing of gift cards available. You can even place your order online, and have your student drop off only the check for your order. And many gift cards are reloadable so no card pickup is necessary for refills!

Orders are ready for pickup the following week.

Can't wait for the monthly order to arrive? We have SCRIP gift cards on hand and ready for purchase for the following shops:

Amazon, Giant, Shoppers, Safeway, Bed Bath & Beyond, Bath & BodyWorks, Chipotle, Dominos, Pizza Hut, Papa John's, Noodles & Company, Einstein Bagels, Qdoba, Starbucks, Peet's Coffee, Dunkin Donuts, iTunes, Subway, Panera Bread, Home Depot, CVS, Red Lobster/Olive Garden, Kohl's and TJ Maxx/Marshalls

Gift cards will also be on sale during Cav Kickoff, Back to School Night, at PTSO meetings and during other school-wide events.

Questions? Want to purchase cards now?

Contact Linda Vasquez at 703-268-5068 or

lfvasquez88@gmail.com or

Cathy Swanton at 703-426-4282 or

swanton464@aol.com