

The LuxLetter

A Publication of the Luxmanor PTA

October 2019 Issue - Revised Edition



FROM THE PTA PRESIDENT

Dear Luxmanor Families,

We have made it through the first month of school and I am certainly looking forward to October. I really enjoy the fall and have been happy to have a few cooler days.

Thank you to all the parents who came to our first PTA meeting. I also wanted to thank all of you that have signed up to chair or volunteer for a committee. We can't make these events happen without your help. I am sad to report that we could not find volunteers to chair our Silent Auction or our Variety show. Our Executive Committee has voted to wait until October 15th in hopes someone steps up to chair them before taking them off the calendar. If you'd like to chair them, we only ask that you have at least helped as a volunteer previously in these events since they are both big events that need an experience hand to coordinate them.

Thank you Marcie Sun for a successful Back to School Picnic. We also appreciate all our wonderful volunteers that made this event possible as well as all the families who came. It was such a fun evening. I also want to give a big shout out to Kidsco for donating their slide and staff!

Thank you Sarra Ghanoudi and Saran Dioubate for putting together the New Parent Meet & Greet Breakfast. I was excited to see close to 40 people come and join us. This is such an important way to welcome our new Luxmanor families. I hope you can feel our appreciation for joining our community.

I also want to take a moment to do a special acknowledgement to Yoko Komatsuzaki, our Membership Chair. We surpassed 200 member registrations and keep on growing!

Looking forward, I hope to see you at our PTA meeting on October 1st, where we will be officially voting on our standing committees, and informing you about what to look forward from your PTA.

I am excited to be able to celebrate International Walk to School Day this year on October 2nd; since we can't walk to school his year, our students will walk around the fenced perimeter of the school with their teacher that day.

October 14th is such an important day for our community. We have our "Breakfast with a Buddy" from 7:45 am to 8:45 am where we encourage the child to bring one special guest to breakfast with them in the AP room before proceeding to the classrooms for Open House. Our Book Fair will also start that day and will have early bird hours starting at 7:30 am. Be sure to stop by after breakfast or after visiting your child's class. Our Book Fair will also have evening hours on Wednesday 10/016/19 from 3:30 to 6:30 pm.

(continues next page)

The LuxLetter

Is published monthly during the school year by the Luxmanor PTA

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Ryan Forkert

Assistant Principal
Jason Scott

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Submissions Deadline
The 20th of every month.
E-mail submissions to
ptaluxletter@gmail.com

*All submissions are
welcome!*

Luxmanor Elementary
School
5701 Grosvenor Lane
Bethesda, MD 20814

240-740-0820

What's Up This Month

October 1

PTA meeting, 7pm

October 2

International Walk to School Day

October 4

Early release, 12:55pm

October 14

Breakfast with a Buddy, 7:45-8:45am

October 14

Open House (Columbus Day), 9-11am

October 14 - 18

New Book Fair

October 24

Dine-Out @ California Pizza Kitchen

October 31

Halloween parade & class parties, 2pm

Consider volunteering for our Book Fair this year. It is a crucial event for our school. This year, we were able to fund classroom libraries for three of our new teachers as well as replenish our school's Magic Tree House books and several intermediate novels used for Guided Reading instruction. Thank you Ms. Robinson for taking care of stretching our Scholastic Dollars and addressing the needs of all of our children and teachers.

And last but not least, we are looking forward to our **Halloween Classroom parties on October 31st at 2:00 pm.** Thank you to all the room parents, and thank you to Anita Chan and Renee Fykes for coordinating our room parent volunteers. Your PTA will give each class bottles of water as well as a budget for a healthy snack and of course, the support our room parents need to successfully host the Parties.

Want to stay updated with the latest news and all our events? Join the Yahoo listserv. Send an email to luxmanor-subscribe@yahoo.com with "SUBSCRIBE" in the subject line. Please write your name and your child's name/teacher in the body of the email. We verify and accept only current families. Also follow our Luxmanor PTA on Facebook or search for the LuxmanorPTAGroup.

Thank you for allowing me to serve your children!

Sincerely,

Yelisa Rojas
PTA President



PTA Executive Board Officers 2019-2020

<u>Office</u>	<u>Office Holder</u>	<u>Email</u>
President	Yelisa Rojas	yelisa.pta@gmail.com
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MCCPTA Delegates	Rep 1: Joanne Kee Rep 2: Natalie Shelton	joandtomkee@yahoo.com nshelton@pobox.com
Diversity Chair	Sarra Ghanoudi	Sarra.soussighanoudi@yahoo.com

September Notes From Your Counselor.....Gloria Silverberg

Welcome to Luxmanor Elementary School! I am looking forward to a terrific year!

For those of you new to Luxmanor, please allow me to introduce myself and my role as School Counselor. My role as the School Counselor involves planning and implementing a comprehensive program that addresses three areas: Academic, Social, and Emotional Development.

The academic area covers assisting students with study and organizational skills, which are necessary to be successful students. The area of social development includes teaching children how to build social skills, adjust to changes, and to make thoughtful and responsible decisions. The area of emotional development includes teaching children to explore and understand their feelings, to value themselves, to make and keep healthy relationships with others, manage conflicts and to problem solve.

A large part of my role is to educate and facilitate student's positive prosocial peer relationships. Peer relations contribute significantly to students' social and cognitive development and later, to their functioning as adults. Friendships are a good predictor for healthy adjustment during the early weeks of school. The single best childhood predictor of adult functioning and psychological health is surprisingly, not school grades or classroom behavior, but rather the quality of childhood peer relationships.

Please allow me to tell you a bit about my professional background. My educational background includes a Bachelor of Science degree in Early Childhood and Elementary Education from The University of Virginia and a Master of Science degree in Applied Behavioral Counseling and a Master of Science degree in School Counseling, both from Johns Hopkins University. I have worked in educational, corporate and private practice settings, doing Career Counseling and Mental Health Counseling with college students and adults.

As the counselor at Luxmanor, my objective is to support our school's mission. My **counseling mission** is to provide counseling, advocacy, collaboration, and to

facilitate individual and system change to ensure that every student has the knowledge and skills to reach their highest potential as caring, responsible, and successful citizens.

The components of *Luxmanor's School Counseling Program* include **class counseling lessons** to students in grades K-5; **responsive counseling for individual students and small groups, individual student planning, parent and teacher collaboration, and overall school program support**. In addition, I coordinate and implement the 5th grade **Student Mentors and Conflict Managers Programs, as well as the Student Government**. Children who share a common concern, such as friendship making or divorce, are invited to participate in **small group** sessions with me. **Permission forms will arrive in September! Please return them by September 27th if you want your child to participate in our Divorce Group, Banana Splits.**

Our school theme this year will focus on "*Mindfulness and Kindness*", which will include "*Filling each other's Buckets*". Our goal is to strengthen the student culture of respect and kindness. You will notice *Character Stars and Owls* around the school when individual students and classes are recognized by their teachers and staff members for demonstrating respectful and kind behavior towards others.

I will be **inviting parents and community volunteers to speak to individual classes about their Careers throughout the year**, so please contact me if you are interested in volunteering! The children love to have their parents speak to their classes, and they are a wonderful audience. Please contact me, via email me at Gloria_A_Silverberg@mcpsmd.org if you are interested in being a speaker this year!

Please feel free to contact me with any of your concerns or questions. Your input and feedback are very important to me. You can reach me by telephone at 301-230-5914, by email at Gloria_A_Silverberg@mcpsmd.org or by leaving a note in my mailbox in the front office.

Have a wonderful school year!!
Gloria Silverberg

Cluster Rep Update



Hello Luxmanor families!

I am honored to serve as the Luxmanor Cluster Representative.

I have two children at Luxmanor. Ruth Pollak (3rd grade, Mr. Rotter) and Elliot Pollak (1st grade, Ms. Debernardis).

My role as the Luxmanor Cluster Rep is to attend the WJ Cluster meetings, weigh in on issues impacting our school, and report back to the Luxmanor community regarding the issues currently impacting our school, cluster and community.

As many of you know, the biggest issue is school overcrowding, and the status of the reopening of Woodward High School, to potentially relieve the impact of overcrowding on our community.

Here is a blurb about the status of Woodward:

This is the last year that the current Tilden Middle School will be in service. After they move the students and staff to the new Tilden, which was the site of the original Tilden School, then the building will be knocked down to build Woodward High School in its place. In 2023, Northwood High School, which is being rebuilt, will temporarily relocate to the new Woodward High School while they are going through construction. At the present time, Woodward will open as its own school in the Fall of 2025. The county has not decided yet how the school will be used. The original goal was to alleviate some of the overcrowding at Walter Johnson High School, but MCPS has stated they are still in the investigation phase as to who will be students in this new school and what programs will be housed at Woodward. We will keep you informed and we may need people to come out to support our community.

How do we "Support Our Community?" We need to **SHOW UP!** Our Cluster Coordinators and representatives are given the opportunity to provide testimony to the School Board of Education about the issues impacting our cluster. The more families who show up from our cluster, wearing GREEN, to show their support, the more likely we are to be heard by the School Board!

Therefore, I will try to get the word out about when our community needs to **SHOW UP**, wearing GREEN, at the Board of Education meetings. This can be tricky, because the Board of Education doesn't let everyone know when the WJ testimony will be heard until very shortly before the meetings.

The potential dates for testimony are **November 13** and **November 18**. We need to show up on ONE of those dates. So if you have any interest in coming out, please mark your calendars for those two dates. Once the actual date is chosen, I will let everyone know. Children are encouraged to attend!

Stay tuned for more updated information about what is being discussed at the WJ Cluster meetings.

Please keep in mind that the reopening of Woodward High School directly impacts OUR children.

Please email me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,
Karen Foxman
karenfoxman@gmail.com
Luxmanor Cluster Representative



Stay updated on Luxmanor news and events!

1) Join the Yahoo listserv: send an email to luxmanor-subscribe@yahoogroups.com with "SUBSCRIBE" in the subject line. Please write your name and your child's name/teacher in the body of the email. We verify and accept only current families.

2) "Like" & follow the public Luxmanor PTA page on Facebook for general announcements (anyone can see this):
facebook.com/LuxmanorPTA

3) Join the private Luxmanor PTA Group on Facebook for detailed school/event information and community discussion. You will be approved as a member once you are identified as a current family:
facebook.com/groups/LuxmanorPTAGroup (you can also click the link for this page in the "groups" tab of the public page)



Dear Students, Parents, Teachers & Staff,

This year the Science Fair is being held on **November 14th, 2019**. All Luxmanor students, Grades K-5, are encouraged to think like young scientists and to submit a project in any STEM-related field. Projects can be as varied as their interests. Sports, music, art, rocketry, psychology, food, computers... whatever *interests* them can become an *interesting* project! Through their projects, students will discover that ideas, innovations, and discoveries can be found all around them.

Students are free to submit **(1) an experiment, (2) a demonstration of scientific principles, (3) a model, (4) something you have built, and/or (5) an invention. You are free to create, discover, learn, and share!**

Remember, ALL grades can participate and every child receives a participant ribbon!

Please note that due to the current spacing limitation in the holding school, there will unfortunately not be a class walk-through in the afternoon. However, there will be an Open House in the evening so all students and their families can enjoy the Science Fair projects and scavenger hunt. Additional details and guidelines for the Fair will be provided to participants upon registration.

Entry forms are due by October 31st. You may send them to school in the backpack, and hand it to your teacher. Alternatively, you can fill out the form and drop it off in the Main Office.

Our science fair is successful only with the enthusiasm of our students and teachers and support of our parents – we look forward to seeing you there!

That day, we will be hosting a Snack Sale, a Spirit Gear Sale and a fun activity/drawing for children when they visit the Science Fair Projects in the evening.

Science Fair Registration Form

Student Name: _____ Grade/Teacher: _____

Phone Number: _____ Parent email: _____

Student Email (optional): _____

If you are working with other students, please list their information below. Please remember that you should **submit only one form for your project**. Decide which of you will submit the form so that we do not receive duplicate forms.

Student Name: _____ Grade/Teacher: _____

Phone Number: _____ Parent email: _____

Student Email (optional): _____

Student Name: _____ Grade/Teacher: _____

Phone Number: _____ Parent email: _____

Student Email (optional): _____

Check here if there are additional students from the above listed working on your project.

Project Title: _____

Project Description: _____

Please review the Statement of Science Fair Guidelines. Please read the Guidelines carefully. Anyone who fails to abide by the Guidelines will not be permitted to participate in the Science Fair.

The Scholastic Book Fair: Oct. 14-18th

Please submit this form to school by Thursday, October 31st, 2019

JOIN US FOR THIS YEAR'S AWESOME BOOK FAIR!

Please consider volunteering for 30 mins or more to help make the book fair a success!!



BOOK FAIR HOURS:

- ❖ Fri. 10/11 Book fair set-up - afternoon

- ❖ Mon. 10/14 7:30am - 3:25pm (Open for Breakfast With a Buddy & Open House. Students will visit the book fair with their classes)

- ❖ Tues. 10/15 9:00am - 3:25pm (students will visit book fair with their classes)

- ❖ Weds. 10/16 9:00am - 3:25pm (students will visit book fair with their classes)
3:30pm - 6:30pm (open for students, parents, and families)

- ❖ Thurs. 10/17 8:30am – 4:00pm (Students visit book fair with permission from teacher)

- ❖ Fri. 10/18 8:30am – 2:00pm Students visit book fair with permission from teacher.
Book fair closes after last lunch period (12:45pm) for take-down & cleanup)

We would **greatly appreciate your help** all week and with setup and takedown! Limited SSL hours are available for Friday set up – students, contact us to register!

To volunteer, please contact: LuxmanorBookFair@gmail.com

Thank you to those who have already donated money to our school!

Please join your friends and neighbors in supporting the Luxmanor PTA Direct Donation Fund!

Your support is vital to the broad range of PTA programs that serve our students. You don't have to be a PTA member to make a Direct Donation. All Direct Donations are tax-deductible.

You may send cash or check (payable to Luxmanor PTA), or follow the link below to the **Luxmanor PayPal Giving Fund:** <http://paypal.com/us/fundraiser/charity/1912207>

Diamond Level (\$200+)

(We welcome you to be the first!)

Gold Level (\$100 - \$199)

Foxman / Pollak Family

Odogwu / Oti Family

Ragheb Family

Silver Level (\$50 - \$99)

- Anonymous -
Hong / Wang Family
Kee Family
Khare / Kokate Family
Ko / Yu Family

Komatsuzaki Family
Kovalchuk / Misakian Family
Nguyen Family
Pearlman Family
Peters Family

Proger Family
Serrano Family
Sverdlov Family
Wang Family

Bronze Level (Up to \$49)

Aoki Family
Autenrieth / Ertzinger Family
Bellocchi / Honch Family
Boisture Family
Bond / Mayr Family
Caldwell / Sutton Family
Cameron Family
Casbarro Family
Chan / Zheng Family
Coblitz Family
Dagur / Rana Family
Davila / Contreras Family
Ghanoudi Family

Hamaguchi Family
Hawthorne / Krabbe Family
Kalsi / Oshan Family
Kim Family
Koka / Johnson Family
Lee Family
McBean Family
Mizera Family
Mohanty / Naplan Family
Mozammel Family
Ngadi Chouaf Family
Ostorga Family
Pali / Shah Family

Phattrateepakorn / Chang Family
Roffman Family
Rojas-Ravell Family
Rubin Family
Sadak Family
Serem / Omale Family
Toyserkani / Homayouni Family
Umeh Family
Van der Vossen / Jenkins Family
Williams-Simmons Family
Wilson Family

(Donor list as of 20 Sep 2019)

Dear Families,

Jump start on the school year by using the link below to fill out your **PTA Membership Form for 2019-2020!** Please note that PTA membership is good for one school year and must be renewed annually.

- [**https://tinyurl.com/LuxmanorPTARegistration2019-20**](https://tinyurl.com/LuxmanorPTARegistration2019-20)
- PAY WITH PAYPAL! [**https://www.paypal.com/us/fundraiser/charity/1912207**](https://www.paypal.com/us/fundraiser/charity/1912207)

Alternatively, you can complete the **attached form** and send it back to the holding school address, along with cash or check payable to **Luxmanor PTA**:

Luxmanor Elementary School – PTA
5701 Grosvenor Lane
Rockville, MD 20814

We've had such great success with online, paperless enrollment (in part due to the refrigerator magnet giveaway to the first 50 online enrollments), that we've decided to extend it to 75. **Therefore, in total, the first 75 online enrollments for 2019-2020 will receive the free magnets.**

WHY SHOULD I JOIN?

Membership is the backbone of the Luxmanor PTA!

Your dues help the PTA fund enrichment programs and cultural arts assemblies, provide scholarships for students in need, purchase supplemental instructional materials for classrooms, sponsor social/educational events, and reimburse teachers for classroom expenses.

Membership in the PTA gives you voting privileges for important budget and program issues. A portion of your dues is sent to the local, state, and national PTAs for child advocacy activities.

With each \$25 membership, you'll receive a printed Luxmanor directory with a free mobile app.

While PTA membership provides many benefits to members and the school, we could not do all that we do without our **Direct Donation Contributions**. The Direct Donation Contribution gives Luxmanor families and friends an opportunity to make monetary donations directly to the PTA. This allows us to move away from traditional fundraising (gift wrapping, pizza and cookie dough sales, etc). Your Direct Donation Contribution is 100% tax-deductible and goes directly to supporting PTA programs.

WHAT DOES THE PTA DO WITH ALL THIS MONEY?

The PTA funds (in full or in part) a wide range of activities that all Luxmanor students enjoy. This includes: academic and enrichment programs, cultural arts, community events, staff appreciation and community outreach, back to school picnic, book fairs, international night, and more!

Please don't hesitate to let me know if you have any questions!

Sincerely,

Yoko Komatsuzaki

yokokomatsuzaki@gmail.com

Luxmanor PTA Membership Chair

LUXMANOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PTA

Membership & Direct Donation Contribution Form

2019-2020

1 Student Information

Name _____

Teacher _____ Grade _____

Name _____

Teacher _____ Grade _____

Name _____

Teacher _____ Grade _____

2 Member Information

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Phone _____ Home Work Cell

Additional Member Name _____

Phone _____ Home Work Cell

3 Membership Options

PTA Membership - \$25
Membership includes PTA
Luxmanor directory and directory app.

Additional family member - \$10
A spouse, for example.

Additional directory - \$5

4 Payment Information

Membership total (Step 3) \$ _____

Return this form to:
Luxmanor Elementary School - PTA
5701 Grosvenor Lane
Rockville, MD 20814

Direct Donation Contribution + _____
(\$50 suggested, any amount appreciated)

Total = _____

Note: If you would like to join the PTA and dues are a hardship, please pay what you can.

Cash Check # _____

Please make checks payable to Luxmanor PTA.

ATTENTION TEACHERS - As a token of our appreciation, the PTA will pay your dues for the year.

Date form received: _____

Calendar of Events – Fall/Winter 2019

September 2019

- 3rd – First Day of School & PTA Meeting, 7pm
- 6th – Back to School Picnic, 6-7:30pm
- 10th – Back to School Night – grades 1-5, 7pm
- 13th – New Parent Meet and Greet Breakfast, 9-10am
- 13th – *Back to School Picnic RAIN DATE, 6-7:30pm*
- 16th – Room Parent Orientation, 9-10am
- 30th – No school

October 2019

- 1st - PTA meeting, 7pm
- 2nd – International Walk to School Day
- 4th – Early release, 12:55pm
- 14th – Breakfast with a Buddy, 7:45-8:45am
- 14th – Open House (Columbus Day), 9-11am
- 14th – 18th - New Book Fair
- 24th – Dine-Out at California Pizza Kitchen
- 31st – Halloween parade & class parties, 2pm

November 2019

- 8th – Early release, 12:55pm
- 11th – Early release, 12:55pm
- 12th - Early release, 12:55pm
- 14th - Science Fair, 6:30-7:30pm
- 27th - Early release, 12:55pm
- 28th – 29th – No school (Thanksgiving)

December 2019

- 3rd - PTA meeting, 7pm
- 16th – 20th – Eat the Rainbow Week
- 23rd – 31st – No school/Winter Break