

The Cardinal Communicator

A Newsletter of
Carrolltowne Elementary

PTA

everychild.one voice.



April 2026 Vol. 8, Issue 8

carrolltownepta.com

President's Message

Welcome to the 4th marking period! The PTA has been busy this Spring and is working to close out the school year.

BIG thanks to STEM for bringing back the Science Fair this year. The kids did a wonderful job showing off their experiments and creativity, talking the attendees and judges through their hypotheses and conclusions, and were celebrated with a medal and certificate. We had four lucky students win a free ticket to the Science Center.

We hope parents were able to attend Donuts with Grownups and/or Muffins in the Morning. The Spirit Committee does a fantastic job giving the community a chance to come to school with their student and enjoy the morning before the rush of the school day.

The Literacy Committee has kept students excited to read by continuing to host Reading with the Principals. 1st grade will close out the year.

The PTA celebrated School Librarian Day and National Assistant Principal Week and is gearing up for Teacher Appreciation Week (5/4-5/8). This year's theme is Around the World and each day will be a new adventure for our wonderful teachers.

We are still looking for volunteers in STEM, Fun Run, and will need new leads for the Sunshine Committee. Our Vice President and Treasurer positions are also up for re-election. Please take some time and consider volunteering for one of these opportunities. This group of PTA members is truly outstanding and work together as a team to ensure we are supporting the staff, students, and families of CES (and we have fun while doing so)! Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 6/3. We will be holding a raffle to win a gift card to a local restaurant!

If you haven't already, please be sure to follow up on the 2026-2027 Carroll County Public Schools budget. We are encouraging families and community members to contact the County Commissioners prior to 5/21 and ask them to fully fund the budget request. It is imperative that the county invests in our schools and in our children. Any questions, please reach out to the PTA Board.

Lastly, to close out the year, please check out our spring PTA Parents' Night Out on Friday 5/1 at X-Golf. Children are welcome. We will have raffle prizes and there will be discounts for PTA members.

Hope to see you there and celebrate a fantastic year!

Lindsay Holbig
PTA President

Events & Dates To Remember

- April 27th - Early Dismissal
- May 1st - 5th Grade Career Fair
- May 1st - Parents Night Out 6:30pm X-Golf
- May 4-8 - Teacher Appreciation Week
- May 7th - 5th Grade Panoramic Picture
- May 11- 15 - Spirit Week
- May 12th - Chick-Fil-A Restaurant Night
- May 14th - Play Day
- May 15th - Play Day Rain Date
- May 19th - Spring Concert
- May 22nd - Early Dismissal
- May 25th - No School
- June 3rd - PTA Meeting 7:15pm in CES Cafeteria ****Date Change****
- June 12th - Early Dismissal Last Day of School



PTA Committees

- **Birthday Books Program:** Autumn White, Meghan Furia and Kelly McGonigal
birthdaybooks@carrolltownepta.com
- **Community Service:** Kelly DiAntonia and Alyssa Neumann
communityservice@carrolltownepta.com
- **Cultural Arts/Diversity:** Taryn Power
cultural@carrolltownepta.com
- **Fundraisers:** Roby Miller and Jessica Brown
fundraising@carrolltownepta.com
- **Fun Run:** Kyle Emhoff
funrun@carrolltownepta.com
- **Hospitality:** Sarah Bushong and Molly Hasslinger
hospitality@carrolltownepta.com
- **Literacy:** Olga Burket and Krista Reed
literacy@carrolltownepta.com
- **Membership:** Megan Foelber and Molly Dolan
membership@carrolltownepta.com
- **Performing Arts (Carrolltowne Players):** Becky Seitz and Kristen Zycherman
performingarts@carrolltownepta.com
- **School Spirit:** Kelly McGonigal and Lyndsay Morgan
spirit@carrolltownepta.com
- **STEM:** Emily Wilson
stem@carrolltownepta.com
- **Sunshine:** Robin Weber and Diana Lucas
sunshine@carrolltownepta.com
- **Website:** Christopher McClure
webmaster@carrolltownepta.com
- **Yearbook:** JoAnna Robbins and Kourtney Roussey
yearbook@carrolltownepta.com

Yearbook

Thanks for a Great Year!



#yearbook

Community Service

Carrolltowne Cares!

Rachel's Bears

Thank you for all of the Donations!



2025-2026 PTA Executive Committee

President: Lindsay Holbig
president@carrolltownepta.com

Vice-President: Kelly McGonigal
vicepresident@carrolltownepta.com

Treasurer: Siobhan Blazak
treasurer@carrolltownepta.com

Secretary: Kyle Emhoff
secretary@carrolltownepta.com

Spirit Committee

Play Day Spirit Week

May 11-15

Get ready for a fun Spirit Week for Play Day!

Monday 5/11: Neon Day! Wear bright neon colors!

Tuesday 5/12: Carrolltowne Day! Wear a Carrolltowne shirt or red and black!

Wednesday 5/13: Favorite Day! Wear a shirt from your favorite team, sport, hobby, or activity!

Thursday 5/14*: Play Day! Wear the color for your grade!

ECSN/Pre-K: Pink

K: Purple

1st: Blue

2nd: Green

3rd: Yellow

4th: Orange

5th: Red

Friday 5/15*: Travel Day! Dress like a tourist or wear a shirt from somewhere you've traveled to!

*If Play Day is moved due to weather, these themed days will swap.

PTA Meetings

- September 25, 7pm
 - November 6, 7 pm
 - February 5, 7 pm
 - April 16, 7 pm
 - June 3, 7:15 pm
- in Cafeteria **Date Change**

Birthday Books

The Birthday Books for March are complete.

During the month of their birthday, your child will be offered the chance to select a book to keep. Students with summer birthdays will be given their books in the Spring! We hope your child enjoys their gift!

If you have any questions please email Birthday Books:
birthdaybooks@carrolltownepta.com



FIND US ON FACEBOOK!
 Search for:
 Carrolltowne Elementary
 PTA Community

Teacher Appreciation Week May 4-8, 2026

We want to shower our CES teachers and staff with our gratitude all week. We will celebrate our teachers with an "Around the World" travel theme. The PTA will provide teachers with food, drinks, and treats from around the world all week. Here are some ways you can help make this week a huge success:

Sign up to donate items for meals and \$5 gift cards: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F094CABAF29ABFF2-63578064-2026>

Shop our Amazon Wishlist: https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/N17ZTJ9XKO9L?ref=wl_share

Have your child bring in a 'Thank You' note, a card, and/or a drawing for any or ALL of the teachers and staff who support them throughout the school year (Homeroom, Art, Music, Media, Health, P.E., support staff, etc).

The Hospitality Committee would also like to give a HUGE shout out to the following local businesses for their very generous donations or discounts for this year's Teacher Appreciation Week celebration:



Please email hospitality@carrolltownepta.com to contact Sarah Bushong and Molly Hasslinger with any questions.



Hospitality Committee

The Hospitality Committee celebrated Mrs. Rivera and Mrs. Sikorski earlier in April with flowers, cards and treats. We will provide lunch on 4/22 for all of our lovely administrative assistants for Administrative Professionals Day.

May brings lots of celebrating!

- 5/1- School Principal Appreciation Day and School Lunch Hero Day
- 5/4-8- Teacher Appreciation Week
- 5/6- School Nurse Appreciation Day
- 5/18- Speech-Language Pathologist Day

Literacy

In March, 2nd Graders got a chance to read to Mrs. Dupree and Mrs. Sikorski. They loved sharing stories and got excited for their special bookmarks and pencils from the principals. 1st Graders should have received their permission slip for their turn to read to the principals in late April/early May. The Literacy Committee is grateful to Mrs. Dupree, Mrs. Sikorski, the volunteers, and all the teachers for their time and collaboration to make this a fun annual ritual for students!



Membership:

**Cardinals Care, Cardinals Share–
Be Part of the Flock!**

Membership builds our nest for staff, students & families.

Whether you're able to volunteer your time, share ideas, or simply lend your support through membership, every contribution makes a difference. Together, we can continue building a school community where students grow, teachers feel supported, and families feel connected.

You can still join at <https://carrolltownepta.com/join/>.

Questions? Membership@carrolltownepta.com.

Annual dues:

- \$6 – CES Faculty/Staff
- \$11 – Parent/Guardian Single
- \$17 – Parent/Guardian Double

Membership is a meaningful way to connect, get involved, and create positive change for our children and community!

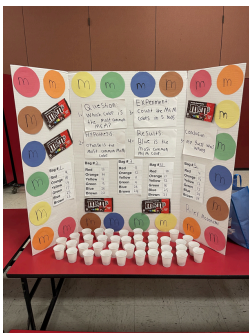
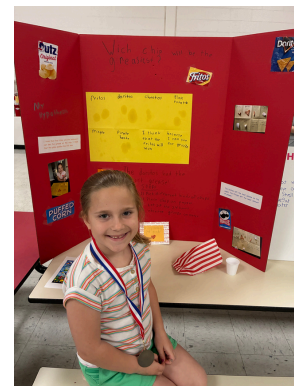
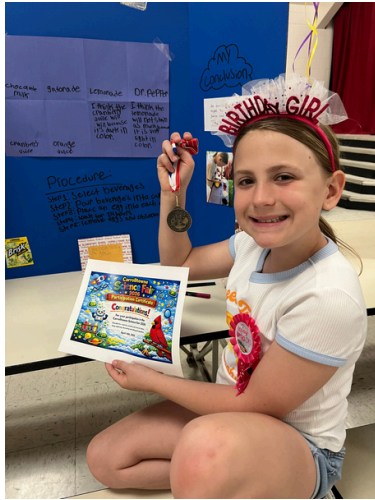




STEM

Science Fair April 14th

Congrats to All of the Students that participated in the 2026 Science Fair!





Fundraising Committee

UPCOMING EVENTS:



May 1-31, 2026

Buppert's Farm Spring Flower Fundraiser
*Bring the flier or show it on your phone to get credit for Carrolltowne. Can be used multiple times!



TUESDAY, May 12, 12-8 PM

CHICK-FIL-A

Dine In, Drive Thru or Mobile Order.

Mention SPIRIT DAY or

use code CES2026 when mobile ordering!

Fun Run

Fun Run Committee is looking for Co-Chair and committee members to begin the planning of the 2026 Fun Run!

If interested please email
funrun@carrolltownepta.com

Sunshine Committee

Sunshine Committee is looking for a New Committee Chair for the 2026-27 school year.

Sends cards, flowers, or makes a book donation to the media center for faculty or students due to personal illness or death in the family.

Cultural Arts/Diversity

Welcome Taryn Power as Cultural Arts Committee Chair!

Treasurer Update

The Treasurer's Report was shared at the April PTA meeting. Please attend the June PTA meeting (note June PTA meeting Date change to June 3rd) for further updates on the PTA's finances.

Performing Arts

Carrolltowne Players was thrilled to see over 1300 members of the community come see Shrek Jr in February! We raised valuable money for the PTA while showcasing the amazing talent we have here at Carrolltowne. Thank you to everyone who volunteered, participated, bought a ticket, etc. The kids loving seeing all their friends and teachers at the shows!!



CCPS Volunteer Training

Please Complete the Volunteer Training for the 2025-2026 school year.

You can access the training at the link here:

<https://www.carrollk12.org/operation/human-resources/volunteer-program>

Community Advisory Council

On February 22, the CCPS Community Advisory Council met with Superintendent Cynthia McCabe to walk through the approved 2026–2027 school budget.

The Board of Education has approved the budget. Now it is moving to the County Commissioners for funding. The Commissioners will make their decision on May 21st.

One key takeaway from the meeting: Carroll County is aging in place. We have a growing senior population and fewer school-aged children each year. Because state funding is tied to enrollment, declining student numbers mean decreasing state dollars for our schools.

That means local funding matters more than ever. Currently 40% of CCPS funding comes from the state and 60% from the County.

At many public commissioner meetings, the CAC consistently sees strong turnout from older residents asking for tax decreases and reduced school funding. They are organized. They are vocal. They show up.

If families who care about strong public schools do not also speak up, the Commissioners will only hear one side.

This is not about “schools vs. seniors.” It’s about the future of our community. Strong schools:

- Protect and increase property values
- Attract young families
- Support local businesses
- Strengthen the workforce
- Maintain Carroll County as a desirable place to live

If we want families to stay here — and move here — we must invest in our schools.

I strongly encourage parents, grandparents, business owners, and community members to contact the County Commissioners before May 21st and ask them to fully fund the CCPS budget request.

A quick email or phone call makes a difference.

I also urge you to ask them to ask developers to stop building luxury houses and demand more townhomes and family friendly houses in our community. Last year we lost over 400 CCPS students due to their families moving out of the state to places like Hanover, PA with more family-friendly housing.

Here are the commissioners’ emails. I will also add a sample email template to the comments shortly:

commissioners@carrollcountymd.gov, jvigliotti@carrollcountymd.gov, mguerin@carrollcountymd.gov, kkiler@carrollcountymd.gov, tgordon@carrollcountymd.gov, skrebs@carrollcountymd.gov

Sample Email:

Dear Carroll County Commissioner,

I am writing as a Carroll County parent and community member to respectfully urge you to fully fund the Carroll County Public Schools (CCPS) FY25–26 budget request.

Our Board of Education has approved a budget that includes funding for critical operating needs and capital improvements. With declining state aid due to enrollment decreases, local funding is more important than ever to maintain the quality of education our children deserve.

Strong public schools are not just a school issue — they are a community investment. They protect property values, attract young families, strengthen our workforce, and ensure Carroll County remains a desirable place to live.

Over the past year, CCPS has lost more than 400 students, many due to families relocating out of state to areas like Hanover, Pennsylvania, where more family-friendly housing options are available. This trend should concern all of us.

When families leave, we lose not only students, but long-term economic vitality and community stability.

I respectfully ask that you also consider how housing development impacts our schools and our future. I urge you to work with developers to prioritize more townhomes, starter homes, and family-friendly single-family housing — rather than primarily luxury homes. If we want young families to move here and stay here, we must offer housing they can realistically afford.

Carroll County’s future depends on maintaining strong schools and attracting the next generation of families. I hope you will support full funding of the CCPS budget and policies that encourage balanced, family-friendly growth.

Thank you for your time and for your service to our community.

Sincerely,



Around the

WORLD



CARROLLTOWNE ELEMENTARY
TEACHER & STAFF

Appreciation Week

MAY 4TH - 8TH, 2026



TRAVEL ITINERARY

MONDAY 5/4

DESTINATION: FRANCE WITH A
LAYOVER IN LONDON

Breakfast

TUESDAY 5/5

DESTINATION: MEXICO

*Chips and Dip from Los
Aztecas*

WEDNESDAY 5/6

DESTINATION: ITALY

Lunch from Basta Pasta

THURSDAY 5/7

DESTINATION: CHINA

Bamboo Plant

FRIDAY 5/8

BAGGAGE CLAIM

Gift bags



Please email hospitality@carrolltownepta.com to contact Sarah Bushong and Molly Hasslinger with any questions.

This week is successful because of your generous contributions.

Thank you in advance for all of your support!

SPRING FLOWER FUNDRAISER!

**Buppert's Farm and Carrolltowne Elementary PTA
Team up for a Spring Flower & Plant Fundraiser!**

*****FROM May 1st THROUGH May 31st*****

Buppert's will give

10% OF YOUR PURCHASE

To C.E.S. ~ PTA!!!

**We are a small local Farm Market and Garden Center.
our plants are always full and healthy
Grown with TLC!**

Shop for:

- * Premium Hanging Baskets
- * Ferns, Palms, Tropicals
- * Herbs- many varieties
- * Beautiful planters for
Your patio/deck, ready for the party!
- * Gifts for Mother's Day
- * Pottery & Planters
- * Perennials & Natives
- * Annual Bedding plants
- * Vegetable plants
- * Proven Winner plants
for the DIY gardener!
- * House Plants

At Buppert's Farm

410-795-6815

6914 Ridge Rd. Marriottsville, MD 21104

WWW.Bupperts.com, WWW.facebook.com/bupperts, [Ig @Buppertsfarm](https://www.instagram.com/buppertsfarm)

Locally grown, farm fresh fruits & vegetables
all summer!

We practice sustainable, natural farming methods.

Thank you for Supporting Our Family Farm!

~~~~~SHOP ANYTIME FROM May 1<sup>st</sup> THRU May 31<sup>st</sup>~~~~~

\*Show your ad on your smart phone or bring this flier to get credit for your school.  
Can be used multiple times!

Purchase (before tax) \_\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

10% donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Initials: \_\_\_\_\_

Support Carrolltowne PTA; Share this with your family and friends ~

Carrolltowne Elem 2026

# EARN CASH FOR YOUR SCHOOL

LITTLE BY LITTLE WE CAN MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE.

The Box Tops mobile app uses state-of-the-art technology to scan your store receipt, find participating products and instantly add Box Tops to your school's earnings online.

LOOK  
FOR THE  
LABEL:



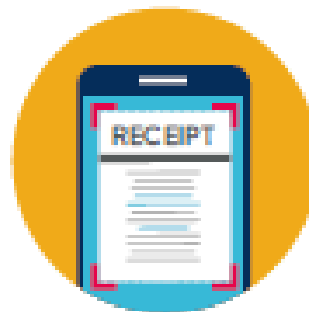
## HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:



### BUY

#### BOX TOPS PRODUCTS

You can find Box Tops on hundreds of products throughout the store.



### SCAN

#### YOUR RECEIPT

Use the app to snap a photo of your receipt within 14 days of purchase.



### EARN

#### CASH FOR YOUR SCHOOL

Box Tops earnings are identified and automatically updated online.

## SHOPPING FOR GROCERIES ONLINE?

You can still earn Box Tops for your school with your e-receipt!

See how at [BTFE.com/emailgroceryreceipts](https://www.btfe.com/emailgroceryreceipts)



## BOX TOPS CLIPS

You may occasionally find an old Box Tops clip on packages in stores. You can still clip them and send them to school, as long as each clip has a valid expiration date.

SEE PRODUCTS & LEARN MORE ABOUT  
THE BOX TOPS APP AT [BTFE.COM](https://www.btfe.com)

DON'T HAVE THE BOX TOPS  
APP YET? DOWNLOAD IT NOW:



# Spirit Day

Tuesday, May 12,  
12:00pm - 8:00pm

Come support Carrolltowne Elementary PTA. Mention SPIRIT DAY when ordering. For Mobile Orders, enter code: **CES2026**, to support Community Care Event.



Carrolltowne Elementary School PTA  
& X-Golf Eldersburg Present

# PARENTS' NIGHT OUT



**FRIDAY, MAY 1**  
**6:30 PM**



**X-GOLF ELDERSBURG**

**1346 LIBERTY ROAD**



## OPEN TO ALL FAMILIES

Children are welcome.  
PTA Members receive discounts on specials. Membership is encouraged!

Scan QR Code  
to join the PTA.



Or visit:

<https://carrolltownepta.com/join>

## EVENT DETAILS

### RAFFLE PRIZES

**KARAOKE** starts at 7 pm

**DARTS** = \$20 per hour

**GOLF** = \$70 per hour (up to 8 people)

### DRINK SPECIALS:

- \$3 Apple Cobbler Cider
- \$5 Orange Crush, Birdie Breeze, & House Margarita

# JOIN THE CARROLLTOWNE PTA!



**Cardinals Care, Cardinals Share—Be Part of the Flock!**  
Membership builds our nest for staff, students & families.

- **Family Connection Tools:** Our family directory, website, and Facebook group connect families!
- **Birthday Books & Literacy Programs:** Every Cardinal receives a book for their birthday!
- **Yearbook:** Captures the heart of the school year preserving memories and milestones!
- **Carrolltowne Players:** Theater performances develop student confidence and teamwork!
- **Teacher & Classroom Grants:** Provide staff with resources to support every student!
- **Staff Appreciation:** Celebrates our amazing staff with tokens of gratitude throughout the year!
- **Community Events:** Builds spirit and connects families at fun, inclusive gatherings!
- **STEM:** Inspires innovation and hands-on learning through engaging STEM experiences!
- **Fun Run:** Promotes wellness and pride while teaching students the power of giving back!

## MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

- **Access** to an Online Family Directory with contact information for families
- **A voice and a vote** at PTA meetings with opportunities to hear important updates from leadership and staff
- **Opportunities to participate** in fun and engaging events for families
- **Networking opportunities** with other parents, community members, and business leaders

## CARDINALS CONNECT!

[CES PTA Website](#)



[Become a Member](#)

[PTA Facebook Group](#)



**SINGLE MEMBERSHIP = \$11**  
**DOUBLE MEMBERSHIP = \$17**

All family members are welcome to join!  
We ♥ grandparents!  
Help Build our Nest--Make a donation!

**Your Membership Helps our Cardinals Soar!**  
Join in September for a chance to win exciting prizes.

Questions? Please email [Membership@CarrolltownePta.com](mailto:Membership@CarrolltownePta.com).