



Imagine Discovery Public Charter School

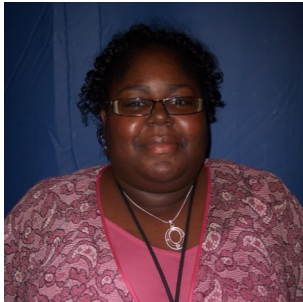
The PTA Connection

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Imagine's PTA Is On The Move

by Carlette Flowers, PTA President



I am very excited about this school year and all of the wonderful activities and programs planned for this school year!

This month we are running our Otis Spunkmeyer fundraiser, Scholastic Book Fair

from October 17-20, and Ident-A-Kid ID program on October 27.

Be sure to mark your calendars for November 14-18, for American Education Week as well as November 15 for our first General PTA Meeting. We are looking for volunteers to serve refreshments for American Education Week.

If you have not joined the PTA, remember that is never too late. Our membership dues are \$10.

Please take the time to fill out a membership form and return it to the main office.

Finally, if you are able to, please volunteer for a committee, event or help out your child's teachers! Thanks for helping to make Imagine Discovery PCS such a fantastic school!

Ensuring the Safety of Our Children by Myra J. Sydnor

There is no bigger fear than parents losing a child who becomes victim to child abduction. In an effort to help keep our children safe, the PTA will host the Ident-A-Kid safety program at Imagine on Thursday, October 27, 2011.

This Ident-A-Kid program is the oldest and largest child identification program operating for the past 25 years. Their core mission is to provide parents with resources to keep their children safe and raise the

level of awareness of child safety throughout the country.

The program hosted at Imagine will include taking photos, measuring weight as well as height and taking fingerprints of each participating student. The parent can then have an easily accessible card with their child's recent photo and information should the unfortunate need arise to have up-to-date information available for law enforcement to dispatch

alerts in case of an emergency. The cost of the program is \$7 per card, \$10 for two cards, and \$12 for three cards. PTA members receive \$1 off the price.

Fliers with more information will be sent home to all parents.

Please visit the [Ident-A-Kid](#) website if you would like to obtain more information about the safety program.



PTA Updates

OCTOBER 2011

DATES



Monday, October 17-Thursday, October 20—Scholastic Book Fair

Thursday, October 20 at 1:15 p.m.—Volunteer Training for the first 20 parents who sign up with Ms. Johnson in the main office

Friday, October 21—School closed for students

Thursday, October 27—Ident-A-Kid ID Program

Friday, October 28—Last Day for Otis Spunkmeyer Fund-raiser

LOOKING AHEAD: Friday, November 4—School closed

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Faculty Spotlight: Ms. Virginia Ellis, Art Teacher *by Beverly Lofton*



Ms. Virginia Ellis, Imagine's Art Teacher for Grades K-5

Please join us in celebrating Ms. Virginia Ellis in October's "Spotlight" edition! Ms. Ellis is one of the art teachers here at Imagine. She teaches art for the kindergarten through grade 5 scholars. Elementary art teachers help young children develop their artistic abilities. Imagine Discovery is an arts-integrated school. We definitely can appreciate and look forward to all of the creative art work that she and our children will be accomplishing in

the coming months and throughout the school year.

Ms. Ellis has now been teaching for 18 years and she says she loves it! This is her first experience with charter schools. She says, "I love the idea of a school that tries to build our students' character and tries to motivate them to reach for excellence in all that they do. It is the reason I wanted to be part of the Imagine family."

She would like the parents and our students to know that the teachers at Imagine really care for them. She continues on to say, "We want them to be successful, compassionate, forward-thinking, life-long learners, and leaders." She also wants parents to know that Imagine needs their support and welcomes their input.

Ms. Ellis was born in Petersburg, VA., but she was raised in Trenton, NJ. She completed her Bachelor's of Art degree in art and design at the Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, NY. She later earned a Master's degree in Special Education in a rigorous program at

Coppin State University right here in Maryland. As many could imagine, in her spare time, Ms. Ellis enjoys drawing, painting, creating one-of-a-kind greeting cards, singing, and interior decorating.

Ms. Ellis adores her mother and says she is the most inspirational person in life. Her mom always supported and encouraged her children to reach for their dreams, and she made many sacrifices to help them to attain their goals.

Ms. Ellis' goals at Imagine are to continue to grow professionally and to be a lifelong learner to keep up with today's ever-changing world and its demands. Also, she hopes to be a positive force in her students' lives as she lets them know each day how important and smart they are. She wants all the stakeholders involved to help make Imagine one of the best charter schools in the world!

Keep Imagine Looking Beautiful!

Here is your opportunity to keep the walls of Imagine looking clean and assist our Janitorial staff. In an effort to avoid inappropriate markings on the walls of our restrooms, Dr. Harris is asking for volunteers to monitor the bathrooms during the day. Also, students are not allowed to leave their classroom with any kind of writing utensils when going to the restrooms to help prevent this type of activity. They must also sign in and out on a bathroom log in their classroom. We need male volunteers for the boys' bathrooms and female volunteers for the girls' bathrooms. Please see Christian Smith in the main office if you would like to volunteer. It takes just a few moments of your time. Thank you!



The PTA Connection
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Editor:
Myra J. Sydnor

Contributors:
Beverly Lofton
Charles E. Sydnor III



All mothers, grandmothers, sisters, aunts, & significant female role models are cordially invited to attend



Muffins with Mom



Thursday, November 10, 2011

7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.

Students will dismiss to class at 8:00 a.m.

at Imagine Discovery Public Charter School

Join us as we celebrate YOU!!



Please RSVP by
Tuesday, November 1, 2011

Sponsored by

PTA

TO white_424@comcast.net or call 443-392-8190

*Please RSVP as quickly as possible,
so we can complete the arrangements for breakfast.*

***** NOTE *****

**If you would like to be included in the slide show,
Please send an electronic picture of you with your IDPCS student only**

to

white_424@comcast.net

no later than Monday, November 7, 2011

Thank you for being instrumental in the life of an Imagine Discovery student.

The Resourceful Nurse: Health Suite Guidelines 2011-2012

by Hazel Randall, MSN, BSN, RN
School Nurse, Imagine Discovery Public Charter School



Welcome back to the start of a healthy school year! Here are a few reminders about procedures in the health suite to ensure your child's health and safety.

Discretionary medications will not routinely be administered during the first and last periods of the day. Discretionary Medication forms require a parent/guardian signature and are valid for the current school year. Discretionary medications may not be dispensed without parent/guardian permission. The discretionary medications may only be administered by the Registered Professional School Nurse as they require an assessment. Please remember that these medications are meant to be used on an occasional basis.

If a student needs medication in school on a daily basis, he/she will need to have a written order from the health care provider. The forms are available from the school nurse or on the BCPS Web Site in the Health Services section which may be found under Offices. This is for prescription as well as non-prescription (over-the-counter) medication. All medication needs to remain in the health suite. There are exceptions only if the health care provider notes on the written order that the student may self-administer and after an evaluation is completed by the school nurse that the student understands the parameters for

self-administration.

Students absent due to a health related cause for 3 days or more must present a note from the parent/guardian. These notes will be filed in the student health suite folder.

A note from a health care provider must be presented if an absence of more than 5 days occurs due to a health related cause. These notes will be filed in the health suite as well.

Please contact the school nurse if your student has an extended absence due to a health related cause.

If your student has a Physical Education excuse from a health care provider as a result of an orthopedic injury, extended illness or hospitalization, please be sure that your student presents the note to the school nurse upon your students return to school.

A Hearing and Vision screening will take place February 21st -2012-February 24th 2012 with the retest on March 5th 2012 All kindergarten, 1st, and 4th grade students, students in special education programs, and students new to Baltimore County will be screened. If you have a specific concern regarding your student, please notify the school nurse as soon as

possible.

Here are a few suggestions to share with your student regarding the prevention of the common cold, the flu and other illnesses:

- Hand washing is the number one tip. Please remind your student to wash hands before preparing food or eating, after using the bath room and after coughing or sneezing. Sneezing and coughing in the bend of the elbow is the suggested method by the Center for Disease Control (CDC) to reduce transmission of germs.
- Just a reminder that Spring allergy season will be here before we know it! If your child has seasonal allergies, please consult with his/her health care provider regarding the best treatment. Good management of allergies will decrease the discomfort from symptoms such as runny nose, watery eyes, headaches and sneezing and will support school success.

It is a pleasure to work with you and your student. Good health and learning go hand-in-hand! Please feel free to contact me at 410-887-3346 with any concerns as questions.

HAVE YOU COMPLETED YOUR VOLUNTEER TRAINING?

Ms. Johnson, Volunteer Coordinator, will be having a special volunteer training session for 20 parents who cannot get off in time for the regularly scheduled volunteer training sessions. **Only the first 20 parents to sign up with Ms. Johnson directly** can attend this session. This training will take place during the school day on **Thursday, October 20th** at 1:15 p.m.

Due to classroom use of the Media Center during the day, I will keep to this strict timeline and begin promptly at 1:20 p.m. Please be mindful that if the video presentation has already started, you will be required to attend the next scheduled session before being cleared to volunteer this year. There can be no exceptions to this guideline. Please see Ms. Johnson in the main office to sign up.

The next volunteer training session will be held on Thursday, November 10 at 5:15 p.m. in the Media Center.

The PTA Connection

Imagine PTA's Fundraising Facts

Just a reminder to please support Imagine with your Box Tops and Labels for Education. The money earned goes towards items or events for Imagine sponsored by the PTA. See these links, [Box Tops](#) or [Labels](#) for a full list of products with these special labels. You can turn these into your child's teacher, drop them off in the main office, or in the front entrance. Also, if you shop at Giant, you can earn cash for our school. You can go to their website via the [A+ Program](#) link and add our school code, 05673, or you may do so in the store during your next shopping trip. Our coordinator for the program this year is Nicole Woolford.

Imagine's Scholastic Book Fair will take place on Monday, October 17-Thursday, October 20, 2011. The hours of operation will be from 8:40 a.m.-10:25 a.m. and 11:25 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Family night for the Book Fair will be held on Tuesday, October 18, 2011 from 6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m. We need volunteers to help during the Book Fair. Students will be allowed to make purchases at the Book Fair during their regularly scheduled Media period. Please check in the main office for the Book Fair student class schedule and to sign up to volunteer at the Book Fair.

The last day to turn in money orders or cash for the Otis Spunkmeyer Fundraiser is Friday, October 28. Items will be ready for pick-up the week of November 21.

Muffins for Moms– A Celebration!

The PTA will sponsor a Muffins for Moms event on Thursday, November 11, 2011 from 7:00 a.m.-8:00 a.m. in the Imaginarium in appreciation of all mothers, grandmothers, sisters, aunts, or significant female role models. Please RSVP by Tuesday, November 1 to Angela White, our Muffins for Moms coordinator, at white_424@comcast.net or 443-392-8190 so that an accurate count may be made for the breakfast items. Also, if you would like to have you and your child's picture featured in the slide show presentation, kindly send your requests to Ms. White by Monday, November 7, 2011. Please see the flyer for details. Thank you!

Southwest Area Education Advisory Council's Hosts Budget Hearing

Concerned how funding will be used for our schools? The Southwest Area Education Advisory Council will host a budget hearing, Operating budget 2013 and Capitol budget 2014 hearing. Details of the event are as follows:

Date: Wednesday, October 19, 2011

Time: 6:30pm sign-up for speakers

7:00pm – 8:00pm Hearing

Location: Meadowood Education Center; 1849 Gwynn Oak Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21207

Speaker sign-up begins at 6:30 p.m. The hearing begins at 7 p.m. Speakers are encouraged to bring two written copies of their remarks to be included in the SWAEAC's report to the Board of Education. Interested parties who wish to participate yet are unable to attend can submit written comments up until October 18th to Beverly Coleman at coleman.beverly@gmail.com.

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Imagine That!

The PTA has a goal for the 2011-2012 school year to have 150 members join the organization—parents/grandparents/guardians as well as teachers. There are 79 PTA members !

In an effort to increase members, the PTA is hosting a membership drive through Monday, October 31st. The class with the most PTA members will have pizza and if the teacher is a member they will receive something additional. Don't delay...sign up today!

The general meeting for the PTA is Tuesday, November 15 at 6:30 p.m. in the Imaginarium.



"Diversity Means" 2011– 2012 PTA Board of Directors

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