



## From the Principal's Desk

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Ms. Neela Thakur

### "Read-at-the-Beach Day!"

At Emerson-Williams Elementary School, we will be celebrating our next school-wide Spirit Day on Thursday, March 20. It will be "Read-at-the-Beach Day!" This is also the first day of Spring! But, it still feels more like the middle of Winter. However, we are all going to envision that it is a hot, sunny day at the beach in the middle of Summer. From 8:45 am – 9:15 am on Thursday morning, we are all going to pull out our favorite beach towels and our favorite books, and just relax and read together as a school community! Please assist us by helping your child to pack his / her favorite beach towel and favorite book! It may be cold outside, but it will be warm and toasty inside when we are all reading together. Thank you for your help and support!

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# Message from the Presidents....

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Greetings EW Families,

Winter is slowly winding down and the weather is starting to get better. I am sure the playscape will be loaded with children in the next couple of weeks during and after school!

The PTO is charging ahead with the final stretch of the school year upon us. We have some exciting events coming up, and hope that you will all be ready to share in these exciting events with us. Some of those events include the beloved Talent Show, TV Turn Off Week, Scrapbooking, and finally the Strawberry Festival. Another noteworthy reminder to bring attention to, is the SBAC testing (which replaces the CMT's) will be starting shortly as well. So, there are a lot of events coming down the pike.

March brought about a very informative SBAC presentation at the Silas Deane Middle School put on by the WSPC. Sally Dastoli, Wethersfield's Director of Curriculum and Instruction, and Pauline Greer, Curriculum Specialist were on hand to present and answer many questions by concerned parents related to the SBAC test. Paul LaPerriere has been working with the WSPC, the Administration, and the BoE to get a similar presentation together for the Common Core Curriculum. We are expecting a date to be announced for this in the upcoming weeks. We will notify parents via Facebook and email when that date becomes available. We encourage parents to attend this event, as this will bring to light what the children are learning in class, and consequently are bringing home for homework.

Please stay tuned to Facebook and your emails for blasts and reminders. Tiger Topics comes out once a month, and with everyone's busy lives...Facebook and Email have been effective communication tools for us to remind you of our events, as well as Community events that will be upon us. Our sincerest thanks for your continued support at our events, meetings, and your children's education!

Regards,

John Kiniry, 2nd Year Co-President  
Paul LaPerriere, 1st Year Co-President

*“Nothing that you can teach them is more important,  
than the love you can give them”*

2013-2014 PTO Meeting Schedule  
April 10 • May 8 • June 12

7:00pm Upper Media Center

# Health Tips

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From Linda Ciarcia, BSN, RN

## **6<sup>th</sup> graders:**

**Keep getting the physical forms in to me. If you have not sent in the reminder slip, please do so ASAP. I still have many students that have not gotten them in. A delay in the transfer of health records and progress reports may occur if I do not receive the form before June 1<sup>st</sup> 2014.**

All children should be in school when they are well, but trying to decide if they are well enough can be a difficult task. We all know they can wake up feeling one way and an hour later feel another way. The goal is to have your child in school, ready to learn; but prevent the transmission of viral illness to classmates. Thank you for keeping our school community healthy.

Here are some guidelines to follow:

- A child with a temperature of 100 degrees or greater should not be in school.
- Students should be free of a fever for 24 hours without the aid of fever reducers, such as acetaminophen [Tylenol] or ibuprofen [Motrin] before returning to school.
- If a child vomits; they must be home for 24 hours before returning to school.
- Students with excessive secretions from coughing, sneezing, or runny nose should be kept home to prevent the transmission of illness to others.
- Students diagnosed with Strep throat, from a throat culture, must be on antibiotics for 24 hours before returning to school.

For headaches, stomachaches, and sore throats, the decision to send your child to school should be based on your child's ability to focus on his/her class work and learn.

# A Message from the school Social Worker

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Every March, the **National Association of Social Workers** ([www.socialworkers.org](http://www.socialworkers.org)) celebrates **Social Work Month** as a way of highlighting the services and values of the profession.

Wethersfield Public Schools has provided **Social Work Services** to students and families since **1961**. You can imagine how the needs and stressors of families and students have changed in that time! Currently there are 4.5 social workers assigned at least part time to every school in the district.

**School Social Workers** are required to attain a Master's Degree in Social Work and maintain a State of Connecticut School Social Work Certificate to serve in the Connecticut School System. Many of the **School Social Workers** in Wethersfield also maintain LCSW's, a level of professional licensure with the Department of Public Health beyond school certification that would enable them to practice privately as well. **School Social Workers** are mental health clinicians in the school setting that provide support in a three-tiered approach: providing prevention, assessment and intervention. This three-tiered approach is essential to well-being of all human beings across the life span. In addition to the three-tiered approach, **School Social Workers** also engage in advocacy, policy and program development, clinical work with students and families, collaboration and consultation with colleagues and a myriad of other roles and responsibilities. They engage with typically developing children experiencing the trials of life such as anxiety, divorce and death, among many other developmental and social concerns, as well as at-risk and vulnerable students who may receive mandated supportive services.

**Social Workers** are professionally trained in various models of therapy including Solution Focused Therapy, Play Therapy, Family Centered Therapy, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy among others. They have training in the growth and development of children as well as all individuals across the life span. Through this training **School Social Workers** have acquired specific skills to support and understand families, as well as the dynamics that present families with challenges throughout their lives at various stages of change. A **Social Worker's** training enables her to foster positive social change that sustains the individual and family or other social support system involved.

Please contact your school's **Social Worker** in order to learn more about the services provided in your school or those provided in the Wethersfield Public School District.

Maureen Duffy, LCSW

School Social Worker, Charles Wright and Emerson-Williams Elementary Schools

[mduffy@wethersfield.me](mailto:mduffy@wethersfield.me)



SOCIAL WORK MONTH 2014

# Labels for Education

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Thank you for supporting the Labels for Education program by sending in the bar codes from the labels of participating products. Keep them coming! A complete list of products is available at <http://www.labelsforeducation.com/Earn-Points/Participating-Products>. You can also register your Shop-Rite and Price Chopper grocery cards so that EW earns points each time you buy a participating product in addition to the points we earn when you turn in the product's label. <http://www.labelsforeducation.com/Earn-Points/i-eLabels-for-Education-i-sup-SM-sup>. We redeem the points that we earn to buy much-needed equipment for our school. At the start of the 2013-2014 school year, we distributed markers, crayons, exercise balls, nutrition charts, glue sticks and more to teachers in nearly every grade. In addition, the PTO presented Miss Fox with a brand new karaoke machine for the music department. We are working toward another successful collection season with the Spring Bonus Collection sheet due out soon!

We deposited 7759 points into our account since December, 2013, giving us a total of 10,425. As we earn more points, the PTO is planning to purchase a Goodyear Multi-purpose Inflator pump for the Physical Education Department. Thank you again for your help! if you have any questions, please contact Sharon Koziol at [skoziol2011@hotmail.com](mailto:skoziol2011@hotmail.com).

## **NEW to Tiger Topics....Our "Classified Section"**

Parents now have the ability to place classified advertisements in our school newsletter. We are currently only making space for 10 ads per month and are running them on a first come first serve basis. The ads are restricted to only school or child related topics. There is a 60 word maximum and we cannot accept pictures. The cost for running an ad is \$5 for 1 month. Payments must be made payable to "EWPTO" to the attention of Holly Dyjak, Treasurer. Please include a note identifying that the payment is for TT Classified and leave it in the EW main office prior to submitting your request to Tiger Topics. An email submission of your ad must be received by 10 AM on the Saturday following the most recent PTO meeting.



# From The Art Room



Hello families! I am so excited to be having our school wide art show again this year! The date and additional details will be announced soon. Please take a look below at some of the concepts and techniques you child has been working on this year in art. There is also an Art link on our school homepage with questions you can ask your child about their artwork. Please visit our school Artsonia account to see the wonderful artwork they have been working so hard on. You can even create a fan club for your child so other family members and friends can comment on their artwork!  
© -Ms. Nogueira

**Kinders have been learning how to handle art materials with care, as well as practice their fine motor skills. Some things we have learned include; what a portrait is, how textures are used in artwork, and color theory including the primary and secondary colors. Later this year we will be learning about African art, architecture and creating patterns in our art. We will work with paint, found objects and model magic among lots of other exciting things!**

**1<sup>st</sup> graders are excited about all they now know about Chinese New Year! A few things we have learned so far include the art of Paul Klee, working with clay to create a relief tile and using patterns in our art. We also practiced a running stitch with yarn for our pattern mittens! Later this year we will learn about the art of India and the famous Impressionism artist Claude Monet.**

**2<sup>nd</sup> grade has learned about the famous artist Georgia O'Keefe. They created their own nature paintings and practiced observational skills. We are also learning how to create value in paintings. The most recent lesson was inspired by Henri Matisse and his beautiful Fauvism paintings. Fauvism means wild beast in French. Why would they call him that?! We will be learning about the art of Van Gogh as well as the abstract artist Kandinsky who painted to music.**

**3<sup>rd</sup> graders have been learning about the cultures of Australia and China. We have created clay fish sculptures and Aboriginal bark paintings. Perspective and how to create points of view including aerial and profile views were practiced in our snowman art. We are currently working on Chinese Imperial Robes. Later this year we will create copper relief plates and jungle collages inspired by Henri Rousseau!**

**4<sup>th</sup> graders are learning about Pop art and artists including Wayne Theibaud and Claus Oldenburg. They are using forms such as cylinders and cones to create dessert paintings. We have also learned how lines can be used by artists to express actions and emotions. Later this year we will be working with clay and create artwork inspired by Native American artifacts.**

**5<sup>th</sup> grade has been creating amazing abstract and realistic self-portraits. We have discussed why artists create portraits and what we can learn by looking at them. We studied portraits throughout history including; Picasso, DaVinci, and Grant Wood. We are currently learning color theory to create an altered color wheel. Later this year we will be creating gargoye sculptures and study Gothic architecture!**

**6<sup>th</sup> grade has focused on observational skills to create contour hand drawings in American Sign Language. They have also worked with wire to create an animal inspired by the artist Alexander Calder. 3-dimensional masks were created after learning about the Mexican celebration Dia de los Muertos. Currently, sixth graders are creating paper dragon sculptures after learning about the significance of the dragon in Chinese culture. Later this year we will continue to work on observational skills to create a still-life. We will be learning about Egypt and work with printmaking materials!**

# TV Turn Off Week

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"Our 2014 TV Turn Off Week will be held from May 4th thru May 10th. We are planning a bike safety presentation, a bingo night, a frozen treat night, the Talent Show, and much more. Dates and Times to be confirmed in the near future! Stay tuned to Facebook and Email blasts for updates!

Please contact Leslie Williams at [860-212-878](tel:860-212-878) or [LSILVA23@ATT.NET](mailto:LSILVA23@ATT.NET) to volunteer to help with planning additional events, such as a restaurant night. Thanks in advance for your help!"

## Target: Help Us Help Our School

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There's an easy way to help us raise money for our school –for books, reading programs and anything else that can use extra funding. It's called Take Charge of Education, and it's helping our school right now. It's great for you too! REDcard holders receive a 5% discount on purchases, and free shipping on Target.com orders. Visit [Target.com/tcoe](http://Target.com/tcoe) or call 1-800-316-6142 to designate our school, then use your REDcard whenever you shop. When you use your REDcardSM (Target® Visa® Credit Card, Target Credit Card® or Target Check Card®), Target will donate up to 1% of your purchases to the eligible K–12 school of your choice. Don't have a REDcard? Apply in person at any Target store or go to [Target.com/redcard](http://Target.com/redcard). Grandparents, alumni, friends and neighbors are all welcome to participate in the program. The more people we involve, the harder the program works for our school. If you're already participating, thank you! Check out our school's progress anytime at [Target.com/tcoe](http://Target.com/tcoe).

## Donate Your Unused Coupons

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Wethersfield High School student Joseph Sottile is collecting expired and unused manufacturers' coupons to donate to U.S. military families in other countries. Military commissaries overseas accept expired coupons. Last year Joseph received the Board of Education's CABA award and a Youth in Action award for this project. Please drop off your coupon circulars or clipped coupons in the donation box at school, or to Joseph Sottile, in the bin on the front porch at 131 Cider Brook Drive.



Looking for information? Check [www.ewpto.com](http://www.ewpto.com) for links to school and PTO forms, events, fundraisers, Tiger Topics, lunch menus and the digital backpack (online copies of the school-wide notices that come home with your child each week).

Please check us out and “LIKE US” on Facebook!



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

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- Wednesday, April 2 – Grade Five and Grade Six Parent Information Night for The Discovery Center / Camp Woodstock Field Trip – 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm
- Tuesday, April 22 – Friday, April 25 – Grade Six to Camp Woodstock
- Monday, April 28 – Friday, May 2 – Grade Five to Camp Woodstock

## Box Tops for Education

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Box Tops for Education has helped America's schools earn over \$400 million since 1996. You can earn cash for Emerson-Williams by clipping Box Tops coupons from hundreds of participating products. Box Tops also offers online ways to earn even more cash for Emerson-Williams.

Check out [www.btfe.com](http://www.btfe.com) for a list of participating products, as well as online earning opportunities.

### Advice

from EW teachers to our students on how to have a successful school year:

**Show up on time, and be prepared.**

**Play outdoors!**

**Keep a positive attitude.**

**Be kind to everyone.**

*Look for more advice in future issues of Tiger Topics!*

### Board of Education

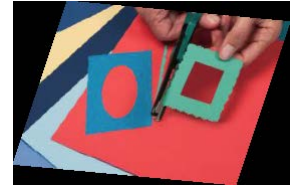
You can find information about the Board of Education's members, policies, minutes and schedule for upcoming meetings by visiting their website:

<http://www.wethersfield.k12.ct.us/page.cfm?p=1643>





## Emerson Williams Scrapbooking Event



When: Saturday, March 29, 2014  
Time: 9am - 5pm

Where: Hanmer School Cafeteria  
50 Francis St, Wethersfield, CT  
Cost: \$20 for 4ft table space



To register email Sanda O'Neil ~  
[sanda@oneil.org](mailto:sanda@oneil.org)  
by Friday March 21, 2014



Send your payment via backpack mail or mail it  
(check only) Payable to Emerson Williams PTO

Emerson Williams PTO ~ Scrapbooking Event  
461 Wells Road, Wethersfield, CT 06109  
by Friday March 21, 2014



Raffles



Tag Sale Table



**FroyoWorld and  
Wethersfield High School  
are fundraising for  
Wethersfield High School**

**Safe Graduation 2014!!**



Come to FroyoWorld on: **April 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
**May 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
**June 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Stop by Froyo on the Silas Deane Highway on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of each month through June and 10% of your purchase is donated to WHS Safe Graduation! Please bring this flyer with you for offer.



## WETHERSFIELD HIGH SCHOOL SAFE GRADUATION 2014



### **Executive Chairperson:**

**Michele Lavoie**, 257-8030, [dancewme430@cox.net](mailto:dancewme430@cox.net)

### **Fundraising Co-Chairs:**

**Sheryl Matarazzo**, 257-3188, [ssmatarazzo@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ssmatarazzo@sbcglobal.net)

**Marguerite Alpert**, 563-1093, [margalpert@snet.net](mailto:margalpert@snet.net)

*Wethersfield Safe Graduation is a wonderful, safe, fun and **free** event for every graduating senior.*

*It takes many helping hands to make this event happen.*

*If you are a parent of a senior, please consider joining a committee!*

### **VOLUNTEERS WELCOME**

Join us for one of our fun monthly meetings! We meet the first Monday of every month, at 7:30pm in the Fireside Room at the Pitkin Community Center. We welcome your help, support and ideas!

**January 6**

**February 3**

**March 3**

**April 7**

**May 5**

**June 2**

**All events are posted on the Safe Graduation link on the WHS website. Please check often for updates on new events.**

### **STERLING JEWELERS STACKABLE RINGS**

Together with Sterling Jewelers we have created a beautiful collection of 5 different stackable rings as our newest fundraiser. Prices range from \$22-\$47. You will have the opportunity to look through the catalogue for other choices. You may visit Sterling Jeweler any time to place your order. 50% of all sales will be given to Safe Graduation! These rings make a great gift! Contact **Linda Sidote**, 860-529-8386 or [linsid@cox.net](mailto:linsid@cox.net) or **Kim Brazel**, 860-202-8012 or [alphakimb@aol.com](mailto:alphakimb@aol.com) with questions.



### **FITNESS FAIR - MARCH 2, 2014, 2-4 pm**

Kick off your spring in a healthy and vibrant way! Relax with yoga, invigorate with boxing, dance with Zumba, try out Cross fit... visit all of our health conscious vendors, chair massages and get the latest nutrition information. We will be at Pitkin Community Center for this fitness filled afternoon. For more information call: **Marguerite Alpert @ (860)563-1096.**

### **CLOTHES DRIVE- APRIL 5, 2014**

**SPRING CLEANING??** Bring all of your out-grown, used clothing, shoes, coats, belts, linens, bedding, towels, blankets, stuffed animals and hard plastic toys (playschool desks, houses, trucks and toy boxes). Drop off is at Silas Deane Middle School, Front driveway on Silas Deane Hwy. from 10am-2pm. **We get paid by the pound, so bring it all!!** Questions, contact **Sheryl Matarazzo at (860)257-3188** or [ssmatarazzo@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ssmatarazzo@sbcglobal.net).

### **RESTAURANTS**

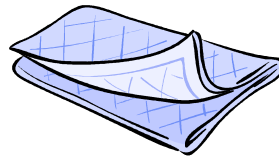
Keep an eye on our website ([www.wethersfield.k12.ct.us](http://www.wethersfield.k12.ct.us)) for upcoming dates for dinner out at local restaurants. Join us at Wood-n Tap, Friday's, Froyo World, Chili's and other local restaurants throughout the school year. Print a copy of the flyer from the website and 10% of proceeds of your dinner will go directly to Safe Grad. For more information contact **Diane Dow at (860)436-9262** or [dowconn@cox.net](mailto:dowconn@cox.net).

### **DANCE**

Get ready to ring in spring and join your friends and neighbors for one of the best Wethersfield events of the year! **\*\*Mark your calendars now!\*\*** On **Saturday, March 22, 2014, 7-11pm**, music and laughter will fill the Pitkin Community Center. BYO Everything including your favorite appetizers and beverages for our special fundraising dance. The Live and silent auctions are a hit with this event! Tickets are \$25 per person. Reserve your table for 8 now! For additional information contact **Lisa Stefano at 860-563-1227** or [lstefano17@cox.net](mailto:lstefano17@cox.net).

# WHS SAFE GRADUATION 2014 CLOTHES DRIVE

**SPRING CLEANING???** Any Winter clothing that you didn't wear? Do you have out-grown clothes? Maybe, it's time to clean out the clutter in your closets, attics, kids' rooms and the play area? Want to get rid of it all? Tell your friends and relatives too. Bring all your items to:



**Saturday, April 5, 2014**  
**SILAS DEANE MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
**(front driveway on Silas Deane Hwy)**  
**Drop off: 10am-2pm**

Or

**Drop off items with Sheryl Matarazzo By April 1st**  
**Items Accepted: All items must be in Garbage bags.**

CLEAN men's/women's/children's Clothing, Shoes, Belts, Ties, Hats, Handbags, Bedding, Towels, Curtains, Blankets, Linens, Stuffed Animals, Hard Plastic Toys (children's play desk and toy boxes)

**We get paid by the pound, so bring it all!**

Questions? Contact Sheryl Matarazzo at (860) 257-3188 or [ssmatarazzo@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ssmatarazzo@sbcglobal.net)



Wethersfield High School



# 2014 Safe Graduation

## Fundraising Dance Raffle and Silent Auction

**BYOE (Bring Your Own Everything)**  
**Tickets \$25.00**

when:

**Saturday, March 22, 2014**  
**7pm-11pm**

where:

**Pitkin Community Center**  
**Banquet Room**  
**30 Greenfield Street**  
**Wethersfield, CT**

Please make checks payable to:

***WHS 2014 Safe Graduation***

and send checks to:

**Brenda Slayton**  
**11 Wildwood Road**  
**Wethersfield, CT 06109**

This is Safe Grad's  
**MOST IMPORTANT**  
**FUNDRAISER!** Please  
come and support our  
2014 WHS Seniors!

*Silent Auction*  
*Raffle Prizes*  
*plus*  
*DJ & Dancing*

**\*Parties of 8 can reserve a table\***

# Attention United Way Donors!

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If you donate to the United Way through your workplace, did you know that you can designate Emerson-Williams PTO as the beneficiary of your donation? If you have any questions or need help, please contact John Kiniry for more information.



## Volunteer

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**If you are interested in heading up one of our PTO committees OR simply want to join a committee to find a way to get involved, please contact John Kiniry or Paul LaPerriere as soon as possible. At the November PTO meeting, we will be assessing the committees that do not have chairs in order to determine if those activities/events will be eliminated. It's so important that we hear from you to make sure the events that your kids love continue to take place. Please go to [www.ewpto.com](http://www.ewpto.com) and check out the committee list to see if anything matches your interests.**

## Babysitters Needed

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Calling all E-W families that have High Schoolers: If your students need to pick up some community service time, we have an opportunity for them! Every month we need three babysitters for our PTO meetings. Responsibilities include monitoring school aged children during the meeting and ensuring that the classroom that is used gets left exactly as we found it! To get put on the schedule, please contact John Kiniry at [jtk038@aol.com](mailto:jtk038@aol.com) or 860-424-2143.

# Classified

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The Emerson-Williams PTO is looking for a parent (or friend of the family) that has a carpet/upholstery cleaning business. Physical education mats used by EW students are in need of cleaning. Any assistance in identifying someone that can help would be appreciated.

Please contact Paul LaPerriere - [plaperriere.pto@gmail.com](mailto:plaperriere.pto@gmail.com)

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*Your advertisement here...*

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*Your advertisement here...*

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*Your advertisement here...*

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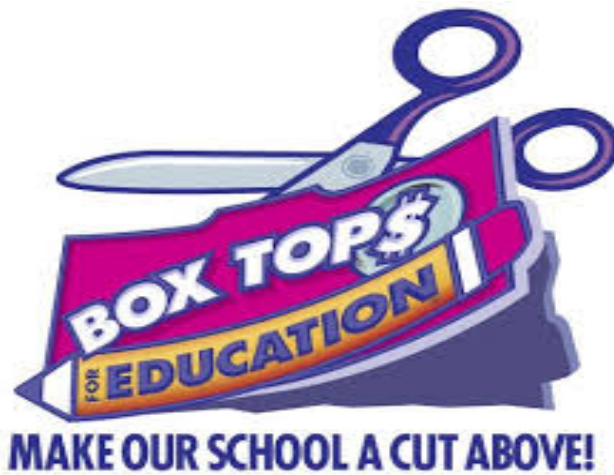
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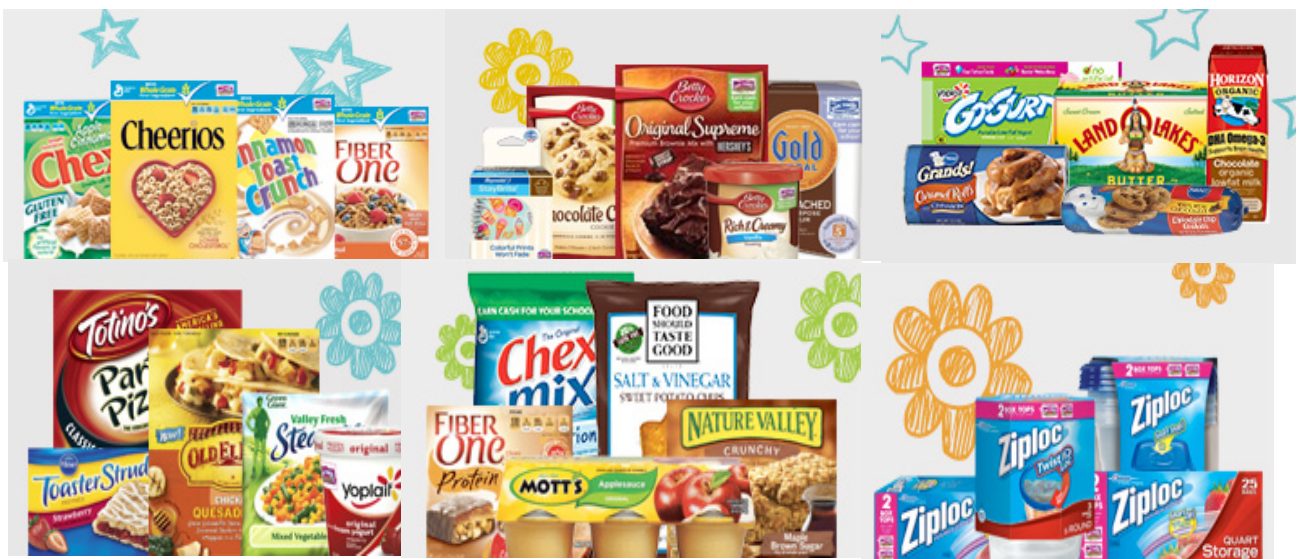
## Help Emerson-Williams by clipping Box Tops!

We all shop for groceries, sometimes two or three times a week - or more. Now turn those shopping trips into easy cash for our school, and encourage friends to do the same! Just look for the Box Tops logo on hundreds of products like Cheerios®, Hamburger Helper® and Kleenex®, in almost every aisle of the store. All you need to do is clip and send them to school with your child.

## Each one is worth 10¢ for Emerson-Williams!

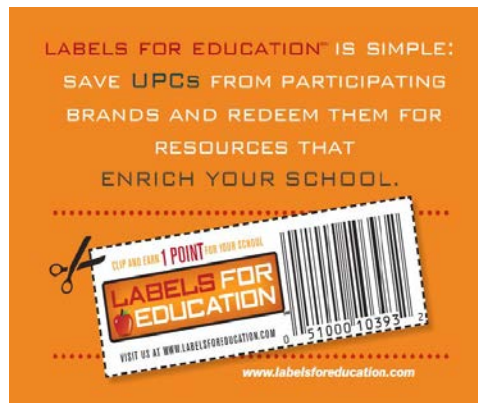
For more details about the Box Tops program, follow the link below.

<http://www.boxtops4education.com>





Clip Labels for Education from Campbell's, Pepperidge Farm, Pop Secret, People Magazine (purchased at newsstands), Emerald Nuts, Glad products, Post Cereals, Dannon Danimals, Dannoninos, and Bic products.



***If you cannot find the logo, simply clip the UPC code.***

Visit [www.labelsforeducation.com](http://www.labelsforeducation.com) for a list of participating products.

# EMERSON~WILLIAMS 2013-2014 PTO MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

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Please support the Emerson-Williams PTO by donating \$7.00 per child or \$10.00 per family. All parents and teachers are welcome and encouraged to attend our monthly PTO meetings to share their thoughts and ideas. Many topics are discussed, including up-coming events and concerns. Becoming a member does not obligate you to attend monthly meetings, but you are always welcome to come listen and share your ideas.

Our meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Media Center.

Our Success cannot continue without your support!  
Thank you for your anticipated support of our PTO!

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Please return the form below to your child's teacher. Checks can be made payable to:

EMERSON~WILLIAMS PTO

Child(ren) Name (s)  
\_\_\_\_\_

Grade(s)  
\_\_\_\_\_

Teacher(s)  
\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name  
\_\_\_\_\_

Child \$7.00  
\_\_\_\_\_

Family \$10.00  
\_\_\_\_\_

Additional/Other  
Donation \_\_\_\_\_

# Thanks to Our Sponsors

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Rosenberg Orthodontics

People's United Bank

Future Fitness Sport Specific Training LLC

Leo's Pizza

Cedar Mountain Stone and Mulch

Preyco Manufacturing Co

Sterling Jewelers

AJ Vicino & Sons Nursery