



# Buccaneer Beacon

A newsletter of the E. A. Laney High School PTSA

FIRST QUARTERLY ISSUE

OCTOBER 2009

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- 2009 –2010 Membership up from past years
- “Make a Difference Day”
- A note from O'Briant's desk
- Choral Festival
- Academic Boosters
- Dress Code and more.....

### Upcoming Important Dates

#### October

- 15th PTSA Meeting (6:30 library)
- 24th Fall Beautification Day
- 29th 1/2 day of school
- 30th No school

#### November

- 11th No School Veteran's Day
- 19th Laney PTSA Meeting
- 20th Laney Reflection Entry Deadlines
- 25—27 Thanksgiving Break

#### December

- 17th Laney Staff Holiday Luncheon
- 21st Begin Winter Break

#### January

- 1st Students return from Winter Break

## PTSA Members

### Thank you for joining the Laney PTSA!

Currently we have a great start with **382 members** for the 2009-2010 school year! Thank you to all who have become members and those who have made such generous donations to our GO BUC\$ CAMPAIGN.

### “Go Buc\$”

We have many things planned for this school year and hope you will continue to support our efforts.

We are always looking for fun and creative events to help the PTSA raise money

for beautification projects, teacher grants, teacher “appreciation” luncheons, the senior reception and so much more. If you have any ideas please feel free to contact the PTSA.

The PTSA supports and speaks on behalf of the children not only at school but in the community and other organizations.

Why join the PTSA?

- To benefit your child
- To get connected to teachers, staff, other parents & students
- To stay connected to your child's school and be a part of the process.

The **lifeblood** of our organization is membership. If you haven't already done so please sign up for the Laney PTSA. The membership form can be attained online at [www.nhcs.net/laney/ptsa](http://www.nhcs.net/laney/ptsa) or forms are also available at the Main office.

### PTSA Executive Board

- President—Stephanie Folcher
- V. President—Elizabeth Kramer
- Secretary—Gretchen Nash
- Treasurer—Anne Beach

Newsletter ideas — Kim Peddie  
[Peddie.k@thomas-hutton.com](mailto:Peddie.k@thomas-hutton.com)

## Fall Beautification Day - “Make a Difference Day”

Our next “Beautification Day” is scheduled for Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup> from 8:30am-11:30am. Bring the entire family to plant bulbs and make a difference. Bring bulb planting tools, rakes, hoes, shovels and potting soil.



**We need you!**

We will also be collecting books and toys during the “Fall Beautification” event to donate to Laney to First in Families in recognition of “Make A Difference Day”



# A note from Mr. O'Briant

The staff at Laney hopes that your academic year is off to a smooth start! Our shared vision at Laney High School is academic growth and achievement for all of our students. In order for this to happen, we need cooperation, and active involvement, from students, parents and teachers. These are the ingredients for academic success. We expect our students to give

their best efforts daily in their classrooms and on their class work and homework. We expect our parents to be involved with the PTSA and other booster groups at school and to support our academic expectations by following up with your students and their teachers about school. We expect excellence from our teachers in the classroom, every-

day. When all of our stakeholders work together for the academic good of our students, academic achievement and growth will flourish. Please do not hesitate to contact any of our staff members if you are in need of assistance. Thank you for sending your students to Laney High School!

## Attendance, Attendance, Attendance

Parents can expect up to two phone calls during the day if your child has missed a class. A phone call from our automated system will be made at the end of first block if a student does not show up for first period.

An additional call will be made in the evening if an additional period is missed during the day. Note – If a student misses 1<sup>st</sup> period, you will receive two phone calls. If a student misses 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, or 4<sup>th</sup> period only, you will receive one phone call. We appreciate your attention in helping us monitor student atten-

dance. Teachers will tell you, the number one reason for academic failure is poor attendance. So, attend school everyday!

Attendance Record

ATTENDANCE						
Faculty member(s) responsible for monitoring attendance is/are: _____						
Student Name	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Days Absent						
Days Present						
Days Tardy						
Days Excused						
Days Unexcused						
Days						
Days						



## Got Math?

Parents and students are reminded of our math lab tutoring. This service is offered every Tuesday and Thursday from 3:35 – 4:30 in the media center. Students in any of our math classes can receive help from General Electric engineers and our math teachers! There is no charge for this tutoring! We encourage you to take advantage of this excellent opportunity!

**After school bus transportation is offered on the following dates with buses departing at 4:30.**

- 10/22/09            9 week exam tutoring
- 10/27/09            9 week exam tutoring
  
- 1/11/10             final exam tutoring
- 1/12/10             final exam tutoring
- 1/13/10             final exam tutoring

*Principal Al O'Briant*

*"A good teacher is like a candle—it consumes itself to light the way for others"*  
 Author unknown

# All-County Choral Festival

The Laney Adventurers and Adventurers Ensemble will be participating in the All-County Choral Festival on Friday and Saturday, Oct. 16 & 17. The All-County Chorus Concert will be held on Saturday, Oct. 17th

at 2:00 p.m. at Minnie Evans Auditorium on the campus of Ashley High School. This event is free to the public. All high school and middle school choruses in the county will participate in this event. Jerry Cribbs, former Arts Education Supervisor will be the clinician.



*If you have any questions please contact Melody Bryan at [melody.Bryan@nhcs.net](mailto:melody.Bryan@nhcs.net).*



*“Music is enough for a lifetime; but a lifetime is not enough for music”  
Sergei*

## HOMEcoming & the Laney H.S. AFJROTC

The Laney AFJROTC will be selling Flag Lapel pins at the Homecoming football game on October 16 to raise money for placing American Flags on veterans graves in Oakdale Cemetery. We will also be selling the pins at Walmart on October 17. The lapel pins cost \$10.00 each. Each lapel

pin sold will equate to one veteran's grave marked.

There are over 500 grave sites of Civil War veterans alone in the cemetery; as part of our project we will be attempting to determine the total number of veterans in the cemetery by reviewing the records main-

tained by the cemetery superintendent, Eric Kozen.

Our intent is to mark as many graves as possible on November 7 in preparation for Veterans Day. We will recover the flags later to assist the cemetery maintenance folks with mowing the grounds.



## NHCS hosts Governor’s School of NC Informational Meeting

This meeting is for prospective students and their parents, school counselors, classroom teachers and others interested in learning more about the Governor’s School of North Carolina. Governor’s School offers a unique residential experience to 900 academically or intellectually gifted students. Students are nominated in one

of eleven areas: art, choral music, dance, drama, English, French, Spanish, instrumental music, natural science, social science. Students who score a 92-99% on their End-Of-Course (EOC) test may be nominated. The school is offered to rising seniors with exceptions made for rising juniors in selected performing/visual art areas.

High School students interested in an application to be nominated for Governor’s School should contact their school counselor as listed below:

Laney High School  
Karen Vaughn—(910) 350-2089  
Extension: 209



*“For beauty being  
the best of all we  
know sums up the  
unsearchable and  
secret aims of  
nature”*

Robert Bridges

## Fall Bazaar

Laney High School will be hosting a “Fall Bazaar” on November 7th from 7:00 am to noon in the cafeteria. Students, parents or the public can “rent” space and sell crafts, yard sale items or vendors can sell products. The vendor application is on the Laney High School website.

[http://www.nhcs.k12.nc.us/laney/Fall\\_Bazaar\\_Vendor\\_Form.pdf](http://www.nhcs.k12.nc.us/laney/Fall_Bazaar_Vendor_Form.pdf)

## 2009-10 Reflections Program Theme: “Beauty is.....”

PTA believes all children deserve a quality arts education and encourages students to pursue artistic expression through participation in its annual arts Reflections Pro-



gram. The program offers students the opportunity to create works of art for fun and recognition. Students in preschool through grade 12 are encouraged to create and submit works of art in six areas: dance choreography, film production, literature, musical composition, photography, and the visual arts (which includes art forms such as drawing, paint-

ing, print making, and collage).

Students entries are due November 20th in the main office. Entry forms can be downloaded from:

[www.ptareflections.org](http://www.ptareflections.org)

Or contact Stephanie Folcher at

[stfolcher@bellsouth.net](mailto:stfolcher@bellsouth.net)

## Laney Academic Booster

Please join the Laney Academic Boosters as they work to recognize and encourage great academic achievement in all of our students. Meetings are held at 7pm in the school library. Our next meeting is Tuesday Oct. 13 and our guest speaker is Karen Vaughn from our Guidance Department. She will make a presentation on testing and answer questions about SAT/ACT/PSAT. Our November meeting will be held on Nov. 10 and our guest that night is Barbara Polk from the admissions

office at UNC-Chapel Hill. She will discuss the ins and outs of college applications and answer your questions getting into those very selective schools!

Our support to our students would not be possible without some fundraising. In addition to your membership donation, our group benefits from your Harris Teeter VIC card linked to #1355 and we recycle printer cartridges. You can place your cartridges in the box in the teacher's lounge or if your

business would like to donate a large stash, call and we will pick up! Please join by picking up a brochure in the main office or call Robin Harper for more information at 256-6483 or [robh1966@aol.com](mailto:robh1966@aol.com). You can also visit our link on the Laney web page.



# “Go Buc\$” Campaign - Remember to link your cards



**Harris Teeter VIC (PTSA #4956)**



**Target Card (PTSA #80610)**



**Food Lion MVP (PTSA #XXXX)**

“Battle of the cans” - A friendly competition between Laney & Ashley High Schools to support “Friends Feeding Friends Food Drive”. Bring canned goods to the PTSA meeting, Making a Difference Day, to home athletic games or the or to the main office now thru November 6th.

Mayfaire will be giving points towards participating elementary, middle and high school for a \$600.00 grant to be awarded January 2010. Take all your receipts to the Mayfaire office and ask for the points to be applied to Laney High School.

## Essay Contest for Female Highs School Students

Heart disease is the #1 killer of women in the United States and is also the leading cause of disability.

To help build awareness about women’s heart health especially in young women, the New Hanover County Schools Public Relations Department is organizing an essay contest, “The Importance of Heart

Health for Young Womens in High School” for female students in grades 9-11.

Two winning essays will be selected. Winners will have the opportunity to attend “Heart Strings, Music for the Soul” concert on Sunday, February 14, 2010. The concert is being held in honor of

Nation Heart Awareness Month.

Essay are due close of business November 2, 2009

For additional information please contact:

**Mrs. Valita Quattlebaum, Chief Communications Officer**  
**(910) 254-4221**

**“Every human being is the author of his own health or disease”**

**Prince Guardama Shittaha**

**Essay winners will receive:**

- ♥ \$50 gift certificate to Barnes & Nobles
- ♥ New Hanover County Board of Education & media recognition
- ♥ Complimentary tickets to the Heart Strings Concert
- ♥ Winners will also be included in promotional materials for Heart Healthy Month and Heart Strings Concert.



## **E.A. Laney High School**

*A Tradition of Excellence*

**2700 N. College Road  
Wilmington, North Carolina 28405  
Telephone: (910) 350-2089  
Fax: (910) 350-2083**

School Vision: To establish a productive and efficient educational environment by including all stakeholders in its creation to achieve our school's mission.

Mission: To prepare all students for the future by striving for excellence in pursuit of a quality education by providing a rigorous and relevant curriculum within a sage and caring environment.



# Dress Code Update

Dress Code Updates:

Athletic shorts can be worn, as long as they are knee length.

Jackets and sweatshirts are ok, as long as they have a collared shirt or Laney shirt on underneath. This way, if the jacket or sweatshirt is taken off during the day, the student is compliant with the dress code.

Sweatshirts can have designs and writing on them, without the 3x3 size restriction.

# New Schedule for School Redistricting Forums

Tuesday, October 13th @ 7:00 pm—Myrtle Grove

Monday, October 19th @ 7:00 pm—Noble

Tuesday, October 27th @ 7:00 pm—Williston

**Congratulations to the following students for Nomination to the 2010 Morehead-Cain Scholarship:**

- **Melanie Johnston**
- **Robert Kieber**

**Volunteer Opportunities are available and NEEDED!**

**Contact Stephanie Folcher—264-1667**

**Jan Leitz [jleitz@ec.rr.com](mailto:jleitz@ec.rr.com) or Sue Rachunok [sue@designinterventionsofwilmington.com](mailto:sue@designinterventionsofwilmington.com)**