



The Irwin Inquirer

Our vision is to become a model of excellence in the education of gifted and talented students.

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IN THIS ISSUE

Wise Owl Update
1

Upcoming Events
1

Mother/Son Event
2

Recruiting for the
2015–2016 PTA
2

Stay Connected
with the Irwin PTA
2

Get Your Spirit Wear
for Spirit Week
3

Irwin Inquirer
Trivia Winner
3

Spring Raffle to Raise
Funds for Technology
3

Attention Men of Irwin:
Volunteers Needed
3


RSVP for the Volunteer
Appreciation Breakfast
3

Volunteer
Opportunities
4

Are you a Wise Owl?

We are now **88%** of the way to our **\$20,000** goal for the 2014–2015 school year! Thank you to everyone who has contributed and secured matching donations.

If you have not yet made a Wise Owl donation for this school year or if you would like to make an additional donation, you can donate **right now** online at the [Owl Store](#).



Are you a Wise Owl?

Help us reach our goal!

Wise Owl = Direct Donations

Want to know what Wise Owl Funds pay for?
Please visit www.irwinpta.org

Student Name(s) _____

Parent Name(s) _____

Please check one:
(return form to school)

- We'd like to give an initial or additional donation to the Wise Owl Fund:
 - \$100 per student suggested donation
 - Other Amount \$ _____
- Submitted a Matching Gift request to my employer. www.irwinpta.org/matching-gifts-programs.html
- We are not contributing to the Wise Owl Fund at this time.

Payment Options:
(thank you)

- Check or cash enclosed.
- Paid on-line at www.irwinpta.org
- We will stop by the Parent Room on Thursdays 8:45-9:15 AM to make our donation directly.



Upcoming Events

DATE	EVENT
Friday, April 17	Mother/Son Event, Irwin Gymnasium, 7:00–9:00pm
Monday, April 20 through Friday, April 24 — Spring Book Fair	
Tuesday, April 21	Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast, 9:00–10:00am
Tuesday, April 21	Arts Night Crawl, 6:00pm
Thursday, April 23	General PTA Meeting, 6:00pm
Thursday, April 23	Spring Concert, 4th and 5th grades, 6:30pm
Friday, April 24	Men of Irwin Monthly Meeting, 8:00am
Friday, April 24	April Birthday Celebrations, 3:30pm
Monday, April 27 through Friday, May 1 — Spirit Week	

Find event details in articles in this newsletter or check the Irwin PTA [Google Calendar](#).



Mother/Son Event

Come enter the
World of
Minecraft!

Friday, April 17
7pm –9pm
Irwin
Gymnasium

See the event
flyer on the PTA
website for
complete details.

We hope to see
you there!

Recruiting for the 2015–2016 PTA

It's not too early to take action and make a commitment for the next school year!

The Irwin PTA needs your involvement! Our organization provides key functions to the school: volunteer, financial and community support. **Family engagement in education is essential to the success of our school.** Great things have been accomplished so far at Irwin, with the help of the PTA; let's make sure we stay involved, so great things can be done going forward.


We are now recruiting PTA Board Members for the 2015–2016 school year. The Elected Officer positions are President, Vice President Maroon, Vice President Gold, Secretary, and Treasurer. The [EXECUTIVE BOARD CANDIDATE APPLICATION](#) is available for download from the Irwin PTA website.

There is also a need for people to serve in non-elected chair positions on our PTA Board. Your unique talents and skills can be put to use for the following PTA committees: Nominating, Audit, Advocacy, Fundraising, Membership, Community Partnerships, New Families, Men of Irwin, Communication, Spirit wear, School Store, Events, and Teacher and Staff Appreciation. We will also need to fill the positions of Assistant Treasurer and Volunteer Coordinator.

If you have questions about any of these positions or other functions in the PTA, please feel free to reach out to Alan Hendrix (president@irwinpta.org), Yolanda Gilliam (volunteers@irwinpta.org), or Patricia Mate (nominating@irwinpta.org).

—Patricia Mate, nominating committee chair

Stay Connected with the Irwin PTA

CALENDAR: Irwin PTA Calendar dates can be found on the irwinpta.org website. You can change the display of the calendar with the tabs in the upper right corner or add this to your own Google calendar with the  button in the bottom right corner.

The calendar can be accessed directly from your computer or smartphone.

Please use the following address to access your calendar from other applications. You can copy and paste this into any calendar product that supports the *iCal* format.

<https://www.google.com/calendar/ical/ridfkn0idgrmukaa8ril1den3c%40group.calendar.google.com/public/basic.ics>

Or use the following address to access our calendar in any web browser: ow.ly/C5ljF

FACEBOOK: Go to our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/groups/irwinpta and click "JOIN GROUP" in order to receive Facebook messages.

TWITTER: Follow [@IrwinPTA](https://twitter.com/IrwinPTA)

QUESTIONS: Don Schmit, communication@irwinpta.org



Get Ready for Spirit Week!

Spirit wear inventory has been updated and now includes all sizes of the popular Multi-Color Tie-Dye shirts.

Spirit week is April 27 through May 1. Be ready to show your Irwin spirit!

Congratulations to our Irwin Inquirer Trivia winner, Paul Reali!*

He has won a Starbucks gift card valued at \$15. **You** could be our next winner...read the Irwin Inquirer and find the trivia question on our [PTA Facebook](#) group or [PTA Twitter](#). *winner determined by [random.org](#)

Spring Raffle to Raise Funds for Technology

The Irwin PTA is excited to be holding a Spring Raffle! In order to help raise funds to purchase a [Promethean Board](#) for the Technology classroom and provide the support that our teachers and kids deserve, **we need the assistance of ALL Irwin families!**

Each student received 5 tickets to sell/purchase in Thursday folders before spring break. Please contact fundraising@irwinpta.org if you need additional tickets.

The drawing will be held at the spring concert on April 24. Some of the prizes include: US Whitewater Center—Adult All Sport Passes, Hornets Basketball tickets gift certificate, an iPad Mini, a massage gift certificate, a dinner certificate, an American Girl gift certificate, Charlotte Knights tickets and a \$100 cash prize. Complete details are available on the [PTA website](#).

Attention Men of Irwin!

Please review the information for the upcoming Men of Irwin initiatives. We need your support for these upcoming events.

- **Friday, March 27— Men of Irwin meeting, 8:00 – 8:45am, Media Center**
- **Monday, April 20 – Thursday, April 24—Book Fair from 8:45am – 3:30pm**
MOI members are needed to set up and break down for the book fair. More information to come...
- **Monday, April 20 through Friday, April 25—Lunch with Dad Week**
- **Friday, April 17—Mother/Son Event, 7:00 – 9:00pm**
Please email me at derrick.anderson20@gmail.com if you are able to assist with the event. (For example: set-up, food, assist with games, cleaning up, etc.)
- **Friday, April 24— Men of Irwin meeting, 8:00 – 8:45am, Media Center**

—Derrick Anderson, Men of Irwin chair

Whoooo makes a difference? Volunteers like you!

The **Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast** will be held Tuesday, April 21 from 9:00 – 10:00am in the Irwin Gymnasium. Please RSVP by 5:00pm Friday April 17th to confirm your attendance. Do so by emailing xzaviar.bailey@cms.k12.nc.us or send in the slip that came home in Thursday folders.





Irwin Academic Center
329 N. Irwin Avenue
Charlotte, NC 28202

Phone:
980-343-5480

Fax:
980-343-5574

Website:
schools.cms.k12.nc.us/irwinacademiccenterES

PTA Website:
www.irwinpta.org

The next Irwin Inquirer will be published on April 29. If you have announcements you would like to have included in the next issue, please contact Lisa Newell at lweedmannewell@gmail.com. All materials should be emailed by April 24.



Volunteer Opportunities

- **The Mother/Son Event will be held on Friday, April 17.** We still need help with the food and game teams. Your support is essential for the success of this evening. Please volunteer to help staff this milestone event. <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c044aa4ac23abfa7-20152>
- **Our 1st Arts Night Crawl will be held on Tuesday, April 21.** Our wonderful art teacher Ms. Brown could use some help preparing the panels for the event. Please let her know if you're available to help. christinec.brown@cms.k12.nc.us
- **The Spring Book Fair is coming up.** April 20 – 24. We need volunteers for setting up and decorating the fair, working shifts during fair hours (including during the arts night crawl and spring concert), and breaking down and packing up the fair. Please select all areas and time slots you would like to volunteer. Any time you can manage is greatly appreciated. <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/805084ba5a82aa46-20151>
- **Teacher Appreciation Luncheon Thursday, May 7.** We will need four volunteers per classroom and several floaters, 10:45 am – 2:00pm. Take a shift or two to say "Thank You" to our awesome teachers and staff. www.signupgenius.com/go/10c044aa4ac23abfa7-teacher

2015–2016 School Year VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- **Assistant Treasurer for the 2015 – 2016 academic year** — Assist with PTA Treasurer duties as determined. Examples include helping with: creating the Budget, preparing files for the Audit Committee and processing Sales Tax reimbursement. Contact treasurer@irwinpta.org for more information.
- **Irwin Online Store Manager** — We are looking for someone to help with the online store. This volunteer will work closely with the treasurer and event coordinators to help provide easy, convenient online payment options throughout the school year. For more information contact Vipul Shah at OSM@irwinpta.org.
- **Wise Owl Gift Coordinator** — This volunteer will work closely with the PTA Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer to manage the Master Roster of contributions, tax donation letters and track Matching Gifts. You will also work with the Membership Chair/Volunteer Coordinator, President, VP, Treasurer and PTA Board to create plan for Wise Owl solicitation. Contact volunteers@irwinpta.org for more information.

NOTES FOR OUR VOLUNTEERS

All adults volunteering at Irwin with students must complete the online volunteer registration and screening at: www.cms.k12.nc.us/cmsdepartments/cpfe/volunteers/Pages/default.aspx

To ensure we are able to track volunteer hours please be sure to select the volunteer option when you sign in at school.

Does your employer grant paid time off for volunteering? Contact your HR department to inquire about your volunteer policy.

—Yolanda Gilliam, IAC membership chair/volunteer coordinator