



The Irwin Inquirer

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

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APRIL 27, 2016

Did you miss the Book Fair? Don't worry! Book Fair online ordering is available until May 6. Books ordered online will be delivered to the school with other ordered books after the Book Fair is completed.

Find the Online Book Fair here: <http://ow.ly/4naKpJ>

To Our Volunteers

Dear Irwin Family,

As we wrap up National Volunteer Month, I would like to thank you for your dedication to our children's education. You answer each time we put out the call; and we've done a lot this year. We've hosted breakfasts, book fairs and two awesome dances, and launched a new summer enrichment program. The talent and organization that goes into the planning and executing these events and programs is incomparable. We are also grateful to the many of you who donate time directly in our classrooms helping to ensure our students are growing into well-rounded, global citizens. Thank you!

It is not lost on us that you have given not only of your time but of your resources. This has allowed our PTA to offer professional development opportunities to our teachers and staff. It has helped make possible several facelift projects to make our spaces more functional and inviting. When you look around our school, I hope you recognize the contribution you have made and that you know none of this would be possible without your commitment.

There is still a lot to be done in this final six weeks. However, I've no doubt we will finish strong. As Robert Orben says, "Here's to all volunteers, those dedicated people who believe in all work and no pay."

Sincerely,
Yolanda Gilliam, IAC Volunteer Coordinator

Upcoming Events

DATE	EVENT
Mon. April 25 through Fri. April 29 — Spring Book Fair	
Thurs. April 28	Spring Concert, 4th and 5th Grades, 6:30pm
Fri. April 29	Men of Irwin Monthly Meeting, 8:00am
Fri. April 29	Monthly Birthday Celebrations, 3:30pm
Mon. May 2 through Fri. May 6 — Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week	
Thurs. May 5	Teacher and Staff Appreciation Luncheon, 10:45am–2:00pm
Thurs. May 12	PTA Meeting/SLT Elections, 6:00pm

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

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Please join us on Thursday, May 26 from 4:45pm to 6:00pm. The School Leadership Team will have their final meeting for this academic year. CMS representatives will be in attendance. During this meeting, an update will be provided regarding the resources and support that CMS has committed to IAC and suggested plan for academic year 2016–2017.

2016–2017 Executive PTA Board Nominations

The end of the school year is fast approaching and we are still in search of some great leaders at Irwin to fill the 2016–2017 Executive PTA Board for President and Secretary. 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 keep involved, so great things can be done forward!

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 Kameela Mason (nominating@irwinpta.org).

Please follow this link to apply: <http://www.irwinpta.org/pta-forms.html>

PTA Parent Representatives Needed

The School Leadership Team (SLT) is recruiting for parent representatives that may be interested in serving for academic year 2016–2017. The SLT parent membership must reflect the racial, geographical and socioeconomic status of students in the school. Election will take place on Thursday, May 12 at 6:00pm during the PTA elections. If you are interested, please contact Derrik Anderson at derrik.anderson@foresightleadership.org for more information.

We are seeking parent representation for the following grade levels:

- Kindergarten
- 1st grade
- 2nd grade

Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week

All Irwin families are invited to join in celebrating the wonderful teachers and staff at IAC for all they do! This year's Appreciation Week is Monday, May 2 through Friday, May 6. For more details, view the [Appreciation Week flier](#).

As a part of the celebration, the annual offsite Teacher and Staff Appreciation Luncheon will be held on Thursday, May 5. Coverage is needed from 10:45 to 2:00pm with four parents per classroom and additional floaters during each shift. Many of our classrooms still need volunteers! Please visit the sign-up form at: www.signupgenius.com/go/10c044aa4ac23abfa7-20162 to find out how where you can help.

Please contact your room parent or visit www.irwinpta.org/teacher-favorite-forms.html for a list of your teacher and teacher assistant's favorite things.

Thank you for making Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week special!



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Charlotte, NC 28202

Phone:
(980) 343-5480

Fax:
(980) 343-5574

Website:
[schools.cms.k12.nc.us/
irwinacademiccenterES](http://schools.cms.k12.nc.us/irwinacademiccenterES)

PTA Website:
www.irwinpta.org

The last issue of
this year's Irwin Inquirer
will be published on
May 25.

If you would like
to submit content for
the next issue, please
email materials to
Cindy Bilbrough at
cbilbrough@hotmail.com
by May 19.



Camp Invention is returning to Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools!

Camp Invention takes summer fun and transforms it from ordinary to extraordinary!

In partnership with the National Inventors Hall of Fame, Irwin Academic Center is pleased to offer the nationally-acclaimed Camp Invention program to children entering grades 1st through 6th. It's an exciting, weeklong summer adventure with lessons that explore connections between science, technology, engineering and innovation. Children will work together to seek solutions to real-world problems and sharpen critical 21st century learning skills while rotating through several fascinating modules. The week begins on June 20, 2016 with Susan Selby serving as director of the Epic™ program!


Here is how young innovators will be spending their time:

- Brainstorming product ideas and building original prototypes using real tools and components found in everyday devices
- Exploring the lives of giant insects, colorful animals and their environments
- Constructing and personalizing a DIY solar-powered cricket with a unique habitat
- Discovering the science of slime, demolition, electronic sound, giant squid and coding. All activities give participants the opportunity to be a part of something big while having fun!

Local educators will facilitate program modules and enthusiastic high school students will serve as Leadership Interns ensuring that one staff member is in place for every eight children.

Every registration includes a complimentary Camp Invention t-shirt. Availability is limited, so visit www.campinvention.org or call 800.968.4332 to secure your child's spot today!

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/C5IjF

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