



# The Irwin Inquirer

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

VOLUME 1 · ISSUE 14  
APRIL 29, 2015

## Are you a Wise Owl?

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

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### 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](http://www.irwinpta.org)

Student Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

\$20,000



89%

**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](http://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](http://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, May 1	Men of Irwin, Lunch with Dad
<b>Monday, May 4 through Friday, May 8 — Staff Appreciation Week</b>	
Thursday, May 7	Beginners' Day, rising kindergartners, 9:30–10:30am
Thursday, May 7	Teacher Appreciation Luncheon, 10:45am–2:00pm
Saturday, May 9	Men of Irwin, Beautification Project at Allenbrook Elementary School, 9:00am–12:00pm
Thursday, May 14	New Family Orientation, rising 1st–5th, 9:30–10:30am
Monday, May 25	School Holiday, Memorial Day

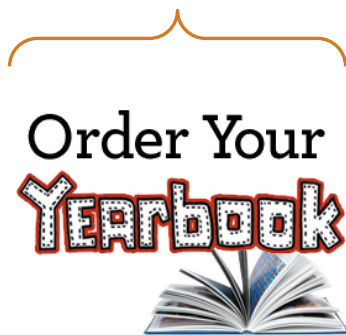
Find event details in articles in this newsletter or check the Irwin PTA [Google Calendar](#).

## Newly Elected PTA Officers

Congratulations to our newly elected 2015–2016 PTA Officers!

Alan Hendrix — President  
 Derrick Anderson — Vice President  
 Lisa Rasmussen — Vice President  
 Delano Rankin — Treasurer  
 Vanishea Propst — Secretary

**We're still looking to fill committee chair and lead roles. Contact the Engagement Team at [volunteers@irwinpta.org](mailto:volunteers@irwinpta.org) to discuss leadership volunteer opportunities for next school year.**




*Yearbooks are available to purchase online until May 5th at [ybpay.lifetouch.com](http://ybpay.lifetouch.com) Yearbook ID Code 11192215*

## Spring Raffle Winners

The Spring Raffle drawing was held at the end of last week's PTA meeting. Congratulations to all of the winners!

2 US Whitewater Center Adult All-Sport Passes: Bruce Manaco  
 iPad Mini 2: Denissa Mate  
 Massage Envy gift certificate: Paul Bartman  
 Dressler's Restaurant gift certificate: Adalind Peltz  
 American Girl Store gift certificate: Jule Howard  
 Charlotte Knights tickets: Kenneth Rauch  
 Hickory Tavern gift card: Marlene Markery  
 \$100 cash prize: Earnest Winston  
 Hornets Basketball Gift Certificate: Pranav Narala

## Stay Connected with the Irwin PTA

**CALENDAR:** Irwin PTA Calendar dates can be found on the [irwinpta.org](http://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](http://ow.ly/C5ljF)

**FACEBOOK:** Go to our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/groups/irwinpta](http://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](mailto:communication@irwinpta.org)

## Staff Appreciation Week: May 4–8

**During the week of May 4th-8th all student and parents are invited to join in celebrating the wonderful staff at Irwin for all they do!**

Every day there is a special way that you can show your appreciation to your favorite teacher and teacher assistant.

thank  
you!

Listed below are *suggested* themes and participation is optional. **REMEMBER:** *It's the thought that counts and gifts do not need to be expensive.*



### *Men of Irwin*

*Volunteers are needed to support a Beautification*

*Project at Allenbrook Elementary School for Men of Irwin and our children.*

*Saturday, May 9  
9:00am – 12:00pm*

*Please RSVP by Monday, May 4 to Derrik Anderson at [derrik.anderson@foresightleadership.org](mailto:derrik.anderson@foresightleadership.org)*

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Flowers</b> – Bring in a single stem or a bouquet of flowers.
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Special Treats</b> – Bring their favorite candy, snack or drink.
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>“Wind Down”</b> – Pamper your teacher and teacher assistant with a special gift of thanks.
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Teacher Luncheon</b> – Volunteers needed for each classroom. See sign-up information below.
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Thank You Note</b> – Write a note or card to express your gratitude.

### **Teacher Luncheon — Thursday, May 7, 10:45am – 2:00pm**

Please sign up for a shift or two to ensure your teacher can attend the luncheon. We will need four volunteers per classroom and several floaters. **To sign up, go to:** <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c044aa4ac23abfa7-teacher>

### **Please don't forget our Connect Teachers and Support Staff!**

**They are special too!** Each grade is asked to “adopt” a group of them.

*Please see the list below.*

**Grades K–1:** Ms. Ahdieh (*Nurse*), Ms. Johnson (*Music*), Ms. Brown (*Media Specialist*), Ms. Hooper (*Literacy Facilitator*)

**Grades 2–3:** Ms. Anthony-Hall (*Secretary*), Ms. Brown (*Art*), Mr. Turro (*Spanish*), Ms. Foley (*TD Catalyst Teacher*), Ms. Haines (*Magnet Coordinator*)

**Grades 4–5:** Ms. McClinton (*Secretary*), Mr. Fridie (*P.E.*), Ms. Spraggins (*Technology*), Ms. Bailey (*Literacy Facilitator*)

**All Grades:** Be sure to also find a special way to say “Thank You” to our Principal, Ms. Ashford, and Assistant Principal, Ms. Matthews.



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329 N. Irwin Avenue  
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](http://www.irwinpta.org)

The next Irwin Inquirer will be published on May 10. If you have announcements you would like to have included in the next issue, please contact Lisa Newell at [lweedmannewell@gmail.com](mailto:lweedmannewell@gmail.com). **All materials should be emailed by May 4.**



## Volunteer Opportunities

- **Teacher Appreciation Luncheon Thursday, May 7.** We will need four volunteers per classroom and several floaters, 10:45am – 2:00pm. Take a shift or two to say “Thank You” to our awesome teachers and staff.  
<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c044aa4ac23abfa7-teacher>
- **SAVE THE DATE: June 4, 2015 — Annual Multicultural Night** and mark your calendar for **2015 Field Day, June 5, 2015**. More information about both of these events will be coming your way soon.

### 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](mailto:treasurer@irwinpta.org) for more information.
- **Wise Owl Gift Coordinator** — This volunteer will work closely with the PTA Treasurer and Asst. 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, vice president, treasurer and PTA board to create plan for Wise Owl solicitation. Contact [volunteers@irwinpta.org](mailto:volunteers@irwinpta.org) for more information.
- **Fundraising Chair** — This volunteer will work closely with the vice president various fundraising efforts throughout the year such as Wise Owl Fund, school store, book fair, and raffles. This committee is invaluable in providing funds for enhancing our students’ experience at Irwin. You will also work very closely with the Wise Owl gift coordinator and the treasurer. Contact [volunteers@irwinpta.org](mailto:volunteers@irwinpta.org).

### 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](http://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

### Congratulations to our Irwin Inquirer Trivia winner, Beth Collins Himes!\*

Beth 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](http://random.org)