Greetings to our Nash family parent, teachers and school officials. Welcome to a new school year!

I think it’s important to allow you to know a little bit about myself, my reasons for being involved in the PTA and why I’d like to see all of you join our PTA.

My name is David Mikolajczak and I have two children currently attending Nash. My daughter, Jenny, is in the 5th grade in Team Academic Boot camp. My son, Ben, is in the 3rd grade in Team Discovery. My wife, Laura, and I joined the PTA when Jenny began 1st grade and I can honestly say that I wish we would have joined right away when Jenny began her Kindergarten year. Regardless, it’s been a terrific way to meet other parents who share similar goals for our kids and we’ve made many friends as a result.

This is my first year as president of our PTA and while I served as vice-president last year, I feel our current Board has the experience that can help us advance and learn many new things. While I do admit I have faults; 1) I often open my mouth and insert my foot, and 2) I like to play the devil’s advocate (I actually like this about myself as I tend to give other people the benefit of the doubt) I want all of you to know that my true intent is to put our Nash kids first, in all aspects of their experiences at Nash and it doesn’t matter whether it’s in the classroom, specials, on the playground or just out and about in the neighborhood. My first priority is to our kids and I’m not going to apologize for that!

If any of you watch and are familiar with the HBO show “Game of Thrones” you know the phrase “Valar Morghulis” which means “all men must die” and the response to it, “Valar Dohaeris” which means “all men must serve.” While I’m not a big fan of Valar Morghulis, I do find a connection to both. Collectively, they call out that each of us should have a higher purpose in life.

Nash Night Out

Nash Night Out is a great opportunity for family and friends to support our school. Share with everyone you know! These events take place every month to every 3 months. It’s simple to give back to Nash. Simply dine at the feature restaurant and they gave a percentage back to the school. How easy is that!!
Box tops can be found on hundreds of products from brands like General Mills, Pillsbury, Ziploc, Kleenex and Betty Crocker.

**Make Our School a Cut Above!**

Welcome back to another exciting year at Nash! Our Box Top goal this year is $1000. These labels earn money for Nash to be able to buy laptops, equipment and other various items. The next deadline for our school to submit our entries is November 2, 2015. Let's all chip in and help achieve our goal!

Parents, please send in your Box Tops in a Ziploc bags with your child's name, teacher and class number.

The current contest is underway and will end on Friday October 30th. There will be winners for the 3 students that submit the most box tops.

For further information, comments or questions, contact Judy Jhawar at judyjhawar@gmail.com

**PLEASE DO NOT INCLUDE EXPIRED BOX TOPS! THEY WILL NOT BE COUNTED.**

The Grand Stand for Schools sweepstakes is back! Starting today, 100 schools have a chance to win $10,000 each. PLUS, there'll be 9 weekly prizes of $500 each. Just submit those UPCs and Beverage/Sauce Caps you’ve been collecting to the office, or, enter as many times as you like at LabelsForEducation.com/sweeps. The sweeps ends October 9th, so keep those entries coming.

Sam's Club and My Coke Rewards have joined the fun! Go to LabelsForEducation.com for more info on how you can get access to these programs.

How Else Can You Help?

The Bake Sale is this Thursday October 15th! Don't forget to send money for the Bake Sale.

LabelsForEducation.com

NASH NEWS
Welcome Letter (cont)

be striving to make this world a better place in some way before we leave here. There is a pride that I get from being able to “help” and I hope that my kids also are happy that I am involved at their school.

The overall purpose of PTA is to make every child’s potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children. That’s the “official” mission statement of the PTA. There are more than 85 research studies conducted over the past 30 years that prove that kids do better when parents are involved. Grades are higher. Test scores improve. Attendance increases. Wow! I think more than anything else, just the realization that kids do better when parents are involved should be enough motivation to have every single parent at Nash join the PTA. Think about it; aren’t your kids happier and more attentive when they know that you, their parent, are paying attention to them and what they’re doing. To me, it’s not about the volunteering or the fundraising or really any other aspect of my PTA involvement; it’s my way of letting my kids know that I care about them and their experience at school, and I hope it will teach them to care about it too. I think this is particularly true for the dads. Men tend to get pigeonholed into stereotypical roles in our kid’s lives, such as a sports coach. While that is certainly a great way to be involved, I think it’s just as important for us to be involved in their academic lives as well. PTA is not just for the women. Let me say that again...PTA is not just for the women. This is why I became active in our PTA and hope I’m able to convince you to do the same and join us, both moms and dads.

New Parent Checklist Empowers Families

The parent checklist includes questions and resources that parents and caregivers can use to help ensure their children are getting the education they deserve. It was created in collaboration with U.S. Department of Education, America Achieves, National Council of La Raza and the United Negro College Fund. The checklist also offers key questions, tips for educational success and resources for parents. Read the Parent Checklist at http://onevoice.pta.org/?p=6116

2015 PTA REFLECTIONS

Students are encouraged to participate in the Reflections Program that focuses on the arts. All students of any grade can participate. The theme “Let Your Imagination Fly” can be created by using any or all of the themes (dance, music, literature, photography, film or visual arts). Deadline for entries is November 13th. There will be judging to determine which students will have their work submitted to the State in December. For more information or questions, contact Jen Corcoran at jnmcorcoran@sbcglobal.net or Michael Corcoran at mcorcoran15@sbcglobal.net
2015/2016 PTA Executive Board

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Noteworthy Dates

- Tuesday October 6th: PTA Meeting—6:30pm in Library
- Wednesday October 21st: Parent Teacher Conferences (Evening)
- Thursday October 22nd: Parent Teacher Conferences (Evening)—EARLY RELEASE FOR STUDENTS
- Friday October 23rd: Parent Teacher Conferences—NO SCHOOL
- Wednesday October 14th: NASH NIGHT OUT-Jimanos Pizza
- Thursday October 15th: BAKE SALE for students
- Friday October 30th: Last Day to submit Box Tops for Education
- Friday November 13th: FALL FESTIVAL & Deadline for Reflections