

Highlights of PTA Activities from 2015-16

- Hosted Teacher & Staff Appreciation luncheons several times during the year.
- Coordinated the Secret Pal program, which matched 65 teachers and staff with "secret pals," who delivered special appreciation notes and presents throughout the school year.
- Provided bus drivers and custodians with appreciation gifts.
- Sold more than \$8,000 worth of Spirit Wear t-shirts and other Kealing Hornet wearable items, with all profits going directly to support PTA programs.
- Awarded grants to Kealing Middle School, teachers, and staff to support the academic success of Kealing children, including grants that support:
 - Educational field trips
 - College visits
 - Bringing in a distinguished guest artist for orchestra classes
 - Summer instructional workshop for Kealing's theater teachers
 - After-school tutoring
 - Renovations to the faculty room
 - Purchase of books for a new summer reading program
 - Purchase of lights to be used at all school dances
 - Purchase of supplies and instructional materials for new electives and core classes
 - Purchase of classroom technology and calculators
- Organized the annual Kealing Center Stage fundraiser, bringing together Kealing parents and staff for a night of fun, while raising more than \$20,000 to support PTA and school programs and curriculum that further Kealing students' social, emotional, physical, and academic development.
- Held "Clean up Kealing" Grounds days throughout the year.
- Led and supported an array of environmental programs, including helping secure commercial composting in the cafeteria, rinsing of recyclables in the cafeteria for America Recycles Day, and installing an outdoor sink and decking around the shed to support the school's gardening classes.
- Held a memorial tree planting.
- Provided support to Kealing's feeder elementary schools.
- Organized monthly Principal Coffees for parents in the library.
- Organized a MLK Day of Service project and Peace through Pie Social event in partnership with Huston Tillotson, Blackshear Elementary, and the African American Cultural Heritage District.
- Coordinated a Mental Health Parent Education Series for parents that included presentations on stress, the importance of sleep, and eating disorders.
- Supported the Kealing Men program, which provides volunteer mentors for students, and offered events for at-risk youth at Kealing including a Career Path Discussion Roundtable and a free basketball clinic with the Austin Police Athletic League.