



Hello Mount Tabor Families! Happy School Year 2018-2019!

This is the first of monthly newsletters from your MTMS PTA Board that will serve as a place for calendar additions, requests for volunteers or help, and announcements. We are hoping that this will help keep the community informed and allow Mr. Keating more room in his Friday hello messages. This first edition will be an introduction to who we are and what we do and how you can help.

**Who are we?** Great question-thanks for asking! Our MTMS PTA is made up of parents/guardians, teachers, grandparents, aunts, uncles-basically, anyone who has an interest in helping us help our MTMS kids. In other words, YOU! Our PTA Board is a smaller group of parents/guardians who work to craft budgets, raise money, provide educational opportunities, and fund important programs. Our chapter is part of a larger PTA network, at district, state and nationwide levels.

#### **Our PTA funds:**

- Field trips, library resources, and provides a budget for each teacher or counselor to supplement their supplies or curriculum
- WEB program
- Courageous Conversations about Race series (in partnership with Glencoe Elementary)
- Donations to assist families in need, both in our school (Holiday Baskets) and in our communities (Clothing Center and Book Bank)
- Staff Appreciation Week
- Special projects as needed
- Parent Education and Community Events

Our PTA has already been hard at work this year! In addition to our typical roles in funding programs, field trips and special projects, we are working on a **few special projects** of our own:

- *PTA General Meetings* happen 4 times per year. This year we are hoping to have speakers ranging from our amazing principal to positive sexual education to how tech influences our children (and drives us a bit crazy!)
- *OUTDOOR IMPROVEMENTS*-We are working on plans to help improve our school's outside playing areas. It's been looking a bit neglected lately.
- *Spirit Store*-we are currently planning on stocking a few fun logo items (t-shirts, etc) so kids and their adults can show their Mt Tabor pride! (Mr. Keating is particularly geeked about this one!)

#### **How can you help us continue to support our MTMS community?**

- *Join the PTA!* By joining, you are helping to fund our local and state groups and adding your voice to the millions around the country who are committed to making every child's potential a reality and advocating for all children. Membership forms were in the welcome packets and are available on the PTA bulletin board at school.

- *Come to meetings!* More voices are needed to make sure we are serving all the children's needs. Our first meeting is 9/25 at 6:30 in the Cafeteria and features our own Sean Keating.
- **Volunteer!** You don't have to join the board to have an impact (but we will allow you if you'd like. Positions still available!) You can also sign up to head up a specific task like Book Harvest or Outdoor Improvement. We also consistently need volunteers for a few hours here and there to chaperone school dances, help the clothing center or staff the rummage sale!
- *Donate!* The membership fee mainly covers the state fee. In order to fund the programs we love, we need more. Please consider adding a comfortable amount to your membership fee.
- *Eat and Shop!* We will have several restaurant fundraisers over the year. If you can make that a night to go out (or do take out) our PTA gets a cut of the restaurant's earnings! Please also make sure that your savings cards (Fred Meyer, QFC, etc) are supporting MTMS. If you use amazon, please use amazon smile to benefit our PTA.

### **How do you reach us?**

- Back to School Night 9/20! Come to our table to sign up for membership, ask questions or just say hi.
- PTA General Meeting on 9/25
- On facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MTMSPTA/> -we will post events and announcements/volunteer needs here
- Email: [mtmspta@gmail.com](mailto:mtmspta@gmail.com)
- Our mailbox in the school office
- Our page on the school website: [www.pps.net/domain/4683](http://www.pps.net/domain/4683) which has even more information!

We look forward to seeing you and serving our community of students, teachers and families. Please don't hesitate to reach out with questions or to find out how you can help us realize our full potential this year.

In collaboration and celebration,

MTMS PTA Board

**Important Dates** (Please email us at [mtmspta@gmail.com](mailto:mtmspta@gmail.com) if you can volunteer. Thank you!)

9/20: Back to School Night, 6pm

9/25: PTA General Meeting, 6:30pm

10/23: Picture Retake Day (Volunteers Needed)

10/25: Halloween Dance, 4pm (Volunteers Needed)

11/6 (Election Day): Pizzicato (Division) Dough for Dollars Fundraiser

11/12: MTMS Shift at the Clothing Center (Volunteers Needed)