



Welcome to the 2010/2011 school year! Attached you will find the PTA's exciting calendar of events. Westpark PTA relies on parent volunteers like you to put on these programs in partnership with the school staff. Whether you are a working parent or stay at home parent, there are ways you can help your children succeed by donating your time and experience. Unfortunately, the economy continues to impact our school and it is up to us as parents to help however we can. This year more than ever, we will need your financial support through pledges, as well as your physical presence at school to help our teachers and staff.

Pledge Drive

Our Pledge Drive was well received last year so, rather than burdening parents and students with cookie dough and gift wrap sales requests, we are asking each family for a donation pledge. We plan to keep the "FUN"raisers such as Bingo Night, Jog-a-thon, Book Fair, Silent Auction and Holiday Gift Boutique. These fun events are not big money makers, but provide opportunities for you to hang out with your kids and their friends.

The PTA requests the same pledge amounts as last year: **\$100** per child, **\$75** for each additional child. This 60 cents per day directly impacts your child's education. If you cannot pledge this amount please pledge as much as you can, if you can give more, please do!! Remember, your child will ultimately benefit from whatever you can pledge!

Personal/Family Benefits:

- 100% of funds go to Westpark
- Donations are tax deductible
- No more selling products to family and friends

Donations Help Fund:

- Weekly PE Education
- Educational Assemblies
- Mother-Daughter Tea and Guy Stuff Night
- DARE/Red Ribbon Week
- Reflections National art/writing contest
- Bingo Nights
- Talent Show and School Play
- Math Field Day
- Music Teacher (grades K, 1, 2, & 3)
- School Directory
- Legislative Action
- Library Books and Materials
- Lunchtime Activities
- And, many more!

Please fill out the information on the attached envelope, enclose your check made payable to Westpark PTA (don't forget to add \$10 to join and support our PTA-see page 2 for benefits) and return it to your child's teacher.

All pledges are tax deductible and our tax ID number is 33-0479508.

Join the PTA!

What is PTA? Why join PTA? The number one reason to join the **Parent Teacher Association** is to benefit your child. In doing so, you also help your school. But there are many more PTA advantages:

- **Get Connected.** There's no better way to know what's happening in your school.
- **Discover Great Resources.** The PTA offers a variety of programs designed for parents as well as students.
- **Tap into a Network.** PTA functions are opportunities to meet other parents and teachers, building rapport and discussing issues that are on your mind. You can share ideas, concerns, and experiences.
- **Watch Yourself Grow.** By volunteering with your PTA, you put your skills and hobbies to use for a noble cause—your child and all children in the community.
- **Speak Up.** PTA can be a way for you to more effectively suggest change at your child's school.
- **Witness Improvement.** By getting involved at your child's school you'll be part of the solution, helping make positive changes. Local PTAs play an important role in fundraising to provide building improvements, curriculum-based programs, and social events.
- **Be a Role Model.** By becoming a PTA member, you'll be demonstrating to your child the importance you place on education.
- **Enjoy Substantial Benefits.** Individuals and local units can take advantage of a host of benefits from PTA membership including discounts and offers from member benefits providers and sponsors, magazine subscriptions, leadership training, e-newsletters and much more.

For **\$10** per year (less than 3 cents a day), you can become a PTA member, joining more than 5 million other people who share your interest in issues affecting children. Everyone—parents, educators, students and other citizens active in their schools and communities—is invited to join our not-for-profit parent association.

Thank you all so much! I look forward to seeing you at school and working with you to help our children succeed.

Warm Regards,
Shireen Rogers
PTA President
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