September 2023

PTO Newsletter

A parent-teacher organization (PTO) gives parents and teachers the opportunity to work together to supplement and enrich the educational experience. Our SMPTO will work collaboratively to meet the needs of all students and support full inclusivity.

Message from the PTO Board:
It's hard to believe another school year is upon us! To all the new families joining the Shale Meadows community, WELCOME! We are glad you are here. Whether you are a new family to the school, or returning family, the beginning of the school year is a great time to get involved with PTO. We have many fun events planned for the year including the Fun Run, Trunk or Treat, and a Talent Show. These activities require parent volunteers to make them successful. PTO also donates back to the school by supporting assemblies, author visits and other enrichment activities for the students. To get involved, attend the monthly PTO meeting and/or sign up for any volunteer opportunities that are offered. Details are shared in the monthly newsletter, on Facebook, and in the weekly school newsletter, *Monarch Moments.*

2023-2024 Fundraising Activities

There are 4 fundraising activities to support the PTO this school year. They are:

- **Fun Run – September 22**
  - The **biggest** fundraiser of the year! Students collect donations then run around the school parking lot, with stops to dance, hula hoop, and participate in other fun activities.
- **Winter Flower Sale - dates TBC**
  - Purchasing poinsettias? Why not buy them through the flower sale to support SME!
- **Penguin Patch – early December**
  - Students shop for presents for friends and family members during recess or scheduled times during the school day. Part of the proceeds benefit PTO.
- **Spring Flower Sale – dates TBC**
  - Purchase your spring flowers online then pick them up at the school a few weeks later. Enjoy beautiful blooms all spring & summer long.

2023 – 2024 PTO Officers

Jennifer Lukas & Kristina Quatman: **Co-Presidents**

Elizabeth Beach & Kate Long: **Co-Vice Presidents**

Sarah Janka & Katie Miller: **Co-Treasurers**

Amber Buckner & Sarah Ramus: **Co-Secretaries**

PTO Dollars at Work

Thanks to the generous support from the Shale Meadows community through fundraisers, the PTO was able to fund a speaker, Jim "Basketball" Jones for students the first Friday of the school year. Ask your student what they learned from Mr. Jones.

In addition, PTO assisted with Kindergarten Bootcamp and the Open House by bringing in the food trucks, having games in the gym, decorating the school and setting up the photo backdrop.

Important Links

- PTO Facebook Page Shale Meadows Friends
- Kroger Community Rewards - link your Kroger purchases to SME and support the school by grocery shopping
- New SME Spirt Wear Shop

Upcoming Events

Sept. 4: Labor Day – No School
Sept. 15: SMES Teacher of the Year at Berlin Football game
Sept. 18: Staff Professional Development Day – No School
Sept. 19: PTO Meeting, 6:30 pm in the school library
Sept. 22: Fun Run
Sept. 22: SMES Football Tailgate at Berlin High School

Monarchs in the Meadows, Make today Amazing!