

Parent-Teacher Organization

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UPCOMING DATES:

Sept. 8: PTO meeting, 6:30 p.m.
Sept. 11: Velasquez Coffee in the school lobby
Sept. 17: School picnic, Newell Park
Sept. 24: Curriculum Night & Meet the Board
Sept. 25: Velasquez Coffee in the lobby
Oct. 5: PTO meeting, 6:30 p.m.
Oct. 23: Auflauf Cook-off



**September's here—
must be time to start
thinking about
MASKENBALL!**

We need all hands on deck to throw another fantastic party in February. Please contact Leslie Watson or email maskenball@tcgispto.org if you'd like to join the auction or event planning committee!

ABOUT THE TCGIS PTO:

The purpose of the TCGIS PTO is to foster the relationship between school, home and community for the academic success of all our students.

PTO meetings are open to all and any parent or teacher is eligible to join as a voting member. Membership also means inclusion in the PTO e-mail list, which helps you to keep abreast of the many PTO volunteer activities at the school. Sign up at any meeting or by emailing PTO secretary Liane Gale.

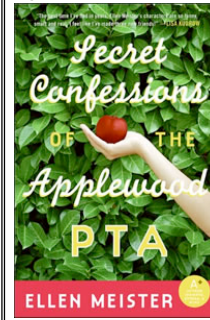
Meeting Notice: Sept. 8, 2009, 6:30 p.m.

Please join us for the first PTO meeting of the year on Tuesday, Sept. 8, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. at the school.

We'll be welcoming new families and taking a look at this year's budget and planning. With last year's focus on creating bylaws and committees behind us, we want to find new and invigorating purposes and topics for PTO meetings. We need your input!

Email president@tcgispto.org by Sept. 5 if you would like childcare so that we are sure to have enough providers on hand.

From the PTO Enthusiast's Bookshelf:
Secret Confessions of the Applewood PTA,
by Ellen Meister.



Amazon.com says:

"When an Applewood, Long Island, elementary school, is deemed a possible site for George Clooney's upcoming flick, the members of the upscale community's PTA go into hyperbolic overdrive to turn fantasy into reality." Frothy silliness for those still in summer reading mode.

TCGIS Field Guide now on the PTO Website.

As part of our effort to help new parents learn the ropes, the PTO's Parent Outreach Committee put together an unofficial "Field Guide to TCGIS" over the summer. It's now on the PTO website, at www.tcgispto.org. Please check it out and give us feedback on how we can improve and update the Guide. Be sure to visit the PTO website for frequent updates, meeting minutes and budgets, PTO fundraising and event details, and other information about our parent-teacher group.

Become a Classroom Parent for your child's class!

We are looking for two Classroom Parents for each classroom and two to assist the specialists (Kunst, Sport & Musik). If you've done it before, consider doing it again. If you haven't, now is your opportunity to give it a try. See the PTO website for a Classroom Parent job description. For questions or to volunteer, contact Kami Blackwell Kinney, PTO Classroom Support Committee Chair.

Upcoming Fundraisers:

Blue Sky Guide. As in previous years, we will be selling the Blue Sky Guide, a collection of valuable coupons for local businesses and fair-trade, green, and organic products. Watch for the Guide to go on sale in the school lobby sometime in September. Questions? Contact Blue Sky Guide Coordinator Kate Olson.

Brent & Becky's Bulbs. Gardeners, you'll soon have an opportunity to purchase top-quality bulbs and gardening products online, with a portion of your purchase benefiting the PTO. We are in the process of becoming a qualified organization through Brent's & Becky's Bulbs, consistently rated one of the top online bulb retailers. Details coming soon.

Velasquez Coffee returns! Once again, we will be offering fair-trade, family-farmed coffee from the Velasquez family. Available every other Friday in the school lobby or anytime by special order; see the PTO website for order forms. We are seeking a coffee coordinator to help with coffee sales. Contact Leslie Watson or Heidi Zimmemann to sign up!

Thank you, PTO Volunteers!

Teacher Welcome Luncheon: Julie Elias, Rebecca Johnson, Kim Kompel, Renee Moelders, Silke Moeller, Karola Rauer, Gina Vader, Leslie Watson, Sue Burke Westacott, Heidi Zimmermann.

Open House Welcome Table: Lisa Antony-Thomas, Barbara Holmes, Kami Blackwell Kinney, Kim Kompel, Gina Vader, Britta Walker, Leslie Watson, Sue Westacott. *Special thanks to our 5th-grade Schultüte helpers:* Abby Meyer, Maggie Nessel, & Paul Watkins.

Lowe's PTO Grant Application: Molly McBeath & Leslie Watson.

TCGIS PTO MEETING AGENDA
Tuesday, September 8, 2009
6:30 to 8:00 p.m.
(at the school)

(If you arrive after 6:30 pm and encounter a locked door, call Leslie's cell phone: 612-275-6225.)

Time	Business	Who?
6:30 to 6:40 p.m.	Call to Order <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome! • New Business • Approval of Agenda • Approval of June minutes 	Leslie Watson
6:40 to 7:00 p.m.	Treasurer's Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking account status • 2009-2010 Budget revisions 	Molly McBeath
7:00 to 7:10 p.m.	Teacher Check-in <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify possible teacher needs/questions about PTO 	Michelle Nellis
7:10 to 7:40 p.m.	Standing Committee Updates	
	<u>Fundraising Committee</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review fundraising plans and identify volunteers for upcoming fundraisers and events: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Equal Exchange, Velasquez Coffee, Auflauf Cook-off, Community Craft/Bake Sale ○ And last, but definitely not least, MASKENBALL committee formation • Great Gatherings update • Call for new committee members 	Leslie Watson & Heidi Zimmermann, Co-Chairs
	<u>Classroom Support Committee</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classroom Parent recruitment update 	Kami Blackwell Kinney, Chair
	<u>Educational Support Committee</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review Committee description • Call for new committee members 	Lisa Friedman, Chair
	<u>Parent Outreach Committee</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feedback on Open House • Plan for Sept. 24: Meet the Board (part of Curriculum Night) • Parents' Night Out? 	Britta Walker, Chair
7:40 to 7:50 p.m.	2009-2010 PTO Meeting Plans <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brainstorm about possible meeting topics and agenda planning for the upcoming year 	Leslie Watson
7:50 to 8:00 p.m.	PTO Q&A for new parents	All
	Adjournment	

Next PTO Meeting: Monday, October 5, 2009 at 6:30 p.m.