

# Parent-Teacher Organization

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## PTO Calendar:

**April 30** - Phase 1 Plant Sale orders due (Phase 2, annuals & veggies, coming soon!)

**May 2** - Tanz in den Mai

**May 4** - PTO Meeting

**May 7** - Plant Sale I pick-up

**May 16** - Book Fair, 10-5

**June 1** - Final PTO Meeting  
Check the school website for other important dates!

## Financial Update:

We're on track to exceed our fundraising goals for this spring and end the year with a \$1500 cushion for next fall. Thanks to everyone for organizing, attending, and supporting TCGIS and PTO fundraisers!

## About the TCGIS PTO:

PTO meetings are open to everyone and all parents and teachers are eligible to join as voting members. Sign up at any meeting or by contacting Molly McBeath.

## Meeting Notice: May 4, 2009, 7 p.m. at the GAI

Please join us for the next PTO Meeting on Monday, May 4. For a change of pace, we'll be meeting in the Rathskeller of the Germanic-American Institute, 301 Summit Ave.

TCGIS parent and GAI president Nancy Bostrom will join us to explain the GAI's oversight role with respect to the school. The meeting will also feature the knuckle-biting action of our first ever officer elections and what will surely be a lively discussion about next year's budget. All are welcome!



## PTO Website is live!

Visit [www.tcgispto.org](http://www.tcgispto.org) for frequent updates, meeting minutes and budgets, PTO fundraising and event details, and all the 411 on our fledgling group.

## Tanz in den Mai - Sat., May 2, Noon to 3 p.m.

Join the TCGIS community for some good, fresh family fun at Tanz in den Mai at the GAI. Rain or shine, it will be great! Thanks to those who have volunteered to bake something for the cake walk. **We still need many volunteers to help with set-up, games, and clean-up.** Unlike last year our Amity interns aren't available to help, so we're relying on parents more than ever! Sign-up at the board in the school lobby or online, via the PTO website.

## Plant Swap, Anyone?

Several TCGIS gardeners are considering an informal plant swap to dovetail with the official plant sale. Assuming there's enough interest, gardeners would divide and pot up perennials from their home gardens, label them, and bring them to school on a designated day in mid-May for sale/swap. Email Leslie Watson, [leslie38@comcast.net](mailto:leslie38@comcast.net), if you'd be interested in sharing plants, buying plants, or helping on the day of the swap.

## Barnes & Noble Book Fair – May 16, 10-5 p.m.

Support the TCGIS Library and pick up some summer reading for the kids (and you!) at the upcoming Book Fair at the Har Mar Barnes & Nobles. Volunteers needed; contact Holly Wiste. TCGIS will receive a portion of all sales at any Barnes & Noble in the U.S. when the purchaser presents the Book Fair voucher (available on the TCGIS and PTO websites), so feel free to share the voucher with friends & family.

## Classroom Support Committee News

The PTO's new Classroom Support Committee is working on ways to formalize the Classroom Parent program and to better train and support next year's Classroom Parents (CPs). CPs serve as the point of communication between teachers and parents in each classroom and help to coordinate class activities and events. It's not too early to start thinking about whether you might like to serve as the CP for your child's class next year! Sign ups are in early Sept. For more info, visit the Committee's page on the PTO website.

## 2008-2009 PTO Budget

In April the PTO approved a 2008-2009 budget that included \$2K for playground planning, \$300 for recess equipment, and a stipend for all teachers (including specialists). We also created a general fund for special requests and decided to reserve the Wabasha Street Caves as the venue for Maskenball 2010. The complete budget is available online.

# TCGIS Game Night

We had a great turn-out and big fun at the recent TCGIS Game Night, and raised almost \$350! Thanks to organizer Gretchen Bartsch and volunteers Kami Blackwell Kinney, Kate Olson, Nicole Grenz, and Sandra Schmidt. Be sure to check out the Game Night photos on the PTO website.

## Rummage Sale breaks the \$2K barrier!

Thanks to all who donated, the volunteers, and the Committee for making the Rummage Sale such a success. The school made just over \$2000--\$400 more than last year! Many volunteers helped with set-up and on the day of the sale: Alexandra Weeding, Natalie Yaeger, Antje Heckel, Linda Michel, Sue Westacott, Barbara Holmes, Judy Von Ende, Christine Swann, Rebecca Johnson, Jill Ravenborg, Beryimar Funk, Gina Vader, Lisa Chen, Anne Kile, Ina Elliott, Karola Rauer, Molly McBeath, Peter Zimmermann, Jo Nelson, Janet Lenius, Chris Weimholt, Leslie Watson, Sylvia Oxenham, Tanja Brandt, Heidi Scholtz and Kate Wagner. And special thanks to Kordula Coleman and to our fearless Rummage Sale Coordinator, Heidi Zimmermann.

## TCGIS PTO MEETING AGENDA

May 4, 2009, 7-9 p.m.

Germanic-American Institute, 301 Summit Ave.

(If you arrive after 7pm and encounter a locked door, call Leslie's cell phone: 612-275-6225.)

Time	Business	Who?
7:00-7:05	<b>Call to Order</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Welcome/New Business</li> <li>Approval of April minutes</li> <li>Approval of Agenda</li> </ul>	Leslie Watson
7:05-7:20	<b>GAI Oversight Committee</b>	Nancy Bostrom
7:20-7:25	<b>Treasurer's Report</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General Fund Requests</li> </ul>	Nicole Grenz
7:25-7:35	<b>Elections</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Call for nominations: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Historian</li> <li>Balloting (for posts with more than one nominee)</li> </ul>	Kim Koppel
7:35-8:00	<b>Standing Committee Updates</b>	
	<u><b>Fundraising Committee</b></u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Overview of sales tax exemption rules</li> <li>Report from PTO Today Fundraising Expo</li> <li>Recap of recent &amp; upcoming fundraisers</li> </ul>	Leslie Watson & Heidi Zimmermann
	<u><b>Classroom Support Committee</b></u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General update</li> <li>Teacher Appreciation Party</li> </ul>	Kami Blackwell Kinney
	<u><b>Educational Support Committee</b></u>	Lisa Friedman
	<u><b>Parent Outreach Committee</b></u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Feedback on PTO website</li> <li>"Field Guide" input</li> <li>June PTO meeting – invite to new parents</li> </ul>	Gina Vader, Lisa Antony-Thomas
8:00-9:00	<b>2009-2010 Budget</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Overview</li> <li>Line by line review &amp; discussion</li> </ul>	Interim Exec. Board
	<b>Adjournment</b>	

Final PTO Meeting of the year: Monday, June 1, 2009 at 7 p.m.!