

# PTO UPDATE

## MARYVILLE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

# WELCOME BACK!!!



Stacey welcomes families to Muffins with Mom PTO fellowship.

**WOW ... a new school year is upon us!** Most of us are deciding which clothes fit, and what is needed for our child's wardrobe. Or which activities fit our child, and what is needed to further his/her extracurricular talents. Take some time during these early weeks of the school year to consider where and what kind of service to your child's school fits into your life. There's lots to choose from to find your niche where you are bettering your child's education, using your talents, and having fun.

Our school has many needs. Share your lunchtime with your child by distributing meals and cleaning up the lunch tables. Share your love of sports and exercise by running stations during any of the pre-K thru 4th grade His Kids gym classes. Kindle the relationship with your child's teacher by offering to grade papers, prepare materials,

or assemble bulletin boards. Plan fun parties for your child by being a room mom (or dad!) Plan a guest speaker for your child's class to incorporate real life experience into their studies ... the possibilities are endless! (Our personal favorite is to plan and run part of a PTO social or consignment sale event, but more about that on the flip side!)



Room moms know how to spice up an afternoon in the classroom!

You can support your school during off hours too! PTO events require several hours of planning and preparation which can be done anytime. Landscaping



Who needs the gym when you can work out with your kids at school?



knows no closed doors if you have your own tools. Partner with your teacher to prepare class materials at home.

But when we're already all so busy, why is it so important to volunteer? MCS was established in faith as a ministry by founding parents to provide an academically excellent, Biblically-based education to their children where development of Christian character takes priority. A hallmark of Christian character is service to others. In such a small school, the tuition \$ aren't enough to provide everything our children need, either in

labor or materials. Ultimately, our children will have a better learning experience, both academically and spiritually, if parents serve to fill in the gaps. Finally, Christian character aside, all the education research confirms that parent involvement results in better schools and a better education for your child.

But service should be fun ... take some time to discern where you can best contribute and contact Donna Browning to get started in an existing program or to create a new one!



Lend the benefit of your expertise to inquiring young minds.

### PTO Officers for 2010-2011 with contact information

- **Stacey Rodriguez:** Co-Chair
- **Sue Morris:** Co-Chair & Treasurer
- **Jennifer Shaw:** Secretary

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### On the flip side:

PTO Needs Your Help	2
Schedule of PTO Events	2
Pennies for PTO Builds Basketball Court	2
Come One, Come All on August 25th	2



## PTO Needs Your Help

A sincere welcome to all our new and returning families from Stacey, Sue, and Jennifer. We hope everyone had a great summer in which you and your children were able to just take time to enjoy each other. We hope to have another successful year in meeting our goals which support the mission of MCS. Those goals include promoting communication, school spirit, and fellowship between school families, teachers, staff and board; promoting learning; and supporting, recognizing, and blessing our teachers.

We can't have a successful year without your help. Like the rest of the MCS volunteer program, PTO is built on a foundation of service to others ... parents, teachers, and our children. ALL volunteers are welcome! The last thing we want is a cliquish organization. We are a pre-K thru 12 school, and we would LOVE to have another parent officer join us from middle or high school, so as to

better serve those families. Being an officer doesn't run your life ... we simply split up the work between the 3 of us according to our talents. Please consider how you might help us as an officer to plan events to better serve families of our older students.

If being an officer for a year isn't your thing, consider planning and running one of the events listed to the right (or a new one!) We have lots of details recorded from last year which can help you get started, and we will support you all the way. Finally, there are all kinds of jobs that can be done in just an hour or two in support of our social events, consignment sales, or T-shirt sales. Just contact us today!

So why should you spend your limited and precious spare time working with PTO vs. all the other ways you could spend it? Well, it makes your child's day more fun! Our kids really enjoy a break from the

daily routine with an hour of food and games during a fellowship like Pancakes & PJs. Also, new playground equipment or a basketball court can make a child's eyes wide with excitement, and get him or her ready to learn again after a recess break. Like other volunteer opportunities, working in PTO shows the value of service to our children. But more than that, something special happens for our kids when parents and teachers come together and work toward a common goal. Relationships formed between parents and teachers not only pave the way for the best academic experience for our children, but should actively model distinctive Christian character to them as well.

All parents and guardians are automatically members of PTO. Won't you consider actively volunteering today?



### Schedule of PTO

#### Events

- 8/25: 1st General Mtg.
- 9/10 & 9/11: Fall Consignment Sale
- TBD: Donuts w/Dad
- 10/29: Muffins w/Mom
- 11/10: 2nd General Mtg.
- 12/10: Teacher Apprec. Luncheon
- 2/9: 3rd General Mtg.
- 3/11: Pancakes & PJs
- 3/25 & 3/26: Spring Consignment Sale
- 4/27: 4th General Mtg.
- 4/29: Elementary Field Day
- 5/? : MS/HS Field Day
- 5/2 - 5/6: Teacher Apprec. Week

Check out new PTO T-Shirt Styles at Orientation and in the Office!

## Pennies for PTO builds Basketball Court

Thank you for your support and donations in our "Pennies for PTO" buckets last year! Funds raised by the elementary school were used to purchase playground tables and umbrellas, and those raised by the MS/HS funded the construction of our new outdoor basketball half-court. PTO sponsored an ice cream outing and limo ride to Marble Slab for the high \$ average class in elementary (Mrs. Moreno's 1st grade), and the high \$ average class in MS/HS (Mr. Evans' 7th grade). Our totals raised were \$1050 for the playground, and \$3825 for the basketball court. Many thanks to Hilary Anderson for managing the construction details this summer.



## Come One, Come All on August 25th

Our next quarterly meeting will be held in the H3 Conference Room on Wednesday, 8/25 at 3:15pm. We will have childcare for children over 3 on the playground or in classrooms, depending on the weather. Our agenda will primarily include discussion of events for the year, particularly the upcoming Fall consignment sale, tentatively scheduled for 9/10-11. Come and help decide the direction of PTO!

