

A message from the PTSA president, Molly Jackman

To all new and returning parents, a warm welcome to Einstein ...we are happy that you are here!
Our motto this year is: "It's all good – *because of you!*"

Who are "you?" It's each of us--- working together to support our teens' school community. What better way to meet seasoned parents, teachers, and staff who can help you learn the ropes and "the Einstein way," than getting involved in a thriving PTSA.

The Einstein community – one of the most vibrant and diverse school communities in Montgomery County-- has an active PTSA due to the strength of parent volunteers and strong support of the school's hardworking administration and teachers. We are expecting that you will want to join us in our quest to make and keep Einstein "the place to be."

From the successful College Fair to the afterprom party, the PTSA sponsors events. More than event-hosting though, the PTSA aims to build a strong school community. As a group, we reflect the rich multicultural and socioeconomic diversity of the Down County Consortium. Parents have the same main goal: encouraging our students' academic achievement and social growth. PTSA is a channel to support this goal, and an opportunity to work together and learn from each other. As a diverse group, we recognize the importance of hearing all voices. In the past year, Einstein parents formed an African-American Parent Support Group and a Latino Parents' Council. The Study Circle held early this summer (see article on p.____) was organized by these parents and the PTSA. At the same time, the administration is looking at race and equity in the classroom. Dialogue and cross cultural bridge building will be an important focus at Einstein this year. Your voice is welcome!

People's involvement in PTSA varies depending on time and abilities, from those able to commit to chairing a committee, to those who serve once or twice doing a needed job. We ask you to do at least one volunteer job this year. And if so inspired, start something new! The PTSA is an open, dynamic group which welcomes new people and new ideas. Meetings are usually the third Tues of the month at 7:30 in the cafeteria. Can't make a meeting? No worries--- just call someone on the contact list with your idea and offer to help.

All parents belong to the PTSA. We'd love to have your dues (\$15/year) but you don't have to pay to get involved---just do something! Keep the handy "volunteers needed" post card in a visible spot. Check the web site for an updated and ongoing list of opportunities. Make sure you are on the list-serve to get current relevant information on what's happening at school. Getting involved and pitching in shows Einstein spirit!

We expect that your child will have several years of rich experiences here at Einstein. This would not happen without the dedication of the Einstein teachers, staff, and parents. When graduation day approaches, will you be able to look back and say that you worked to make this the very best experience for your child -- and others? We hope that you will. Please join us!

Molly