



Summer 2017

Dear Woodlin Families,

We are getting ready for an EXCITING 2017-2018 school year! One of the best ways to get ready for the new school year and stay informed is to connect with the **Woodlin Elementary School Parent-Teacher Association**. Our PTA is a strong and active organization of parents, guardians, family, and teachers and staff working together on behalf of our children. The PTA sponsors community building events and provides Woodlin with substantial academic enrichment in the arts and sciences. Our volunteers have been working hard all summer to ensure this is our best year yet!

#### **Purpose of the PTA**

The purpose of the PTA is to support the children of Woodlin by:

- Advocating on behalf of the school's needs at the local, county and state levels;
- Holding events to build community;
- Developing programs and activities to enrich our students (i.e. after school clubs, arts programs);
- Providing resources to the school and staff a

#### **Advocacy**

The PTA advocates for Woodlin students and families. We had great a success two years ago securing Woodlin a spot in the upcoming Capital Improvement Plan budget for a much needed expansion. This is a CIP year and we will be asking families to help advocate that our expansion take place ON TIME and remain fully funded. Advocacy doesn't stop at the need for building improvements -- let us know if you have an issue you would like to champion!

#### **Community Events**

The PTA's calendar is full of programs and activities throughout the school year that are fun, educational, student and family-friendly like after-school clubs, book fairs, Movie Night, Science Technology Engineering Math Night and the Spring Fair. **Note: everyone is welcome to all PTA events regardless of your PTA membership status.**

#### **Enrichment**

The PTA directly funds programs and provides resources to the school that enrich our students' learning. In the 2016-2017 school year the PTA purchased a new Promethean Board for the Art Room, bought in cultural art programs from the Shakespeare Theatre and Imagination Stage, provided scholarships and buses for after-school clubs, and planned programs like International Night, GEO BEE, and STEM Night.

The PTA accomplishes these goals through volunteer hours and fundraising. Funds are raised through membership dues, private donations and two key fundraising events (1) fall **Fun Run** and (2) our spring **Auction/Parent's Night Out**,

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#### **How YOU Can Help:**

1. **Connect with the PTA**—the PTA has a variety of ways to keep you connected to our children and community.
  - WEBSITE: Visit <http://woodlinpta.org> regularly for up-to-date information about the PTA and to view a calendar of activities, programs and events. We are working hard to update the site, so check on our progress as this fall.

- **LISTSERV:** The listserv is a great resource to share information about Woodlin, parent inquiries and community news. **Join the PTA listserv by emailing <[woodlnpt-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:woodlnpt-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)>.**
  - **FACEBOOK:** Follow us on Facebook <<https://www.facebook.com/WoodlinPTA>> to see photos of activities and regular reminders of upcoming events
- 2. Become a member of the PTA** - Joining the PTA is a great way to show your support and help fund programs and enrichment. Individual memberships are \$12; family memberships are \$20 (Note that memberships must be renewed each year.) Do you own a business or know of a business that would like to support the PTA? Let us know! **Our new PTA member registration and directory link is all online:** <http://woodlinpta.org>.
  - 3. Participate in PTA** - Attending PTA-sponsored events is a fun and meaningful way to connect with our community, spend time with our families, and let our children know that their school experience is important to us. Our activities are not possible without the efforts of volunteers so please consider giving your time! All skills are appreciated and any commitment - one time or long-term - is valued. Our PTA is comprised entirely of volunteers who have stepped forward to make Woodlin a better place. Visit [woodlinpta.org](http://woodlinpta.org) for details or email us at [president@woodlinpta.com](mailto:president@woodlinpta.com).

#### **Important Woodlin Dates**

- **August 21<sup>st</sup> 3:00-5:00pm:** Kindergarten Playdate at Montgomery Hills Park hosted by Katie Schut ([kmschut@gmail.com](mailto:kmschut@gmail.com))
- **August 30<sup>th</sup> 6:30pm -7:30pm:** Kindergarten Back to School Night (only for parents of incoming kindergartners; parent-focused event).
- **August 31<sup>st</sup> 9:00am** (school open from 9:30-10:30) Open House for students and parents  
Let's start off the year with a celebration! Coffee and donut holes, spirit wear, PTA representatives, and lots of excitement as we kick off the new year!
- **September 5<sup>th</sup>:** First day of school
- **September 7<sup>th</sup> 6:30pm - 8:00pm:** First PTA Meeting Come out to learn all about Woodlin, the PTA, upcoming events/activities, and meet our volunteer leaders. FREE Pizza and childcare will be available for all.

**Enjoy the final weeks of summer, and, on behalf of your PTA, we look forward to a great year for the entire Woodlin community!**

#### **Woodlin 2017-2018 PTA Board:**

Karen Miller, President, [president@woodlinpta.org](mailto:president@woodlinpta.org)  
Megan Tracy Benson, Vice President—Administration, [vp@woodlinpta.org](mailto:vp@woodlinpta.org)  
Emily Menashes, Vice President—Advocacy, [vp@woodlinpta.org](mailto:vp@woodlinpta.org)  
Jill Desjean, Treasurer, [treasurer@woodlinpta.org](mailto:treasurer@woodlinpta.org)  
Amanda Szekely, Secretary, [secretary@woodlinpta.org](mailto:secretary@woodlinpta.org)

Colleen Mitchell, Communication Chair  
Enrichment Chair, Daria Hall  
Hung Trinh, Events Chair  
Jennifer Dubesa, Outreach Chair  
Liz Fisher, Fundraising Chair