

August 16, 2016

Dear Middle School Families,

The Swampscott Middle School Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) welcomes you to the 2016-2017 school year and for those returning thanks you for your support last year! Our PTO provides a forum for input from parents, teachers and administration that supports the educational and recreational needs of our children by providing programs that enhance the learning environment and school community. The PTO is a great way to get involved in your child's/children's school, meet new friends and work with other parents to build a successful school year.

We are asking for \$40.00 PTO annual dues per family. The money will be used for **enrichment programs, student educational events** (anti bullying; anti drug and alcohol; body image awareness; Museum of Science presentations; Improv Boston on collaboration and Internet safety/communication), **student social events** (ice cream social for incoming 5th grade; end of year field day barbecue), and **teacher requests for funding**. This year the PTO has a special focus on fundraising for two additional initiatives – **1. enhancing and expanding classroom libraries** and **2. purchasing additional classroom technology (iPads and Chromebooks)**. On the dues form you will have the option to support one or both of these fundraising goals beyond the \$40 PTO dues. You can fill out the dues form online and pay by credit card here: <http://smsafterschool.wufoo.com/forms/sms-ptu-dues/> or send in the attached paper dues form with your student. **This year we are encouraging early submission of dues forms with a weekly prize drawing.** Please see the enclosed PTO Membership and Dues Information sheet for details.

Our plans for fundraising this year include: 1) dues and donations; 2) magazine drive in the fall and book fairs in the fall and spring; 3) after school programs; 4) Big Blue Bargains, our district wide consignment shop where money is split between the schools in town, based on volunteer involvement. (We work in the shop every 5th week and a planned night for sorting once each month.); 5) box tops and 6) the STOP and SHOP A Plus program. To learn more and register your Stop and Shop loyalty card go to <http://stopandshop.com/aplus/register-card/>. After entering your name and Stop and Shop card number enter the SMS school id: 08105

Our monthly morning meetings (scheduled for the third Tuesday of each month) are the place to get involved, share your ideas and concerns and influence our school community. The first meeting will be Tuesday, September 20th at 8:30 a.m. in the Middle School Library and will include coffee with our Principal Jason Calichman and Vice Principal Lori Sanborn. All parents are invited and encouraged to attend. Meetings for the remainder of the year are scheduled for Tuesday mornings at 8:30 AM on 9/20, 10/18, 11/15, 12/20, 1/17, 2/28, 3/21, 4/25, 5/16, 6/20. Evening meetings may be added based on interest.

Feel free to contact any of us if you have any questions or comments and check out our web page on the SMS website for more information. We wish everyone a successful start to the school year!

Sincerely,

Your 2016-2017 PTO Board

Heather Roman & Jaren Landen, Co-Presidents [heatherlroman@yahoo.com/](mailto:heatherlroman@yahoo.com) jwlanden@yahoo.com

Becky White, Secretary thewhites98@comcast.net

Diane O'brien, Treasurer dianeobrienea@gmail.com

Jennifer Townsend, Cultural Committee jmt0865@gmail.com

Alexis Runstadler, After School Program smsafterschool@gmail.com

Swampscott Middle School PTO Membership and Dues Information

We thank you for your support and are pleased to offer an online payment option for PTO dues this year. Please go the following link <http://smsafterschool.wufoo.com/forms/sms-pto-dues/> to complete the below form online and provide the PTO dues payment (\$40.00/family) and any additional amount you choose to contribute towards the school-wide initiatives this year - classroom libraries and/or technology. **The online form is for credit card payments only.**

If you would like to pay by check or cash, please fill out the attached form and return with payment to the Middle School front office (have your student drop it off 😊).

PTO Dues Prize Drawing!

Contest runs from Sept 12th to Oct 17th (6 weeks). The sooner you pay your PTO membership dues* the more chances you have to win.

1st week payment - you will be entered into the drawing all 6 weeks and get 6 chances to win prizes

2nd week payment - you will be entered into the drawing 5 weeks and get 5 chances to win prizes

3rd week payment- you will be entered into the drawing 4 weeks and get 4 chances to win prizes

4th week payment- you will be entered into the drawing 3 weeks and get 3 chances to win prizes

5th week payment - you will be entered into the drawing 2 weeks and get 2 chances to win prizes

6th week payment - you will be entered into the drawing 1 week and get 1 chance to win prizes

Prizes are drawn on Friday of each week. Announcements will be made via email.

Prizes range from restaurant gift certificates and entertainment packages, to a family four pack of Celtics tickets. Stay tuned for more details!

The homeroom classroom with the highest percentage families participating will receive an ice cream party and the winning classroom teacher will receive an Amazon gift card.

*PTO membership dues are \$40 per family, or whatever a family can afford. Additional donations do not increase a family's chance of winning a prize. PTO participation makes a difference to the SMS community and we are thankful for the support of our SMS families.

Swampscott Middle School PTO Membership Registration & Dues Form

Dues can either be paid online with a credit card at:

<http://smsafterschool.wufoo.com/forms/sms-pto-dues/>

OR complete this form, include payment and have your student return it to the SMS front office

PLEASE PRINT:

Parent/Guardian name(s):	
Email address for PTO correspondence:	
Student's name(s) (First, Last)	Grade

PTO Requested Dues (any amount appreciated, suggested dues \$40/family) \$_____

Additional donation for classroom libraries \$5, \$10, \$20, or Other amount \$_____

Additional donation for technology (iPads, Chromebooks) \$5, \$10, \$20, or Other amount \$_____

Total amount enclosed Cash/Check (Circle One) \$_____

Check Number (if applicable) _____ ***Please make check payable to: SMS PTO***

Student Directory

I give permission for my Contact Data* to be in the school directory Yes No

*Contact Data will be taken from the school database and includes student's name, parent names, address, home telephone # and one parent email address.

Volunteer Information - I am interested in volunteering for: (check as many as apply)

I'd like to join the PTO Board (VP student events chair, VP fundraising, Book Fair Chair, Co-cultural arts chair, Co-secretary and more)

Magazine Drive (help with prizes, collection of forms etc.)

Big Blue Bargains (help with organizing donations, working in thrift shop)

Book Fair Assistance

Fundraising Gala

Other (special talent/services/ideas welcome):
