

Woodbury PTO

August 2016

Dear Woodbury Families,

Welcome to the 2016-2017 school year at Woodbury Elementary.

All parents and guardians of Woodbury Students are automatically members of the Parent Teacher Organization (PTO). It is the hope of the PTO that we can help you envision a role for yourself to actively participate at whatever level your schedule allows. Whether volunteering for an event, chairing a committee, or providing suggestions, we need your energy, ideas and involvement. A thriving PTO makes it possible to provide our children with a variety of enriching programs and activities, and ultimately leads to more successful educational outcomes. We all know that despite the emerging independence of children in this age group, Woodbury students need the involvement of caring adults in order to excel.

The Shaker Heights PTO is committed to helping families stay informed about happenings in our schools. There are several great ways for you to stay connected so you can always know what's going on:

- Sign up to receive the weekly, online PTO newsletters and PTO e-mails at bit.ly/shakerptonews to stay abreast of happenings in your child's school and throughout the District. Once you have signed up, you do not need to re-enter your information each year.
- Connect with other families by joining the online PTO directory using the free "A-Z Mobile App" for smartphones and computers. If you have not yet joined the directory, visit www.schooldirectoryupdate.com and select "join as a new family." Once you have entered your information, you do not need to do so again each year.
- Use the printed Shaker Schools calendar and online calendar at shaker.org to stay on top of important dates and events. All families receive the printed calendar in the mail before school starts.
- Visit the District's website, www.shaker.org, for current news and information. You can also Like "For Shaker Schools" on Facebook and Follow @ShakerSchools on Twitter.

Our first PTO meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 27 at 7:00pm in Room 124. We will present our annual budget as well as plans for the school year. There will also be an opportunity to raise topics for future PTO meetings. Bring your suggestions! Childcare will be provided. If you cannot attend, please feel free to contact us by email or phone with any idea or questions you may have.

(Over please)

The beginning of the school year brings many important events. Please note the following upcoming dates for the first few weeks of school:

Wednesday, August 10th - New Family Orientation, 9:30 - 11:00 am

New families to the Shaker Schools will receive an invite and information about this event.

Friday, August 19th – Grade 5 Woodbury Orientation and Ice Cream Social, 4:00-5:00pm

A chance for incoming 5th graders to get to know the school in a fun way while meeting with new classmates before school begins.

Monday, August 22nd - Coffee on the Lawn, 8:45am and 2:00pm

Join Woodbury families on the front lawn for refreshments and meet new friends, reacquaint with old ones, and become familiar with volunteering opportunities for events throughout the school year. We look forward to meeting you and answering any of your PTO questions.

Monday, August 29th - 5th Grade Team Building Volunteer Training

Tuesday, August 30th - Team Building

Fifth Grade Team Building is an opportunity for incoming Woodbury 5th Graders to get to know each other through active, fun, hands-on challenges. Students cooperate and work respectfully as a team to play games and overcome obstacles (e.g., in one possible game, the students join hands in a circle and try to pass a hula hoop around the circle without letting go of each other or using their hands). Fifth Grade Team Building is truly a highlight of the school year. We need parents/guardians to help us facilitate the activities – and have a blast doing it – but first you need to attend a mandatory facilitator training. Training is a great chance to try these fun activities for yourselves and get to know other parents of incoming 5th graders. Training sessions are scheduled for Monday, August 29 from 10am-12pm, 1-3pm and 6-8pm. The event will be held the next day, Tuesday, August 30, and volunteers are needed for the morning and afternoon sessions (9-11:30 and 12-2:30). Approximately half the classes will participate in each session. Questions? Contact Sarah Pernsteiner at sarahperns@gmail.com or 216-956-8421.

The above is just a small sampling of the many events and opportunities happening at Woodbury. Please look at your district calendar for an exhaustive list of activities.

We look forward to meeting you during the school year and working with you to make this a productive and memorable school year. Please do not hesitate to contact us with questions, concerns and suggestions regarding PTO.

Have a terrific school year!

Sarah Divakarla
Woodbury PTO Co-President
216-952-6450
sarah.divakarla@gmail.com

Lisa Welsh
Woodbury PTO Co-President
216-849-2261
lisabwelsh@gmail.com