



August 6, 2010

Dear PASA Parents,

As we enter the final weeks of summer break, we want to welcome the families who are new to our PASA community and welcome back all our returning families! The PASA Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) is looking forward to an exciting 2010-2011 school year filled with events, programs and activities for all to enjoy.

What is the PTO and Who is a Member?

The PTO plays an integral role by enhancing the school's curriculum to better enrich our children's early learning experience. Each parent or guardian of a student attending PASA, teachers and faculty are voting members of the PASA PTO. The PTO's objective is to support PASA and promote the general welfare of the students, parents and staff with emphasis on cultural, social, educational, artistic, physical, parenting and spiritual development.

All are welcome and encouraged to get involved – even if you just want to sit in on a PTO meeting and listen to the upcoming events.

PTO Fundraising and Programs

The PTO hosts many fundraising events throughout the year. These include art project sales, book sales, family dining days, and our annual auction. Funds raised by the PTO pay in full or in part for regular enrichment programs, art activities, field trips, student scholarship, library books, foreign language classes, classroom supplies and materials and play ground equipment. In keeping with our mission, the PTO also hosts parent/teacher social events throughout the year to enhance the relationship among our members. Last school year, enrichment programs included storytellers, dance troupes, the Mad Scientist, musicians and fire fighters. This year, in addition to many of the same programs, we are happy to announce that the PTO will be sponsoring the return of a Spanish language program for the 4's.

PTO Budgeting

The PASA PTO practices zero-based budgeting whereby all expenses and fundraising efforts are reevaluated each academic year, e.g. August 01 – July 31. It is our goal to raise enough money each year to support that year's expense budget. Due to fundraising profits several years ago, the PTO currently maintains substantial reserves. We encourage your participation through attendance at PTO meetings and committee involvement to ensure the continued equitable and ethical use of these funds.

Become a volunteer...Why YOU should get involved!

We plan and implement a lot of programs throughout the year. We need many parents to ensure the PTO remains a successful resource to PASA and our children. The PTO cannot accomplish all of these wonderful programs without your help – even an hour here and there can help.

We encourage you to review the PTO Volunteer Form in this packet and check off all committees that interest you. Serving on a PTO committee is a great way to meet and work with other PASA parents and teachers and help make this an unforgettable year for your child!

Warmest Regards,

2010-2011 PASA PTO Board