

August 30, 2021

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the 21-22 Veterans Memorial school year from the PTO! Last year brought challenges we could have never imagined, but we are so happy to be making progress towards "normalcy" and to help welcome the students back to school full time! We know things continue to change, and we will continue to adapt to whatever comes our way, so the PTO is working on fundraisers and activities for the year that are also flexible! As we identify opportunities for our VM community to be involved in this school year, we will be communicating ways that you can help support the PTO and the work we do for our Veterans Memorial students and teachers. We sincerely hope you'll join us!

This packet contains information to help you get started: General Information to Have on Hand

- Overview of the PTO and list of our 2021-2022 officers
- How to find our social media pages and website, and how to stay in touch with the PTO
- Initial information on events, fundraisers, and other ways to help earn money for Veterans Memorial Elementary School

We invite you to attend our monthly **PTO Meetings**, which will be held virtually via Zoom and in person (see calendar on the website for details). The links for the Zoom meetings will be sent in advance of the meetings and will be posted on the website.

We are looking forward to getting to know all of you and hope you will join us in our events and activities!

With warm regards,

The Veterans Memorial PTO Officers: Maria, Andrea, Krissi, Trenda, Kathy, Julie, Karla



SCAN HERE to go to the PTO Website!



What is the PTO?

The PTO (Parent Teacher Organization) is a group of parents/guardians, teachers, and staff members of Veterans Memorial Elementary School. We operate independently from the school itself but work to promote collaboration and connection between home and school through communication, events, and activities throughout the year for our school community. In order to be able to provide these activities and events, and ultimately to give back to our teachers and students, the PTO Board organizes meaningful fundraising activities and events throughout the school year. We strive to provide fun and engaging opportunities for everyone to connect and be involved.

How to Get Involved and Keep Up to Date!

- Attend our PTO meetings! Meetings are held once a month on a Wednesday morning or evening. Morning meetings will be held via Zoom, and evening meetings are planned to be in person at the school. Meeting dates and reminders will be communicated in advance.
- Check the PTO website for upcoming events and latest information https://vmelempto.weebly.com/
- Fill out our Volunteer interest form to let us know if you are available for future volunteer opportunities - <u>2021-2022 Veterans Memorial Elementary School PTO</u> <u>Volunteer Sign-Up Form</u> (also available on our website under "Get Involved"
- LIKE and Follow us on our social media pages Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter (@vmelempto)
- Check Veterans Memorial Weekly email (sent on Wednesdays)

PTO Officers 2021-2022

Maria Cuthbert, Co-President Trenda Vey, Vice President of Activities Kathy Kratz, Vice President of Volunteers Julie Ache, Treasurer Andrea Scott, Co-President Krissi Godusky, Vice President of Fundraising Karla Trumbauer, Secretary

Please feel free to contact us through the PTO website or by emailing veteransmemorialelementarypsd@gmail.com with suggestions or questions at any time.

Thank you for your continued support!

The Parkland School District Education Foundation and Veterans Memorial PTO are not affiliated in any way.



2021-2022 PTO Events

September

- 9/7 SaveAround/KidStuff Fundraiser begins
- 9/8 PTO Meeting (7pm @Veterans Memorial Creative Commons)

October

- 10/5–10/8 Fall Book Fair
- 10/8 Fall Festival/Book Fair Family Night
- 10/13 PTO Meeting (9am via Zoom)
- 10/25 Pellman Pie Sale begins

November

- 11/8 Pellman Pie Sale ends
- 11/10 PTO Meeting (7pm @Veterans Memorial Creative Commons)
- 11/22 Pie Sale pick-up

December

- TBD Giving Tree
- 12/8 PTO Meeting (9am via Zoom)
- 12/11 Holiday Shopping Extravaganza

January

1/12 – PTO Meeting (7pm @Veterans Memorial Creative Commons)

February

- 2/8-2/11 Spring Book Fair
- 2/9 PTO Meeting (9am via Zoom)
- 2/9 Talent Show Rehearsal
- 2/11 Talent Show!

March

- 3/9 PTO Meeting (7pm @Veterans Memorial Creative Commons)
- 3/14 Spring Plant Sale begins

April

- 4/11 Spring Plant Sale pick-up
- 4/13 PTO Meeting (9am via Zoom)

May

- 5/2-5/6 Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week
- 5/11 PTO Meeting (7pm @Veterans Memorial Creative Commons)
- 5/20 Spring Festival

June

6/8 - PTO Meeting (9am via Zoom)

Events/Activities may be added in the coming months and/or subject to change. These will be communicated through the weekly updates and through our social media pages.



The PTO participates in several easy programs that help us to earn money toward school activities. These links can be found on the PTO's website.



BoxTops for Education

BoxTops for Education is phasing out their traditional way of collecting BoxTops and moving to a "clip free" format. Throughout this year, you can still send in any clipped Box Tops you may have been hanging on to!

BoxTops are still available on many products - our way of receiving credit for them will just change! Instead of cutting and submitting BoxTop tabs, you can scan your grocery receipt and upload it to the app (or email your receipt to receipts@boxtops4education.com); BoxTops will find the eligible products for you! Hold on to your receipts and saved Box Tops for now until our PTO is available for credit!



Amazon Smile

Veterans Memorial will earn money back on all eligible purchases made through our Amazon Smile link (link will be sent soon – stay tuned!)



Scrip

An easy way to earn money for your school while you shop!

Need a gift card? Put your shopping dollars to work and earn money for our school at the same time! Cards can be purchased online or through the app. Check www.shopwithscrip.com each month for new retailers and deals from current ones. Stay tuned for the Veterans Memorial quarterly order forms!



Weis

Earn cash for your school just by grocery shopping! REGISTER your Weis Club Card by scanning your card together with our unique barcode during checkout. (The barcode is available on our website and only needs to be scanned one time to register.) SCAN your Weis Club Card each time you shop on participating products. EARN cash for your school based upon your qualifying purchases.