

Tiger Topics
School Newsletter

EMERSON-WILLIAMS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PTO

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ptoboard@ewpto.com

September 2023

PTO News!

Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year! The PTO Board is so excited to continue the momentum of last years' events and programs!

Our meetings will continue to be held IN PERSON ONLY on Mondays, the first one being **September 11 at 6:30** in the music room.

We will continue to try to arrange for a high school volunteer to provide childcare (Elementary age children only) during the meeting.

This year, one main goal of the PTO Board is to bring family-friendly, fun, events to our community! And, whenever possible, we will make these **FREE** events!

To help us achieve this goal, we are participating a NEW community-driven Kindness Challenge! The funds we raise during this challenge will help us bring events to our families; and will also help us support our school staff! If you have an idea for a Family Fun event or want to volunteer, please email us! More details on the Kindness Challenge can be found on the flyer included in this packet!

We wish all of our students and staff members a fantastic year! And can't wait see so many of you at our events!

Welcome Back!

Lift Up & Shout-Out!

(a new section of our meetings & newsletter to support all members of our school community)

Huge thanks to **Nikki Bruschino, Amy Gallagher-Cuadras** and **Katherine Patnaude** for running the EW Kindergarten Readiness Playdates with WECC!

All of the volunteers who came in to help our K students acclimate to their new lunch schedule!

The **Welcome Back Luncheon Committee** (**Andrea Hernandez, Brandy Kerns, Colleen Mattatal, Liz Netz**), our set-up crew **Anna Szczepanski, Juliette Szczepanski, Hunter & Addi Hernandez-Maturo, Laura Neville, and Madelyn Rhines**, and **all our families** who donated food and funds!

I want to shout-out our **teachers and staff** for an awesome Meet & Greet! And lift up our students, especially those who are nervous about this upcoming school year – you got this!

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CALENDAR

EMERSON-WILLIAMS

September 4

No School

September 8

Dinner on the Lawn • 5:30 - 8:00

September 11

EWPTO Meeting • 6:30

September 19

Open House K-3 • 6:30

September 20

Open House 4-6 • 6:30

September 26

Picture Day K-2

September 27

Picture Day 3-6

October 4

Minimum School Day

Bike/Walk to School Day

October 9

No School

TOWN

September 12

BOE Meeting • 7:00



OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE NOW!

- Chairs Needed!
 - Are you into outdoor events that involve running, music, food, fun times, and kids in kaleidoscope colors? Then the **Tiger Trot**, EW's own color run, is looking for you! Email ptboard@ewpto.com if you are interested in helping to organize a fan-favorite event!
 - **Holiday Store**, which will hopefully run in November, is looking for Chairpersons! Please ptboard@ewpto.com for more info!
- Volunteers Needed
 - **Book Fair** will run 9/18 – 9/22 and volunteers are needed during the day and evening shopping times (flyer included with more details).
 - **School Pictures** are on 9/26 and 9/27 and volunteers are needed from 8:00 – 12:00 p.m. each day.

Please also see the flyers in the following pages for more fun opportunities!



WHO WE ARE!

The EWPTO is organized for the purpose of supporting the education of the children of Emerson-Williams Elementary School by fostering relationships between the school, parents/legal guardians, and teachers. We strive to create an environment that fosters parental involvement to help build a better educational experience for our children, and, that promotes a community where our staff is supported through our resources and volunteer hours.

The PTO is open to any parent, legal guardian or other adult standing in loco parentis (in the place of a parent) for any Emerson-Williams Elementary School student; and the Principal and any teacher or paraprofessional employed at Emerson-Williams may be a member. Be sure to check out the membership flyer in this packet for more info on how to register!



PTO BOARD



Lauren Rhines
2nd Yr Co-Pres
Students:
Madelyn, Gr. 5
Jackson, Gr.1



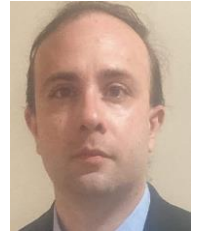
Andrea Hernandez
2nd Yr Co-Pres
Students:
Hunter, Gr. 5
Addison, Gr. 3



Laura Neville
1st Yr Co-Pres
Students:
Savannah, Gr. 2
Cheyanne, Gr. 1



Jess Peltier
Secretary
Students:
Alice, Gr. 5
Matthew, Gr. 3



Anthony Uccello
Treasurer
Students:
Acceilla, Gr. 4



HOW WE SUCCEED:

By collaborating with our families, with our staff and administrators, and, funding programs and events that enrich the lives our children! Our PTO provides information and resources through email, newsletters, family programs, parent meetings, and other communication channels.

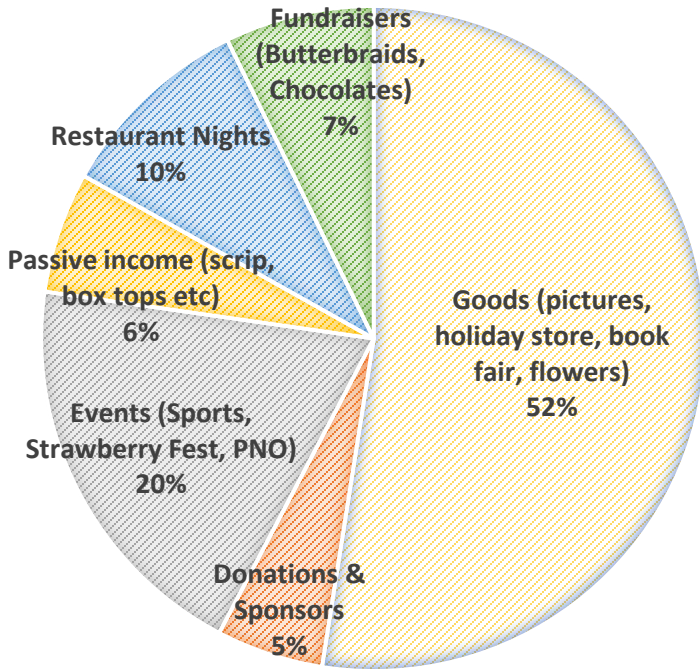
So, we need parental involvement! There are many ways our parents can help that fit different levels of availability. By volunteering, you will get to enjoy interacting with the kids, become friends with other parents, and accomplish things that truly make a difference. Even if you only have 30 minutes to give us, your ideas, your time, and your talents are truly needed. We promise that the time you give our group, and the school, will be worth your while—and fun!



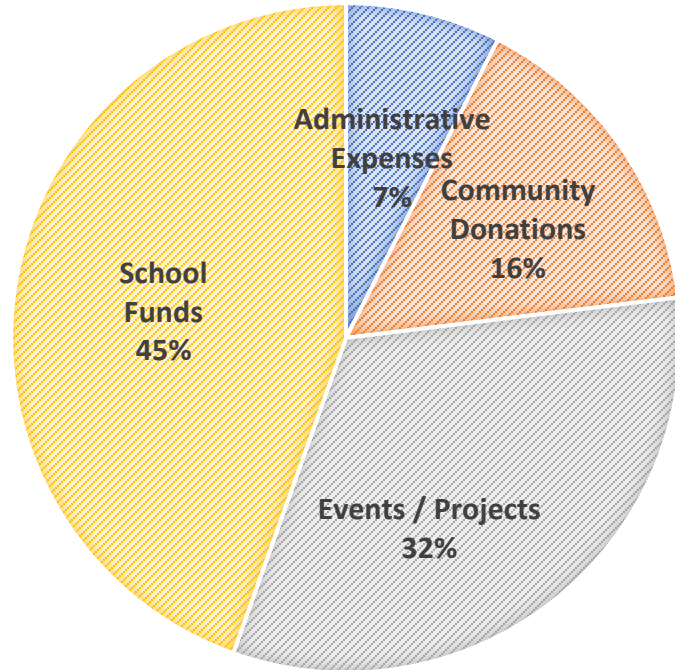
WHY WE FUNDRAISE!

Throughout the year, it may feel like the PTO is always fundraising – and on some level, we are! We know that our families support our school community many ways, not just through monetary fundraising, but we want to give you a clearer picture of why we raise funds throughout the year.

FUNDS COME FROM



WHERE FUNDS GO






Last year, our school community raised over \$17,000 to help fulfill the PTO's mission! Of this amount, roughly 7% went to fees we need to run the PTO (website costs, QuickBooks, signage supplies, etc.). Roughly 16% went to Community Donations, including scholarship donations for graduating seniors and to the Creative Arts Council, which brought in the amazing hip-hop residency program! 32% of funds raised paid for events and projects like the beatification of the blacktops, the color run, and the donation to the 6th graders for their events. **Almost half of our funds, 45%,** went to the school! Including: staff support, cheer, read for the record, poetry afternoon, instrument adapters for the 3rd graders to try out instruments post-covid, classroom needs through the wishlist, among others!

**2023 FUNDRAISING GOAL:
\$19,650!**



SO MANY REASONS TO JOIN THE EWPTO - HERE ARE A FEW:

-  **Your children benefit** - Research shows that participating in your child's school and showing engagement helps them perform better academically.
-  **The school benefits** - PTO supports Emerson-Williams staff, which in turn creates a positive and caring environment for our school community.
-  **You benefit** - Joining allows you to make connections with other parents and staff; and volunteering is fun and rewarding!



NEXT STEPS:

BECOME A MEMBER:

Join the PTO by returning this form to your child's teacher, or by completing the form online <https://www.ewpto.com/membership/>. It's free to join! But if you can....

DONATE TO THE PTO (CIRCLE ONE):

ALL DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE & ANY DONATION ENTERS YOU INTO OUR DRAWING FOR 4 FRONT-ROW SEATS AT THE WINTER CONCERT!!

\$ ____ Here is my donation! I'm excited to be a member and continue to support EW! I'll still fundraise throughout the year!

\$25 - For what I would have spent on cookie dough.

\$50 - Anything ending in "thon" is not in my vocabulary.

\$75 - I want to walk into local businesses without asking for raffle donations.

\$100+ - Please accept my gratitude for being exempt from baking, selling, or cleaning up anything this year!

Please make all **checks payable to EWPTO**, or, **Venmo @Lauren-Rhines-1**, please label **"membership"**

Deadline to be entered in the drawing is **October 6th**.

Questions: membership.committee@ewpto.com

Parent Name: _____

Parent Name: _____

Email: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Phone : _____

Child Name: _____

Teacher: _____ ⁵

Additional Children can be listed on the back side.



ARE YOU A BUSINESS OWNER?
DO YOU KNOW A LOCAL BUSINESS OWNER?
GROW YOUR BUSINESS WITH THE HELP OF EW PTO!

Stripes Package: \$150

Includes business card on EW PTO website, featured on our Facebook page, and included in at least 5 Tiger Topics newsletters. Plus featured in emails to parents and in our Sponsorship Spotlight.

Tigress Package: \$100

Business card on EW PTO website, and featured in emails to parents.

Cub Package: \$25

Business card on EW PTO website.

To reserve your ad space, email

2yrpres@ewpto.com

We accept business cards or jpeg/pdf files
Checks payable to Emerson-Williams PTO

Send to:

EW PTO

461 Wells Rd.

Wethersfield, CT 06109

Attn: Lauren Rhines

DINNER ON THE LAWN

Organized by the EWPTO

Friday, September 8th
6-8pm

Bring a picnic dinner for your family!

Questions: dinnerlawn@ewpto.com



There will be no access inside the school; no bathrooms will be available.

Please leave all non-service pets at home





Room Parent Needed

What is a Room Parent?

Room parents gain insight into what their child's teacher's needs are and assist accordingly

A Room Parent Assists with:

- Coordinate parent volunteers for classroom events/activities
- Organize Teacher Appreciation Week gifts/Holiday gifts
- Solicit Strawberry Festival raffle basket donations for the class
- Additional opportunities as they arise during the year

A Room Parent should:

- Delegate and encourage other parents/guardians and their family to help
- Maintain a positive morale and attitude towards other parents
- Communicate with the classroom parents to keep them informed
- Share PTO information with parents as it becomes available

How can I volunteer?

- Complete and return the form to your child's teacher
- Or visit <https://www.ewpto.com/room-parent-sign-up/> and fill out the online form.

For further details or questions

Email the Room Parents Committee at roomparents.committee@ewpto.com

Room Parent form

Please complete and return by September 22nd to your child's teacher

Yes, I want to be an Emerson-Williams Room Parent!

Parent Name:

Parent Phone Number:

Parent Email:

Student 1 Name:

Student 1 Teacher and Grade:

Student 2 Name:

Student 2 Teacher and Grade:

Student 3 Name:

Student 3 Teacher and Grade:

SCHOLASTIC BOOKFAIR

2023

SEPTEMBER 18-22

Scholastic Bookfair in the gym!
Classroom visits (wishlists):
Monday and Tuesday (9/18-19)

Public Shopping:
Tuesday 9/19 at 3:30 - 8:30pm
Wednesday 9/20 at 5:30 - 8:30pm

Student Only Shopping:
Thursday and Friday 9/21-22

More Details To Come!
Volunteers Needed! Colleen 860-490-8760



WELCOME TO EMERSON-WILLIAMS RAISE CRAZE KINDNESS FUNDRAISER

OCTOBER 16TH - OCTOBER 22ND

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

Your child will participate in acts of kindness during the school day all week long! Your child will also have the ability to complete more acts of kindness through our online fundraiser with Raise Craze! You can create a donation page for your child to share with family and friends.

WHAT IS RAISE CRAZE?

Raise Craze is an online platform enabling participants to set up secure, custom websites where they request donations via email, text, and social media. During the fundraiser, participants pay it forward by completing acts of kindness for others. A great way to learn the value of gratitude. Spend time serving not selling!

WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?

The money raised will go right back to our EW community! The EWPTO is using these funds to host FREE family fun events this school year for YOU! We will also use it towards our incredible Teacher's Wishlist, and other fantastic PTO events/activities.

HOW DO I GET STARTED?

Parents will register online and create their child's donation page. Use your child's last name and first initial for their personalized dashboard. Connect with your classroom teacher - the class with the most money raised will win a class prize! Select acts of kindness to complete for others. Invite your friends and family to donate and start spreading kindness!

SCAN THE QR CODE REGISTER

OR GO TO MY.RAISECRAZE.COM/A57PJCV

HELP UP REACH OUR GOAL OF \$2500
WHILE SPREADING KINDNESS



EMAIL OR TEXT PHOTOS AND VIDEOS
OF YOUR CHILD COMPLETING ACTS OF
KINDNESS TO ADD TO OUR SLIDESHOW

EWKIND@EWPTO.COM

860-983-8980

QUESTIONS: EWKIND@EWPTO.COM