

LAWTON ELEMENTARY PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATION (PTA)

The Lawton Advantage

A successful school needs strong staff as well as parent and community support. Lawton has always enjoyed that kind of support. The PTA and the BLT are critical components of this support network. Staff and parents are partners and ensure that each child reaches his or her full potential. The PTA and BLT give every parent a voice in school affairs and an opportunity to enhance the school experience for all Lawton children.

The PTA

Lawton has a very active PTA with many volunteers. The PTA Board is responsible for organizing community building events, managing the funds raised by the PTA, and overseeing the efforts of each of the PTA committees. Parents, family members, and others in the community devote thousands of hours of volunteer services to Lawton each year. Volunteers find their work meaningful, rewarding, and valuable to themselves and the students. Volunteer opportunities are varied and include chairing and working on committees, working in the classroom or library, chaperoning field trips, and assisting in promoting the mission of the school.

Many of our volunteers help with the PTA's fundraising efforts. These efforts include an annual fundraising party/auction, a Move-a-Thon, Christmas tree sales, Innisbrook Art sales, and more! Monies raised by these efforts fund a variety of activities and programs such as arts enrichment, assemblies, tutoring, playground supervision, safety patrol, World Cultures night and much more. In the 2010 – 2011 school year the PTA spent approximately \$354 per student on school support and additional programming.

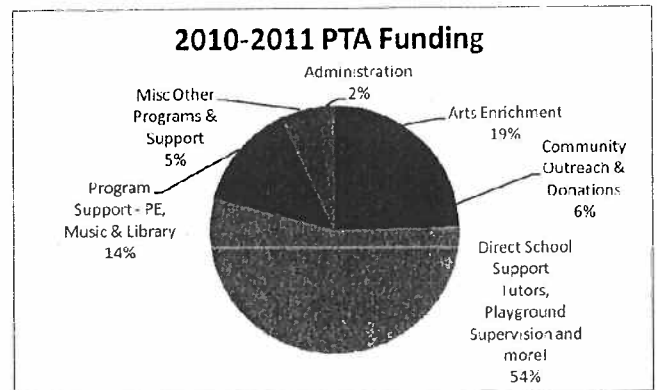
In the past, PTA fundraisers have also helped to build a climbing wall for the gym, purchase books for the library, provide new indoor and outdoor play equipment, refurbish our Commons area and purchase music equipment for our thriving music program.

The PTA Board meets on the first Friday of every month from 3:15-5:15 pm in the staff lounge. Meetings are open to all in the Lawton Community. General membership meetings are held three times each school year in October, January, and April.

The PTA affords parents many opportunities to become involved. Thanks for being a part of Lawton's PTA!

Want to sign up for PTA Updates and the eNews? To subscribe send an email to:

newsletter@lawtonelementary.org



2011 - 2012 PTA Board

Diana Deen Thompson Co-President	730-0845 presidents@lawtonelementary.org
Sarah Terry Co-President	352-3179 presidents@lawtonelementary.org
Connie Olson Co-Vice President	283-0612 vicepresidents@lawtonelementary.org
Kathy Johnson Co-Vice President	352-9226 vicepresidents@lawtonelementary.org
Kelly Fulks Co-Vice President of Fundraising	595-5156 fundraising@lawtonelementary.org
Lisa Blau Treasurer	369-8914 treasurer@lawtonelementary.org
Margaret Bolger Cashier	545-1889 treasurer@lawtonelementary.org
Kimball Mullins Communications Officer – Website	321-1418 website@lawtonelementary.org
Kimberlee Ely Communications Officer - Newsletter	550-1940 newsletter@lawtonelementary.org
Cheryl Parks Staff Liaison	252-2142 clparks@seattleschools.org
TBD Recording Secretary	secretary@lawtonelementary.org

www.lawtonelementary.org

2011 – 2012 Lawton Elementary School PTA Calendar
 Check for updates online at www.lawtonelementary.org

SEPTEMBER 2011

9/6	2:00 Kindergarten & New Student Orientation
9/7	First Day of School Kindergarten Slow Start A-J 9:15 Parent Tea in Library
9/8	Kindergarten Slow Start K-Z 9:15 Parent Tea in Library
9/9	Walking School Buses Start
9/12	3:30 BLT Meeting
9/16	5:30 – 8:00 Welcome Back Bash at the Lawton Playground
9/20 - 23	Scholastic Book Fair in the Library
9/21	Curriculum Night
9/29	1:00 Two Hour Early Dismissal
9/30	PTA Move A Thon

OCTOBER 2011

10/3	3:30 BLT Meeting
10/3 - 10/7	Paper Drive
10/5	Walk to School Day
10/7	3:15 – 5:15 PTA Board Meeting
10/14	NO SCHOOL – Professional Development Day
10/19 - 20	Picture Day
10/20	6:30 PTA General Meeting
10/24 - 27	Dance Residences (Practice)
10/26	1:00 Two Hour Early Dismissal
10/28	Dance Party

NOVEMBER 2011

11/4	3:15 – 5:15 PTA Board Meeting
11/7	3:30 BLT Meeting
11/7 – 11/11	Islandwood for 5 th Graders
11/11	NO SCHOOL – Veteran's Day
11/21 - 23	NO SCHOOL -- Parent Teacher Conferences
11/24 - 25	NO SCHOOL – Thanksgiving Break
11/25 - 27	PTA Christmas Tree Sale

DECEMBER 2011

12/1	Picture Retake Day
12/2	3:15 – 5:15 PTA Board Meeting
12/2 - 4	PTA Christmas Tree Sale
12/5	3:30 BLT Meeting
12/9 -11	PTA Christmas Tree Sale
12/16 -17	PTA Christmas Tree Sale
12/19 - 30	NO SCHOOL – Winter Break

JANUARY 2012

1/3	Classes Resume
1/6	3:15 – 5:15 PTA Board Meeting
1/9	3:30 BLT Meeting
1/14	2:15 MLK Assembly
1/16	NO SCHOOL – MLK Holiday
1/19	6:30 PTA General Meeting
1/26	6:00 Math Night
1/27	NO SCHOOL – Day Between Semesters
TBD	Kindergarten Tours

FEBRUARY 2012

2/1	1:00 Two Hour Early Dismissal
2/3	3:15 – 5:15 PTA Board Meeting
2/6	3:30 BLT Meeting
2/10	Science on Wheels
2/14	Valentine's Day
2/14 - 17	Book Fair in the Library
2/16	Science Fair
2/20	NO SCHOOL – President's Day Holiday
2/21 - 25	NO SCHOOL – Midwinter Break
TBD	Kindergarten Tours

MARCH 2012

3/2	3:15 – 5:15 PTA Board Meeting
3/5	3:30 BLT Meeting
3/7	1:00 Two Hour Early Dismissal
3/15	6:00 PTA Bingo Night
3/16	NO SCHOOL – Professional Development Day
TBD	PTA Spring Fundraiser

APRIL 2012

4/2	3:30 BLT Meeting
4/6	3:15 – 5:15 PTA Board Meeting
4/12	World Cultures Night
4/16 - 20	NO SCHOOL – Spring Break
4/26	6:30 PTA General Meeting – Budget & Election
4/30 - 5/4	Staff Appreciation Week

MAY 2012

4/30 - 5/4	Staff Appreciation Week
5/4	3:15 – 5:15 PTA Board Meeting
5/7	3:30 BLT Meeting
5/16	1:00 Two Hour Early Dismissal
5/25	Young Authors Celebration
5/28	NO SCHOOL – Memorial Day

JUNE 2012

6/1	3:15 – 5:15 PTA Board Meeting
6/6	3:30 BLT Meeting
6/14	5 th Grade Promotion
6/15	Field Day
6/20	Last Day of School – One Hour Early Dismissal
6/21	Professional Development Day

Let's Stay Connected

Every year the Lawton PTA produces a directory with contact information for parents and staff. This is an invaluable resource for parents to refer to during the year for both practical and social matters. The PTA is pleased to offer this free service to our community.

We respect your privacy. The information gathered here will not be used for any purpose other than a listing in the Lawton PTA family directory and will only be distributed by the PTA to Lawton families and staff. Please note: This consent is only valid for the PTA directory and is separate from all school district forms regarding release of information. All forms must be completed and returned to the respective parties in order to opt out of all directories.

Please fill out the information below and return this form no later than Friday, September 23rd. If this form is not returned and you were listed in last year's directory, we will automatically include your information again as it was previously published.

NAME (print)

SIGNATURE

- Yes, I want to be included in the Lawton PTA Directory.
- No, please exclude my contact information from the directory. I wish to opt out of this publication.
- My contact information is the same as last year and was correct in the 2009-2010 directory distributed.
- Please add or change my information to the following:

Child(ren) Name(s): _____

Child(ren) Room Number(s): _____

Parent/Guardian 1 Full Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Parent/Guardian 2 Full Name: _____

Address (if different than above): _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Lawton Elementary PTA 2011 - 2012

We've Gone Green ! About the Lawton eNews

Last year the PTA contributed to Lawton's green school efforts by transitioning our weekly newsletter to a paperless eNews distribution. In addition to being greener, the majority of parents surveyed said this direct email was the preferred way to receive the newsletter. The archives of each newsletter are found on the Newsletter tab of www.lawtonelementary.org

The PTA feels it is important for all families to get timely communication about school happenings. **Therefore families without internet or email access can request to receive a hard copy of the eNews** and every effort will be made to provide a hard copy of the newsletter to those families. **The duplication and distribution of hard copies is purely a volunteer effort, and is fairly time consuming, so we request that only families without internet access use this option.**

If you are new to Lawton and/or don't currently receive the eNews, please complete the form below and we'll add you to the list. Please make sure newsletter@lawtonelementary.org is added to your address book so the eNews isn't caught by your spam filter. Or you can email newsletter@lawtonelementary.org to be added to the list.

Looking for additional ways to stay informed? Bookmark www.lawtonelementary.org and check it frequently for updates. The Lawton PTA is also on Facebook. Search for Lawton Elementary School PTA on Facebook or go to www.facebook.com/LawtonElementarySchoolPTA. Click "Like" and you'll get updates in your News Feed.

Questions or ideas? Contact Kimberlee Ely at newsletter@lawtonelementary.org

- I am new to Lawton and/or I don't currently receive the eNews and I would like to subscribe. It is fine to subscribe to more than one address (i.e., both parents or home and work).

Name:	
Child's grade and teacher:	
Email address(es)	

- I do not have internet access and would like a hard copy of the eNews.

Parent's Name:	
Child's name, grade and teacher:	

Please return this to the office by Monday, September 12th

Share Your Passion!!!



Research shows when families are included in their children's education, their children do better in school. Part of what makes Lawton a successful school is the tremendous amount of family involvement at our school – over 13,000 volunteer hours were recorded at Lawton during the 2010-2011 School Year !

There are many ways to volunteer at Lawton: PTA-sponsored activities, assisting in your child's classroom, or helping a child learn. Everyone has a strength or skill they can contribute. Please take a moment to review the opportunities available and indicate your areas of interest.

Volunteer opportunities are also listed in the newsletter or can be accessed via our website at www.lawtonelementary.org

**Please return this form to Helen Pitts - Volunteer Coordinator
(Box in the Lawton office)**

Your name: _____ Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Child's Name(s): _____ Teacher(s) or Room #(s): _____

Vocation/ Expertise/ Skill/ Interest that you'd like to share: _____

PTA Sponsored Activities

- Back to School Bash:** Help kick off the school year with a community dinner. (September 16th)
- Move-A-Thon:** The Move-A-Thon is one of our biggest fundraisers. This year it will be held in early October. The students really put their soles into this event as they take laps around the upper playfield to help raise money. Set up/ breakdown, hand out water, record laps, and/or pass out popsicles. (October)
- Spring Fundraising Party/Auction:** The auction has been the biggest fundraiser for our school and last year the Event was modified to a fundraising party with an Auction twist ! The Spring Fundraiser event will be held in March, 2011. A party with a hint of auction, there are many different opportunities to help. (March)
- Christmas Tree Sale:** BACK this year !! Help Lawton get in the holiday spirit and sell Christmas Trees. Lots of volunteers will help the success of this fundraiser. Volunteer for shifts selling trees. Co chairs to plan and organize the details. Help committee chairs with organizing event. (October – December)
- Bake Sales:** Have your oven ready to bake treats for bake sales that occur throughout the year and/or run bake sale tables at Lawton events. (Year long as needed)
- Bingo:** Assist committee chair with set-up, selling Bingo sheets, and food. (Spring)
- Book Fair:** Assist committee chair with school book fairs twice a year (Winter and Spring), including cashiering, organizing and selling books.

- Community Outreach:** Work on projects that help families-in-need. (Ongoing)
- Enrichment Committee:** Work with a committee of individuals who bring artists and special enrichment opportunities and programs to our school. (Ongoing)
- Field Day:** Assist committee chair on activities related to Field Day – bouncers, games, races, etc. (June)
- Fifth Grade Promotion:** Help make this event special by organizing and/or assisting in this promotion reception. 4th grade parents take the lead so 5th grade parents can enjoy this landmark. (June)
- Grants:** Work with Grant Committee to research grant opportunities and write grant applications. (Ongoing)
- Kindergarten Tours and Open House:** Assist committee chair in conducting tours for prospective new families and help prepare for Open House. (January/February)
- Lost and Found:** Assist in monthly inventory of lost and found. (Ongoing)
- Math Night:** Assist committee chair with set-up/breakdown, games, etc. (January)
- Science Fair:** Help committee chair with event including: distribution of science fair packets, make student ID cards, set-up and breakdown tables, displays and experiments. (April)
- School Photos and Yearbook:** Assist on Picture Day and/or organize pages with photos for the yearbook. (Picture Day: October and Yearbook: Spring)
- Secret Garden/ Lawton Beautification:** Help nurture Lawton's botanical treasure by weeding, pruning, and maintaining the landscaping, both in the garden and on school grounds. (Ongoing)
- Staff Appreciation:** Assist the committee chair in showing the staff how much we love them. (May)
- Student Art Sale:** Assist with collecting and distributing Student Art for fundraising activity. (Fall)
- Visiting Author:** Help team find guest authors to inspire our young authors. (Spring)
- Young Authors:** Assist library personnel with Young Author's Day. All of Lawton's student authors get to read their publications in small groups throughout the day. (Fall)
- Walking School Bus:** Volunteer to lead one of Lawton's Walking School Bus routes. Help coordinate with staff liaison (Ongoing)

School Activities:

- Library:** Check-in/check-out books, shelve, and assist students in book selection.
- Room Parents:** Keep your class informed of upcoming school events and help your teacher organize events throughout the school year. (Ongoing)
- Playground:** Help make the playground run smoothly by providing supervision before, during and after school hours.
- Science Kit Inventory:** Inventory science kits (pre and post use in classroom) as needed.
- Tutoring:** Provide reading and math tutoring services to students as requested by teachers.
- Lunchroom:** Help younger students with lunchroom procedures.
- Music-** Assist Lawton music specialist Elaine Cooper communicate regarding music events, find volunteers to help at concert events.

Please return to Helen Pitts – Volunteer Coordinator (Box in the Lawton office)



Lawton Elementary PTA: Pop quiz

Did you know ...?

- ... The total number of Lawton PTA members is one indicator of **the strength of our school?** Prospective kindergarten parents use this number to judge parent participation, and thus student success, at the school. Join the Lawton PTA today and add your strength to our numbers!
- ... Your membership is **valid for only one school year**. Even if you've joined in the past, it's time to renew your commitment to the Lawton PTA this year.
- ... There is **no obligation** after you become a member. The Lawton PTA membership list is separate from the volunteer list. You will not receive any calls or requests for your time simply as a result of joining the Lawton PTA. Even if your membership is the only contribution you make all year, please sign up!
- ... **All parent groups are not PTAs**. At 100-plus years, the Parent Teacher Association is the nation's oldest and largest child advocacy group. It got child labor laws passed and school lunch programs put in place. If you're a member of the Lawton PTA, you're part of the coalition of Seattle Council PTSAs (14,000 members strong), the Washington PTA (150,000 strong) and the national PTA (6 million).
- ... The Lawton PTA **pays in full for many enrichment programs** such as assemblies, artist-in-residencies, tutoring, World Cultures, Science Fair and more. PTA members raise the money and members decide how it's spent.
- ... At the national level we're focused on improving No Child Left Behind legislation; at the state level we're focused on overhauling the **definition and funding of basic education**.
- ... Part of your dues support programs that foster **parent involvement in children's education** as well as leadership training and advocacy efforts. To learn more about the Washington State PTA, visit www.wastatepta.org. To learn more about the national PTA, visit www.pta.org.
- ... The Lawton PTA publishes a directory and weekly newsletter to keep parents informed.
- ... you receive **direct benefits** by becoming a Lawton PTA member, such as a 5% discount at Barnes & Noble and discounts at Southwest Airlines Vacations and T-Mobile. For a full list of benefits, visit www.pta.org/benefits.
- ... the Lawton PTA is a **nonprofit, tax-exempt** organization, so your membership fee — as well as any additional amount you wish to donate — is tax deductible. Please give generously!
- ... Lastly, do you know the **best use of your PTA membership card?** Attach it to your refrigerator so every day it says to your child, "I care about you and your school."

Turn over for the answer to this Pop Quiz!

Here's how to score an A+ on the Pop Quiz:

Answer, "YES! I'd like to join the Lawton PTA!"

Name 1: _____

Name 2: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail 1: _____

E-mail 2: _____

Child: _____ Room # _____

Child: _____ Room # _____

Child: _____ Room # _____

Please choose:

\$15 for an individual membership

or

\$25 for a family membership

plus \$ additional donation

equals \$ Total Due

**Please make your check payable to the Lawton Elementary PTA,
and return this entire form with your check to the office by September 23rd.**

Thank you for your support!



**Seattle Public Schools-Screening Form
Request for Criminal History Information
Child / Adult Abuse Information Act
RCW 43.43.830 through 43.43.845**

Seattle Public Schools

School Site or Program: _____

Volunteers: Please return this form to the school or program.

The Washington State Legislature has helped us assure security for children by allowing background checks on all people who work with children in schools. The Seattle School District supports this requirement. Because we care about our students, all volunteers must complete this form and undergo a background check prior to beginning as a volunteer AND no less frequently than every 2 years as an active volunteer (recommend repeating annually).

APPLICANT OF INQUIRY

First Name _____ MI _____ Last Name _____

Aliases / Maiden Name _____

Date of Birth _____ Gender _____

Address _____

City / State / Zip _____

E-mail _____

Phone Number(s) _____

Applicant Signature _____ Date _____

Name of child in school, if any _____

See Reverse for Disclosure Statement

School Verification

ID Verification (Driver's License or other ID with name and birth date) Initials _____

OK WATCH (State Patrol Criminal History Check) Date Passed _____ Initials _____

Comments _____