

West TV PTC Monthly Newsletter

September 2016

Message from the President, Shelli Kime

Welcome back to the 2016/17 school year at West TV! Hopefully everyone has adjusted the rigors of a new year and things are humming along smoothly for the students and families. Things at the school are off to a bang this year with several new staff and the biggest student population at WTV to date. It's exciting to see the West TV community continue to thrive and grow, and the PTC board would like to extend an extra special welcome to all the new families. I personally feel very fortunate to have moved into such a wonderful school and community, and I sincerely hope you all find the same to be true for your own families.

The PTC is already in full swing and has had two fun events this month. The first was a West TV tradition and student favorite, the Back to School picnic. A special thanks to Georgi Laufenberg and the dozens of volunteers and that made that night a success. It was a casual and relaxed evening where parents traded in a night of dinner duty for the swapping of stories about summer travels and shenanigans while the kids ran themselves into exhaustion playing in the field. It was a great way to end the first week of school. I call it the "Friday Night Trifecta" when my kids are fed AND happy AND ready for an early bedtime on the weekend. Thanks Georgi, mission accomplished for many of us!

The second event and our biggest fundraiser of the 2016/17 school year, the WTV annual Track Trot, is already under our belts thanks to Angie Hamilton and Micaela Liles. The weather was beautiful and every year it's such a fun thing to watch all those kids take off like they were running an Olympic 100-yard dash, realize about 30 seconds in they will never make it for another 29 minute 30 seconds at that pace and finally settle into whatever groove they can jog, walk or sometime even dance around the track. It's not too late to turn in donations and we will take them as long as you can collect them! Thank you for supporting the students every year with your contributions. It's a fun way for the kids to have a personal effort in fundraising for their school and I know many of them set out to collect every possible dollar from those who donated by the lap. Thanks to coordinators, volunteers, participants and donors alike!

Coming up on October 5th is our Walk to School event sponsored by the WTV Green Team. We hope to see many kids and parents by foot or bike to school not only that day, but every day! If you drive your kids to school you've noticed how full and hectic our small parking lots and drive-thru can get. This is definitely a growing pain with our expanding student body. Avoid the parking lot frustrations and walk or bike to school! We all know exercise is important for not only physical fitness but mental fitness as well. What a great way for kids to prepare for a day of learning by getting the blood flowing early. If you don't live in a place where your child can safely walk to school or it's too far as a morning commute by foot, consider looking into your neighborhood's bus route. It's another thing that is good for the environment, good for the traffic stress and kids love the small bit of independence.

We're off to a great start! We have several October events I hope to see you at. Please check the WTVPTC.org website for a list of upcoming events and dates.

Appreciation: Back to School Picnic

We were so fortunate to have beautiful weather and the new play structure ready for our annual Back to School Picnic this year! It was great seeing all our families and WTV Alumni coming back to visit. Thank you to **Georgi Laufenberg** for again chairing the committee as well as the WTV PTC and all of the volunteers that came together to make this event possible.

Spotlight: Track Trot

Chairs: Micaela Liles & Angie Hamilton

Hello West TV parents. As the new Track Trot chairs, we would like to introduce ourselves. I'm Micaela Liles, the mother of a third grader, Gianna. We have been at West TV for two years now and feel very blessed to be part of such a quality school with such strong parent involvement. My co-chair is Angie Hamilton, the mother of a second grader, Morgan, and a fourth grader, Alison. Her children have attended West TV since kindergarten. Angie and I have big shoes to fill. Jennifer Kveton, the previous chair, built our fundraiser to the place it is today. Last year, Track Trot raised over \$16,000, providing a huge chunk of the budget for the West TV PTC. This program helps fund so many amazing programs for our school. We hope you and your child have or will work to collect pledges from friends and family to fund our many, enriching school programs. Certificates will be coming home soon with the number of laps your child walked/ran in the 30 minutes allotted time on September 29th.

Don't forget you can always just use the simple write-a-check feature if you'd prefer not to collect from others and write a personal check. Also, many employers will match charitable contributions, which is one way to make your donation dollars go further. Thanks again for supporting the Track Trot fundraiser and our amazing school community.

Bulletin Board

New Volunteer System - Better Impact

Thank you to those who have completed your new background checks. We do not have everyone in the system yet, so please continue to pass the information along and encourage any West TV friends to submit their background checks. **Attached** is a step-by-step instruction sheet to help you navigate

the new system. **Please make sure to write down your username and password.** You will need this every time you log in at West TV, on your smart phone or home computer.

Parent/Guardian background check

link: <https://app.betterimpact.com/Application/?OrganizationGuid=c7a5ffe3-c03d-4d0b-9f26-d51863f60edb&ApplicationFormNumber=2>

Community Volunteers background check

link: <https://app.betterimpact.com/Application/?OrganizationGuid=c7a5ffe3-c03d-4d0b-9f26-d51863f60edb&ApplicationFormNumber=1>

Keep in Touch

We want you to feel welcome and informed about all WTV activities, so please follow our news on our **website** <http://www.wtvptc.org>, get a quick reminder of upcoming events every Monday in your email inbox from our **Monday Minute**, attend our monthly **PTC meeting** (every 3rd Wednesday evening at 7PM) and get to know our organization more in-depth in this monthly **newsletter** sent via email.
Cheers!

If you have any content suggestions for upcoming newsletters, please contact Jami Keene, PTC Secretary, at jamikeene@hotmail.com.