

Merriam PTO N2K (Need to Know)

From the PTO Board: Amy Yadav, Amanda Ragusa, Shirlee Stein, Claudia Hardy

Week of 9/14/15

This newsletter is brought to you by the Merriam PTO.

Week in review

We were so happy with the wonderful turnout for the School Picnic on Friday. Thank you to all the families who showed up despite the gloomy morning weather!

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Calendar of Events

9/15 Tuesday -- New Parent Coffee (9:00 am); PTO Meeting #1 (9:45-10:30 am) Topic: Merriam Goals & Information about the PTO

9/17 Thursday -- Early Release (12:20 pm); No School for PM Kindergarten

9/18 Friday -- Deadline to update Power School data for Merriam Directory

9/23 Wednesday -- No School (Yom Kippur)

9/29 Tuesday -- Merriam Open House 6 pm (Kindergarten families); 7 pm (Grades 1-6)

Merriam School Directory

Each fall, the Merriam PTO creates a Student Directory (with class lists) so families can communicate with each other during the year. Each Merriam family will receive one copy of the directory for free. Entries for the Directory come from the information you enter into the PowerSchool Parent Portal so we need to make sure everyone has submitted their current information and updated their permissions for

publication. ***This information also allows the school to send our N2K (“Need to Know”) weekly school communication via email to you.*** If you have not yet done so this school year for each of your Merriam children, please visit PowerSchool to review your information and make any necessary changes. Information on this process will be coming home in the backpacks between now and the deadline on **Friday, September 18th.**

Volunteer Opportunities with the Merriam PTO

Fall Fair Team – We are looking for several people to fill positions such as concessions, games, ticket sales, entertainment and set up/tear down for Merriam’s 5th Annual Fall Fair. This event is a fun evening of “carnival games”, cakewalks and yummy food. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Christopher Hardy (chrishardy7@yahoo.com).

Front Office Volunteers—We are in need of additional volunteers for the Merriam School front office. The commitment is for one day every other week for about an hour. The front office volunteers coordinate the attendance of all students to ensure safe arrival, and prepare reports for changes to students’ dismissal routines. If you are interested in volunteering or would like more information on this opportunity, email Kathleen Zawicki at (kzawicki@abschools.org).

Friday Mail Team - Come join a group of fun and friendly parents at approximately 8:30 am on Friday mornings to assemble information packets that go home every week. Please contact Karen Brandstein (kmwb1@yahoo.com) for more information.

School Pictures Day Volunteers – We are looking for volunteers to help the photographers with paperwork on the morning of Wednesday, October 14th. Please contact Amanda Ragusa (amandadragusa@gmail.com) for more information.

Room Parent Coordinator – We need a volunteer to serve as a liaison between the PTO and the Room Parents. Please contact Amy Yadav (amyadav@gmail.com) for more information.

Room Parents** - Becoming a Room Parent can be a great way to get involved with your child's class. It is also a great opportunity for parents that may not be able to volunteer in the classroom, but would like to help out remotely. If interested, or have questions, please contact Amy Yadav (amyadav@gmail.com) or your classroom teacher!

Merriam Yard Sale Coordinator(s) – We are looking for one or two coordinators to revitalize and organize the annual Merriam Yard Sale held in Spring. Contact Amy Yadav (amyadav@gmail.com) for more information.

Book Fair Team – We are looking for one or two volunteers to coordinate our annual February Book Fair. Tasks include coordinating book delivery and pick up with the vendor and coordination of volunteers to work at the Fair. Our outgoing coordinator, Zuzka Blasi, will review tasks and time line with the new coordinator to insure a smooth transition. Please contact Amy Yadav (amyadav@gmail.com) for more information.

Please help the Merriam PTO continue to support our wonderful classroom assistants. If you (and/or your friends!) are interested in any of the positions above, please contact: Amy Yadav (amyadav@gmail.com). We look forward to working with you next year to enrich the Merriam

community.

The Merriam Spring Auction is Back!

This year, the Merriam Spring Auction will replace the Fall Appeal as the Merriam Community's largest fundraiser. The planning committee is forming now and we are looking for volunteers to help coordinate in the two areas listed below:

Classroom Art Project (2—3 people) – At past auctions, some of the most popular items have been the classroom art projects. These works of art are unique to each class and include a piece made by each Merriam student. We already have one volunteer to help coordinate this fun but we need at least one more person (two would be even better!) to help. We are looking for people to work together to design and produce (with the help of the kids and parents!) an Art Project for each grade. If you have artistic talent and/or are great at organization, we would love to have your help on this fun part of the auction.

Merriam School Video/iMovie (1—2 People) – During the Auction, one of the highlights is the premiere of the “Year at Merriam” photo montage. We need a couple of people who have the creative and technical skills to put this film/presentation together; can coordinate with Merriam Teachers, staff and parents to get needed photographs; and, if needed, take additional photos of students, staff and events during the school year.

If you are able to help out with an area listed above, please contact Alycen Nigro (alyheels@yahoo.com). We promise it will be a lot of fun!