

MINUTES : ECMS PTO MEETING

16 SEPTEMBER 2022



Welcome

1. Mr Lazor opened up the meeting with prayer and welcomed everyone present and online.
2. The PTO team members were introduced and Nancy Peralta was welcome as a new team member managing our Signup Volunteer Database and some of our communications.

Financial

1. With the funds raised last year, we were able to purchase six tables for our outdoor classroom. We were hoping to build a roof for the outdoor space but unfortunately increased building costs have made it impossible for the PTO to fund at this time. Instead, we opted to use the funds raised to upgrade the playground by repaving the basketball court areas and replacing the hoops. This looks fantastic and the students are enjoying it. The paving is still curing and the basketball lines will be painted soon.
2. We spent \$7k on the tables and \$30k on the paving/basketball courts project. Thank you so much for your financial support.

Main Fundraiser

RaiseCraze

1. RaiseCraze is our one big fundraiser for the year that we need **all families to participate** in. We are raising money for outdoor playground equipment, library books, and a student carnival.
2. Our 1st goal is to raise \$15,000. If we reach this amount Mr. Lazor will be slimed (and hopefully another teacher will join). Our second goal is \$20 000- if we reach this goal Mr. Lazor will sleep on the roof of the school and Mrs. Brain possibly kissing a pig.
3. The fundraiser begins on **October 3rd and ends on October 28 with a hands-dirty day**. It is an online platform with the theme of **Paying it forward**. Students will ask for donations and they will pay it forward by doing acts of kindness throughout the month of October.
4. **Our Acts of kindness goal is 1000**. We will highlight the various AOK that our students have completed. Please share photographs and stories with us too on their AOK.
5. **Please help us reach our goals and get your students registered where they will record their acts of kindness**. We have a lot more information to share and this will be available as we start to count down to the event.

Upcoming events

1. **BTS Family Game Night** - 30 September, 7pm - This is a free event. For planning purposes, we ask you to please register asap. This will be one sweet event that everyone will enjoy.

2. **Dad's Night Out** - Friday 21 October, 7pm - Dads will enjoy some axe throwing at Stumpy's hatchet house. Registration is open. Encourage the men in your life to go and enjoy an evening meeting some other ec men. This event is open to dads from all 3 campuses.
3. **Fall PhotoShoot** - Saturday 29 October (All day) - Our registration is now open for the fall photo shoot. Our photographer is Justin van Dyke (he is a well-renowned photographer and also takes all of EC's student and campus photographs). You are welcome to take photos of just your kids, and/or pet. You will receive digital prints and also have the option to get professional photos printed through Justin.
4. **Dude & Student Nerf Battle** - 18 November 7pm - We had an amazing turnout last year and we are going even bigger and better this year. Save the date for this fun event. This event is for all Wyckoff students and their dad/uncle/grandpa/significant male in their lives.
5. **Staff Christmas Gift Fund collection** - To make things easier for parents and to ensure that all our EC staff receive a gift, we do a monetary donation collection. We have a team that will assemble and get the gifts ready, which the homeroom liaisons can present to the teacher at their Christmas party.
6. **Christmas Parties** - Check with your homeroom teacher if they would like a party. Some may just want you to bring in goodies to eat, usually, in the lower grades, they don't mind if the parents organize a craft or activity. The parties are held on 22 December.
7. **Spiritual-Themed Christmas Ornament** - We will have ornaments again for sale this year and they will be available for purchases at the homecoming picnic and we will continue to sell them. It's a great addition to any Christmas tree.

8. **Monthly Teacher Appreciation** - We would like to thank Christina Strange who is our coordinator. She will ensure that the cart in the staff lounge is restocked. We have allocated a month to each grade to donate certain items (a link is on the signup page). Donations are sent in during the 1st week of the month and Christina will stock the cart. Thank you for your donations. Our teachers have expressed their sincere gratitude for the love and support we have shown them. **8th gr - October, 7th gr - December, 6th February, 5th gr. March, 4th gr. April** - the PTO will cover the other months in between.
9. **Parents in Prayer** - PIP will be held each Monday 8:30 am - in the art room. This is open to everyone. There is no pressure to pray. Still a few minutes or stay longer. Need prayer requests, just let them know. Stella & Eunbee is the PiP coordinators for the Wyckoff campus. We thank them for praying for our students, schools, and families. There is also a campus-wide parent in Prayer every Monday night at 7:30 pm virtually.

Volunteer Opportunities

1. **Wednesday lunch cover** (Teacher Collaboration) We are in need of parents to **cover lunchtime for 5 and 6th graders on Wednesday from 12:05 - 12:25**. This is an easy and fun way to see your student with their friends at lunchtime. The teachers are using this time to collaborate about their classes and how and what they are teaching together.

2. **Recess** duty - see our signups and if you are free please sign up but our crucial need is Wed lunch cover and food volunteers.
3. **Food Server** (Tue CFA & Thu Pizza -11.15am - 12.15 pm). We would like to thank everyone who has signed up for our CFA & pizza days. We have almost all the slots filled for this semester with a few openings. If you are volunteering and it's your first time, we will make sure either Lynette or myself will be there to guide you.
4. **RoomParent Liaison** - Thank you to all the HomeRoom Liaison Parents who have signed up so far! We are still in need of parents for 6D, 7P, 8Br, 8A - On the PTO website is a list of what is expected of a homeroom liaison. Anyone can do this.
5. SignUp Link to view all opportunities and to sign up for monthly staff appreciation <https://signup.com/go/PEUrbss>

New PTO Leaders & Additional Team Members 23/24

This is Carolee's and Lynette's last year as leaders at the MS PTO.

We ask you to consider stepping into our roles as leaders next year. We would also like additional team members. If you have any questions, please reach out to any one of us.

If nobody steps up it would mean that our Wyckoff community will suffer and we will not be able to provide the events and service offerings we currently do which will be sad.

Communications

1. How to get connected / BAND - there are many parents who are not using FB or Instagram to communicate. We've been looking at how can we get parents in each grade connected to each other. Sometimes you just want to ask a question or invite students over for a get-together or you need help with transport. This is a great way for everyone to be able to connect and it allows you to personalize how you want to receive information. It also allows your homeroom liaison to communicate with you about events pertaining to your class. The more parents who sign up, the easier it gets next year we just change the grade and you do not need to signup again for the next grade but it will automatically change over.
2. Website www.ecmspto.com, Facebook (ECMS PTO), Instagram (ecms_pto), E-mail mspto@easternchristian.org,

School events

1. **Spruce Lake** - 19-21 October
2. **Back to School Night** - 22 September - 7th and 8th-grade start at 6:45 pm 4th - 6th grades start 7:15 pm. No students/ parents only
3. **Teacher Conferences** 3-4 November - All 4th graders will have a teacher conference. 5-8th grades - teachers will contact the parents of students they would like to see and schedule a time for their conference.
4. **Hands Dirty Day, 28 October** - In coordination with our RaiseCraze Fundraiser the school is organizing a service morning and

intends to send all students to a variety of local locations to perform acts of service. Past opportunities have ranged from yard work, sitting with seniors, and preparing goodie bags for the homeless. If you know of any venue where the students are able to go (preferably indoors in the event of rain), please contact Lynda Vincenti at lyndavincenti@easternchristian.org

5. **Homecoming Weekend** - 15 October - there are many opportunities to volunteer for adults and students. This is a great event held by EC with a picnic, games, sports etc
<https://one.bidpal.net/echomecoming/welcome>
6. **8th Grade Coffee with the Principal** - HS Transition - this will take place towards the end of October or beginning of November

Questions/Suggestions

The PTO thanked everyone who attended in person and online and the meeting was adjourned. The minutes will be made available on the PTO website.

Next Meeting 13 January 2023

CONNECTING PARENTS TO PARENTS -

As parents, it is often said that it is not easy to get in contact with fellow EC parents. We will be using BAND to try and get our community more easily connected to each other.

Parents will be able to share information related to their child's specific grade level, welcome new families, ask questions, etc.



4th Grade Parents

This band is used to connect parents to parents of 4th-grade students.

Scan this QR code and join!



ECMS PTO

Welcome! Please join us to stay connected!

Scan this QR code and join!



5th Grade Parents

Welcome! Please join us to stay connected!

Scan this QR code and join!



6th Grade Parents

Connecting parents to parents of 6th grade students.

Scan this QR code and join!



7th Grade Parents

Connecting parents to parents of 7th grade students.

Scan this QR code and join!



8th Grade Parents

Connecting parents to parents of 8th grade students.

Scan this QR code and join!



PORTRAIT MINI SESSIONS

SATURDAY, 29 OCTOBER

(RAIN DATE: 12 NOVEMBER)

VENUE: EC HIGH SCHOOL

\$150

15 Min Sessions

Digital Images

Option to order professional prints

Pets Allowed

www.easternchristian.org/familyphoto

SCAN ME



**BOOK
NOW**



Dad's Night Out

CALLING ALL EC DADS



Come and celebrate the new year!
Join us for a fun night of axe throwing and friendship.
A great opportunity to meet other EC Men.
Refreshments will be served.

Stumpy's Hatchet House

Friday 21 October 2022, 7pm

\$40 per person

Deadline to RSVP: 15 October

SCAN QR code to register



BACK TO SCHOOL FAMILY GAME NIGHT



Spare Some Time for Fun

Meet Old Families and Welcome New Families

Open To All UE & MS Families

Play A Game Of Five In A Row

Refreshments On Sale

Fun Is Free



Friday, September 30
Game starts at 7pm
Wyckoff Campus Gym



SCAN ME

Pre-registration required ~ for planning purposes

MONTHLY STAFF APPRECIATION



Each grade is allocated a month to show some extra love to our teachers by replenishing the staff lounge.

Please use **SIGNUP** to see the list of items.

PTO - September

8th gr - October

PTO - November

7th gr - December

PTO - January

6th gr - February

5th gr - March

4th gr - April

PTO - May

PTO - June



Items will be collected during the **first week of the month**. When sending items with your student, please mark it for **attention : PTO SA**.