**WELCOME TO THE MWES PTO 2022-2023**

**What is the PTO?**

The MWES Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) is designed to work as partners with the administrators, faculty and staff to ensure that Mary Williams Elementary School continues to be a great place for our children to grow and learn. Our mission is to supplement and enrich the educational experience of all students by providing a forum for interaction and understanding between parents, teachers, students and their families. Our goal is to provide a framework for coordinating fundraising and volunteer efforts for the purpose of purchasing instructional items and funding events, activities and school enhancements that would not otherwise be provided within the school budget.

**What do PTO funds provide for the school?**

The PTO membership dues and our annual fundraisers fund student events, family activities, school enhancements and the purchase of instructional items. Examples: Classroom enrichment supplies - Family Bingo/Movie Nights - Playground Equipment - Staff Appreciation

**Why should I join the PTO?**

All Mary Williams parents, faculty, relatives and friends are encouraged to join the PTO. As parents, being involved in your child’s school shows that you value their education. Volunteering enables you to work with faculty to shape the future of your child.

**How is the PTO organized?**

The PTO Board consists of executive officers, the school principal and teacher representatives. Program chairs, who are parent volunteers, lead the various committees and organize events. Any parent who is a member of the PTO may, and is encouraged to, serve on the board.

**How is the PTO funded?**

Membership: There is an annual tax-deductible family fee of $10 for PTO membership. If you are not able to donate as much of your time to the PTO as you would like, you may choose from the various categories of giving (see membership form). We also have opportunities for businesses to contribute via event sponsorship. In addition, the PTO conducts fundraisers during the year. Past examples include a Double Good Popcorn, Box Tops collections, spirit night at local restaurants and participation in retailer-sponsored programs. All funds raised are solely for the benefit of Mary Williams Elementary School and its students.

**How can I help?**

There are many ways you can help the PTO:

* -  Join the PTO annually; the membership fee is $10 per family.
* -  Volunteer your time or donate items to help support events. Our various projects require
* hours of manpower and a wide variety of skills. There are many opportunities for both working and non-working parents to help.
* -  Participate in fundraising activities and encourage your friends and family to do so as well.

We are looking forward to an exciting school year and looking forward to working with all of you!

With Panther Cub Pride,

The MWES PTO Board