

Midland Park Elementary PTA



Parent Information Packet 2019-2020

MPEPTA Executive Board Officers

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September 2019

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the 2019-2020 school year! On behalf of the entire Midland Park Elementary PTA (MPEPTA), I hope everyone had a wonderful summer, filled with fun, relaxation and many lasting memories of time spent with family and friends.

One of the great things about both Godwin and Highland School is the strong feeling of community among our families and school staff and the willingness of so many individuals to help positively impact our children's school experience. Last year, the MPEPTA had over 200 parent volunteers to help make our activities, events and programs possible. Thanks to all of you who volunteer, donate and/or attend our events, the MPEPTA is able to give back to the school community and that is the basis for this year's theme...**TOGETHER WE CAN DO SO MUCH!** Without so many volunteers, there is only so much we would be able to accomplish, but when we all work **TOGETHER, WE CAN DO SO MUCH.**

This parent packet is full of PTA related information. Please take time to review it—we hope you find it resourceful & helpful as you get acquainted with all that is being planned for the 2019-2020 school year.

There are so many ways to get involved in the MPEPTA. The most immediate way is to join the MPEPTA - by becoming a member, you are stating that you support the MPEPTA. Other ways to get involved include becoming a Room Rep or a Tic Toc Docent, or joining the Baking Committee. You can chair one of our events or join one of our many committees. There are opportunities for everyone, and no task is too small. The MPEPTA is a great way to get involved, meet new friends, see your child's school in a new way & be connected to all things Midland Park!

At the end of this packet is a list and description of the various committee and volunteer opportunities within the MPEPTA. We encourage you to review and sign up for anything and everything that interests you. Or, if you have other talents you feel could be useful to the MPEPTA, we encourage you to reach out to one of our board members. (Please note – the volunteer signup sheet is in the MPEPTA Return to School packet or you can also sign up online through the link in our weekly e-newsletter.)

In order to stay connected with the MPEPTA throughout the year, we encourage you to open & read the weekly e-blast newsletter that is sent out at 9am every Monday morning during the school year. Here you will find the most up to date information on all things MPEPTA. In addition, be sure to join our Facebook page & sign up for text messaging (all sign up information for these communications is located further in this packet).

Finally, the MPEPTA will hold 3 general meetings this year: September 23rd (7:30pm), January 27th (7:30pm) and May 24th (3:00pm). All meetings will be held in the Highland Media Center. We encourage you to attend these meetings to stay informed about the schools and topics of interest in your child's education, as well as to hear about all of the exciting things planned for this year. The executive board & committee chairs will be on hand to answer any questions you may have as well.

This year, each student in Grades Pre-K to 1st will be provided with a special school folder & Grades 2nd-6th will be provided with school planners all courtesy of the MPEPTA. We have also provided both Godwin and Highland Schools with Kleenex tissues and paper towels. The Executive Board & I thank you for your support this year and we look forward to working with you because **TOGETHER WE CAN DO SO MUCH!**

Sincerely,

Nancy Magee, MPEPTA President

MPEPTA MEMBERSHIP

By becoming a Midland Park Elementary PTA member you are showing you support the work the PTA does to enhance the school experience for ALL students!

TO BECOME A PTA MEMBER:

Go to <https://mpepta-nj.memberhub.store> to purchase your MPEPTA membership via credit card OR please fill out the membership form included in the MPEPTA Return to School packet and send in back to your child's teacher (please include your check made out to MPEPTA).

Membership is \$10/person and grants you access to the online directory and enables use of the MemberHub APP. You must be a MPEPTA member in order to access the APP and online system.

NEW INCENTIVE THIS YEAR: All MPEPTA Members will receive an exclusive Calendar Magnet which lists all school closings and early dismissals.

Additionally, if you sign up by October 1st, you will be entered into a raffle to win a free wristband to this year's Harvest Festival!

Once you become a member, please log in to MemberHub and validate/update your personal information that you would like to share with the school community. As a member, you have access to your profile to edit as necessary.

Box Top Summer Collection Due Sept 9th

THANK YOU to all who participated in the MPEPTA's Summer Box Top Collection Contest! This is a reminder to return them to your child's teacher by September 9th.

Place Box Tops in the Ziplocs provided in June or in your own with your child's name, grade & teacher and send in to your child's teacher.

Prizes will be awarded in each school.

Kindergarten Students: A Fall contest for all grades will be announced in late September so hold on to your

STAY IN THE KNOW

Want to stay up on all of the PTA happenings – events, meetings, deadlines, etc.? Be sure to connect with the MPEPTA in the following ways:

FACEBOOK – LIKE us on Facebook/Midland Park Elementary PTA

TEXT MESSAGING – sign up for free text messaging by texting **@ek2bh** to the number 81010

WEEKLY E-BLAST – If you are not receiving our weekly e-blasts (sent every Monday at 9am), please e-mail midlandparkepta@gmail.com.

BURBIO – Find our dates on the town calendar via BURBIO (found on the town website).

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

Friday, September 6th – OUTDOOR MOVIE NIGHT - Come join us for a fun family movie night “under the stars” on the Highland School Field featuring **INCREDIBLES 2**. This annual back to school event is a favorite! Bring your chairs, blankets and bug spray. Come enjoy the concession stand for a variety of movie candy and refreshments. Movie starts at 7:45pm (7:30pm in the Highland Gym in case of rain).

September 17th – GODWIN BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT – 6:30pm

September 19th – HIGHLAND BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT – 6:30pm

Monday, September 23rd - PTA GENERAL MEETING - Come find out all that the PTA has planned this year and what it is all about. 7:30pm in the Highland Media Center.

Midland Park Elementary PTA 2019-2020 Monthly Events



SEPTEMBER

5 Meet and Greet – Welcome Party	Highland School Field	1:30 PM
6 Movie Night	Highland School Field	7:00 PM
6 Spirit Day	Highland and Godwin Schools	8:30 AM
13 Room Rep Meeting	Highland School Cafeteria	2:00 PM
23 MPEPTA General Meeting	Highland School Media Center	7:30 PM

OCTOBER

1 Godwin School Picture Day	Godwin School	8:30 AM
2 Highland School Picture Day	Highland School	8:30 AM
3 Godwin School Picture Day - Rain Date	Godwin School	8:30 AM
4 Highland School Picture Day - Rain Date	Highland School	8:30 AM
4 Spirit Day	Highland and Godwin Schools	8:30 AM
7 Pumpkin Patch	Highland School Field	8:30 AM
7 MPEPTA Executive Board Meeting	Highland School Media Center	7:30 PM
10 Harvest Festival	Highland School Field	3:00 PM
17 Harvest Festival - Rain Date	Highland School Field	3:00 PM
21-25 Book Fair	Highland School Media Center	8:30 AM
23 Book Fair Evening Hours	Highland School Media Center	6:00 PM
27 Trunk or Treat	Dairy Street Parking Lot	2:00 PM
31 Godwin Halloween Parade	Highland School Field	1:30 PM
31 Halloween Class Parties	Highland and Godwin Schools	2:00 PM

NOVEMBER

1 Spirit Day	Highland and Godwin Schools	8:30 AM
4 MPEPTA Executive Board Meeting	Highland School Media Center	7:30 PM
14 Artventures	Highland School Cafeteria	3:00 PM
16 Panther Bowl – Parent Social	Holiday Bowl - Oakland	8:00 PM

DECEMBER

2 MPEPTA Executive Board Meeting	Highland School Media Center	7:30 PM
6 Spirit Day	Highland and Godwin Schools	8:30 AM
12 Holiday Workshop	Highland School Cafeteria	3:00 PM
16-20 Holiday Store	Highland School	8:30 AM
17 Holiday Store Evening Hours	Highland School	6:00 PM
23 Holiday Class Parties	Highland and Godwin Schools	11:30 AM

All Dates, Times & Locations Subject to Change

JANUARY

3 Spirit Day	Highland and Godwin Schools	8:30 AM
6 MPEPTA Executive Board Meeting	Highland School Media Center	7:30 PM
27 MPEPTA General Meeting	Highland School Media Center	7:30 PM
29 Highland Talent Show Dress Rehearsal	Highland School Gym	6:00 PM
31 Highland Talent Show	Highland School Gym	7:00 PM

FEBRUARY

3 MPEPTA Executive Board Meeting	Highland School Media Center	7:30 PM
5 Godwin Talent Show Dress Rehearsal	Highland School Gym	6:00 PM
7 Godwin Talent Show	Highland School Gym	7:00 PM
7 Spirit Day	Highland and Godwin Schools	8:30 AM
12 Artventures (Panther's Palette)	Highland School Cafeteria	3:00 PM

MARCH

2 MPEPTA Executive Board Meeting	Highland School Media Center	7:30 PM
2-6 Read Across America Week	Highland and Godwin Schools	8:30 AM
6 Family BINGO Night	Godwin School All Purpose Room	7:00 PM
6 Spirit Day	Highland and Godwin Schools	8:30 AM
31 Cultural Awareness Day	Highland and Godwin Schools	8:30 AM

APRIL

3 Spirit Day	Highland and Godwin Schools	8:30 AM
13 MPEPTA Executive Board Meeting	Highland School Media Center	7:30 PM
16 Artventures	Highland School Cafeteria	3:00 PM

MAY

1 Spirit Day	Highland and Godwin Schools	8:30 AM
4 MPEPTA Executive Board Meeting	Highland School Media Center	7:30 PM
4-8 Teacher Appreciation Week	Highland and Godwin Schools	8:30 AM
8 Food Truck Festival	High School Parking Lot	6:00 PM
15 Panther Prowl Fundraiser	Highland School Field	8:30 AM
19 Field Day Meeting	Highland School Media Center	2:00 PM
19 MPEPTA General Meeting	Highland School Media Center	3:00 PM
22 Field Day	Highland School Field	9:00 AM
29 Field Day - Rain Date	Highland School Field	9:00 AM

JUNE

1 MPEPTA Executive Board Meeting	Highland School Media Center	7:30 PM
5 Spirit Day	Highland and Godwin Schools	8:30 AM
6 6th Grade Celebration Dance	Highland School Gym	6:00 PM
11 6th Grade Barbeque (Rain Date June 12th)	Highland School Front Lawn	12:00 PM
11 Kindergarten Carnival (Rain Date June 16th)	Highland School Field	8:30 AM
18 6th Grade Promotion Ceremony	Highland School Gym	7:00 PM
22 Class Parties	Highland and Godwin Schools	11:30 AM

All Dates, Times & Locations Subject to Change

Midland Park Elementary PTA Committee & Volunteer Opportunities

The MPEPTA relies on the volunteer efforts of SO many in our school community. We are so grateful for every person that helps out throughout the year. We realize that we all live busy lives with family, work and other commitments and so we are even more appreciative of the time and energy given to make each MPEPTA event and activity a success for our students. If you are looking to get more involved but not sure how, the following list outlines the many committees and programs that we support as a PTA. There is a place for anyone that wants to help. For more information or to sign up as a volunteer, please fill out the **VOLUNTEER FORM** in the Return to School packet or reach out to the committee chairperson(s) listed, contact midlandparkepta@gmail.com or speak to one of the Executive Board members to find the right fit for you! Thank you in advance for any volunteer support you can give this year!

3rd GRADE BAGEL BREAKFAST ~ SEPTEMBER ~ CHAIRPERSON(S): Corin Sonderfan

Help coordinate bagel breakfast with third graders and Mr. Galasso. All third graders will be invited.

ARTVENTURES AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM ~ NOVEMBER 14TH, FEBRUARY 12TH & APRIL 16TH ~ **CHAIRPERSON(S):** Kethley Parlagrecco & OPEN

This afterschool art program offers unique afterschool art and movement programs that children can participate in. Parent volunteers are needed to help run programs (if you have a special art hobby or job, we'd love to hear about it!), monitor children during programs, and help with other program needs.

APPAREL SALE ~ YEAR LONG ~ CHAIRPERSON(S): Lora Albertson

Help coordinate orders and distribute the items sold; sell apparel at fundraisers and various events.

ASSEMBLIES ~ YEAR LONG ~ CHAIRPERSON(S): Megan Grillo & Kwanji Valentine

Help coordinate assemblies for the school year.

BAKING/HOSPITALITY ~ YEAR LONG ~ CHAIRPERSON(S): Corin Sonderfan

Donate baked goods and refreshments for various PTA events and/or work at bake sales. No meetings; great for all who enjoy baking. Accommodations are made for those who are unable to deliver baked goods.

BEAUTIFICATION—YEAR LONG ~ CHAIRPERSON(S): Barbara Tarleton

Help beautify the appearance outside of both schools on a seasonal basis.

BOOK FAIR ~ OCTOBER 21st – 25th ~ CHAIRPERSON(S): Padma Dhalwani & Jennifer McCarthy

Committee of parent volunteers that help children select their books, man cash registers, set up/take down. Flexible shifts available.

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION ~ YEAR LONG ~ CHAIRPERSON(S): Mandy Kajajian

Help with collecting, sorting, and redeeming of Box Tops for Education coupons.

BULLETIN BOARDS ~ YEAR LONG ~ CHAIRPERSON(S): Megan Grillo & Kwanji Valentine

Design and coordinate bulletin boards for PTA themes and programs.

CALENDAR ~ JUNE – AUGUST ~ CHAIRPERSON(S): Erin Piemontesi

Design a school district calendar for the upcoming school year.

CULTURAL AWARENESS DAY ~ MARCH 31st ~ CHAIRPERSON(S): Wendy Goodell & Kethley Parlagreco

Help plan and setup a wonderful week-long program which introduces students to different customs, art, food, music, etc. of different cultures from around the world.

DIRECTORY & MEMBERSHIP ~ YEAR LONG ~ CHAIRPERSON(S): Tracey Birney

Recruit members and help with updating the membership database.

FAMILY FUN NIGHTS/DAYS ~ YEAR LONG ~ CHAIRPERSON(S): OPEN

Volunteers are needed to coordinate, plan and execute the family fun events such as MOVIE DAY and other fun family activities!

FAMILY SUPPORT ~ YEAR LONG ~ CHAIRPERSON(S): OPEN

Help support Highland/Godwin families during times of crisis. Volunteers make and deliver meals, provide baby-sitting, and supply other services as needed. IF AT ANY TIME DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR YOU KNOW OF A FAMILY WHO COULD USE OUR HELP, PLEASE CONTACT THE PTA PRESIDENT.

FOOD TRUCK FESTIVAL ~ MAY 8th ~ CHAIRPERSON(S): Liz Panuccio & OPEN

Plan, coordinate and execute our annual food truck festival. Volunteers are needed to contract vendors, work with town officials (DPW, Fire Department, etc.), assist with wristband sales, marketing and more. This is a great community event to help with!

HARVEST FESTIVAL ~ OCTOBER 10th ~ CHAIRPERSON(S): Barbara Tarleton

Many volunteers are needed to work on the Harvest Festival. Help is needed with set-up, running a carnival type booth, ticket booths, painting pumpkins, and clean-up. Many other volunteers will be needed for behind-the-scenes planning. This will be a fall fun fair after school. Games, prizes, activities -LOTS OF FUN!!

HOLIDAY STORE ~ DECEMBER 16th – 20th ~ CHAIRPERSON(S): Laura Derwin

Students will have the opportunity to purchase special holiday gifts for their family and loved ones during the school day and also one evening. Parent volunteers are needed to help set up the store, help at the store and help clean up.

HOLIDAY WORKSHOP ~ DECEMBER 12th ~ CHAIRPERSON(S): OPEN

The workshop offers children a chance to create holiday gifts. Looking for crafty volunteers to work a shift to assist the children in making a craft, decorate the Highland gym, set up stations, help with set-up & take down.

KIDSTUFF COUPON BOOKS ~ SEPTEMBER ~ CHAIRPERSON(S): Karen Geary

Help distribute and collect order forms and coupon books.

LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS ~ YEAR LONG ~ CHAIRPERSON(S): Ms. Carr

Help with various library duties one or two periods a week.

PANTHER BOWL ~ NOVEMBER 16th ~ CHAIRPERSON(S): Jackie Bolten & Jill Mulder

A fun social night! Assist the chairperson in planning food, entertainment, decorations, ticket sales, etc. Amazing outlet for all you great party planners!!!!

PANTHER PROWL ~ MAY 15th ~ CHAIRPERSON(S): Jennifer McCarthy & Kristin Turner

Help plan a fun event filled with music and exercise for the entire school. Help distribute and collect pledge forms. Help with set-up and take down of tables and tents.

PICTURE DAY ~ (Godwin: OCTOBER 1st & Highland: OCTOBER 2nd) ~ CHAIRPERSON(S): Jackie Bolten
Assist in preparing children for their school pictures.

PLAYGROUND MATERIALS ~ YEAR LONG ~ CHAIRPERSON(S): Wendy Goodell
Inventory playground materials; advise Board what items are needed to be replaced

PUMPKIN PATCH ~ OCTOBER 8th ~ CHAIRPERSON(S): Sarah Junta & Darlene Kakolewski
We set up a pumpkin patch on the Highland field for the children to visit, select and purchase pumpkins. Help with set-up, take down and assisting children pick the perfect pumpkin!

PUBLIC RELATIONS/MKT'G/WEEKLY E-BLASTS ~ YEAR LONG ~ CHAIRPERSON(S): Erin Piemontesi & OPEN
Assist with design, creation and arranging weekly e-blasts with all upcoming PTA information. Also, help spread the word for our various PTA events, recruit attendees, etc.

READING CONNECTION ~ YEAR LONG ~ CHAIRPERSON(S): Liz Panuccio & Nadia Stern
Encourages reading and tries to foster the love of reading through fun activities and events. Past events include: Warm up with a Book, D.E.A.R. Mystery Readers, Book Jacket and Book Mark contests, Book Swap, and One School, One Book.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES ~ JUNE & AUGUST ~ CHAIRPERSON(S): Jayne Burke
Set up school supply kit sale with online vendor and grade level staff for the coming school year. Communicate sale to school community, monitor sales and distribute kits to individual classrooms once delivered.

TALENT SHOWS ~ (Highland: JANUARY 31st & Godwin: FEBRUARY 7th) ~ CHAIRPERSON(S): Highland: OPEN
Godwin: Peggy Fells, Darlene Kakolewski & Jackie Drexler
Help coordinate acts and run this very entertaining show! Each student is given the opportunity to showcase their talent/variety act.

TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK ~ MAY 6th – 10th ~ CHAIRPERSON(S): Nancy Magee & Laura Derwin
Help plan a breakfast, luncheon, and festivities for the teachers. Help decorate bulletin boards and the teacher's faculty rooms to this year's theme. Volunteers also help set up, serve, and clean up at the breakfast and luncheon.

TEACHER (CURRICULUM) GRANTS ~ EARLY 2020 ~ CHAIRPERSON(S): Erin Piemontesi
Review grant applications; selecting programs to receive grant monies based on curriculum requirements.

TIC TOC ~ YEAR LONG ~ CHAIRPERSON(S): Carissa Scarpa & Corin Sonderfan
Parents serve as docents for this program to bring art reproductions into your child's classroom once a month and lead a brief discussion or project. Research material and training is provided. Enthusiasm and willingness to work with children are the only requirements – not an art degree.

TRUNK OR TREAT ~ OCTOBER 27TH ~ CHAIRPERSON(S): Megan Grillo & Tara Kuipers
Plan a trunk or treat event for the children. Coordinate with Community Rec Department, Police and Fire Departments.

Please note: Due to insurance compliance, all PTA volunteers MUST be PTA members.