



Dear Families,

August 28, 2019

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome each of you and your families to Newcomb Middle School. As Newcomb PTO board members, it is among our responsibilities to talk with you about our organization, provide you as a parent(s) or guardian(s) opportunities to become a volunteer, and very importantly, encourage you to get involved in your school utilizing minimal time that best suites your daily routine. But first, since this may be the first time at Newcomb Middle School, for many of you, it is important for us to explain what the PTO is all about.

### **What is the PTO, its role, and Your Involvement?**

Our PTO is an organization that strives to enhance your child's educational experience. The Newcomb PTO works alongside the principal to help or continue to bridge the gap between parents, teachers, and students. Our primary goal is to encourage parents to assist with various school activities/functions/services, provide financial assistance where needs are identified within the school, foster a community atmosphere, and support the mission and vision of the school and school district. **What is the role of the PTO?** That role is to help transform our school from a pile of bricks with books into a community where the kids know that they're not alone.

**How we effectively accomplish this goal?** What you work on this year, what you work on next year, how you make Newcomb a better place-is up to you. There's no better cause! **Being a parent/guardian to sign up to volunteer, it just means you support our Newcomb PTO group and believe in what we're doing.**

### **PTO Programs & Fundraising**

Our primary objective as a PTO is to provide our schools with funds, programs, resources, and services that will enrich and maximize the education of every child. To meet this important objective, and afford services that are no longer covered by our school budgets, we must fundraise. Though it may not be our favorite responsibility, it is a necessary one. **Our school community must raise money in order to provide our children with the certain activities, music and dance social events, hands-on, interactive experiences and presentations that we have in the past.** There are several new groundbreaking events for this coming school year for students and parents/guardians. Our PTO will promote all of the programs we sponsor and support. **Support builds Culture!**

**This year between September and December 2019,** PTO will hold monthly pretzel and snack sales, monthly initiatives to increase awareness of certain preventions and/or support campaigns, Fall Festival (October), Fall Book Fair, Thanksgiving Luncheon (November), and Winter Wonderland in Education Silent Auction Gala (December), and other free student and family events. Additionally, the PTO will be hosting classroom contest such as Penny Wars, not to miss bi-monthly roundtable discussion for parents/guardians that target **"Real Life"** matters that your children may face on a daily basis, and other events/activities. **For every event that you attend, you will automatically earn a ticket for special drawing for a phenomenal gift at the Winter Wonderland in Education Silent Auction Gala in December.**

### **Become a Volunteer...Why YOU should get involved!**

As you can see, we are a busy group. This is where you can come in! We need your help, and so do your children. **Over 500 independent studies on parent involvement show that when parents get involved in their children's education grades go up, test scores improve, children are more likely to attend better schools after high school, they have fewer discipline problems and they're less likely to use drugs and alcohol. Get involved TODAY!**

Please look for PTO volunteer sheet at Meet the Teacher, September PTO meeting, Back to School Night, or the main office to indicate what events/activities interest you, and we'll contact you to discuss it further. Stop by to see all of our volunteer opportunities! Volunteering doesn't have to mean a huge time commitment. We

understand it is increasingly more difficult to find time to give, but please, whatever your time schedule allows, we have need of you. We even have tasks that can be performed in the evenings, during the day or that don't even involve coming to the school at all.

### **Newcomb's PTO efforts to Go Green**

Because of the amount of paper we use that eventually gets thrown away, we are starting an effort this year to dramatically reduce our paper usage. This will help our environment AND reduce our office expenses. Rather than send home flyers all the time, we are working to be able to send emails and post information on our website. Please help us by sending us your email address. If you already receive our emails, then you don't need to do anything. If you are new to our schools, or have not received our emails, please email us at [Newcombpto@pemb.org](mailto:Newcombpto@pemb.org) and your name will be added to our distribution list. If you do not have access to email, we will continue to send home flyer. Please give us your child's name and teacher when you join the PTO, and any PTO information will go home with your child. By September you will see contact information for our PTO board, a fall calendar of events, volunteer opportunities, parenting resources, and other useful information. Check it out!

### **In conclusion**

Our parent group is certainly about more than bake sales! We're about men and women working together toward a common goal. That goal, simply stated, is creating a better school and a better educational experience for our children. We strive to create an atmosphere where teachers, administrators, and support staff can do their best work – and so can our children. If every adult does a little, a lot will get accomplished. There is so much more that can be done and we need your help! We look forward to meeting you.

On behalf of the Newcomb PTO we would once again like to extend a warm welcome and best wishes for a successful school year! Please contact any of us with questions or comments.

President: Darnell Reynolds: [timeischallengin@gmail.com](mailto:timeischallengin@gmail.com)

Vice President Sheri Lowery: [mslowery101@gmail.com](mailto:mslowery101@gmail.com)

Treasurer: Ashley Hughes: [ahughes@pemb.org](mailto:ahughes@pemb.org)

Recording Secretary: Tanya Martindale: [tawen512@gmail.com](mailto:tawen512@gmail.com)

Communications Secretary: Tamika Robertson: [trobertson418@gmail.com](mailto:trobertson418@gmail.com)

Fundraising Chair: Ayana Anderson McCall: [ayana.anderson78@gmail.com](mailto:ayana.anderson78@gmail.com)

Boxtops Chair: Sheri Lowery: [mslowery101@gmail.com](mailto:mslowery101@gmail.com)

Enjoy the rest of your summer!

With Thanks and Appreciation!  
The Newcomb Middle PTO