



PTO Agenda

MYAKKA CITY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
October 18, 2022

Welcome to our PTO meeting! We know the last few weeks were not the most fun but we are excited to have our mustangs back where they belong - on our beautiful MCES campus! Whether you're joining us in person or online, we're excited to have you involved!

If you've joined us before - welcome back! If you're new here - we are SO glad to have you on board! A quick reminder: the PTO is for everyone! There are no fees, no major commitments, all we ask is for a willingness to have fun and have an impact on our amazing school. Regardless of how you'd like to be involved as a parent, family member or community leader - all are welcome in the MCES PTO! We're here to support our students and our teachers & staff, and each other, as we show why this school is the best in the world!

1. Call to Order

2. Officers' Reports

- a. President's Report - Kelly Strausbaugh
- b. Treasurer's Report - Alicia Plyler

3. Principal's Report

4. Committee Reports

(You can absolutely sign up for multiple committees and we don't expect an extreme time commitment - but if you do plan to sign up, please note that the ability to attend or participate in meetings and in email/phone conversations is a plus!)

- *Event Planning & Volunteer Coordination* - This committee will help guide our planning for events throughout the year! We are hoping to have separate "sub committees" for each main event, but in the beginning, we're planning to have a core group ready & willing to make our big events run smoothly!
- *Teacher & Staff Support* - Our goal is to have a section of our PTO budget specifically for teacher & staff needs & requests, so the goal of this committee will be to ensure that staff and teachers are supported in a meaningful way. This can also mean working with the donations committee to help offset costs of requests and bring in opportunities for partnerships to support teachers and staff in other ways (for example, during Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week in May!)
- *Fundraising & Donations* - One particular goal we are excited for is the ability to offset the cost of expenses with donations & sponsors, and as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, we can make our donations work even harder! We would like to set a quarterly and yearly goal for amounts raised, and see how we can work together with our contacts to bring in donations, coordinate with vendors and donors to receive sponsorships for teachers, staff, events and more!

6. Unfinished (old) Business

- a. **Yearbooks:** We are considering vendors for our next yearbook - working with reps at two different companies to keep the cost per book (for families) as low & affordable as possible. Stay tuned as we will most likely utilize the sale of ads & yearbook shout-outs to offset costs, so have your local business contacts ready to go!



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- b. **Volunteer Survey:** Whether you're a parent, guardian, grandparent, family, community member - we would love your input & your information! You can find our Volunteer survey on our website! <https://myakkacitypto.com/get-involved>
- c. **PTO Mission, Strategic Plan & By-laws update:**

We are in the process of updating our PTO mission statement, our "pillars" (aka our strategic plan - who we are here to support and why! - and our by-laws, to reflect that! Please stay tuned as we get that information ready for a vote!

The mission of the Myakka City Elementary School (MCES) Parent/Teacher Organization (PTO) is to support our MCES students, teachers & staff through fundraising, donations and events. As a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) organization, our aim is to make every dollar raised and donated work hard for our MCES family and beyond! We invite families & the community to get involved as we create events & opportunities to work alongside the Myakka City Elementary School curriculum. We are excited to support our Mustang students and the incredible teachers & staff at MCES!
- d. **Teacher & Staff Wish Lists:** You can find our teacher & staff wish lists on our website! Also featured on this page? Our submission form for teacher & staff requests! If you submit a request form, you may be asked to attend our meetings to present your request (before or after your event/request is fulfilled), so please submit as early as possible so we can consider your request! <https://myakkacitypto.com/teacher-and-staff-support>
- e. **Family & Business Partnerships:** If you're interested in family & business partnerships, please visit our website and find the "partner" section!
<https://myakkacitypto.com/get-involved>

7. New Business

- a. **Fundraisers:** Prior to Hurricane Ian, we were hoping to announce 1 - 3 fundraisers for our parents! With all that has occurred, we have made the decision to delay any fundraisers until January 2023 to allow our parents, students, staff & community to recover while we focus on what's really important! This includes our Otis replacement fundraiser (Der Dutchman pies), our partnership with the Tavern for a pizza kit fundraiser (planning to reschedule this ASAP!) and our spirit wear fundraiser (details coming soon!)
- b. **Hurricane Relief Donation Drive:** If you ever wanted to see an example of the way our school, our PTO and our community work together - check out any of the coverage of our recent hurricane relief donation drive. Between staff at our amazing school, our incredible community volunteers, our friends at our Manatee County schools, the school district, our local businesses, neighborhoods and beyond - Myakka felt the love after Ian passed! We know there is so much that needs to be rebuilt, but we are so proud and grateful for the way our county stepped up to help our community in a time of pain! If you would like to find a way to get involved as we regroup and figure out next steps, please visit our website. The form included is not only for those who want to give, but also those who need assistance! Please fill out this form so we can make sure our resources go to those impacted by this terrible storm! <https://myakkacitypto.com/hurricane-ian-relief> We have a meeting scheduled with our tax person to establish a "fund" that allows us to make the biggest impact possible with the incredible donated funds & checks we are receiving, as well as any grants that may come in as we continue to support our community.



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- c. **Harvest Festival:** It is with the heaviest of hearts that we are announcing the decision to reschedule our Harvest Festival. There are many factors that led to this - the main few include the way our hurricane impacted our families & staff, having another fall festival scheduled for the exact same weekend right down the road & knowing the strain and stress planning would put on our committee & volunteers, as we lost about 2 weeks of time because of the storm & the aftermath. We are hoping to get a date on the calendar asap and are considering the spring (tentatively the weekend of April 22), due to busy holiday schedules. Our events are always planned with the intention to add fun and excitement to our community, and if the planning and execution cause anything but, we want to be aware of the overall impact forging ahead might have! Our vendor chair, Amber, will be contacting vendors ASAP to refund their vendor fees (also giving the option to reschedule for our spring event) and we will touch base with our committee to regroup & pivot!

9. Adjournment

Links & resources:

- Link to Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/213090472079991>
- Link to Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/myakkacityPTO/>
- Link to Instagram account: <https://www.instagram.com/myakkacitypto/>
- PTO email address: MyakkaCityPTO@gmail.com
- PTO website: <https://myakkacitypto.com/>
- Meetings & Agendas: <https://myakkacitypto.com/resources-1>

Thank you so much for attending our MCES PTO meeting! We are so excited for your involvement and can't wait to make this the best year yet for our students, teachers and parents! Let us know if you have any feedback, ideas and opportunities for us to grow and succeed as a PTO and for our school and community!