



June 10, 2016

Dear Claypit Hill PTO Families,

Another year seems to have flown by and we find ourselves at summer vacation once again. On behalf of the PTO Board, I'd like to thank everyone for your involvement in our school community throughout this past year and for your on-going support of the PTO and our initiatives.

This morning, the Claypit PTO is holding our annual Volunteer Thank You Breakfast in honor of all who volunteered their time, energy and efforts over this past year.

Additionally, we are holding our Annual Meeting immediately following breakfast and will be voting on the following items for the 2016-2017 school year:

- Proposed Budget
- Combined Elementary Fundraising Goals
- Proposed Slate of Claypit Hill PTO Officers

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to lead our Parent Teacher Organization this year. I have thoroughly enjoyed the experience of working closely with so many of our wonderful parents and teachers as well as Ms. Harvey.

Wishing you all a wonderful summer,

Jean Prince  
Claypit Hill PTO President  
**Review of 2015-2016**

The school year got off to an exciting start as we welcomed a new Principal, Christie Harvey to Claypit Hill after Debbie Bears's 23 years in Wayland came to a close. We also were fortunate to welcome Danielle LeBaron who took over for Mr. Chadsey who retired after 40 years in Wayland! In August our Welcome Committee Chairs hosted a Popsicle Playground Playdate for all the new families and hosted tours of the school and classrooms for everyone. With 37 new students it was important to help integrate the children and their families into our school community. Thank you to Alissa Duffy and Jamie Larsen for hosting the Playground Playdate, Kindergarten Fall Arts & Crafts/ Scavenger Hunt, the Winter Snow Playdate, and coffees in the fall and winter for our new families.

**Some Additional Highlights from the year include:**

Two wonderful evenings of desserts and coffee following teacher presentations at our **Curriculum Nights**. Many thanks to Robin Jones and Katherine Bassick for starting what hopefully becomes a new tradition!

Thanks to Kristen Snyder and Ashley Boyer for another fantastic year of **Cultural Enrichment** programs for our children. Our students enjoyed performances from Bill Harley, a singer, songwriter and artist; the World of Wonder, story telling through shadow theatre and illusion; Spinning History, the Heroines of the Homefront; and concluded a few weeks ago with Ball in the House, an incredible a cappella vocal group.

Thank you to Amanda Ciaccio, Trystan O'Leary, Holly Landsittel, Anne Robinson DeMarco, Karen Cooper, Jessica Green, and Lauren Reynolds for taking over the popular **Fall and Spring Scholastic Book Fairs**. The enthusiasm from the students when the Book Fair arrives at school is fantastic. The PTO was able to use monies budgeted in Curriculum Funds to purchase books for all classrooms/specialists as well as purchasing the large, overstuffed beanbag chairs and new bookcart in the library with the rewards program offered by Scholastic.

The PTO is also able to provide many of our teaches extra assistance through our **Room Parents** coordinated by Marcia Irwin and the many **Library Volunteers** that were organized by Meredith Tobe and Amy Caputa.

The '**Just Like Me**' program for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade students continues to teach compassion and foster understanding through hands on learning. Thank you to Meredith Tobe and Jen Varney for managing such an important program and to all the parents who

participated in this program by volunteering in your child's classroom during these presentations.

Our two joint elementary school fundraising appeals were expertly handled by Maureen White for **Gift Your Child** and Kate Andersson for the **Backpack Auction**. The successful results of these campaigns are what allow the PTO to accomplish our goals each year.

We increased the amount of joint activities held between all three elementary schools this year. The always popular **Bingo** sold out once again in record time. Thank you to Maureen White and Mei-Lyn Kingsley for their efforts with this favorite event of so many families. Additionally, two evening coffees were hosted for parents at all schools. Happy Hollow hosted the fall coffee in partnership with Wayland Cares. The topic was **Internet Safety**. Thank you to Jen Pearlman and our Happy Hollow PTO friends for hosting a great and informative night. In the Spring, Loker hosted **Math Night** which included a talk geared for the parents while the children enjoyed pizza and then Family Game night entertained all. Thank you to Jen Sheldon and our Loker PTO friends for hosting this fun night.

Winter saw us host the first "**All School Movie Night**". Cindy Reardon, Liz Margari and Amy Ferrer went above and beyond to transform the Claypit halls into a magical Red Carpet experience for the kids. Look for more movie nights next year!

Another first this year was PTO taking over responsibility for the **Spring Talent Show**. Melissa Bell, Melissa Umina, Ashley Boyer and Liz Garcia organized, produced and directed the most incredible and successful Talent Show we've ever had. It was such a wonderful night for all of our very talented student performers as well as everyone in the audience!

The awesome team of Cari Cornish, Dana Cooper, Lainie Loveless and Jeannine DeFrancesco worked hard to make our teachers feel extra special by running the **Staff Appreciation** committee. The entire Claypit staff enjoyed a Back to School Luncheon the week before school started and we just closed out a very successful Staff Appreciation week which included flowers from the children, fruit baskets, breakfast and ended with a hosted luncheon.

#### **Additional thanks to:**

Jane Purser and the volunteers who helped out in the **Gardens**, oversaw **Grounds** projects and filled the pots outside the school entrance with beautiful, seasonal flowers.

Lauren Reynolds for organizing the **Wayland Bus Driver & Crossing Guard Appreciation Breakfast**, which Claypit was responsible for hosting this year. Lauren

did a beautiful job not only coordinating a wonderful meal for everyone, but they were truly touched by the cards and artwork the children personalized for each of them in the gift bags they all received.

Amanda Ciaccio for overseeing the **Vision & Hearing Testing** along with the parent volunteers who assisted Nurse Forte.

The many families who participated in the **Holiday Toy Drive**. Thank you to Karen Munroe and Lisa Flathers for organizing such a meaningful way to give back to our community.

Lauren Reynolds and Meredith Tobe as well as their volunteer crew of **5<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents** that all worked together to create a year-long celebration of our graduating 5<sup>th</sup> graders.

Mei-Lyn Kingsley for coordinating **Picture Day** and to Holly Landsittel for relocating and recreating our **Staff Photo Board** in the lobby.

Liz Garcia, Lauren Reynolds, and Katherine Bassick to make our **Sweet Endings** Ice Cream Social especially sweet!

Destiny Bartletta for making sure we kept our monthly food donations going strong to **Parmenter**

Kris Gilchrist-Minasidis our **Webmaster**, for her continued behind the scenes work on the Claypit Hill PTO website and Facebook page.

And finally, to the most amazing **Executive Board members** who made all the work so much fun! Holly Landsittel (VP), Elisa Scola (Secretary), Melissa Bell (Treasurer) and Lauren Reynolds (Prior Year President). I'm grateful to each of you for all that you do to make our school community so wonderful and the PTO strong and vibrant.

## Annual Meeting Votes

We will be voting on the following items this morning in order to present to the Town-Wide PTO Meeting on Friday, June 10<sup>th</sup>:

- 1) **2016-2017 Budget:** After each year of fundraising, we plan for the next year's spending. All elementary PTO fundraising is pooled town-wide and the proceeds are divided among the three schools based on a formula that takes into account the number of students and grades in each of the elementary schools. The proposed budget for the 2016-2017 school year is noted in Exhibit A. The proposed Combined Elementary Fundraising Goals for 2016-2017 are listed in Exhibit B.
- 2) **Proposed Slate of Claypit Hill PTO Officers 2016-2017 and Townwide Rep:** The PTO Board oversees the appointment of committee heads, the work of the committees, and the expenditure of funds based on the approved budget. This year's nominating committee proposes the following candidates for the Executive Board for the 2016-2017 school year:

<b>President:</b>	<b>Holly Landsittel</b>
<b>Vice President:</b>	<b>Alissa Duffy</b>
<b>Secretary:</b>	<b>Katherine Bassick</b>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>Melissa Bell</b>
<b>Ways &amp; Means:</b>	<b>Maureen White</b>
<b>Past President:</b>	<b>Jean Prince</b>

The Wayland Public Schools PTO is governed by a town-wide Board, which will consist of the President of each PTO plus one other elected representative from each school. This year's nominating committee proposes the following candidate for the Wayland Public Schools PTO Board for the 2016-2017 school year:

**Alissa Duffy**

**EXHIBIT B- COMBINED ELEMENTARY FUNDRAISING  
GOALS  
2016-2017**

	<b>Proposed 2016-2017</b>
4120- Book Fair	\$ 10,000.00
4130- Directories	\$ 0.00
4160- School Photos	\$ 8,000.00
4182- Spring Choice	\$ 0.00
4220- Gift Your Child	\$ 42,000.00
4240- Donations*	\$ 1,000.00
4400- Backpack Auction	\$ 25,000.00
4600- Joint Social Events**	<u>\$ 1,500.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$87,500.00</b>

\* = Donations other than Gift Your Child

\*\*= Bingo, social events that may produce a small profit

