



Dear TMS Community,

As we finish another great year at Tomlinson Middle School, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the many volunteers and supporters of the Tomlinson PTA. We kicked off our year with the highly successful Walkathon, raising a record amount through parent, student and community support. This, plus revenue from our other fundraisers such as Spirit Wear, Book Fair, Take out Tuesdays, Shutterfly and the Rolling Stones Holiday songfest at Barnes and Noble provided us with the strong financial position needed to successfully achieve our goals for TMS Student Programs, School Support, Scholarships, Community Support and Staff Appreciation programs.

Programming:

- This year we had a special Author Visit with Nathan Hale joining us for two days of workshops with all three grades, providing our students with a memorable and exciting experience for our budding TMS authors and illustrators.
- We also supported the following curriculum events this year
 - 7th grade Diversity Day programs, as they explored and celebrated how our many cultures and diverse beliefs and backgrounds create the strong foundation that is our TMS community.
 - 6th Grade Renaissance Day was enriched by the PTA's support through the purchases of craft and project materials needed to make this day even more authentic!
 - We kicked off our first Parent/Student Book Club with a Fall and Spring gathering of energetic and enthusiastic readers. The students, parents and staff loved the events and we look forward to making it a permanent program.
 - All students receive assignment books at the beginning of the year to track homework, projects and extracurricular activities.
 - All entering 6th graders and new students were also given their first article of Spirit Wear, through our T-Shirt program.
 - Our graduating 8th graders have had a busy few weeks of celebrating as we sponsored both the 8th grade dance and the picnic.

School Support:

- A large amount of our funds went directly to the school through our Grants Program again this year through purchases of additional technology equipment, teaching tools and curriculum support materials, books. For example:
 - Surface Tablets and supporting software
 - Prolmage Plus 3000 Poster Printer
 - Earth Process DMS kits for 6th grade science projects
 - Books for both the LMC and Parent/ Student book club
 - Projectors for the Keyboard rooms
 - STEM workshop programs - through the Eli Whitney Museum
 - Food Services - kitchen supplies
 - We also supported after-school clubs including the Drama Club for this year's production of Annie.
- Scholarships and field trips allowances were provided to our TMS community. We subsidized a large portion of the transportation costs for the student field trips and also provided scholarship money to many of our students enabling their full participation.
- The PTA also provides support to our Fairfield community through the Rake and Bake, Mill River Wetland programs and PTA Council.
- Finally, we support our graduates through the Warde High School Scholarship program, where two TMS graduates receive scholarship money for their college pursuits.

The PTA has been busy continuing to provide for our students to provide the best educational and fun years at TMS. I would like to thank the entire board and the many volunteers that have made this a productive year. Special thanks to our retiring board members: Marne Denslow - PTAC Rep, Peter Elliot - Budget Rep, Sharon Jacobs -VP Volunteer Coordinator, Daniela Rhoades -VP Membership and Jennifer Maxon Kennelly - PTAC Rep. They have served the TMS community with distinction.

I would also like to welcome your Co-Presidents for the 2017-18 school year, Lisa Broder and Suzanne Francis and I wish Board a great year at TMS.

Have a wonderful summer.

Ann Marie O'Keefe
TMS PTA President 2016-17

Operation Hope Needs You!

Help feed hungry families in Fairfield through the TMS sponsored dinner for Operation Hope on June 20th! This is a great way to get your family involved in helping others. Please see the [Signup Genius Link](#) for ways to help.

Contact [Vicki Swanson](#) with questions.

TMS School Supplies

Let's keep filling up our TMS School Supplies Closet! When you shop for supplies for your children, please consider picking up an item or two for our Closet, which directly benefits our TMS students in need. School supplies lists for next year will be made available to parents soon.

Donations of anything on the lists is very much appreciated. This includes backpacks, 3-ring binders, folders, loose-leaf paper, notebooks, index cards, post-it notes, pens, pencils, markers, and math function calculators. Please send your donations to the Main Office to the attention of TMS Social Worker Liz Rodriguez. We'll be accepting donations through the end of this school year, and again when school re-opens. Thank you so very much in advance for giving our students the tools they need for a great new TMS year! Questions? Please contact [Ann Harvey](#).

TMS Student/Parent Book Group

How's this for a twofer? We'll all be reading this summer anyway - so how about putting the TMS book group selection on your list! **The Westing Game**, by Ellen Raskin. "A supersharp mystery...confoundingly clever and very funny" (Booklist). Newbery winner, #9 in SLJ's top 100 all time children's novels. How does it work? Parents/guardians and their kids read the book together or independently. We hold a super casual one-hour-one-time discussion in the Fall. Date TBA (two options for you this time - an evening or an afternoon just after school in the TMS library). Share thoughts or just listen, with no signups or additional work. Parents: it's a very cool thing to hear your kids reflect - a rare opportunity that you won't want to miss. Just be sure not to spill the beans about how this whodunit ends! Happy summer reading! Questions? Please contact [Ann Harvey](#).

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