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August 1, 2011

Dear parents,

On behalf of the Lakeside PTA, I would like to welcome you to the Lakeside School community. We look forward to getting to know all of you in the upcoming school year. We know it can be a little confusing to understand all the inner workings of the school, so we wanted to fill you in on what the PTA does, and encourage you to be involved.

The PTA is an organization that serves children by working with teachers, staff and volunteer parents. Most families join PTA at the beginning of the school year. The Lakeside PTA board consists of a group of parents and staff that meet monthly to organize events and services for the school. Here are a few of the things we funded in the past year:

- \$9100 – Physical education instruction and equipment
- \$3425 – Class materials requested by teachers
- \$2115 – Laptop & software for our new Principal
- \$1135 – Author talks and assemblies
- \$435 – Community Center improvements
- \$375 – Family Life talk
- \$340 – Project Cornerstone parent education
- \$300 – Library books

Our fundraising occurs through many events and services that we provide to the school community, including Walkathon, hot lunch on Fridays, Book Fair, Spirit Day, the yearbook, t-shirt sales, Lakeside family directory, and many other things.

With such a small community, everyone's help is needed and appreciated. There are many benefits to volunteering and networking with other parents through PTA. For example you are exposed to opportunities/programs you might not otherwise hear about, such as the online EPGY program. These opportunities are shared with parents through the weekly Lakeside Letter, but often the PTA is given presentations and learns more than by just reading about it. We are looking for more parents to join us. Are you interested? Please contact us if you would like to volunteer or find out more about it.

Sincerely,

Lakeside PTA Board 2011-2012

pta@lakesidelosgatos.org

Cynthia Gingerich
President

Michelle Tedford
VP

Jude George
Treasurer

Doniell Hillegas
Secretary

Patty Anley
Auditor

Vicki Schmidt
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Lakeside PTA's Hot Lunch on Fridays Program for 2011-2012

We would like to continue our popular hot lunch program this school year. This program was put in place so that parents could be with their children and participate in a part of their daily school life without a huge time commitment. It has been a very successful program for everyone. The kids enjoy pizza and taco lunches and parents enjoy taking a day off from making lunches.

We need volunteers to make this program work! We request that families provide a volunteer at least one Friday per year per child. If families are able to volunteer more often, that's great! Volunteers can be parents, grandparents, aunts/uncles, family friends, and nannies!

Hot lunch is offered every Friday during the school year, except holidays and special events days. We need volunteers for set-up, serving and clean-up. Volunteers can choose to stay for the entire 2-hour shift from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. or for the serving and clean-up shift from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Families have an opportunity to choose their volunteer times during the PTA back-to-school coffee and at back-to-school night and throughout the year. PTA Board members present at these events can answer any questions you may have regarding this program (i.e. what duties are required when you volunteer, etc.) Judy Shile is the main contact person for any questions. Judy may be reached by calling the school office.

We are asking specific grades to cover specific months of the school year so that we know which families to ask for help if we do not have enough volunteers sign-up. The schedule is:

- Mrs. Wingfield's class: Aug 26 and Fridays in September and October
- Mrs. Schmidt's class: Fridays in November and December
- Mrs. Orcutt's class: Fridays in January and February
- Mrs. William's class: Fridays in March and April
- Kathy's Kindergarten class: Fridays in May and June 3

We will remind families of their volunteer responsibility each week in the Lakeside Letter. The volunteer schedule is also posted on the school website.

Lakeside PTA can provide financial assistance or waive the fee for your child to receive hot lunch. Please speak to Susan Ady in the school office for more information about this and other financial assistance that your family may be eligible for.

In an effort to teach our students about being responsible "green" citizens, we have a "zero waste" goal for our hot lunch program. Two years ago, we stopped offering boxed juice and last year we stopped serving individual bottles of water. Bottled water from a dispenser is now used with stainless steel mugs we purchased for all students.

Finally, we need one or two new volunteers who will do our weekly PTA lunch shopping. It involves a weekly trip to Costco and/or Smart and Final on Wednesdays or Thursdays. If you are interested, please contact Doniell Hillegas @ (408) 399-3031.