

November 13, 2017



Dear Parents and Teachers,

I'm writing to provide you an update of what your PTA is doing this year.

Join The PTA

At the Back to School Night meeting I let everyone know that we have \$23,000 in our PTA reserves that we would like to spend this year outside our normal budget. I would like the PTA to make an informed decision on where this money should be spent. We previously sent out a survey asking parents and teachers to make suggestions on how the money should be spent. Thank you to those that participated. If you would like to participate please use this link to provide your feedback <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/QHDP36H>. The survey will close on 11/30/17.

I am now gathering the costs of the top suggestions and putting together three options for how the funds can be spent. We will be sending out a vote request to all PTA members in January on this issue. Go to www.oaktonpta.net and click the "join to PTA" tab so you can take part in this important decision.

Your PTA Has Three Goals

1. Enrich and Enhance our Children's Education.

We do this by providing programs that provide an educational experience outside the normal curriculum such as GRACE Art, Reflections, Odyssey of the Mind, General Assemblies, Girls on the Run, Before-and-After School Programs, etc.

2. Build Community

Our children learn about the important role they have in the community and about other cultures through our *free* PTA-sponsored community events such as Movie Nights, Game Nights, International Festival, School Variety Show, School Dances, and many more.

3. Support the OES Staff and Teachers

We are blessed to have the amazing teachers and staff that we have at OES. Your PTA supports them with programs like the following: \$200 for each classroom teacher, departmental budget supplements, professional development grants, cost of national certification and praxis tests, staff and teacher appreciation week, etc.

I don't know about you, but I'm extremely proud of the fact that our PTA is able to provide these programs. So how do we raise the **\$82,389.05** to pay for these programs?

Fundraising

Our Panther Fun Run held in October was very successful. We netted just over \$25,000 for our school! I hope your child enjoyed the fun run as much as mine did. Thank you all for your participation.

The Friends of Oakton Fundraiser will kick off after Thanksgiving. We will keep 100% of the proceeds for this fundraiser, so please give generously and remember: all donations are 100% tax deductible!

Family Fun Night is held in the spring. There are games for the kids to play, a kids' raffle, a silent auction for the adults, and food. This year we are simplifying the event, enhancing the games and focusing on FUN! We are looking for volunteers to help with the planning of this event. Please sign up here and help shape this event. <https://app.simplesignups.com/signup/B1CMkxyYb>

It's amazing what we can accomplish for our school and kids when we work together.

Kate Cote
PTA President