

Greetings to One and All!

Wow! Its that time already to start saying “goodbye” to Summer and “hello” to our 2019-2020 Lake Forest Elementary School Year! There’s so much to share with you all, but I want to be certain to give each person and event its due, so I’ll try to be brief here and expand in greater detail in the other communication forums. I will say this... I am beyond excited about our PTC this year and I hope you will be, too!

Our Executive PTC Board is comprised of eight individuals, both volunteer parents and school representatives. The following volunteer Executive Board Member Parents are:

President:	Tami Madera
VP of Communications:	Katie Ainsworth
VP of Fundraising:	Samantha Chamberlain
Treasurer:	Rebecca Smith
Secretary:	Dana Gettelman

Dedicating even more of their already impacted schedules, are the Lake Forest Leadership Representatives:

Teachers: Mrs. Rivers Grupp & Mrs. Lisa (Doig) Brinkley (congratulations to a newly wed of only 3 months!)

and last, but not least our Principal, Mr. Bruce Peters

In addition to the above, there are so many other parents who have already dedicated countless hours throughout the summer planning and preparing for what we hope will be our greatest year ever! To that end, our first goal over the summer was to fully understand not only our individual roles, charter, and obligations, but most importantly, the funding needs and requirements to ensure continuation of the academic support the PTC has historically provided. In addition to paying homage to Lisa Rodrigues for the remarkable work she did sorting out last year’s treasury turbulence, we also reviewed historical info in binders, notes, ledgers, minutes, and current bank statements. Here’s what we know coming into this school year:

Utilizing last year’s PTC Actual Expenses as our guideline, our projected Program and Operating Expenses (including fundraising expenses) is \$126,280.00. We did not include any potential increases in line item projections for this year.

Okay, so now let’s look at how to make these things happen again and even more! The PTC maintains two bank accounts: a General Fund Checking Account, and a Savings Account, both held at Chase Bank. Our checking account balance reflected on our May 2019 statements was \$14,053.18 in checking, and \$48,657.97 in our savings account, or \$60,379.96 total. Additionally, there were a couple of outstanding projects that were voted on and approved for completion over the summer, which were not yet funded. Collectively, those items totaled approximately \$9,000, leaving us with \$51,379.96, give or take a few dollars. As you might imagine, texting activity increased and burned with the fact that tough decisions had to be made... now. One of the toughest issues to address was to the possibility of delaying the painting of a highly anticipated full wall mural and duplicate Lake Forest Banner (more on that later). Now, it doesn’t take Common Core Math to figure out that we are essentially entering our school year with big challenge... we need to raise some money - \$74,900.04 to be exact! So, you might ask, what did we do? We set a fund raising goal and went to work on how to make it happen and the excitement grew and the

creativity expanded and the energy amplified and a new PTC Event Plan and Calendar was born! One of the most readily notable changes we made was to hold our annual fund raiser in September 2019, instead of the traditional Spring event that would be in 2020! It's reasonable to state now, that contrary to a few rumors already wafting, there will be no second big Spring Auction... this is our one and only Annual Auction Fundraiser. Additional information will be provided on all of the other activities, plans and goals for this year's PTC and we hope that each of you will be a part of it!

Now, about that mural... this brings tears to my eyes! When the tough decision was made to possibly delay the project until maybe even next Summer, the disappointment was palpable. Nonetheless, positive action took hold and within but a day, a group announced they had come together to donate the funds to make the full wall mural happen before school began and it did! Lana Bermudez, Melanie Park, Brynn Williams... we all owe you a huge thank you and tremendous gratitude for your generosity and can-do attitudes! Also, working tirelessly through the summer was Lauren Oneto, Gabriella Giraud, and Jamie Hunter to further beautify our school. I would be remiss if I didn't acknowledge Valerie Rondone's incredible effort in developing an amazing plan for the coming year's yearbook! To each of you... thank you so much! All of you have demonstrated the pride we want our PTC, Leadership Team (staff and administration), and especially our children to exemplify in opportunity and challenge. These actions and those of the others inspired another discussion about how the incredible power of teamwork. Of that came our 2019-2020 mantra: Team Work Makes The Dream Work! The very word "team"... supports all we've already agreed upon: Together Everyone Accomplishes More! How perfectly appropriate is that?

As I began, there's so much to share, but I'll close with one last invitation to each of you: Please, if you have one hour, a day, a special interest, extra energy or a talent that you would like to share with us... please do so! Our children are better people for exposure to diversity, opportunity, and positive modeling. Come join the Lake Forest PTC Team and help us to maximize our children's learning, support, exposure, and opportunity! The PTC meetings will be held at Lake Forest regularly on the third Wednesday of each month, at 5:30 PM... please join us! If you cannot attend, for those interested, to further encourage and support the dissemination of information directly, we are also introducing "the morning after TEAM Huddle"! This will be a 15 minute standing information summary of the meeting the night before. Bring your coffee to F9 immediately after drop off for the firsthand update and be "in the know" directly from the "horse's mouth!". Thanks to Katie and Dana, we will have an abundance of informational resources, but if we've missed something that you prefer... let us know and we'll do our best to accommodate!

So are you ready to rock and roll this year? We are! Let's do this! Get on The TEAM... Together Everyone Accomplishes More! #Lakerpride

With gratitude and great excitement,

Tami Madera
PTC President
