

IN THE KNOW WITH THE PTO

CWMS Parent Teacher Organization Newsletter

CWMS PTO Board

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Many PTO Board positions will be up for election for the 2016-2017 school year. They are a two year term. If you are interested in learning more about what positions will be available please contact the PTO.



A Letter From Our President

As we settle into another school year the PTO would like to welcome back all of our students, parents, and staff. It is because of all of you that the school year has gotten off to a great start so thank you! We just wrapped up our annual Gifts and Things fundraiser, which had a great turn out. Thank you to everyone who participated and helped out. All of the funds that were raised and continue to be raised go towards events for each grade level, so we as the PTO appreciate any and all of your help and support. We couldn't do this without you!

For updates please look at the PTO link on the MS home page.





Parent Teacher Organization

PTO stands for Parent-Teacher Organization. The PTO consists of parents and teachers working together to support and enrich all students at Conrad Weiser Middle School. We support school staff, and assist efforts to solve school needs through volunteers and funding. All parents at CWMS students are encouraged to participate in PTO activities whenever possible, even if you are unable to attend our monthly meetings.

- 12/04 - 7th & 8th Gr Holiday Dance 6-8pm
- 12/08 - 7th & 8th Gr Band and Chorus Concert 7:30pm
- 12/15 - 5th & 6th Gr Band and Chorus Concert 7pm
- 12/24-1/1 - Winter Break
- 1/8 - 7th & 8th Gr NEED Camp Dance 6-8pm
- 1/13 - MS PTO Meeting 6:30pm
- 1/18 - No School
- 1/20 - Early Dismissal
- 1/21 - Early Dismissal
- 1/22 - No School
- 2/15 - No School

A Word With Mr. Buck Our Principal

What about assemblies? Several times this year, students will be involved in school-wide assemblies to help promote the concepts and beliefs of the Six Pillars of Character, and will enforce the anti-bully objectives of the Olweus Bully Prevention Program. October brought the “FIGHTing for fun” assembly, encouraging students to follow the FIGHT mnemonic of being Fair, Inspiring, Genuine, Helpful, and Trustworthy. November will bring the EMMY winning author and motivational speaker of “Laughing at my Nightmare”, Shane Burcaw. December will bring a video production company to help promote positive life choices and helping those in need.

Sixth Grade STEP TIME. Sixth Grade received 200 pedometers thanks to charitable donations from the CWMS-PTO and the Rotary Club of Conrad Weiser, and the help of LJ’s Fitness in Womelsdorf. These pedometers will be used to gather data on students as they travel throughout the building, and this data will be used in the core content classes. Examples are estimation, distance, and metric conversations in math; healthy living and fitness in science and health classes, geography in social studies, and writing non-fictional information in English Language Arts class.



Ongoing Fundraisers

General Mills Box Tops

Look For the "Box Tops for Education" on items such as General Mills cereal, soups, and many other products. Cut out the box top and send them to school with your child. For every box top the PTO receives \$0.10.

Redner's Receipts

Use your Redner's rewards card every time you make a purchase. Be sure to save the receipt and send it to school with your child. Redner's gas receipts can be used too. For every receipt the PTO will receive 1% from the purchase.

Giant Grocery Store

Stop by a Giant store and register for a rewards card. Be sure to let them know you are with CWMS. Every time you shop be sure to swipe your rewards card. The PTO receives a percentage of the total sales.

Boyer's Key FOBs

Every time you shop at Boyer's and swipe your key FOB the PTO receives 1% from the purchase. You can pick up a Boyer's key FOB at the school office.

The classrooms are in need of tissues. Please have your children bring in a box of tissues to get ready for the cold, winter months ahead.

What are the CDTs and why do our students take them three times a year? The Data Recognition Corporation, or DRC, is the company that produces and scores the PSSA exams. In preparation for those exams, DRC offers Classroom Diagnostic Tests, or CDTs, up to five times each year. These diagnostic tests adjust up or down as the student progresses through each test, and determine "areas of strength" and "areas of need" in a student's knowledge as compared to all the students across the state. The results of these exams help teachers pinpoint specific content areas to help improve student learning and preparedness for the April PSSA exams. CWMS students will take these exams on November 23, and 24, and again in late January. The results show student growth across the school year. This information is also used to determine student groupings. Additionally, the CDT tests help students become familiar with the online format of the new PSSA exams. The new online PSSA exams offer a streamlined testing environment, and the CDTs model that testing environment.

