

August 2009

Dear Parents,

We would like to extend a warm welcome to each of you as your student enters the 2009-2010 school year. We hope that it is successful and rewarding. We know that as parents you want to help your student as they navigate through the high school years. The best way to do so is to remain informed and involved. We urge everyone to **join the PTO** so that we can assist in this endeavor.

The PTO is a cooperative effort of parents and faculty, whose goals are to:

- Sponsor programs of general interest, in service to students and the school
- Foster communication between the family and school
- Promote the positive in the school and the community

In order to meet these goals, we need your help! We welcome everyone to join the PTO and we welcome your involvement. On the reverse side of this letter you will find a **membership form** and a list of committees that need volunteer assistance. Please consider helping with a committee that interests you. You have the opportunity to be included in our email message system, which keeps you informed of important (non-emergency) school events. Please check off the “forward to class advisor” line if you want to be included in messages that pertain to your student’s specific grade.

Included in this mailing is **The Safe Homes Pledge**. This program enables parents to communicate and work together to provide a safe, drug and alcohol free environment for our children. To participate in this program each family must fill out the form. Once you register, your family will be included each year your child is in the school. You will have the opportunity to change your status at the beginning of each year. In the next few days you will receive another mailing which includes information on the many organizations, programs and events that make up the Mendham High School Community. Please take a few minutes to review the information when it arrives.

Throughout the year we have several PTO **meetings** that provide you with a way to find out what is happening in the school community. The PTO meetings alternate monthly between day and evening times in order to accommodate everyone’s busy schedules. Daytime meetings will be abbreviated and will be linked to our ever-popular brown bag lunches with the principal, staff and guest speakers. Please come, meet other parents, and share your thoughts and ideas. Our first meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00PM

Our PTO **newsletter** is a great source of information for upcoming events. It keeps you apprised of all significant dates and deadlines. We are going green and all issues will be posted online only ([www.wmmhs.org](http://www.wmmhs.org)) by clicking on the PTO link. We will send an e-mail notification to all PTO members when a new newsletter has been published. The PTO board members are also listed on the website and if you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to contact us.

Looking forward to a successful and productive school year!

Mendham High School Parent Teacher Organization Executive Board

# Mendham High School PTO Membership Form -- 2009-2010

The Mendham High School Parent Teacher Organization serves as a channel of communication to parents, provides volunteers for school activities and sponsors a variety of programs for the community. To become a member, just fill out the form below. Questions? Feel free to contact Tina Kellner, MHS PTO Membership Chair 973-543-8553/4

The annual family membership fee is **\$20**. Checks made payable to **MHS PTO**.

Parent/Guardian name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Student(s) 1. \_\_\_\_\_ grade \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ grade \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_ grade \_\_\_\_\_ returning MHS PTO member \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address/add'l contact info \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Please Initial below if you agree:

\_\_\_\_ **Forward email to Class Club Advisors for Class Club** The purpose of the class advisor is to help the student body of each class (freshman through senior) raise funds for the purchase of the class gift, to reduce the cost of the prom, and help with graduation expenses. The Faculty Advisors are: 9th grade - M. Sweeney & M. Ross  
10<sup>th</sup> grade - M. Vosoughi & S. Brown 11<sup>th</sup> Grade - M. Neill & M. Hayes 12<sup>th</sup> Grade - M. Murray & M. Francis

\_\_\_\_ **PTO EMAIL MESSAGE SYSTEM** PTO message system will notify you via email of upcoming meetings and events going on at the HS. Emails arrive in your inbox from mendhamhspto@gmail.com. The message system is operated by Marcia Asdal, contact her at asdals@comcast.net to make sure your email is on our distribution list.

## Committees for Volunteer Opportunities

- \_\_\_\_ **All Purpose Volunteer** Contacted to see if you're interested when extra help is needed for projects/programs
- \_\_\_\_ **Battle of the Bands** Help plan/organize this spring event
- \_\_\_\_ **Caring and Concern** Providing food, transportation and support for families in crisis.
- \_\_\_\_ **Communications** Help prepare the PTO newsletter for mailings/website on an as needed basis.
- \_\_\_\_ **Evening of the Arts** Help organize the Fine Art and Performing Art fund raiser
- \_\_\_\_ **Fundraising** Develop ideas & organize a fundraiser to fund the PTO programs and scholarships.  
(Cocktail Party, Live Auction, Taste of the Town, Comedy Night, Holiday boutique etc.)
- \_\_\_\_ **Freshman Photo ID's** Assist Lyn Kleinman with frosh photo ID's (during & after school in Oct/Nov)
- \_\_\_\_ **Great American Smoke Out** Organize and distribute information to staff and students concerning the dangers of smoking on November 20 2008
- \_\_\_\_ **Hospitality/Teacher Appreciation-** Provide food for PTO/ MHS functions and/or assist in serving and cleaning up.
- \_\_\_\_ **Library** Help in library as needed under direction of the MHS librarian.
- \_\_\_\_ **Programs** Help find speakers and organize events for PTO Parent and /or Student programs.

**Project Graduation** FOR PARENTS OF SENIORS: If interested contact Beth Shea 973 543 3266 or Donna Sarno 973 895 4552

**Safe Homes Program** SEPARATE PLEDGE FORM-SIGNED AND RETURNED TO SCHOOL BY **Sept 11** add'l forms on website

**RETURN FORM & \$20 MEMBERSHIP FEE checks payable to MHS PTO by Sept 30 to:**

MHS PTO c/o WMMHS, East Main St Mendham 07945 **OR** Tina Kellner 14 Brookrace Drive Mendham, NJ 07945