



ASHLAND PTO NEWSLETTER

November 2016

Vol. 1, No. 2

President's Message

Fall is here! We had an exciting and action-packed October, and we're ready to keep the momentum going with a lot of great events in November. Remember, you can always stay up-to-date on all of the school-related events around town by subscribing to our calendar [here](#). And if you're looking to volunteer, we have plenty of opportunities [here](#).

As always, if you have any questions, comments, or suggestions, feel free to reach out to me at president@ashlandpto.com.

Thank you,
Meghan McGuire
President, Ashland PTO

Warren School Math Night Reminder

Don't forget to head over to the Warren School on October 27 at 6pm for a math-themed family fun night, including bingo, scavenger hunt, crafts, games, photo booth, and hands-on projects and LEGOs with the AHS Robotics Club. We hope to see you there!

SAVE THE DATE

Book your babysitter now! This year's PTO Murder Mystery Dinner has been scheduled for January 27. Don't forget your leg warmers and hair crimper because the theme is "Totally Murder". It will be a murder mystery dinner with an 80s twist! Look out for more details coming soon.

Coming up this month

Fall Box Tops - Our Fall [Box Tops](#) event kicks off at both Warren and Mindess November 1 and will run through December 2. The class from each grade that earns the most points will win a Popsicle Party. It is amazing how many dollars we can raise through this program, so start clipping!

Mindess Scholastic Book Fair - Would you like to start your holiday shopping early or continue to build your child's book collection? It's as easy as shopping at the Mindess Scholastic Book Fair from October 31 thru November 4. All purchases will help support PTO-sponsored educational programs.

3rd Grade Trivia Night at Mindess - It's time for 3rd graders to test their knowledge! Join Principal Cairra on November 10 at 6:30pm at Mindess for an evening of trivia. Prizes will be awarded to the top 3 teams. 4th and 5th grade trivia nights coming soon. This is not a drop off event. For more information visit: ashlandpto.com/mindestrivia

Ask the PTO

Do you have a question about anything going on in our schools? Would you like to find out about after-school or vacation programs, or where to park during school events or teacher conferences? All questions are great questions and getting an answer is as easy as [asking the PTO](#)! We look forward to hearing from you.

MetroWest College and Career Fair

Would you like to join the MetroWest College and Career Fair planning committee? The time commitment is small, but your impact could be big. Contact Kerry Luoma at KerryLuoma@gmail.com to find out more.

Request for healthy snacks - The Warren and Mindess Schools have students who are in need of healthy snacks on a regular basis. The PTO truly appreciates your generosity in this effort to keep our elementary students fed so they have energy and stamina to learn. If you would like to donate snacks, please sign up [here](#).

Looking back

A Mindess School tradition, our first **Kids Night Out (KNO)** of the year was held on October 21 and it was a huge success. Over 350 students were in attendance, and got to take part in activities such as arts/crafts, dancing, board and gym games, face painting, or just relaxing while watching a movie. Thank you to Melissa Mercon-Smith and Mrs. Crawford for lending us game tables and gym equipment, and a big shout out to the 65 parent volunteers for allowing the evening to run smoothly. Our next KNO will be held on December 16 from 6:30-9pm at the Mindess School. For more information or to sign-up, visit: ashlandpto.com/kno/

On October 16, approximately 300 people gathered at Stone Park to participate in our first ever **Color Splash Run** to support the AHS Make-A-Wish Club and K-12 PTO. This fun event left both adults and children as colorful as the beautiful autumn leaves surrounding the park. Thank you to all of those who came out to support a great cause, and to the Ashland PD, Ashland Sporting Association, AHS Student Council, and all of the volunteers who made the event a success. We couldn't have asked for a better day!

Throughout October, dozens of students gathered in Montenegro Square for a **Walk to Mindess**, joined by a very special guest, Sparky the fire dog. The kids enjoyed the beautiful autumn weather and free breakfast once arriving to school thanks to the wonderful APS nutrition department. We would like to thank all of the volunteers, the YMCA after school program, and the Ashland PD for ensuring the safety of all during each walk.

Calendar of upcoming events

NOVEMBER

- 1-4 Mindess Scholastic Book Fair
- 1-3 K-5 Early Release (before lunch)
- 8 No School
- 9 District PTO Mtg @ 7pm, AHS Library
- 9 ASHPAC "College Info Night for Students on IEP" @ 7pm, AMS Activity Room
- 10 **3rd Grade Trivia Night @ 6:30pm, Mindess School**
- 11 No School
- 15 **K-5 PTO Mtg @ 7pm, Warren Library**
- 15 DAET World Café: Reducing Ashland's Adolescent Alcohol Use @ 7pm, Ashland Public Library
- 18 AEFI Casino Night @ 6pm
- 23 K-12 Early Release (before lunch)
- 24-25 No School
- 29 Mindess Dads Mtg @ 7pm, Mindess Library

DECEMBER

- 5-7 1st Grade Mad Science Weather Presentation, Warren School
- 6 Mindess Author Visit - Grace Lin, Mindess School
- 13 Tanglewood Marionettes visit the Kindergarteners, Warren School
- 14 District PTO Mtg @ 7pm, AHS Library
- 16 **Mindess Kid's Night Out @ 6:30-9pm, Mindess School**
- 21 Warren Dads Mtg @ 7pm, Warren Library
- 22 Student Council's Clocker Idol @ 7pm, AHS Auditorium
- 23 K-12 Early Release (after lunch)
- 24-31 No School - Winter Break

Never miss an event by subscribing to the [Events Calendar](#) - Just click the SUBSCRIBE button in the lower right corner of the calendar.

Keep in touch with us:

Mail - 73 Fruit Street, Ashland, MA 01721

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Support the PTO

- Shop at Amazon using our [link](#). The PTO will earn 6-10% on every purchase made!
- Bring your recycling to Abitibi Recycling Bins (green and yellow) located behind each school and the PTO gets money back!
- Purchase gift cards through [SCRIP](#) and the PTO gets a percentage of each gift card!
- Become a [Friend of the PTO!](#)