

Thomas Metcalf School
Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)



Become a Volunteer...Why YOU should get involved!

It is important to note all parents or guardians of children attending Thomas Metcalf School, as well as each member of the professional staff, are members of the Parent Teacher Organization and are encouraged to participate in its activities. The active members of the PTO consist of both parents and teachers who volunteer their time to enhance the educational experience of every child in our school.

In order to meet all of the goals of the PTO, and fulfill our mission we need your ACTIVE participation. Two key tenets of the PTO mission are: 1) *to promote open communication and understanding between parents and staff* and 2) *to serve, enhance and maximize the education of every child so they may reach their highest potential.*

Our current, urgent areas of need include:

- Matching new families with established families for our Mentoring Program.
- Helping develop the Fall Family Picnic.
- Helping develop the Fall Festival for K-2nd grade.
- Organizing the “new” Metcalf E-Directory.
- Chairing various committees (e.g. Teacher Appreciation, Career Day, or Mini-Courses)

We are moms and dads, uncles and aunts, grandparents, teachers, and friends who care about children and education. We are welcoming and friendly. We are your neighbors, and we share many of the same concerns that you do. We assure you we will never force anyone to dedicate more time than they are willing, or coerce anyone into any undertaking where they are not comfortable. ANY volunteer time that ANY individual is willing to offer is more valuable than we can relate! We have tasks that can be performed in the evenings, during the day, or that don't even involve coming to the school at all.

But these are not the only reasons to become active. There have been more than 500 independent studies about parent involvement. The results are startling. When parents get involved in their children's education, grades go up, test scores go up, children become more likely to pass and to attend better schools after high school, they have fewer discipline problems, and they're less likely to use drugs and alcohol.

Won't you join us? We invite you to take a look at the Metcalf School PTO website to get a feel for all that we do. If you can help with one of our urgent needs or have questions about volunteering, please do not hesitate to contact Barb Jacobsen at Barbara.jacobsen@yahoo.com or (309)452-4895, Lynn Litwiller at mline.litwiller@hotmail.com or (309) 963-6467, or Angela Ambers-Henderson at aambershenderson@gmail.com or (309) 662-7301. Then come on out to a PTO meeting or contact any member of the executive board. Becoming active is really easy - and it really makes a difference!