

# PTO Newsletter

November 2014



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**NEXT PTO MEETING**  
**Monday**

**November 10<sup>TH</sup>**  
**6:30 pm**



**Lake Center 2014 Turtle Trot** was another huge SUCCESS!

Largest amount to date! Did you know that LCE PTO collected over \$31,941? Pie throwers and winning classes will be announced November 14<sup>th</sup>. Who will win the top Chrome notebook prize?! Our school is ready to throw many pies at Mrs. Jensenius this year!

**PTO Budget 2014-2015** Over many years, LCE PTO special requests, teacher allocations and school activities have increased with PTO budget funding. Nonetheless, due to our amazing community of LCE support, and a focus on purposed spending, our budget has remained strong. We, the PTO, strive to bring balance to the many needs of our school. Every year, the PTO budget heavily relies on Turtle Trot, our primary fundraiser (avoiding catalog, candy or any product sale for our students to distribute) to fund the many LCE events. We are especially thankful for all the parents, students, teachers, staff and community in your generous support!

## WANTED

### Western Round Up and "Bring It Back Raffle"



**Friday November 7th, 2014 • 6:00 – 8:00 pm**  
(This is not a drop off event.)



\$10 LCE family entry ticket or \$5 per Person, pay at the door.

- Line Dancing in the Gym; please wear gym friendly shoes
- Snacks and beverages in cafeteria. • Lasso Toss • Tumble the Tin Cans • Snake Stomp • Pin the Shoe on the Horse • LCE Bingo • Pig Herding • Fun Crafts • Riding Relay • Western Photo Opts and weather permitting ... Wild Cow and Panning for Gold.

• Bring It Back Raffle! Did you miss the raffle last year? We heard many folks did, so we are bringing it back. This year it will be combined with this event so everyone has plenty to do! Raffle tickets are \$1.00 each and you can enter to win lots of prizes including going out for pizza and ice cream with your favorite teacher, gift certificates from lots of area restaurants, Zumba, kick boxing, Wine and Canvas and even the BeForever American Girl Doll, Samantha! And the prizes are still coming in!

• Volunteers Needed Before, During & After!! Anytime between the hours 3:30 ~ 9:00pm; please help as you see possible 3 hours, or stay the whole time ...YOU PICK! !! Please sign up or contact lceptoportage@gmail.com today! Join us on Facebook @ "Lake Center Elementary PTO" Volunteer info at Sign Up Genius: <http://bit.ly/1t2eaQX>



ELECTION DAY is November 4<sup>th</sup>. Lake Center Elementary is NO longer a polling location.

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Thank you to the many students and volunteers that have made Mileage Club such a rewarding time on the track. Note the last Mileage Club for the fall is Nov 5<sup>th</sup>

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**LCE Family Dining Out @ Penn Station East Coast Subs** on Westnedge. Tuesday, November 11<sup>th</sup> from 4-8pm only! No flyer needed. 20% of all sales during this time will benefit LCE's PTO.

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**FALL Teacher Conferences** Wednesday, November 12<sup>th</sup> from 4:30P.M. - 8:15 P.M. (Full Day of school for students) and Thursday, November 13<sup>th</sup> from 4:30P.M-8:15P.M (Full Day of school for students). PTO will be providing a meal to the staff for both dates. Please contact our board if you would like to donate a dessert for either date; lceptoportage@gmail.com

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**Student Council** November 14<sup>th</sup> – Crazy Socks Day (Bring a pair of socks to donate to a shelter).

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**Mrs. Diane Glass, Music Education-** Monday, November 17<sup>th</sup>, we will have the privilege of hosting the *Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra Percussion Duo*. They will provide us with two-30 minute performances; one for lower elementary and one for upper elementary.

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**Enchanted Garden** Father Daughter dance planning meeting on Wednesday, November 19<sup>th</sup> from 6:30- 7:30 in the cafeteria. Come out and help with this magical event! And save the date for the big event February 6th, 2015

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**Battle of the Books** consists of teams of 6 students each, reading 6 pre-selected books, and preparing for a battle (quiz) over the books. The program is focused on 4th and 5th graders, but advanced 3<sup>rd</sup> grade readers may also participate. RULES: During the battle, teams have 45 seconds to discuss the question and write down their answer. The answers are given to judges and points are awarded. The team with the most points wins. Teams will be finalized this month. Information and questions can be directed to Tonya Szafranski at [jeffreyszafranski@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jeffreyszafranski@sbcglobal.net).

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Thank you to everyone that participated in the **Taco Bobs Fundraiser**. It was so cool to see so many friends and staff stopping in all throughout the day for treats and meals. We brought in over \$500 for the PTO!

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The **October box top** results are in! We again collected over 20,000...super job everyone! The winners of the grade contests were: 1st place - 3rd grade , 2nd place - 4th grade , 3rd place - 1st grade

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**Our Next LCE Family Night is at Jungle Joes Thursday, December 4<sup>th</sup> 6-8 pm.**

This is a family event. Supervision required. No drop offs. LCE families have an hour and half block to jump. The cost is \$5.00 per child & \$2.00 for adults who jump. Watching is free!

Location: 7255 South Sprinkle Road (269) 324-1992

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Red Ribbon Week - our Lake Center students are celebrating healthy choices. Watch this video made by our student council ... <http://fb.me/3ILZBJ8Tx> and <http://redribbonschools.org>

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**Sherman Lake Camp** provides countless opportunities for our students to feel like the champions they are born to be! Thank you to the 5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers and parents who make this rewarding experience possible. Our PTO pays for a large majority of 5<sup>th</sup> grade camp each year. Your support of the PTO helps fund this experience.



The fifth grade camp experience at the Sherman Lake YMCA Camp is a strongly impactful and developmentally important event. We strive to grow our children academically, socially and physically at Lake Center. The staff at Sherman Lake prepares meaningful activities that are directly tied to each of these developmental areas and can only be delivered in a camp setting like theirs with access also to top notch athletic facilities. Our children learn goal setting, team work, positive self talk and to reach outside their

comfort zones to engage in intellectually stimulating and physically challenging activities. These include: geocaching, rock wall climbing, kayaking, swimming, underground railroad simulation and archery. Throughout, the children are immersed in an environment where four principles are embedded in everything they do- Honesty, Caring, Respect and Responsibility. They make new social connections, learn family style dining and come back a closer, more supportive learning community. It is the true high point of every fifth grader's school year.



**LCE Cafeteria** We at Lake Center Cafe believe that the education process does not stop in the classroom. Eat, Learn and Live is our Curriculum: Teaching our students how to build good, nutritional food habits that they can continue through adulthood; Striving to make lunch a stress-free, fun, safe harbor; while Building a sense of self-worth at the same time. Lucky Tray Day occurs once a month during lunch.

A few helpful tips:

1) Don't forget that balance notices may be received through email. Just send Judy a note with your email address and children's names.

2) [SendMoneyToSchool.com](http://SendMoneyToSchool.com) is an easy way for you to make Debit/Credit Deposits to your child's account and also monitor the activity. Don't forget, if you have more than one student; do them at the same time to save the extra fee!

3) When writing a check for a deposit, you may combine the children on one check. Include both Teacher and Last names and money on the check and envelope (with the split amounts as needed to be deposited).



**Holiday Boutique Save the Date.** The Holiday Boutique will take place Dec. 8-11 during recess only. Students who bring in money before their scheduled boutique date will be allowed to shop for family members. Items range in price from 25 cents to \$6. More information will be sent home at the end of the month. Volunteers are needed to assist our student shoppers. Contact Lora Darrah at [loradarrah@gmail.com](mailto:loradarrah@gmail.com) if you are interested in volunteering or have any questions.


### LCE School Directory

One free copy of our directory will be distributed to our LCE families soon. Advertisements cover the cost of printing the directory. Please show your thanks by supporting these businesses!

LCE Legends Photos are still for sale! Each 5 x 7 photo is \$4.00 each. Prior years discounted to \$1.00. Order forms in office. Please send in payment (cash or check to "Portage Lake Center PTO, INC" ) memo noted with "Legends", your teacher and student's name.



**Did you know... The District Advisory Council** meets monthly throughout the school year providing a critical link between Portage Schools and the community. DAC members provide two-way communications by bringing grass-roots input to the group and by taking information back to their schools or organizations. The Council, which often serves the role as a focus group or think-tank for the District, serves in an advisory capacity to the superintendent.

November Calendar				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
3	4 Election Day	5 Last Fall Mileage Club	6	7 Western Roundup & Raffle 6-8 pm
10 Report cards sent & PTO Meeting 6:30 pm	11 Dining Out @ <b>Penn Station East</b> Coast Subs 4-8 pm	12 <b>Teacher Conferences</b> 4:30 -8:15 pm	13 <b>Teacher Conferences</b> 4:30-8:15 pm	14 Student Council Crazy Sock Day <i>*Please bring donated socks &amp; TT Prize Assembly</i>
17 <i>Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra Percussion Duo</i>	18 <b>Digital Ed: LCE</b> 7 pm "The Holiday Shoppers Guide"	19 F/D dance planning meeting 6:30pm LCE Cafe	20	21
24 	25	26 <b>No School</b>	27 <b>No School</b> Thanksgiving Day	28 <b>No School</b>

Coming in December ...
Dec 4 LCE Family Night at Jungle Joes
Dec 8-11 Holiday Boutique
Dec 12 Movie Night
Dec 22-Jan 4 Winter Break

**S - Stay Safe**  
**A - Act Respectfully**  
**I - I Can...**  
**L - Lead Together**

**PTO meetings are held the 2nd Monday of each month at 6:30 pm in the LCE Media Center. No meeting in December. These are open meetings. Everyone is welcome to attend. Committee meetings are set by the committee chair. All dates maybe subject to change.**

**PTO Officers:**

Julia Warner  
Co-President  
Lora Darrah-Co-President  
Stephanie Norg  
V-President  
Darcie Martin – Secretary  
Tony Pallo-Treasurer

**Teacher Representatives:**

Marci Mungovan  
Ashley Palmer-Vance

**Principal:**

Kelly Jensenius

**Board:**

Robin Brendlinger  
Rachel Bryant  
Sarah Gaines  
Katie Johnson  
Angie Layne  
Maggie Piötter  
Kellie Schnell  
Stacie Sokolowski  
Tonya Szafranski  
Stephanie Tangeman  
Nicole Toennessen  
Marianne Voetberg  
Kristen Weaver

Please sign up! Parents, teachers, friends and families are encouraged to register their credit, debit & grocery club cards as supporter with GFS, Hardings, Meijer, Target and the eScrip program. Upon receipt of registration, a percentage of all purchases made with these merchant supporters will be given back to our school. LCE PTO relies on these programs, with minimal volunteer hours to bring the funds to support many events to our students and staff each year. Thank you so much! Portage Lake Center PTO, Inc.



\* Visit "LCEPTO.WEBBLY.COM"

\* Email PTO at [lceptoportage@gmail.com](mailto:lceptoportage@gmail.com)

\* Attend PTO monthly meetings :)