



Welcome  
Horace Mann PTO  
2010-2011

Open House  
September 16, 2010



# Who is the PTO?

The PTO is YOU, every parent at this school,  
in partnership with  
the HM teachers and staff

The PTO's efforts are 100% volunteer based

Get Involved - You can make a difference!

"Well done is better than well said" Benjamin Franklin



# Who is the PTO?

## The PTO has 3 major components

- **PTO Board:** President, Vice President, Treasurer, & Secretary; co-officers in each position work as a team to oversee and manage the PTO to achieve goals
- **PTO Committees:** Each committee has a chairperson who is responsible for the coordination and success of that committee's purpose
- **Members at large:** any parent or supportive member of our community, providing support in various capacities, at various times during the school year, in and out of school, hands on or behind the scenes



# PTO Meetings

- Monthly meetings to review current topics and budget
  - Set agenda is covered, plus open forum among parents, teachers & principal
- Informational - learn about upcoming activities, the budget, other info
- Opportunity to express feedback, ideas and concerns
- Next meeting - October 20<sup>TH</sup>, 7pm in the All Purpose Room
  - Child care will be provided



# 2010-2011 PTO Goals

## ➤ Continued Fundraising to support ongoing needs

- Library, Guided Reading, & MCAS Tutoring
- Continued technology investments (Smartboards, PC's)
- Teacher Mini Grants, materials not provided by district
- Enrichment Programs, Regarding Art, etc.
- Teacher Appreciation, Retirement Gifts, etc.
- Field trip support, support for 5<sup>th</sup> grade activities, etc.
- Family Fund - assistance for HM community members in need

## ➤ More Fun School Spirit & Community Events

- Family Cookout, Pumpkin Festival, Golf Tournament in Spring
- Jump on In, Roller World, Ice Skating, Skiing at Wachusett
- Monthly "dine around" nights
- Focus on health & wellness and family fun
- Lots of new ideas....stay tuned



# 2010-2011 PTO Budget

- Maintain a budget to support the goals that the PTO approves
  - PTO is a non-profit organization
  - Total budget ~ \$30,000
  - Fundraising income is down, but expenses the same or rising
  - New for this year - PTO Annual Family Contribution
    - \$25 suggested contribution from each family
    - Needed to maintain level funding
    - Other Melrose elementary schools have collected family contributions each year



# Fundraising Efforts

## Major Fundraisers

- September - Fall Fiesta (new this year)
- September - Innisbrook Gift Wrap Sale
- October - Pumpkin Festival
- November - Book Fair (strictly funds the Library)
- May - Golf Tournament (moved to the spring for this year)

We rely heavily on the fall fundraisers to provide the funds needed for our expenses for throughout the year

## Other/Silent Fundraising

- Store Cards - Stop & Shop, Target (over \$500!)
- Restaurant - % of proceeds are donated to HM
- Math-A-Thon and/or Read-A-Thon
- Other - Box Tops, bake sales, other sales (Tastefully Simple, etc)

School Spirit Events - generate little/no income



# Where can I find more info?

## ➤ Thursday Notices

- Flyers distributed to students to come home in backpacks every Thursday
- Going Green...many now sent via email to reduce cost and save paper (also sent on Thursdays)

## ➤ HM Happenings - Monthly Newsletter

## ➤ PTO News Bulletin Boards & Suggestion Box

## ➤ Horace Mann website

- Always updated with Hot Topics and lots of great info
- Full PTO Handbook available online with detail on committees, etc.
- HM link from the Melrose Public Schools web site at [www.melroseschools.com/horacemann/index.cfm](http://www.melroseschools.com/horacemann/index.cfm)

## ➤ Contact us at [hmpto@yahoo.com](mailto:hmpto@yahoo.com)



# How can I help?

- Lots of volunteer opportunities to fit any interests and any schedule
  - Offer your time in the classroom and/or library
  - Work with other parents on a committee
  - Volunteer to help out at events
  - Share your skills or professional experience
  - Many opportunities well suited to working parents
- Even if you are unable to volunteer your time, your participation in PTO events helps the school
- Please return Volunteer Interest Survey or sign up tonight
- Talk to Melinda Stockwell, HM Volunteer Coordinator, to find the right volunteer opportunity for you!
- Register with The Bridge