



**Thornton Central School Parents & Teachers  
Organization  
Together..... We can make a difference!**

**Welcome to the 2008 – 2009 school year from the PTO Board!**

PTO stands for Parents and Teachers Organization. Our group supports the children, staff and families of our school by raising money and gathering volunteers. Anyone can be involved; parents, guardians, grand-parents, teachers, staff, etc.

We usually have meetings on the second Wednesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome, especially those who are curious, confused, have ideas for activities that can bring students, teachers, parents and caregivers together or those who just simply want to get involved.

Some of the ongoing activities that we organize, host and / or support to promote school spirit are an annual Halloween Party for all TCS students, Family Fun Nights, Kinderkisses!, Field Day and Staff Appreciation Week. These events, as well as providing materials for the playground and school events and sponsoring an annual scholarship for a Plymouth High School graduate who is a TCS alumni are only possible through fundraising, which we coordinate and do throughout the year. Through all of this activity we enjoy as much socializing and fun as we can.

It costs \$5 to join the TCS ~ PTO. You don't have to be a member of the PTO to participate at Thornton Central School, but membership allows you to vote on formal decisions affecting our group. On the back of this letter is a sample of volunteer opportunities and what each one means. We hope this will help you when you fill out the attached registration form.

The officers of the TCS ~ PTO want to help you get involved, answer questions and do whatever we can to help you support your child's education. Please feel free to call on us and we hope to see you at some meetings this year. Thank you!

President:	Lynne Campbell	<a href="mailto:nhcampbells@verizon.net">nhcampbells@verizon.net</a>
Vice President:	Wendy Johnston	<a href="mailto:thejohnstons@adelphia.net">thejohnstons@adelphia.net</a>
Treasurer:	Brenda Campagna	<a href="mailto:jandmsmom@adelphia.net">jandmsmom@adelphia.net</a>
Secretary	Teri Gabbeitt`	<a href="mailto:gabbeitts@roadrunner.com">gabbeitts@roadrunner.com</a>

We will announce other opportunities, give more information and notify you of changes as they arise. If anything on the list interests you, check it on the attached registration form. These events come up very quickly, so we'll need to hear from you if you can help! No experience is necessary!

PTO information will be posted on the TCS website.

## Descriptions of Volunteer Opportunities

**Room Parent:** 1 or 2 needed for each K – 2 classroom. Some grades 3 – 5 teachers use them while others do not. Middle school teachers rarely use room parents, but appreciate knowing who is interested in helping if a need arises. Duties may include classroom help, coordinating parties, or special activities. Every teacher has different expectations and they select their room parents from the list we give them.

**Baking/cooking or bringing in food:** At different times during the year we are asked to provide baked items or food. During Staff Appreciation Week in early May we provide the staff with snacks and goodies all week long. Store bought food is helpful and welcome too, so don't think you have to be a gourmet cook to help.

**Banking:** In partnership with Northway Bank, TCS students are offered an opportunity to open a savings account and make deposits at the school weekly. Volunteers are needed to help track the deposits.

**Book Fairs:** This is a great way to meet other volunteers and teachers and see the kids and what they're reading!

**Family Fun Nights:** As cabin fever sets in the PTO offers a dose of monthly relief through organized family fun nights including activities like BINGO, open gym and game nights. We typically end the year with a Spring Fling Dance for grades K – 5. Lots of volunteers make these events fun and new ideas are welcome.

**Field Day:** Field Day is held at the end of the year and children in grades K – 5 participate. This is a day filled with lots of fun, laughter, good times, wonderful memories and above all, spirit!! Last year the PTO supplied ribbons, snacks, games and volunteers.

**Fundraising:** Our biggest fundraiser of the year starts early! We have chosen Tracy Hamilton as it offers a great variety of high quality products. We also actively collect box-tops, empty ink jets, Campbell labels and Hood Tops for Education. We have had calendar raffles and are interested in any fundraising ideas you have that can help supplement these to support our many activities throughout the year.

**Halloween Party:** Each year we sponsor a Halloween Party for the children and families of all TCS students. As this is a very popular event we need lots of volunteers to help set up the gym, goodies and games. We need help running the games and we need help cleaning up afterwards. Lots of volunteers assures that all parents and caregivers have time to spend with their family.

**Phone Tree:** Sometimes bad weather hits during the day and it's necessary to close school early. When this happens our wonderful administrative staff needs help reaching parents and caregivers. Volunteers are needed to make telephone calls to families when this need arises.

**School Pictures:** Volunteers assist the photography staff by getting each class ready. It's a very fast paced job, with lots of walking!

Feel free to print out the membership form and send it in to the office.

**Thornton Central School PTO Membership  
2008 – 2009 Registration**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Child \_ Grade \_ Teacher

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

The school depends on volunteers for many activities. If you have an hour a week or an hour a year, any help is appreciated. Check as many things below as interest you and if you have any special skills that you think will be helpful please let us know.

Room Parent _____	Provide Goodies _____
School Pictures _____	Book Fairs _____
Family Fun Nights _____	Banking _____
Fundraising _____	Field Day _____

Halloween Party –  
Set Up 10:00 a.m. \_\_\_\_\_  
Party 6:00-8:00p.m. \_\_\_\_\_  
Cleanup 8:00 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any special skills you have that will be helpful? If yes, please let us know about them.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any ideas for fundraising or new activities?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Are there any questions you would like us to try to answer in an upcoming issue of our monthly newsletter?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_