

PTO: Adding value to City Tree students and school

The combination of amazing teachers, proactive staff *and* contributing parents creates a powerful school community that benefits both kids and, if your experience is anything like mine, parents too.

Programs and events organized and operated by the PTO are an end in themselves; fun, social, educational and spiritual. Yet, they are also a means to an end because they provide funding for important school programs that all parents can recognize as being valuable to our children. We can look at some highlights from the last school year as an example. From the more than \$22,000 in funds raised by PTO sponsored events and activities, we:

- Contributed \$12,000 to the "Beyond Technology Fund" to help with hardware upgrades, new curriculum and staff development. Understanding and keeping current with technology is important to our own generation, and there is little doubt that it will be even more essential to our children.
- Contributed \$6000 to the arts to support art both in preschool and the K-5 program, provide music instruction to preschool and K-5 students, and support for the 4th-8th grade band with a music assistant and transportation to events. Music is one of the many enrichment programs at City Tree, and an important part of the school's philosophy of teaching the whole child: Mind, body, and spirit.
- Supported the annual tradition where every January the PTO gives each classroom teacher money (\$10 per child) for which they get to decide how best to spend.

The PTO is a communication forum as well - keeping you informed of everything happening throughout the year, and providing a place for you to contribute your ideas, questions and concerns.

We need you, all of you, to make this happen and there are many opportunities to allow you to both earn those parent participation hours (K-8) and support the programs that directly benefit your kids, whether you have a 2 year old or an 8th grader! Your skills, your enthusiasm and your time really do make a difference.

Thank you!

Peter Tucker
PTO President
tuckerp87@gmail.com