

Tuesday, October 24th Merrill PTA Meeting – Merrill Library



The Merrill PTA FOCUS is simple, we help our students, teachers, and staff. The school and/or PTA identify a need, then the PTA works with staff, families, and the Des Moines community to address it.

Throughout the year, PTA will ask for donations – time, financial or in-kind. We greatly appreciate your support of our students, teachers, and staff.

Agenda

7:00 to 8:00 PTA Meeting

1. Welcome: PTA Board
 - *We are seeking a Treasurer and Secretary*
2. Introductions: Around the Room
3. School Update: Mrs. Panek, Merrill Principal
 - New conference format this year. 70% attendance and overall positive feedback. If families are seeking more information about student progress, please don't hesitate to contact the classroom teacher via email.
 - Suggestions: A few families requested time with specific teacher(s). Merrill encourages families to reach out to individual classroom teachers anytime.
 - Whole lot of thank you's: Thank you to teacher appreciation group for dinner. Thank you for wish list items. Thank you for PROUD magnets. Tennis balls are all sliced and on the chairs. Thank you to the apparel team. Students love it! Another order will be in the spring. And for orientation for 6th graders.
 - Dances: reimaged this year. Grade level dances during the end of the day. Every student gets in, gets a snack, etc. They can also go into the lunchroom for other activities.
 - Clubs are every night of the week.
 - Fall break November 6th and 7th.
 - FYI: hallways, kids are getting very comfortable with the hallways. Taking too long to get from class to class and keeping to themselves. It is only your student if you received a call from one of the support services team.
 - Iowa School Performance Profile: Released by Dept of Education each fall. Data will be published in the next week or two. In addition to this big picture data, teachers spend time during planning periods working together to analyze student progress on classroom level learning.
 - Notice from city. Grand Avenue will be closed from October 30th to November 5th.
4. Committee Updates:
 - Communications (Social Media) -
 - Communications (Website) -
 - Apparel - \$96.50 raised from Back-to-School sale.
 - Teacher Appreciation –

- Helping Hands
 - *New Committee*: Fundraising. This committee oversees all fundraising requests and efforts. The goal of this committee is to streamline fundraising into a more focused and efficient process, based on the needs and goals identified within the PTA and our school partners.
5. [22-23 Library Title Wish Fundraiser Results](#)
- Online fundraiser held in April 2022, raised \$2,940. Follett, the library vendor Merrill partnered with, matched 10% of funds raised to make the final total \$3,234!!
 - Books arrived over the summer, and Mrs. Kent was able to add many student requests and replace lost or worn copies of popular books.
6. [Upcoming Dates/Announcements:](#)
- Monday, November 6th and Tuesday, November 7th - NO SCHOOL
 - Tuesday, November 14th – PTA Meeting
(This is an informational meeting for 8th graders and their families on the transition to Roosevelt).
 - Tuesday, November 28th – Giving Tuesday
7. [New Business/PTA Requests:](#)
- School needs: 30 - Texas Instruments TI-30XIIS Scientific Calculator, Black with Blue Accents

[Merrill PTA Dates, Opportunities, Info and More](#)

Merrill PTA MEETINGS (located in the library, unless otherwise communicated):

Tuesday, October 24th at 6:00pm – *Iowa Lung Association presentation, PTA Meeting at 7:00pm*

Monday, January 22nd 7:00pm

Monday, February 26th 7:00pm

Monday, April 22nd 7:00pm

Merrill PTA VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

Helping Hands: Community

- Assist with Back-to-School supplies where needed.
- Provide clothing and/or other items as needed for Merrill families.

Helping Hands: Classrooms

- Help supply classrooms with items as needed throughout the year.
- *Needs vary by grade.*

Teacher/Staff Appreciation:

- Contribute to a monthly special activity for Teachers and Staff. Information on how to contribute comes out each month.

Teacher Appreciation Week – May 6th thru 10th

- Help facilitate daily special events, personalized gifts and/or other creative ideas as needed.
- More information to follow closer to those dates.

Rising Riders Celebration Team - May

- Work together in the spring to plan an end of eighth grade celebration held at school.

Rising Sixth Graders Night – May

- Help welcome incoming sixth graders and their families to the school.

2023-2024 Merrill PTA Board:

President – Michelle Gartner
Merrill Spirit Store/Apparel – Megan Hollinger
Treasurer – *SEEKING*
Website Communications – Kristen Erickson
Secretary – *SEEKING*
Social Media Communications – Kari Taylor

Contact/Follow us:

Email: merrillmustangspta@gmail.com
Website: <http://merrillpta.com/>

Facebook: [Merrill Middle School PTA](#)
Instagram: [merrillmustangspta](#)

2023-2024 PTA Sign-ups and Wish Lists Website Links and QR Codes

23-24 Merrill PTA Volunteer Opportunities Sign-up:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4BA9A82FA6F8C34-merrill#/>



23-24 Merrill School Supplies Wish List:

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/34AURVN5ESGD?ref=wl_share



Fall 2023 Teacher Appreciation Sign-up:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0848A5AD23A4FCC52-44782136-merrill#/>



23-24 Merrill PTA General Donations Sign-up:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0848A5AD23A4FCC52-44902795-merrill#/>



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