

**Ann Arbor PTO Council Membership Meeting**  
*Welcoming All with Respect, Compassion, and Integrity*

October 16, 2023 , 7:00-8:30 pm

THIS MONTH IS:

[Filipino American History Month](#)

[LGBTQ History Month](#)

**TO DO For PTOC Reps:**

Check in with your PTO about what has been working well equity-wise and what feels hard

Check in with your PTO about the food allergy tools

List events to and promote [dining calendar](#)

Ensure My Future Fund info is being disseminated - see flyer on website

Get meeting minutes out to your PTO team

Let us know about organizations for our community resource fair - November meeting

Make sure your school has paid the \$50 dues (see notes below)

Start 7 pm

1. 7 - 7:05 Welcome Questions/Followup/Recap from last meeting

- a. **PTOC Rep responsibilities** - it is okay to be confused. **Please feel free to focus on the meeting content and your own participation. We will take and share notes within a week of each general meeting.** We will also provide a summary slide at the end of each meeting with a "To Do" for the PTOC Reps, based on that meeting. We ask that you share the notes and any relevant content with your PTO Board and school leaders, as appropriate.
- b. Please be sure to complete the [PTOC Rep survey](#) for your school.
- c. [My future fund](#), video was shown during the meeting. Parents need to have given permission for their financial information to be accessed by the My Future Fund. Please be sure that families understand this so that they can access the money that they are entitled to (up to \$500). Consider dedicating a specific email or flier to getting the information out so that it doesn't get looked over in Principal's or PTO/PTSO's newsletters.

- d. **Dining to Donate calendar.** The PTOC does not currently highlight all fundraising events, but [this calendar](#) is public and highlights upcoming Restaurant night fundraising opportunities. Please share with anyone in your community, including neighbors and friends. You can submit information for upcoming events [here](#).
2. 7:05 - 7:15 Open Mic
    - a. Pittsfield and Scarlett have applied for funds for transportation, based on PTOC information from the last meeting.
    - b. Community High has been supporting Pathways for a variety of appreciation things as they don't have their own PTO and would love support in continuing to do that and ideally expanding support. **Please contact Stacey Seaver if you'd like to learn more or help in this effort: [staceyseaver1@gmail.com](mailto:staceyseaver1@gmail.com)**
  3. 7:15 - 7:30 [Jamboard](#) work: Equity Successes (please see screenshot of board, p. 3)
  4. 7:30 - 7:45 Jamboard work: What still feels difficult? (see screen shot, p. 3)
  5. 7:45 - 8:05 Jamboard work: What tools could help us with this work? (screen shot p. 4)
  6. 8:05-8:15 **Food Allergy Family Inclusion**
    - a. Surveys of students in AAPS with food allergies indicate that they may not feel included: their allergies are not acknowledged and events may not be safe for them; events focus on food rewards when there may be other ways to celebrate and include everyone.
    - b. Consider whether the goal of a particular event requires that food be involved, when it doesn't, find other ways to meet that goal.
    - c. [Here](#) is a good resource about non-food rewards for children with food allergies.
    - d. There are also many ways to be inclusive when hosting events with food. Including: having stickers to identify potential allergens; making an event nut free; having food served separate from other parts of the event, such as performances or displays; allowing families to preorder allergen free options (e.g. gluten- and/or dairy-free pizza or dairy-free ice-cream); ensuring that there is someone at the event that can address any allergic reactions or other health issues.
    - e. Helen Look ([NNMGA2@gmail.com](mailto:NNMGA2@gmail.com)) Sarah Ahrens ([sarah.ahrens1@gmail.com](mailto:sarah.ahrens1@gmail.com)) are available as resources all year.
  7. 8:15 - 8:20 Dr. Murray
    - a. Dr. Murray is interested in working with members of our community to learn how PTOs can be tools for equity. She will be reaching out to have some conversations with different PTOs and school leaders.
  8. 8:20 - 8:25 Equity report
    - a. **The Equity Committee is planning on following up with all of the Title 1 school leaders via survey** in order to understand the impact of last year's \$20 for 30k Fundraiser, which raised \$40/student at all of the Title 1 Elementary Schools in AAPS and Scarlett middle school. Anyone is welcome to join the Equity subcommittee. Contact: [susannahkeller@gmail.com](mailto:susannahkeller@gmail.com)
  9. 8:25 - 8:30 Treasurer and Secretary reports
    - a. PTO/PTSO Reps or presidents, please make sure to fill out our [survey](#)
    - b. **Dues can be sent to the mailing address for the PTOC, listed below.**
  10. Next meeting is November 20 at 7pm on zoom and we will be holding a Community Resource Fair. If you have an organization that would like to partner for this night, please let us know!

11. Adjourn – 8:29 PM

### Need to reach members of the board?

PTOC Chairs can be reached at: [PTOCchairs@gmail.com](mailto:PTOCchairs@gmail.com)

PTOC Treasurer can be reached at: [PTOCtreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:PTOCtreasurer@gmail.com)

PTOC Corresponding Secretary can be reached at: [ptoc.correspondence@gmail.com](mailto:ptoc.correspondence@gmail.com)

### Our mailing address is:

Ann Arbor PTOC  
P.O. Box 7874  
Ann Arbor, MI 48107

## Do you wish to share an Equity success/impact story?

Got special education teachers added to the annual budget.	Increased access to transportation funding thanks to PTOC convos	Inventory of school gardens and sustainability efforts	Engaging families with means at schools where many don't have the means	My classroom worked hard to raise money during our Fun Run. It took alot of personal work, but parents responded!	Make sure PTOs have a PTO Thrift rep. Use PTO Thrift advertisements in your pto newsletters. Each ad is \$05 and helps everyone. Reach out to PTO Thrift if your school has a nee	I like lawton schools initiative to donate and parter with Peace Neighborhood	At our Scholastic Book Fair, there have been gift cards that have been given to students who might not necessarily be able to afford books. The teacher identify these students.
Eberwhite changed their Fun Run so that it focuses on teamwork and fun. It took place during the school day, increasing accessibility and participation.	Still challenging to get buy in that we are in fact one of the more privileged schools! Stats/figures only go so far when people still want to "protect" what is going to their own children	Provide an equity checklist for PTOs to use when discussing school wide events	Conversations happening across the school (admin, teachers, and informed to PTO) about the inequity of bookfair.	spring break Kroger gift cards for in need families	One year our school donate 20% of auction sales to a title one school.	I would like to see more efforts to center bipoc voices in pto and all school spaces	We created Top 8 allergy free goodie bags for International Night. Families signed up to receive them and were very grateful to be able to participate in such a food centric event.
PTOs can advocate for more state funding through letter writing or attending advocacy events.	Well resourced schools has conversations about how to equitably allocate funds from the 20/30 fundraiser	Encourage PTOs to include all money coming in to be documented in the budget. Refer to treasurer and officer trainings provided by NEW	Winter Gear and Halloween Costume "Swap" for school and open to the community	Scholastic bucks for in need kids to spend at book fair	Made changes to upcoming fun night to help increase accessibility for all students.	More partnerships are being formed. Community is building	Collaborative convos bw PTO and admin happening around clothing needs (for winter and also special events). In process.
I'm at a resourced school, and I see more conversations happening within our community around equity and resources across the district. More awareness of inequities	High dollar field trips and overnights are financially hard for families. Some parents have enough \$ to chaperone and get delux experiences with their kids while others are left out	Established a Student Support Committee at PTO that raises funds all year for families in need of clothing and basic needs...	More conversations about how to make PTO events more accessible.	Book swaps and free book fairs are alternative to scholastic and paid book fairs.	Thanksgiving food baskets as well as toy drive during holidays for in need kids	Continued and consistent celebration of many identities and communities by admin throughout the year.	Added resources that fund fun nights for all students
	Finally added Spanish translation to the English school communications ... all PTO and Principal communications...too k way to long to do...glad we did !	Band opportunities, instrument distribution has been brought up. Students need transportation to special competitions and need money for accompanist.					

## What still feels hard for your PTO in terms of Equity?



## What are some tools we could develop for Equity/Accountability?

