

# WINTHROP PTO



## 2026–2027 Information Guide

A quick guide to PTO events, volunteering, fundraising, committees and ways to get involved.



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## Annual Events & Fundraisers

*\* Indicates an annual fundraiser*

### EARLY FALL

K/New Family Welcome  
Parent Open House

### WINTER

Giving Tree  
Holiday Bazaar  
K–1st Grade Dance  
Valentines for Veterans

### LATE SPRING / EARLY SUMMER

Winthrop Talent Show  
Winthrop Derby  
Spirit Day  
Fifth Grade Year-End Activities

### FALL

4th–5th Grade Fall Celebration  
Square One Art  
Turkey Trot Run-a-Thon\*

### EARLY SPRING

Scholastic Book Fair  
2nd–3rd Grade Game Night  
Read-a-Thon\*

## 2026–2027 PTO Meetings

PTO meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM in Room 27 (Ms. Pettine's classroom) and via Zoom. The Zoom link will be shared in the newsletter and on Facebook before each meeting. In-person attendance is encouraged to foster community engagement.

**Meeting dates:** Sept 10 • Oct 8 • Nov 12 • Dec 17 • Jan 14 • Feb 11 • Mar 11 • Apr 8 • May 13



## GET INVOLVED

Our school thrives because of our volunteers.

## Why Be Part of the PTO?

- Stay connected to what's happening at Winthrop and in the wider school community.
- Show support for your child's education, teachers and school administration.
- Help strengthen relationships among families, teachers and staff.
- See firsthand the programs, events and experiences the PTO makes possible.
- Choose a level of involvement that works for your interests and schedule — and have fun doing it.

**Questions or interested in getting involved?** Contact PTO Co-Presidents Nikki Hinckley or Ally Chovan at [winthroppto@gmail.com](mailto:winthroppto@gmail.com)

### PTO COMMUNICATIONS

- Bi-Weekly Winthrop Express newsletter email
- Volunteer opportunities throughout the year, including Room Representative opportunities
- Communications from Room Reps about your student's class
- Inclusion in the Winthrop PTO Directory (student name(s), caregiver name(s) and email)

**To opt OUT of Winthrop communications, please email [winthroppto@gmail.com](mailto:winthroppto@gmail.com) by September 22, 2026.**

## Winthrop Tips & Tricks

### Volunteering at School

Every volunteer must be registered and CORI-cleared through The Bridge: A School/Community Partnership. You will not be allowed into the school building without clearance and a visitor sticker. Stickers are kept in the main office, and volunteers sign in and out using the QR code on the main door. Register at: <https://tinyurl.com/75jbx6rt>

### Lunch in the Classroom

On rare occasions when the All Purpose Room is unavailable, lunch may be held in the classroom. Students may still order lunch, but lunches brought from home must be NUT FREE.

### Early Release Days

Early release days are on the 1st Friday of every month with a 12:20 dismissal. Lunch is served. Education Stations runs on these days and provides care through its normal times.

### Room Representatives

Room Representatives coordinate classroom volunteer needs, including library, parties and other needs determined by the teacher. They may also request a small donation from each family to cover expenses throughout the year, such as party/craft supplies and teacher gifts.

### Parking, Drop Off, Etc.

Traffic flow on Ashcroft St. is one way from Upham St. to First St. during the school day; First St. flows one way toward Lebanon St. In the Drop-off Zone, pull as far down as possible, keep traffic moving, and have students exit from the passenger side. Parents should not exit the vehicle. Follow all posted parking restrictions.

### Website & Winthrop Express

Visit <https://melrosepto.com/winthrop/> and watch for the Winthrop Express newsletter for PTO events, school happenings, fundraising efforts and ways to get involved.

# PTO Committee Descriptions

There are many ways to contribute. Find a committee that matches your interests, skills and availability.

**Fundraising**  
  
Organizes fundraising activities that provide the funds for PTO programs throughout the school year.  
*Turkey Trot • Read-a-Thon • Winthrop Dine & Donate • Spirit Wear*

**DEIB**  
  
As part of the district-wide Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging team, helps build relationships among Winthrop families and promote multicultural literacy.

**Community Building & Contributions**  
  
Supports the larger Melrose community and strengthens Winthrop's relationship with the rest of the city.  
*Citywide PTO • Adopt-a-Site & school grounds beautification • Giving Tree • Valentines for Vets*

**Student Enrichment**  
  
Researches and schedules performers and programs, coordinates enrichment activities, and works with teachers on field trips and curriculum tie-ins.

**Targeted Funds**  
  
Solicits, tracks and presents grant applications from teachers and administrators. The PTO votes on projects and provides funds for approved targeted projects.

**VOLUNTEER NOTE:**  
  
All committees can use help with tasks completed on your own schedule. Some committees also need a significant number of volunteers available during school hours.

**Communications**  
  
Coordinates communication and promotion of Winthrop community events via the website, newsletter and social media.

**Hospitality**  
  
Ensures school-hosted events are properly supplied and that teachers and personnel are appreciated throughout the year.

**Library**  
  
Maintains the library, which runs on an ALL-VOLUNTEER basis for grades K–2, including shelving, tracking and ordering books and displays.

**Student Events**  
  
Hosts social opportunities throughout the year.  
*Single- or multi-grade events • Holiday Bazaar • Book Fair • Talent Show • Spirit Day*

# How PTO Fundraising Supports Winthrop

The Winthrop School PTO is a 501(c)(3) organization as part of the citywide Melrose PTO Inc. The PTO raises and spends approximately \$35,000–\$40,000 each year to enrich our students’ school experience.

| LIBRARY      | ENRICHMENT       | CLASSROOMS                    | COMMUNITY        |
|--------------|------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|
| Fully funded | Special programs | Teacher & specialist stipends | Events + support |

## Fundraising Efforts

**Annual Turkey Trot & Winthrop Derby Day** — Two signature annual fundraisers.

**Social Events for Parents** — Community-building events that also support PTO fundraising.

**Textile Program** — Use the large white bin at the top of the playground for old linens, stuffed animals and other eligible textiles. The PTO receives \$100 per ton. More information will be shared in the Winthrop Express.

**Box Tops** — Use the Box Tops app to scan receipts from participating products; eligible earnings go directly to Winthrop.

**PTO Donations** — Family support is always appreciated and completely voluntary.

## 2026–2027 PTO Officers

|                |                               |
|----------------|-------------------------------|
| President      | Nikki Hinckley & Ally Chovan* |
| Vice President | Andrea Galvin*                |
| Secretary      | Open Position                 |
| Treasurer      | Sabrina Sandberg              |

*\*Pending PTO Vote*

**Questions? Email [winthroppto@gmail.com](mailto:winthroppto@gmail.com)**

## There’s a place for everyone in the PTO.

Volunteer when you can, share your ideas, and help make the 2026–2027 school year a great one for Winthrop students and families.

# 2026–2027 Committee & Sub-Committee Chairs

Thank you to the volunteers who help lead PTO programs and events throughout the year.

|                                               |                                              |
|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| <b>Adopt-a-Site</b>                           | Kristen DeVoe & Elisa Tierney                |
| <b>Book Fair</b>                              | Molly Carroll & Elisa Tierney                |
| <b>Citywide PTO Representative</b>            | Lauren Howell                                |
| <b>Communications</b>                         | Brooke Daniels & Andrea Galvin               |
| <b>Community Building &amp; Contributions</b> | Abby Law                                     |
| <b>DEIB</b>                                   | Rawan Missouri                               |
| <b>Fifth Grade Year-End Activities</b>        | Jeralyn O'Leary & Sarah Lento                |
| <b>Fundraising</b>                            | David Onessimo                               |
| <b>Giving Tree</b>                            | Abby Law                                     |
| <b>Holiday Bazaar</b>                         | Tai Lorzio                                   |
| <b>Hospitality</b>                            | Sara Griffin & Liz Galvin*                   |
| <b>Library</b>                                | Jessica Jones & Maureen Van Neste            |
| <b>Read-a-Thon</b>                            | Kara Hodecker                                |
| <b>Social Events (Parents/Guardians)</b>      | Kim Onessimo                                 |
| <b>Spirit Day</b>                             | Jess Henry, Martha Gauthier, & Tinbit Bayssa |
| <b>Spirit Wear</b>                            | Lauren Howell                                |
| <b>Square One Art</b>                         | Rebekah Hartwell                             |
| <b>Student Enrichment</b>                     | Kelly Magee Wright & Cynthia Burgos*         |
| <b>Student Events</b>                         | Lauren Howell & Denise Mitchell              |
| <b>Talent Show</b>                            | Drew Briggie & Joe McGonagle                 |
| <b>Targeted Funds</b>                         | Daniela Szymczak                             |
| <b>Turkey Trot</b>                            | Prescott White & Sarah Lento                 |
| <b>Winthrop Derby</b>                         | Rawan Missouri                               |
| <b>Winthrop Dine &amp; Donate</b>             | Open Position                                |

*\*Pending PTO Vote*