



August 22, 2011

Greetings AHMS Parents:

Whether you are the parent of a returning student or are new to Hamilton, please accept a sincere 'back to school welcome' on behalf of the entire PTO board!

This packet includes information about PTO and the many opportunities for parents, friends and neighbors to participate in supporting Hamilton Middle School. In recent years, the PTO has awarded grants to teachers for projects, landscaped the front grounds, invested in improvements and repairs to facilities and organized events like movie night, Freaky Friday Dance, and Spring Thing Carnival. PTO also works closely with Mr. Bunnell, AHMS staff and teachers throughout the year to improve processes and communication.

None of these activities would be possible without the support of parent volunteers dedicated to Hamilton's success. The Board is always looking for people with new energy and ideas! Please review the attached volunteer opportunities to see where you might fit in. A membership form is also attached. Your membership fee goes straight to Hamilton, supporting the many projects we have planned. *Please consider making an additional donation to a particular department, club or the PTO general fund.*

PTO Board members and their contact information are listed on the Hamilton web page as are meeting dates and other important information:

<http://www.alexanderhamiltonms.org/pto> . Please contact us directly at any time to get involved or if you have questions; or write to our general address at [pto@alexanderhamiltonms.org](mailto:pto@alexanderhamiltonms.org) . We look forward to seeing you around campus this year!

Sincerely,  
Hamilton PTO Board, 2011-2012

# Volunteer Opportunities

## Board/Committee Chair Positions Open:

- **Inclusion Chair:** Coordinate the implementation of policies, procedures, events, etc. to help PTO reach Hamilton parents whose first language is Spanish. Coordinate the translation of PTO communications into Spanish. *(time frame: All year)*
- **Fundraising Chair:** Review fundraising efforts and make recommendations to the board. Oversee implementation of new initiatives such as the proposed Parent Party. *(time frame: All Year)*
- **Hospitality Chair:** Coordinate committee volunteers to organize teacher appreciation functions such as catered lunches, dessert parties, holiday gift cards, etc. *(time frame: All Year)*
- **Spring Thing Committee Chair:** Coordinate committee volunteers, schedule committee meetings to follow progress. PTO runs only 3-4 booths- all others are run by clubs! *(time frame: February - April)*

## Other Opportunities:

- **Fall Candy Sales:** Spend an hour or two helping to distribute boxes of candy to students.
- **Movie Night:** Coordinate the showing of a PG rated movie in Hamilton's outdoor classroom one Friday evening in the fall.
- **Freaky Friday Dance:** Coordinate logistics, spend a couple hours decorating, working a booth or helping with clean up.
- **Hospitality:** Help with preparations for the teacher's holiday lunch or other similar functions; donate a yummy baked good or other item; help serve.
- **Campus Beautification:** Bring your garden gloves and shovel on the designated Saturday morning to spruce up campus grounds.
- **Friends of the Library:** Spend an hour or two assisting the Librarian shelve books or covering the help desk.
- **Grant Writing:** Help research grant opportunities; take on all or a portion of a grant application.
- **Parent Party:** Coordinate a fabulous evening for Hamilton parents and adult friends.

Can't help with any of these? Watch for eblasts describing additional opportunities!

# 2011–2012 Fundraising Efforts

Every dollar helps – that’s why the PTO raises funds through a variety of ways. Here’s how you can help!

## **PTO Membership**

Base membership is only \$5.00 per family and dues collected benefit Hamilton MS directly. Our membership drive is held the first six weeks of school. Families and friends are encouraged to participate. See the attached membership form for more information.

## **Fall Fundraiser- Candy Sales!!**

The fall fundraiser typically brings in \$15,000 to \$20,000 for Hamilton! This year’s event will kick off August 31<sup>st</sup> and run through September 17<sup>th</sup>. Each child must present a signed permission slip every time they check out a box of 48 bars of candy to sell. The candy is not returnable. Consider spending a couple hours to distribute candy to students at the school or helping count money.

## **Power for Schools**

Power For Schools™ is a Houston ISD sponsored program in which several major electric providers have agreed to offer their best available rates to school (organization) supporters and to make a monthly contribution for each supporter who signs up through the program and designates a school to receive the contribution. Hamilton PTO is a participant in this fundraising program. For more information go to [www.powerforschools.org](http://www.powerforschools.org) and consider supporting Hamilton Middle School with our ID code **101-912-049-00**.

Before you enroll, check the terms and conditions of your present electric plan. Some companies charge fees if the plan is cancelled before the end of the contract term. If there is a cancellation fee, you should determine whether the rate and terms and conditions you receive from Power For Schools™ providers are sufficient to offset the fee. Otherwise, wait until your present contract term expires before signing up for Power For Schools™.

## **Kroger Share Card**

The Kroger Neighbor to Neighbor Donation Program makes giving money easy. Kroger customers who have Share Cards can designate Hamilton MS PTO to receive credit for a portion of \$1 million annually that Kroger gives to community. The program runs from July 1 through April 30. Look for the Kroger form in this packet or on the HMS web site, or the bar-coded form is available at the Kroger Neighbor to Neighbor Website: [www.krogerneighbor.com](http://www.krogerneighbor.com)

Click on “Find your organization” in the upper left hand side of the page, then enter “Alexander Hamilton Middle School PTO” where it says **Search by Organization Name**. Click on the link and the form will be available to print or to download and save. This form contains a bar code that will credit a percentage of your purchases to the Hamilton PTO. All you will need to do is visit Kroger and hand a copy of the letter with the bar code to the cashier, who will scan it and your Share Card, and you will be enrolled for the year. ***The program expires at the end of April each year - if you enrolled in the past, you need to re-enroll each year.***

## **Box Tops for Education**

Specially marked General Mills products allow you to save and collect Box Tops for Education, worth \$.10 each to the school. You can also go online to [boxtops4education.com](http://boxtops4education.com) and register for more opportunities to earn box tops. Collect the Box Tops, put them in an envelope, label it “PTO Box Tops”, drop it off in the main office and we will forward them for credit.

## **Sponsorships**

PTO has several opportunities to get the word out about your business or organization. For \$500 we’ll hang a banner on the football field and for \$250 we’ll include your logo on Spring Thing Carnival t-shirts.

## **Buy a Brick!**

Be remembered at Hamilton MS for years to come! For \$100 PTO will inscribe up to XXX characters on a brick to be installed on the wall out front.



## **Kroger Customer Letter**



### **Step One:**

Read through this letter to understand the advantage of being a part of the Kroger Neighbor to Neighbor Donation Program.

### **Step Two:**

Take this letter with you to your neighborhood Kroger store the next time you go shopping.

### **Step Three:**

Present the letter with **your organization's barcode** to your cashier upon checkout. After they have scanned your KrogerPlus card you will be enrolled for the current year of the Kroger Neighbor to Neighbor Donation Program. Every time you shop at Kroger and use your enrolled KrogerPlus Card, Kroger will contribute a percentage of your eligible purchases to the Kroger Neighbor to Neighbor Donation fund. Once a card is scanned with the barcode, it will be active for the remainder of the program year.

## **Q&A**

### **How many Kroger Neighbor to Neighbor accounts can an organization have?**

One per organization. (Example: ABC HIGH SCHOOL account could represent: PTA, cheerleaders, football, basketball, band, etc.)

### **Can a household "link" their Kroger Plus Card to more than one organization at a time?**

No, the system allows for one organization per household. To change organizations, you must present your KrogerPlus Card and the new organization's barcode to the cashier.

### **Do I have to enroll each program year?**

Yes, all organizations and participants must re-enroll for each new enrollment period. The current Neighbor to Neighbor Program is effective May 1, 2008 to April 30, 2009.

### **How much can my organization earn?**

The Kroger neighbor to Neighbor Donation Program will donate \$1 million annually. Each organization will earn a percentage of the \$1 million equal to the percentage of total earned contributions attributable to that organization.

### **How are the funds distributed?**

Contributions will be paid via check and mailed to the organization's address and primary contact identified on the organization application form. For schools, it will be mailed to the principal and the funds distributed at their discretion.

**Please feel free to contact a Kroger Neighbor to Neighbor Donation Program Representative with any additional questions at 866-995-7643 or email to: [neighbortoneighbor@kroger.com](mailto:neighbortoneighbor@kroger.com) Additional information is also available at: [www.krogerneighbortoneighbor.com](http://www.krogerneighbortoneighbor.com)**

ALEXANDER HAMILTON MIDDLE SCHOOL PTO



**Kroger cashier:** Please scan customer's KrogerPlus Card at the beginning of the order, and then scan the above barcode. The customer's KrogerPlus Card is now enrolled in the Kroger Neighbor to Neighbor Donation Program.



## Carta al Cliente de Kroger



### Primer paso:

Lea completamente esta carta para entender las ventajas de ser parte del Kroger Neighbor del Programa de Donación al Vecindario.

### Segundo paso:

Lleve esta carta a la tienda Kroger de su vecindario la próxima vez que usted salga de compras.

### Tercer paso:

Presente esta carta con el código de barras de su organización (Hamilton Middle School) a la cajera a la hora de pagar. Después su tarjeta de ahorro de Kroger. Entonces estará enlistado para el año actual del Programa de Donación al Vecindario. Cada vez que compre en Kroger y use su tarjeta enlistada Plus, Kroger contribuirá un porcentaje de sus compras elegibles al fondo del Programa de Donación al Vecindario.

## Preguntas y Respuestas

### Cuántas cuentas del Vecindario de Kroger puede tener cada organización?

Solo una por Organización. (Ejemplo: ABC High School que represente al: PTA, a las Porristas, al Football, al Basquetbol, a la Banda, etc.)

### Un hogar puede acoplar más de una tarjeta Kroger a más de una organización al mismo tiempo?

No, el sistema solo permite una organización por hogar. Para cambiar de organización, usted debe presentar su tarjeta Kroger y su nueva carta con el código de barras de la nueva organización a la cajera.

### Me tengo que inscribir cada año en el programa?

Si, todas las organizaciones y participantes se tienen que reinscribir cada nuevo periodo. El año actual del Programa del Vecindario es efectivo desde Mayo 1,2008 hasta Abril 30,2009.

### Cuánto gana mi organización?

El Programa de Donación al Vecindario de Kroger donara \$1 millón anualmente. Cada organización ganara un porcentaje de el millón equivalente al porcentaje del total ganado en contribuciones atribuibles a la organización.

### Como se distribuyen los fondos?

Las Contribuciones se pagaran con un cheque que se enviara por correo a la dirección de la organización y a la persona identificada como primaria en la aplicación de dicha organización. Para las escuelas, este será enviado al director (a) y los fondos serán distribuidos según su discreción.

Por favor siéntase en confianza de contactar al Representante del Programa de Donación al Vecindario con cualquier pregunta adicional que usted tenga al 866-995-7643 o al correo electrónico [neighbortoneighbor@kroger.com](mailto:neighbortoneighbor@kroger.com), **Información adicional esta también disponible en [www.krogerneighbortoneighbor.com](http://www.krogerneighbortoneighbor.com)**

ALEXANDER HAMILTON MIDDLE SCHOOL PTO



**Kroger cashier:** Please scan customer's KrogerPlus Card at the beginning of the order, and then scan the above barcode. The customer's KrogerPlus Card is now enrolled in the Kroger Neighbor to Neighbor Donation Program.

Hamilton PTO . . .

# Putting Together Opportunities!

Parents, teachers, students, school administration and the business community are working together to make Hamilton a better place to learn — joining efforts through Hamilton’s Parent Teacher Organization.

### For Parents, the Hamilton PTO means:

- Knowing your school- teachers, administration, other parents
- Better communication
- More volunteer opportunities
- A united organization that makes a difference!

### For Teachers, the Hamilton PTO will:

- Raise more funds for classrooms
- Support for special projects, field trips, etc.
- Provide a forum for communicating with parents
- Help improve the physical environment

### For Students, the Hamilton PTO will mean:

- More sponsored activities (dances, Spring Thing, movie nights, etc.)
- More enrichment programs to help you make positive life choices
- More activities that will increase school spirit

### For the Heights Community, the Hamilton PTO means:

- An improved campus and a better neighbor
- Improved student relationships with the community
- And, ultimately, better citizens!

**Join today!** Your membership in Hamilton PTO shows your child that you value their education as well as that of ALL Hamilton students through the support of school wide projects. Past projects include *campus beautification, library renovations, addition of the SPARK park and Outdoor Classroom, new garden beds, and PTO’s support of Hamilton’s NEW track!* Visit us on the Hamilton web site at <http://www.alexanderhamiltonms.org/pto.htm>

**Add to your Support** and you will channel important resources to activities that will benefit your child most.

PLEASE RETURN YOUR FORM & CONTRIBUTION TO YOUR STUDENT’S HOMEROOM TEACHER, OR MAIL TO:

Hamilton PTO,  
P.O. Box 701035  
Houston, TX 77270-1035



Putting Together Opportunities for AHMS

## Sign me up!

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP  STAFF  COMMUNITY MEMBER

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

OTHER ADULT MEMBERS \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

WORK/CELL PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

STUDENT NAME \_\_\_\_\_

HOMEROOM TEACHER & GRADE \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE DESIGNATE ACTIVITIES AND ADD DONATION TO TOTAL.

— CHECKS SHOULD BE MADE TO: **HAMILTON PTO** —

- PTO FAMILY MEMBERSHIP \$ **5.00**
- BAND \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- KARATE \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- FOOTBALL \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- BASKETBALL \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- VOLLEYBALL \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- SOCCER \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- ROBOTICS \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- THEATER ARTS \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- FINE ARTS \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- CAMPUS BEAUTIFICATION \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- I can't give time so here's a donation for PTO projects \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL ENCLOSED** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**I/we can help — please contact me/us!**

I/we would like to work with:

- Luncheons  Student programs
- Fundraising  Campus

Beautification

- Spring Carnival  Any project

Other:

\_\_\_\_\_

I am available:

- evenings only  daytime only
- weekend only
- \_\_\_\_\_ hours per week month (circle one)

FOR PTO USE: DATE \_\_\_\_\_ PAYMENT TYPE \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to receive AHMS E-Blasts?  
Email to [subscribe@alexanderhamiltonms.org](mailto:subscribe@alexanderhamiltonms.org)

Hamilton PTO . . .

# Poniendo juntas Todas las Oportunidades!

Los padres, los maestros, los estudiantes, la administración escolar e incluso la comunidad, se unirá para hacer de Hamilton un mejor lugar para aprender — todo como una parte de la **Organización de los Padres y de los Maestros de Hamilton**.

## Para los Padres, el PTO de Hamilton significa:

- Conocer los maestros, la directiva y los demás padres
- Mejor comunicación
- Más oportunidades de voluntariado
- ¡Una organización unida que hará la diferencia!

## Para los Maestros, el PTO de Hamilton:

- Recaude más fondos para el salón
- Apoyo para proyectos especiales – paseos, etc.
- Provee un foro de comunicación con los padres de familia
- Mejora el ambiente físico

## Para los Estudiantes, el PTO de Hamilton significará:

- Más actividades patrocinadas (bailes, carnavales, cines, etc.)
- Más programas de enriquecimiento para ayudar a los estudiantes a hacer decisiones positivas en sus vidas
- Más actividades que aumentarán el espíritu de la escuela

## Para la Comunidad de Heights, el PTO de Hamilton significa:

- Un terreno mejorado y un mejor vecino
- Mejores relaciones mejoradas de los estudiantes con la comunidad
- ¡Y, finalmente, mejores ciudadanos!

**¡Únase hoy!** Su asociación con el PTO de Hamilton le muestra a su niño que usted valora su educación, así como la de todos los estudiantes a través del apoyo a proyectos escolares. Proyectos anteriores incluyen, embellecimiento de los terrenos, renovación de la biblioteca, el parque SPARK y salón al aire libre, camas nuevas para plantas y una NUEVA pista de carreras para Hamilton con apoyo del PTO. Visítenos en la página web, <http://www.alexanderhamiltonms.org/pto.htm>

**Añada su Apoyo** y usted canalizará los recursos importantes a las actividades que beneficiarán a su principalmente a su niño.

## ¡Ayúdeles a Ganar Premios

POR FAVOR DE REGRESAR ESTA  
FORMA Y SU DONACIÓN AL  
MAESTRO DE SU NIÑO O POR  
CORREO A:

Hamilton PTO,  
P.O. Box 701035  
Houston, TX 77270-1035



PONIENDO JUNTAS TODAS LAS  
OPORTUNIDADES

## Inscríbame !

MEMBRESIA:  FAMILIAR  EMPLEO  DE LA COMUNIDAD

NOMBRE \_\_\_\_\_

OTROS FAMILIARES ADULTOS \_\_\_\_\_  
IMPRIMA CLARAMENTE POR FAVOR

DIRRECCIÓN/CÓDIGO POSTAL \_\_\_\_\_

TELÉFONO (DE HOGAR) \_\_\_\_\_

TELÉFONO (DE CELULAR/TRABAJO) \_\_\_\_\_

NOMBRE DE ESTUDIANTE \_\_\_\_\_

MAESTRO Y GRADO \_\_\_\_\_

*DESIGNE LAS ACTIVIDADES Y AGREGUE LA  
DONACIÓN PARA TOTALIZAR. LOS CHEQUES DEBEN  
SER PAGADEROS A: HAMILTON PTO*

**MEMBRESIA FAMILIAR DEL PTO** \$ **5.00**

BANDA \$ \_\_\_\_\_

KARATE \$ \_\_\_\_\_

FÚTBOL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

BASQUETBOL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

VOLIBOL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

NATACIÓN \$ \_\_\_\_\_

FÚTBOL ASOCIACIÓN \$ \_\_\_\_\_

ROBÓTICA \$ \_\_\_\_\_

ARTES DE TEATRO \$ \_\_\_\_\_

BELLAS ARTES \$ \_\_\_\_\_

EMBELLECIMIENTO DE TERRENOS \$ \_\_\_\_\_

No Puedo hacer una donación, pero  
aquí está mi contribución: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL ADJUNTO** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**¡Puedo ayudar — por favor me contacta!**

Quiero trabajar con:

Almuerzos  Cualquier proyecto

Recaudación de fondos  Embellecer la

escuela  Cualquier proyecto

otro  Carnaval de primavera (*Spring Thing*)

Estoy disponible:

solo en la noche  solo en el día

solo en el fin de semana

\_\_\_\_ horas por semana/mes (escoja uno)

¿ Le gustaria recibir correo electrónico de Hamilton?

Mande un email a:

[subscribe@alexanderhamiltonms.org](mailto:subscribe@alexanderhamiltonms.org)