



Welcome to Deerfield!

The Deerfield PTO works hard to support our school, our teachers, and our kids! And the more parents are involved in this work, the better! There are wonderful opportunities to get involved no matter who you are or what your schedule may be.

Throughout the year, we provide extra support for teachers and staff, enhance the school environment, and organize exciting activities for our students. Please, join us at our monthly meetings – the second Tuesday of each month – to learn more. Or stay up to speed through our emails, text reminders and Facebook page.

This is a brief summary of the work we do on behalf of Deerfield School. If you have any questions or are interested in getting involved, please contact us at deerfieldpto@hotmail.com.

Deerfield PTO Information Guide

Fundraising:

Fundraising is critical to the PTO's ability to support and enhance Deerfield School for our teachers and students. This committee organizes the fall and spring fundraisers and helps develop innovative ways to generate resources for Deerfield school.

Watch DOGS:

The Watch DOGS (Dads of Great Students) program is a wonderful opportunity for dads and other male role models to get involved at school. Parents on this committee will help organize the kick-off event, promote the program, and assist new Watch DOGS. The program's goal is to have a volunteer in the building every school day.

Room Parents (and Welcome Committee):

The PTO coordinates room parents and grade level representatives for each classroom at Deerfield. The room parents and grade reps work together to assist the teachers, as well as plan 3 classroom parties each year: Fall, Winter Break, and Valentine's Day. Parents will be able to sign up online to be room parents and help with the class parties.

Marathon Club:

Students participate in the club by running or walking the course around Deerfield School to accumulate laps/miles. The goal is to complete a marathon (26.2 miles) during the school year. This club meets most Wednesdays in the fall and spring from 1:35-2:35pm. In order to ensure all kids are safe while participating, PTO needs many volunteers to help supervise the

300+ kids that participate in Marathon Club each week.

Teacher/Staff Appreciation:

This committee helps demonstrate our gratitude for the teachers and staff who make Deerfield such a great school. They organize treats and activities to thank staff throughout the year, especially during National Teacher's Appreciation week. This committee also plans meals for teachers and staff during the parent-teacher conferences in November and February. Volunteers are needed to plan, as well as make or donate food during the conferences.

Book Fair:

This week-long event serves as a fundraiser for classroom resources and library enhancements. It takes place every year in conjunction with the February parent-teacher conferences. The book sale is open to the public. Families may buy items for home or for classrooms. Many volunteers are needed to set up, promote and work the event. It is a favorite of many students! Additionally, there is a BOGO fair at the end of the year where you get a book for each one purchased!

Carnival:

This is the largest event the PTO puts on each year. The carnival is a celebration complete with games, activities, food, and inflatable rides for kids. Volunteers are needed to organize the day, set up and take down, and supervise various booths and games. Some of the main events are a silent auction, cakewalk, bounce-houses, and other games. This is a fabulous event that requires an army of volunteers to execute. We need all the help we can get!

Science Fair:

The PTO sponsors a Science Fair at Deerfield held in conjunction with the Douglas County Science Fair. Fifth graders are required to participate as an assignment, while it is voluntary for students in other grades.

Volunteers are needed to organize the event and judge the entries.

Kindergarten Orientation:

Kindergarten Orientation is held each April for new students and their families who will start Kindergarten the following fall. This is the first time many families are introduced to Deerfield. This committee assists the Kindergarten teachers and school staff in planning the day and working during the sessions.

Welcome Committee (and Room Parents):

This committee is responsible for welcoming all new students to Deerfield. They make sure the incoming families feel welcome and well informed – no matter when they join the school. This committee is also responsible for welcoming new kindergarten families into the Deerfield community and planning two kindergarten playdates during the summer.

Deerfield Dines Out:

Each month the Dines Out committee will organize and promote a benefit night for the school at a local restaurant. A percentage of the sales for a specified time and date will go to support the school.

Wish List Committee:

PTO receives and reviews teacher requests for additional funding for items to be used in the classroom or school. Volunteers on this

committee will meet a couple of times during the school year to evaluate and approve requests.

Sneak Peek Ice Cream Social:

This event is held the evening before school begins. Deerfield families are invited to find their student's classroom, meet the teachers and drop off school supplies. Then, families can join the PTO for ice cream bars and popsicles donated by HyVee, our school business partner.

Snowman Gifts:

In December, PTO committee organizes a gift-giving program for those who wish to participate. We collect lists from teachers of supplies needed for the classroom or personally for the teachers. Parents can view the lists online or on the Snowman displayed outside each classroom, and donate items to different classrooms.

5th Grade Recognition:

This committee works with parents to recognize 5th graders as they finish their studies at Deerfield. Volunteers work with the 5th grade teachers to organize this event – and additional activities – at the end of the school year.

Box Tops for Education:

Box Tops are collected throughout the year to generate funds for supplies for the school. HyVee receipts are also collected with the money being used for educational enhancements. These are easy ways to make a big difference. The collection locations for these items are by the office at the front entrance to the school.

HyVee High Five:

Students write letters nominating teachers and staff for special recognition. Students share how

the staff person impacts their day at Deerfield. Winners are chosen and receive special rewards and gifts donated by HyVee.

Penny War:

This committee works to raise money for Just Food by coordinating a Penny War during November. Each class raises money with a class fun time on the line for the winning class (typically popcorn and a movie in room). Collection tubs are placed outside of each classroom and taken to the bank each day so that status updates can be emailed out to keep participation going.

Holiday Bake Shop:

This committee coordinates a day where teachers and school staff can fill up a plate of holiday goodies, like cookies and chocolate, to take home and enjoy the day before winter break. An electronic sign up is generated so that parents can sign up to bring the treats and the committee also sets it up and decorates the day of the shop.

School Supply Orders:

This committee sets up a convenient way for parents to order supplies for their student(s). The supply packs are delivered directly to the school.

Parent/Community Outreach:

This committee or chairperson organizes events by working with local partners. Also recruits parents to participate in community building activities. Example events include Movie Night and LOL Schools' Out Deerfield still Cares.

Parents of Students of Color (PoSoC):

Help coordinate PoSoC meetings. Work closely with Deerfield leadership to organize PASS meeting and act as facilitators. PoSoC meetings take place 2-4 times a year.

Site Council Reps:

Parent representative(s) that sit on the school site council and act as a liaison to the PTO with current news. Site Council is held every other month with the exception of January. Meetings the second Tuesday of the month from 4:00-5:30.

Local Businesses:

A special thanks to our business partner HyVee (6th St) for their ongoing support! Thanks also to many other local businesses for their donations. Do you own a business or work for one that would like to help in some way? Please contact the PTO!

Contact Deerfield PTO at:

deerfieldpto@hotmail.com

Deerfield PTO Text reminders:

Please text the number 81010 with the message: @dfpto

Sign up for email updates through this link:

