



PTSA Newsletter

2016-2017

1st School Quarter
Issue

2025 Mansfield Blvd. • Wesley Chapel, Florida 33543 • 813-346-6200

www.jlmspta.org

Welcome!

Message from Florida PTA President Cindy Gerhardt



I don't know about you guys, but I'm pretty excited! It's a new beginning for so many students and families, some starting school for

the first time, some are changing to new schools and some may even be entering their last year! Regardless of where you are in this timeline, new beginnings are always great opportunities to start fresh, to do things a little different, or maybe even a little better. For us as parents, it's a chance to step back and re-evaluate our roles and either step up our game or maybe step back a bit. For those of you who were able to attend our Leadership Convention in July, you'll most likely be in the "Step Up Your Game" category. You also had a chance to hear about my game, my goals and my vision for where we'll head for the next two years. Based on your warm reception and response, I know that you're with me, ready to take our team all the way!

For those who were unable to attend, let me take a moment and catch you up to speed. During my 20 years with PTA, I've been privileged to take part in advocating for some dynamic and crucial issues. Whether it was

fighting for funding, the safety of our children or the rights of parents and guardians, we've never shied away from a fight for fear of losing. We fight the good fight as champions for our children. That's what engaged parents do.

However, there are some children who have no one to fight for them. They have no one who can attend meetings and programs, who can volunteer for events, or who can provide the extras that some of us take for granted. Many of those children are in foster care. Many of them have no consistent place to stay each night. Many have found themselves in the juvenile justice system and have no support. We must be the champion for those who have no one. That's what our founders believed...that every child should have someone who fights for them, who looks after their well-being and ensures that they have a voice that speaks up on their behalf.

Our theme for the next two years symbolizes this belief. It emphasizes the fact that no matter where a child calls home, no matter what their circumstance, they all deserve to be a part of our PTA family... where **ALL Children are Our Children.**

This new school year it is my hope that you take a step back and look around at the faces walking the hallways. That you find those who have hurts that may not be visible. That we connect each

community with programs and services that can help each family find a way to meet their needs. That our schools would become a place to connect with resources and find support. That we become a part of making a new beginning for all children.

Let's make history!



Annual Leadership Convention



Innisbrook Resort & Golf Club - Tarpon Springs, FL
Your JLMS PTSA Board (Smile!)

2016-2017 PTSA Board

President	Jennifer Loaiza
1 st Vice President	Christine Simonelli
2 nd Vice-President	Opened
3 rd Vice President	Angie Bastedo
Awards & Recognition	Valerie Ryan-Lanza
Community Services	Opened
Corresponding Secretary	Stacy Krous
Donations	Open
Environmental	Tracy Dachisen
Family & Student Events	Jessica Gilligan
Health & Safety	Irma Guzman
Historian	Julie Carmichael
Hospitality	Andrea McBride
Hospitality Co-Chair	Pearlyn Rajamanickam
Legislative	Denise Nicholas
Membership	Aiseen "Chisi" Reyes
Parliamentarian	Open
Programs	Yehury "Jody" Vizcaino
Public Relations	Open
Recording Secretary	Aiseen "Chisi" Reyes
Reflections	Open
Roundup Chair	Denise Nicholas
School Spirit	Darlene Basi
School Spirit Co-Chair	Jade McKendree-Smith
Social Media	Jeannine Lehmann
Treasurer	Andrea Shanks
Volunteer Coordinator	Kate Fletcher
Walk-a-thon Chair	Denise Nicholas
Webmaster	Kristine Freed



Our PTSA supports and run several programs for our school with the goal of bringing fun and educational advancements to the students.

We do this mainly with three initiatives (1) Fundraising (2) Family & School Events and (3) School Spirit Wear. Funds received through PTSA memberships in the beginning of the school year help kick-start our events and fundraising activities. Earned dollars go back to the school for our students and staff at JLMS.

Help us continue enriching our school! Help our school keep its grade A rating! Our community depends on high quality schools.

2015-2016 School Year. With just two school fund raisers (the Color-A-Thon in the fall and Roundup Carnival in the spring) and two school events (Back to School Dance and Talent Show) within the 2015-2016 school year, we were able to bring in a net income close to \$19,000!

With the lead of the PTSA and the many volunteers of this organization along with parents, teachers, administration and support staff that worked collectively together we were able to bring in:

- New Science Equipment – Glass thermometers, Hot Plates.
- 16 new whiteboard/dry erase tables for every advance math class.
- Large projection TV in the gymnasium – the moving up ceremony this past year was able to showcase a year in review events for the first time and now after school clubs have use of it.
- Apple TV and Mini Laptops for classroom use.
- Educational magazine subscriptions for science and language arts.
- Grade Cam subscription that assists the school to instantly scan and grade multiple-choice assessments.
- A new trophy case to showcase our school's athletic Longhorn teams' wins.
- New Cheer Gear for our cheerleaders.
- New stage risers for our talented and growing chorus team.

Giving Back to the Community. We are committed to providing monetary and parental support to enrich student experiences at JLMS and give back to our community with these programs:

- ABC Program for Struggling Families
- Holiday Mail for Heroes
- Toys for Tots

PTSA Membership

Membership Pays for Itself!

Become a PTSA member. You will not only be supporting the goals of the PTSA but you will receive:

- A valuable coupon discount card **for local** businesses that can be used all year
- By registering your membership with the National PTA, you can receive **discounts** on select car rentals, insurance, and more!



Not only does it allow our board to invest dollar and programs back to our school, but there is also a chance for our PTSA to earn special awards made possible by the Florida and National PTA:

100% Faculty Membership Award

- This includes principals, deans, teachers, librarians/media specialists, counselors, and all of the school based faculty and administrators of the school.

Acorn Award - An Acorn Award Certificate will be given to the local PTA that has a majority of its faculty as members but, for some reason, cannot achieve 100%.

Community Membership Award -

This award will be given to those PTAs that recruit 25 members from the community in addition to parents who also serve in community leadership positions.

Grandparent Silver/Gold

Membership Award - PTAs that recruit 10- 24 members who are grandparents of students attending that particular school will receive a Grandparent Silver Membership Award. Those PTAs that recruit 25 or more grandparent members will receive the Grandparent Gold Membership Award.

Spotlight on Men Award (Formerly Known as Supermen Award) - This award rewards those units who focus on ways to engage the fathers, stepfathers, grandfathers, uncles, mentors, business partners, etc.

Membership Plus Award - will be given to one elementary and one secondary PTA/PTSA that has shown the highest numerical increase in individual memberships over the previous year. This is the only membership award that will be given with a cash prize of twenty-five dollars.

Certificates will be awarded to those local PTAs that achieve any of the following:

1. Increase its membership by at least 25% over the previous year.
2. Has the highest percentage increase in membership over the previous year.
3. Has 1,000 or more members.
4. Has attained 100% membership for the last four years or more.



Download the [Membership Form](#)

PTSA Student Members

Students who become members also enjoy discounts throughout the year at PTSA events.

Download the [Membership Form](#)

2016-2017 JLMS PTSA Membership Form

\$5 Individual Membership (one Adult)
Name: _____ M F

\$10 Family Parent Membership (two Adults)
Name: _____ M F
Name: _____ M F

\$5 Student Membership (each Student)
Student Name: _____ Grade: _____ Team Name: _____
Student Name: _____ Grade: _____ Team Name: _____

\$25 Business Partner
Business Name: _____ Contact Name: _____
Business phone: _____ Email: _____

Please add my email to receive the PTSA e-newsletter I'm interested in helping/volunteering at events

Email Address: _____
Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

FOR PTA USE ONLY:

PAYMENT			OTHER ITEMS	
Amount	Cash	Check	Amount	Amount
Initials			Split Items	
CARDS GIVEN			Donation	

*CHECKS MUST INCLUDE PHONE AND STUDENT ID

and send it in to school with your payment.

Calling All Volunteers!

Welcome to the new school year! We are excited for this school year and like other schools in our area, JLMS is still dealing with the impact of budget cuts and therefore rely on, and truly appreciate volunteers. ...

... Did you know?

Volunteer Award Awarded to recognize school volunteer activities and given to local PTA units who report PTA volunteer hours equal to twice the number of their school enrollment.

By helping us for a few hours here or there, it increases the chance of getting that award!!!



Volunteer Background Checks

If you are interested in volunteering with our PTSA or at JLMS in any capacity at school during the 2016-2017 school year, you must apply (or reapply) for a background check each school year (after June 30) and be approved by Pasco County.

To apply:

https://webdb.pasco.k12.fl.us/fmi/iwp/cgi?-db=vol_db&-loadframes

Donations

Your time is very valuable to JLMS but if you are unable to volunteer with your time, donations in the form of canned soft drinks or bottled waters for our events are always welcomed. Your volunteerism and donations are greatly appreciated! Please email our volunteer coordinator if you are interested and thank you for all you do for John Long and your continued support!



Support our School with JLMS Spirit Wear

The PTSA has a number of items for sale that will show off your school spirit and help the PTSA reach its goals at the same time. Items are on sale at most school events or contact the front office or PTSA for more information

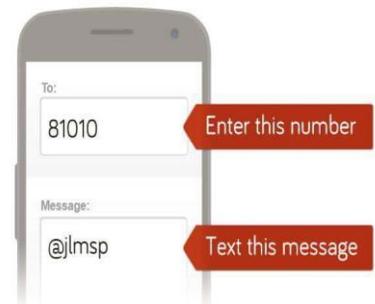


Stay connected with PTSA

Remind 101. Sign up for reminder text messages for upcoming events and information. This is the best way to stay up to date. Send the text @jlmstp to 81010

JLMS PTSA Facebook. Like our page and you will get updates on your Facebook news feed. www.facebook.com/JohnLongPTSA

JLMS Webpage. Our PTSA site has information about upcoming events, pictures of past events, membership, and information of interest to parents and students. www.jlmsptsa.org



PTSA Sponsored Events

Welcome Back Breakfast

The PTSA put together a terrific spread for the teachers and staff the day before Orientation. Special thanks to the board that prepared homemade items and the volunteers who helped set-up for the teachers and staff while they prepare for the 2016-2017 school year!



Back to School Dance

Longhorns turned the cafeteria into a dance floor that afternoon. It was a success for sure and a fun afternoon for students to catch-up and spend with friends!



General Assembly/Open House

We hope you stopped by! Did you happen to catch our cool theme song? The PTSA shared its proposed budget and school enrichment goals

for the coming year. Memberships and JLMS Spirit Wear were also on sale that evening and the night provided students and parents a sneak peak of what to expect for the Inflatable Fun Run.

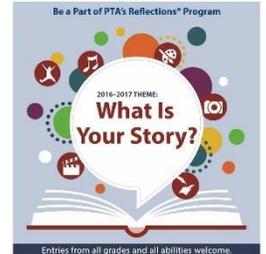
Family Spirit Event



Thanks to Pinot's Palette and our JLMS families, \$150 was raised on our school's first family spirit event of the year! Over a dozen families and students of JLMS and our community gathered to kick-off the Red Ribbon Campaign®. We are certain the National Family Partnership will be pleased to see this year's campaign slogan - YOLO (You Only Live Once) and all those red ribbons in everyone's portrait!



Reflections Program



Each year brings a new theme.

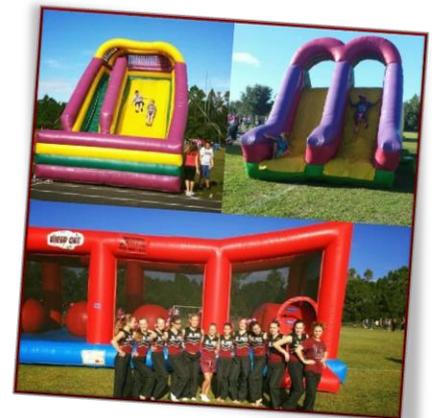
This year it was:

What Is Your Story? Submissions were due Oct. 3rd but interested students can still participate in the *Theme Search for 2018-2019* by Nov. 16th for a chance to win \$100. Visit our Reflections page for more information:

www.jlmspta.org/pages/reflections.html

Inflatable Fun Run

Almost 300 students joined our school for this first ever fundraising run that included not one, not two, not three but FOUR inflatable slides PLUS a five-sided sports inflatable that included the chance to play basketball, baseball, soccer and football! If your child came home and said "It was awesome!" or "It was the best day of my life!", we're not surprised. Over \$6,000 was raised that day! Thanks to all the supporting family members and friends from near and far who helped make this event a success!





Many thanks to all the business that donated to our Inflatible Run!

Happy Cow
 Beef 'O' Brady's
 900 Degrees Woodfired Pizza
 Play It Again Sports
 Pinot's Palette
 Buffalo Wild Wings
 Chick-fil-A
 Red Robin
 First Watch
 Pretzel Twister
 Bruster's Real Ice Cream
 Auntie Anne's Pretzel
 Cheddar's
 Punch Gym
 Outback Steakhouse
 Be Creative
 Blondies
 PDQ
 Smoothie King
 Pulse Salon and Spa

Upcoming Events



Red Ribbon Week



All Pro Dad Breakfast



Red Ribbon Photo Voting Contest



Holiday Mail for Heroes Drive



The Youth Alliance – Guest Speaker



Reflections Theme Search Entries Due



Great American Teach-In



gotsneakers? Kick-Off Campaign

Visit the PTSA calendar
www.jlmsptsa.org/pages/calendar.html for specific dates and more upcoming events.

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