

Annual Winthrop PTO Events & Fundraisers

**Indicates our annual fundraisers*

Early Fall

K/New Family Welcome
Parent Open House

Fall

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

Winter

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

Early Spring

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

Late Spring/Early Summer

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

2025-2026 PTO Meetings

PTO meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7pm in Room 27 (Ms. Maloney's classroom) and via Zoom. The Zoom link will be available via our newsletter and Facebook page prior to each meeting. In-person is our priority to foster community engagement.

Meeting Dates:

Sept 11, Oct 9, Nov 13, Dec 11, Jan 8, Feb 12,
Mar 12, April 9, May 14



2025-2026 Information Guide

*The PTO has mailboxes at the
Winthrop main office*



Here are just a few reasons to be a part of the PTO for the 2025-2026 school year:

- PTO meetings offer parents the opportunity to know what's happening in the school and the wider community.
- Participating in the PTO shows an interest in your child's education and activities, shows support for teachers and school administration, and helps foster the relationships between personnel and parents.
- Our PTO does some amazing things for our kids and their school. It feels great to be a part of that and see the benefits.
- It's fun! You can be involved in ways that fit your abilities and your schedule.

Please consider getting involved in the PTO. Our school thrives because of our volunteers! If you have a particular area of interest or have any questions, feel free to contact our Co-Presidents: **Sarah Patuto** or **Nikki Hinckley** at winthroppto@gmail.com

Please note: all families will be opted-in to all PTO communications, including:

- Bi-Weekly Winthrop Express newsletter email.
- Volunteer opportunities at events throughout the year, including being a Room Representative for your student's classroom.
- 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 email communications, please email winthroppto@gmail.com by September 16, 2025.

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 you sign in and out of the building using a QR code on the main door. Register at <https://tinyurl.com/2025-26BridgeRegistration>.

Room Representatives

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

Lunch in the Classroom

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

Parking, Drop Off, Etc.

Traffic flow on Ashcroft St is one way from Upham St to First St during the school day. Similarly, traffic flow on First St is one way towards Lebanon St. When using the "Drop-off Zone," pull as far down as possible and maintain the flow of traffic. Students should exit through the passenger side and move quickly out of the vehicle. Parents should not exit the vehicle. Parking is allowed on Ashcroft St. (on the side opposite the school) and First St. (on the same side as the school). Do not park in any No Parking Zones. Melrose Police DO ticket!

Early Release Days

There are early release days on the 1st Friday of every month, 12:20 dismissal. Lunch is served on these days. Education Stations does run on the 12:20 dismissal days and provides care through their normal times.

Winthrop Website and Winthrop Express Newsletter

We have a Winthrop PTO website (<https://melrosepto.com/winthrop/>). In addition, our bi-monthly newsletter, the Winthrop Express, is distributed via email. These are the best places to learn about PTO events, school happenings, fundraising efforts, and other ways to get involved in the Winthrop community.

PTO Committee Descriptions

Fundraising

Organizes the fundraising activities for the year. This crucial committee delivers the funds for our PTO activities throughout the school year. Fundraising events include:

- Turkey Trot
- Read-a-Thon
- Winthrop Wednesdays
- Spirit Wear

Communications

Coordinates communication and promotion of Winthrop community events via our website, newsletter, and social media.

DEIB

As part of the district-wide *Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging* team, helps establish and enhance relationships among the Winthrop parent community and promote multicultural literacy.

Hospitality

Works to ensure that all school-hosted events are properly supplied and that our teachers and personnel are appreciated throughout the year.

Community Building & Contributions

Works within the larger Melrose community to support all residents and develop the relationship between the Winthrop community and the rest of the city. Involvement includes:

- Citywide PTO
- Adopt-a-site & Winthrop school grounds beautification
- Giving Tree
- Friends of METCO
- Valentines for Vets

PTO Committee Descriptions

Library

Provides an essential function in our school by maintaining our library which runs on an ALL-VOLUNTEER basis for grades K-2. Responsible for shelving, tracking, and ordering books and displays as well as working with teachers to ensure the library is stocked with relevant materials.

Student Enrichment

Researches and schedules performers and programs and coordinates school scheduling of all enrichment activities. Works with teachers on field trips and curriculum tie-ins.

Student Events

Hosts a variety of social opportunities throughout the year, including:

- Single-or multi-grade events
- Holiday Bazaar
- Book Fair
- Talent Show
- Spirit Day

Targeted Funds

Solicits, tracks, and presents grant applications from teachers/administrators. The PTO then votes on projects and provides funds for these “targeted” projects.

While all our committees need help with tasks that can be done at your convenience, these committees also need a significant number of volunteers available during school hours.

PTO Fundraising Efforts

The Winthrop School PTO is a 501 (c)(3) organization as part of the citywide Melrose PTO Inc. Our PTO raises and spends approximately \$35,000 - \$40,000 every year on enriching our students' school experience. We fully fund our library, bring in special programs, provide classroom stipends to teachers and specialists, and so much more.

We raise these funds through a variety of efforts, a few of which are listed below:

- Annual Turkey Trot and Read-a-thon
- Social events for parents
- Textile Program: The giant white bin at the top of the playground? Put your old linens, stuffed animals or other items that are not worthy of passing on into the bin. We receive \$100 per ton. More information to follow in the Winthrop Express Newsletter.
- Box Tops (via the Box Tops app): Scan your receipts from purchasing participating products, and money comes directly to the Winthrop!
- PTO Donations: Your support is very much appreciated but completely voluntary. We welcome your contributions.

2025 - 2026 PTO Officers

Co-Presidents: Sarah Patuto & Nikki Hinckley
Vice President: Terry Kinsler
Secretary: Sarah Lento
Treasurer: Sabrina Sandberg

2025 - 2026 Committee & Sub-Committee Chairs

Adopt-a-Site: Kristen DeVoe & Elisa Tierney
Book Fair: Amy Tierney, Molly Carroll & Elisa Tierney
Citywide PTO Representative: Lauren Howell
Communications: Brooke Daniels, Andrea Galvin & Harmanpreet Kaur
Community Building & Contributions: Abby Law
DEIB: Rawan Missouri
Fifth Grade Year-End Activities: Anne Powell & Jess Foley
Fundraising: Rebekah Hartwell & David Onessimo
Giving Tree: Nikki Hinckley & Rawan Missouri
Holiday Bazaar: Tai Lorizio & Robyn Gentile
Hospitality: Linda Joyce & Sara Griffin
Library: Jillian LaRosa, Jessica Jones & Maureen Van Neste
Read-a-Thon: Kara Hodecker
Social Events (for Parents/Guardians): Kim Onessimo
Spirit Day: Jess Henry & Anne Powell
Spirit Wear: Sarah Patuto
Square One Art: Lauren Howell
Student Enrichment: Kelly Magee Wright & Jenna Gravel
Student Events: Lauren Howell & Denise Mitchell
Talent Show: Drew Briggie & Joe McGonagle
Targeted Funds: Daniela Szymczak
Turkey Trot: Prescott White & Sarah Lento
Winthrop Open: Rawan Missouri
Winthrop Wednesdays: Jeralyn O'Leary