



The secret of getting ahead is getting started!

- Mark Twain

Dear Mark Twain Friends and Family,

Mark Twain said, "The secret of getting ahead is getting started." Welcome to another amazing year at Mark Twain Elementary and to the the Mark Twain Parent Teacher Organization (PTO). The PTO includes every parent or guardian in the school and has representatives from both administration and faculty. Our goal is to build community and raise funds to support educational programming and expenses. We are unwavering in our commitment to help Mark Twain Elementary remain a wonderful place to learn; and to accomplish this, we are asking for your help by contributing to the Friends & Family campaign.

Our Friends & Family campaign is an opportunity for you and all friends and family of our students to make a tax-deductible donation to the Mark Twain PTO. Funds raised through our Friends & Family Campaign help us get the year started! Our fundraising efforts are vitally important in the current climate of district budget cuts and deficits. Funds raised support:

- The International Baccalaureate (IB) program through teacher training and program fees
- The Literary Development Center (LDC) through supplies and consultation fees
- Classroom equipment and supplies
- Technology and communication tools
- PTO events and programs such as International Festival, Art A La Carte and Math and Science Night

Your donation DIRECTLY supports and benefits Mark Twain Elementary School. Over the years, funds raised by the PTO have not only been used to support the daily expenses of our school such as printing or online subscriptions, but have also allowed us to take on larger projects such as the new playground, restock libraries, and purchasing new technology for each classroom. **Please take this opportunity to invest in our campus, our neighborhood, our teachers, our staff, and most importantly our children.** The ability of the PTO to provide stable and ongoing support for our school and its programs is one of the qualities that makes Mark Twain such a uniquely wonderful place for our students to grow and learn. Help us get another year started, so that our children can succeed.

With your help we can accomplish our goals. Please take a moment to make a tax-deductible monetary donation to our Friends & Family fund so that we can enrich the educational experience of each child. You may be able to increase your donation by participating in a "**Corporate Matching**" program at your place of work. Please consider contacting your HR department to see if this is available. We are happy to help you complete the required paperwork. Information regarding donation levels and associated benefits for your family is enclosed along with a donation form. You can return the completed donation form and check to the School Store - OR - donate online at marktwainpto.org.

Thank you so much for your kind consideration. We hope to hear from you soon.

Sincerely,

Erin Salisbury
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