



# M.I.T.C.H.

*Fox Flyer*

## Executive Director's Message

Can you believe it is the 10th week of school?! We are well into the swing of the annual learning routine: in the classrooms we have completed numerous Core Knowledge domains – everything from Nursery Rhymes and the 5-Senses in Kindergarten to Civics and the Constitution in 8th grade! We've had many visitors tour the school who comment on how engaged our students are in every classroom – Way to Go, Foxes!

Here are some things to watch for in the next few weeks:

- The end of the first quarter with progress reports & attendance summaries coming home
- Mark Powers of Powers Percussion is our guest at the November student assembly
- 2nd Annual Student Talent Show

Finally, we are working on our annual presentation to the Tigard Tualatin School Board which is tentatively scheduled for December 14th at 6:30 pm. I hope you will put this on your calendar to join us – the Board appreciates seeing and hearing from our community.

Melissa Meyer

## “Note” worthy; Special Edition

The music room has been keeping busy each and every day performing music, dancing, demonstrating form (patterns), decoding songs with Boomwhackers, collaborating and getting ready for Core Knowledge celebrations/events as well as the winter concert. It really warms my heart to see their enthusiasm and gratitude and I feel I have the best job in the world! Thank you for letting me be a part of their development in becoming leaders not just for the future but here and now.

Speaking of thank yous, I am so grateful to parents and friends of MITCH that supported my Donors Choose project! The project was for a large quantity of colorful, indestructible pitched tubes called Boomwhackers. We have so many now that I can have multiple classes perform on them together, or even use them for a piece of music that has almost the range of a piano! Look forward to hearing the students use them in the winter concert!

Lastly, I am performing in a couple of weeks with Thomas Lauderdale, the amazing pianist who has performed with Rita Moreno and his group Pink Martini. I play clarinet for the Salem Concert Band and we are performing Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue" in which Mr. Lauderdale will be featured. You can find out more at [www.salemconcertband.org](http://www.salemconcertband.org).

Melodiously,  
Clara Keith

## Mrs. Maclean says...

It's Caring November!!!

This month is all about caring. Caring for each other, caring for the school, caring for ourselves, caring for our education, and caring for our community! With this caring theme in mind, Leadership will be running the KGW Toy drive for our school! We will be collecting toys November 10 - December 11. Let's all work together to care for others in need throughout this month- we have a whole month to make a big difference!

Last month's assembly was a blast! We have monthly drawings for each class for a student to come up and spin the "Wheel of Rewards."

Congratulations to our November spinners...

KA- Mrs. Gates	Anna	\$5 to the student store
KB- Ms. Gill	Rowan	Lunch with 3 friends and staff of choice
1A- Mrs. Onstott	Max	NUT day (No Uniform Today)
1B- Mrs. Jackson	Hope	Principal Chair for 1 hour
2nd- Mrs. Hill	Damian	NUT day
3rd- Mrs. Jones	Daniella	Vice Principal Chair for half a day
4th-Ottley/DeYoung	Aiden	NUT day
5th- Mrs. Wytmans	Aaron	Vice Principal Chair for half a day
6th- Mrs. Bury-Roller	Josh	\$5 to the student store
7th- Mr. Simmons	Joel	NUT day
8th- Mrs. Doris	Jon	NUT day

We are starting to see those individual class rewards which is so exciting including; pajama day, extra recess, movie and popcorn, etc. Keep encouraging your kiddos to follow the MITCH Code of Conduct to earn the PAWs and points in their classrooms! Remember, what do MITCH Foxes say?

I am responsible  
I am respectful  
I am resourceful  
and...  
I am safe!!!

To get a golden spoon or not to get a golden spoon, that is the question. We have instituted our Golden Spoon rankings in the lunch room for Lunch 1 and Lunch 2. Lunch groups will be ranked in three categories daily:

**Focus:** Staying focused on food, the job and tasks at hand (eating and fueling their bodies)

**Restaurant Behavior:** Sitting while eating, low voices, chewing with their mouths closed, etc.

**Cleanliness:** Cleaning up after oneself, being responsible for own garbage and spills.

Lunch groups may earn a total of 12 golden spoons by Thursday. With 10 golden spoons they earn "Free Seat Friday" and students can choose where they sit. Help our students earn "Free Seat Friday" by reviewing and encouraging these lunch room expectations at home!

And finally, uniform reminders...solid color socks and accessories please. We appreciate your support in this. As always, thank you for everything you do to support positive behavior in your kiddos -- the more we work together, the easier it is for everyone!



## From the Board Chair

The Board is thrilled to welcome Brent Savage as our newest Director! Brent works in the health insurance business and has a tremendous passion for education and charter schools. He also has significant governance experience, an area in which we are expanding, and a tremendous sense of humor.

One of the Board's goals this year is to begin the process of charter renewal. Toward that end, Melissa, Don, and I visited with TTSD Superintendent Ernie Brown, and Maureen Wolf, Vice Chair of the TTSD Board to learn their expectations of MITCH in this process. We also wanted to know how we could be a stronger partner to the district. They shared that the TTSD Board would like to see a more diverse student body at MITCH, and to see year-over-year improvements in student achievement. Both of these are things that we are working on already, so it is good to know we are thinking similarly.

We also took the opportunity to ask why the reimbursement we get from TTSD is at the legally mandated minimum of 80%, instead of higher as is allowed by law. The question was well received and began what we hope will be a continuing dialogue about the possibility of greater funding from the district. During our conversation, Ernie and Maureen indicated that the TTSD Board was likely to question the need to reimburse MITCH at a higher rate given our significant cash reserves.

This surplus is something that the Board and MITCH community has been talking about for some time. There is the realization that we will need to reinvest some of this surplus in MITCH to fulfill our five-year strategic plan. The Board is discussing the feasibility of spending some of that surplus to increase teacher pay because in doing so, we foresee a positive impact on our ability to improve teacher retention as well as student achievement. Both are important components of our strategic plan.

Since the last Board Notes, we have formed the academic excellence, facilities, and governance committees and drafted goals for them. These goals

are being refined and if you'd like to help, please reach out to Carrie for academic excellence, Christa or Jody for facilities, or Jason or me for governance.

Part of governance is professional development for the Directors so that we can do our jobs better. At our November work session, now scheduled for 11/7/15 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Symposium coffee in Tigard, Steve Kelley from the Oregon School Board Association will do a half-day workshop for us. I encourage anyone who is interested to come to the session.

Congratulations to the PSO for their success with the MITCH marathon and thank you for the contributions you are making!

Wishing you a fabulous November,

Donna Capodacqua

## Student Leadership

Hello MITCH Parents!

Believe it or not, Perseverant October is already drawing to a close. Which means that Caring November is kicking off! Watch for the KGW Toy Drive for our community -- it's a great way to show how much we care about others, and it incorporates perfectly into Caring November!

We also have the Talent Show coming up, and hope you join us at Twality Middle School on November 6th at 6:30 pm. We have wonderfully talented students and we can't wait to see them shine! Tickets are \$2/ \$10 per family, and we would love for you to join us!

Student Leadership's website is a collection of recent events, community news, and student information -- make sure to check it out! We love connecting with the MITCH community. Thanks for everything you do to support us!

## Parent Support Organization

Grateful is the one word I can use to describe how I am feeling regarding this school year. I am so grateful for all your support in your children's classrooms and also with the most amazing pledge amount MITCH has ever had for our MITCH Marathon – we raised over \$16,000!! You and your children are amazing and the PSO is grateful that you have made our first organized year start off so well. A HUGE thank you to Sarah Weichec for all her work on the Marathon and to the many community sponsors that helped support the event.

You should have noticed emails and forms coming home regarding the upcoming Willamette Valley Pie sale. This is a great way to stock up on pies for the holidays. I really like the mini pies as our family will bake one and it ends up being a small piece for each of us and then I'm not tempted to eat the rest of the pie at 11pm. The pies will be delivered to the school frozen and you can pick them up in carline. Feel free to ask neighbors to order, but you are responsible for the delivery. If you have any questions regarding the ordering please contact Kris Mante at [krismante2@hotmail.com](mailto:krismante2@hotmail.com) or [support@mitchpso.org](mailto:support@mitchpso.org).



Additionally, the PSO will be hosting our second MITCH PSO and Muffins event at Well & Good Coffee House on November 7th from 8:00 to 10:00am. You can RSVP at this link: <http://www.evite.com/event/03ACXUHRYPYKSY63OEPFN504JD6UCQ>

Looking forward, mark your calendars for December 2nd through the 4th for the Scholastic Book Fair. We will have books available for purchase from 7:20am until 4:00pm daily. There will be opportunities to purchase books from your teacher's wish list and order online as well if you can't make it to the school or want to purchase a book for your child as a gift. The profits raised from this event go back directly to the classrooms as new scholastic book purchases. Please let me know what you feel we are doing well as a PSO leadership team and what you would like to see in the future. We are here for you, your students and to help support the school. You can email me directly at [president@mitchpso.org](mailto:president@mitchpso.org)

Renea Ostermiller  
 PSO President  
[www.mitchpso.org](http://www.mitchpso.org)





Here is a summary of what is on the school calendar at date of publishing.  
Items can also be seen at [mitchcharterschool.org](http://mitchcharterschool.org).

## November 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 Scrip Orders due  PSO meeting 6:30pm	4	5	6  Talent Show 6:30pm	7  MITCH PSO and Muffins 8am
8	9  Student Assembly	10	11  NO SCHOOL Veteran's Day	12	13	14
15	16	17  Picture Retake Day	18	19  Board meeting 6:30pm	20  Hot Lunch Orders due	21
22	23	24	25  NO SCHOOL	26  NO SCHOOL	27  NO SCHOOL	28
29	30					