

Willard Hoot & Howler

2023 - 2024



A note from the PTO Co-Presidents:

Welcome all Willard Wizards! It's time to kick-off another school year.

This mailer provides important information to help you get ready for the 2023-24 school year, including:

- The **Willard calendar** of school holidays, planned PTO events and PTO programs.
- **Contact information** for PTO officers and committee chairs.
- **How to stay informed** about school happenings throughout the year.
- **How to volunteer** to support your student and the school.

Stay informed throughout the year for updates and exciting new information by subscribing to the Wizard Weekly, the PTO's weekly e-newsletter, and visiting the PTO website, willard.district90pto.org.

The PTO needs you. Willard's PTO exists to support our children's education and the teachers and staff who guide their way. To accomplish these goals, we depend on your help. There are many opportunities to volunteer that suit a variety of interests. We encourage you to check out the committees listed in this mailer and visit the PTO Web Site to learn more and to sign up. We hope you will join us!

As we jump into the 2023-2024 school year, we are excited to see our Willard Wizards learn and grow!

Sincerely,
Co-Presidents Megan Seliga & Camille McLamb

PTO Officers:

Co-Presidents

Megan Seliga

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Camille McLamb

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Co-Treasurers

Ursula Canli

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Emily Nash

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Secretary

Kathleen Luttschyn

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VP-Communications

Hadley Lewno

WillardWizardWeekly@Gmail.com

Committee Members:

Laura Riff, Meredith Matthews,
Courtney Coughlin

VP-Volunteers

Rachel Dardis

rachdardis@gmail.com

Committee Member: Courtney
Healy

VP-Technology

Nikki Kidd

nikki.kidd@rturnmktg.com

School Board Liaison

Erin Dowdall

erin.s.dowdall@gmail.com

PTO MISSION:

To create a community of parents, educators and students working together to enrich the mind and spirit of each Willard child.



Important notes:

Back to School Picnic August 22

Join us for some free pizza and fun at the Back-to-School Picnic on August 22, 2023 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on the Willard playground. Bring blankets for your family and connect with Willard friends old and new.

Fun Lunch Sign Ups Start Monday, August 21!

You deserve a break from packing lunches! Every week on the last day of school for the week, typically a Friday, the PTO offers Fun Lunch, a PTO fundraising program that offers a catered lunch for a fee. Lunch is available to students in Kindergarten - Grade 4 and younger students who may attend Willard for a full day.

Fall Fun Lunch orders close on August 31, and this is your **only opportunity** to order for lunches September 8 - December 22! (Orders for Jan - June will be taken in December.) Financial scholarships are available; please contact our school social worker.

Check the PTO website for ordering details as well as volunteer opportunities for Fun Lunch!

New Family Orientation - Coming Soon!

An evening for parents and guardians who are new to the Willard community to learn more about Willard and its programs. Stay tuned to the Wizard Weekly for exact date and time!

Willard PTO Web Store

The PTO Web Store opens on August 21. The Web Store is the place to sign up and pay for PTO related activities, such as Fun Lunch, World Languages, yearbook, and more. Student ID numbers, teacher names, and a credit card are required. For student ID questions, please call the District 90 office at (708) 771-8282.

PTO Meetings Open to All Parents

PTO meetings are open to everyone and meeting minutes are posted on the PTO website. Meetings will be held on the first Tuesday of every month in person at Willard between 8:45 am - 9:45 am, with a virtual option on Zoom. Zoom instructions will be posted prior to each meeting. We welcome ALL Willard parents to attend or tune in!

Learn more, pay dues and volunteer:

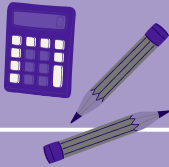
Willard.District90PTO.org

August '23

22 Back to School Picnic
4:30 - 6:00 pm

24 **First Day of School**
Pre-K and K Parent Coffee
8:15-9:00 am

31 Fun Lunch Orders Due



**back to
SCHOOL**

September '23

1 Willard PTO Free Pizza Lunch



4 **NO SCHOOL - Labor Day**

5 Willard PTO Meeting 8:45 - 9:45 am

8 First Fun Lunch

14 Open House 6:30 pm

23 Willard Pancake Breakfast
8:30 - 10:30 am



25 **NO SCHOOL - Non Attendance**



October '23

2-6 Walk & Roll to School Week



3 Willard PTO Meeting 8:45 - 9:45 am



9 **NO SCHOOL - School District Closed**

11 School Picture Day



23-27 Willard Book Fair



26 Willard Family Reading Night
6:00 - 7:30 pm



31 **EARLY DISMISSAL**
Halloween Parade



November '23

5 Daylight Savings Time ends (Fall Back)

6 Willard PTO Meeting 8:45 - 9:45 am

8 **Evening Parent/Teacher Conferences**



9 **NO SCHOOL - Parent/Teacher Conferences**



10 **NO SCHOOL - Veterans Day**

15 Picture Retake Day



22-24 **NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving Break
School District Closed**

December '23

5 Willard PTO Meeting 8:45 - 9:45 am



22 **EARLY DISMISSAL - Winter Recess**




Dec 23 - Jan 7 **NO SCHOOL - Winter Recess**

WINTER



January '24

8	Classes Resume
9	Willard PTO Meeting 8:45 - 9:45 am
12	First Fun Lunch
15	NO SCHOOL - Martin Luther King Jr Day
16	NO SCHOOL - Professional Development
25	STEAM Night 5:30 - 7:00 pm




February '24

6	Willard PTO Meeting 8:45 - 9:45 am
19	NO SCHOOL - Presidents' Day
20	NO SCHOOL - Professional Development
29	Evening Parent/Teacher Conferences

March '24


1	NO SCHOOL - Parent/Teacher Conferences
5	Willard PTO Meeting 8:45 - 9:45 am
8	School Dance 6:00 - 7:30 pm
10	Daylight Savings Time Begins (Spring Ahead)
25-29	NO SCHOOL - SPRING BREAK



Spring



April '24

1	Classes Resume
2	Willard PTO Meeting 8:45 - 9:45 am
18	Family Culture Fest 6:00 - 7:30 pm
22-26	Earth Week
26	EARLY DISMISSAL




May '24

3	Big Hearts Little Hands
6-10	Teacher Appreciation Week
7	Willard PTO Meeting 8:45 - 9:45 am
19	Willard 5K
24	EARLY DISMISSAL
27	NO SCHOOL - Memorial Day

June '24

4	4th Grade Recognition 8:45 - 10:15 am 4th Grade Scavenger Hunt 12:30 - 3:00 pm Ice Cream Social 5:30 - 7:00 pm
6	Last Day of School (if emergency days aren't used) EARLY DISMISSAL - 4th Grade Clap Out
13	Possible Last Day of School (if emergency days are used)



Summer



Slowfire – Fall

Tuesdays

Sept 12 – Oct 24

Mixed Media Exploration

Grades 2–4

3:15 – 5:00 pm

7 sessions

Registration is open – see PTO website!



Legacy Sports – Fall

Fridays

Sept 15 – Nov 3

Grades 3–4

8 sessions

Wednesdays

Sept 20 – Nov 8

Grades 1–2

8 sessions

Registration opens August 29.



World Languages

We are excited to announce the return of World Languages to Willard! Language offerings this Fall will include Spanish or French in a weekly class. Please fill out this [SURVEY](#) if you are interested in a World Language class for your child. Stay tuned to the [Wizard Weekly](#) for more information on signing up.



Chess Club – Winter

We are excited to announce the return of Chess Club to Willard! Chess Club will begin in the winter. Stay tuned to the [Wizard Weekly](#) for more information on signing up.

PTO Program Committees:

Belongingness and Inclusion

- Chairs: Ingrid Payne, Michele Taylor
- Committee Members: Kelly O'Keefe, Megan Seliga, Virginia Sara

Community Fundraising

- Chair: Meredith Maienza

Family Care Committee

- Chair: Ashley Graves

4th Grade Recognition

- Chairs: Malika Gujrati
- Committee Members: Paula Hoste

Green4Good

- Chairs: Virginia Sara
- Committee Members: Kelly O'Keefe

Spirit Wear

- Chairs: Deja Von Ende, Marissa Fasano

Staff Appreciation and Hospitality

- Chairs: Tory Anderson, Britney Beckhorn
- Committee Members: Jen Ierardi

Welcome Wagon

- Chair: Jane Norrington
- Committee Members: Renee Pederson
Amelia Eaton, Alana Isabel, Jillayne Benjamin

Yearbook

- Chairs: Emily Brown, Megan Mackie
- Committee Members: Jessica Rogers, Laura Vester, Michele Taylor, Kerry Lazewski, Ulana Duffield

After School Activities (Legacy Sports, Slow Fire)

- Megan Seliga

Chess Club

- Chair: Clelita Mathole

Connect4Kids (Walking Wednesdays)

- Chair: **Open**
- Committee Members: Courtney Healy

Enrichment Programs

- Chair: Camille McLamb

Fun Lunch

- Chairs: Courtney Skelton, Melissa Hanses
- Committee Members: Meredith Maienza, Jane Norrington, Ingrid Payne

Outdoor Classroom

- Chair: Anna Parks

School Pictures

- Chair: Brenna Brown

School Supplies

- Chair: **Open**

Willard Running Club

- **Open**

World Languages

- Chair: Brenna Brown, Penny Chen

Yoga

- **Open**



We need you!

We encourage you to check out the committees listed in this mailer and visit the [PTO Web Site](https://www.willarddistrict90pto.org) to learn more and to sign up.

[Willard.District90PTO.org](https://www.willarddistrict90pto.org)

PTO Event Committees:

Back to School Picnic

- Chairs: Megan Seliga, Camille McLamb

Pancake Breakfast

- Chairs: Andy Woltman, Trevor Norrington
- Committee Members: Ekow Mensah, Marc Wilson, Ryan Dardis

Family Reading Night

- Chair: Brigitte Whisnant

STEAM Night

- Chair: Amy Guralnick, Jen Ierardi

Dance Night

- Chairs: Anne Cheronis, Liz West

Family Culture Fest

- Chair: Meghan Mulcahy
- Committee Members: Jillayne Benjamin

Big Hearts Little Hands

- Chair: **Open**
- Committee Members: Paula Hoste, Amelia Eaton, Iana Isla, Meredith Maienza

Fundraising Event - 5K

- Chairs: Amber Kardosh, Jen Ierardi
- Committee Members: Amy Gurlanick, Amber Przyborowski, Meghan Mulcahy

Science Fair

- Chair: Jacquelyn Jancius
- Committee Members: Corina Davis, Meghan Mulcahy, Michelle Samuel

Ice Cream Social

- Chairs: Beth Cohen, Ariane Abcarian
- Committee Members: Jessica Rogers, Katie Hartmann, Libby Kelly, Amanda Valente, Kristen Carey



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