

JOIN THE FUN at the SOMS PTA®!

The following is a comprehensive listing of all the positions and committees that are active in the SOMS PTA®. Please review carefully the descriptions and the duties of each position and committee. We are in need of many volunteers in addition to leaders for each committee. Please check off which role(s) you would like to play in the following list of committees for the next school year 2010-2011.



The SOMS PTA® is ONLY as effective as the people who volunteer to manage and operate its programs. We urge all to become active in SOMS PTA® endeavors. By being active on a committee or on the Executive Board you can have a direct impact on the success of our activities. Please return your completed nomination form to your child's teacher no later than Thursday, April 15, 2010. Elections will be held at the May 12, 2010 SOMS PTA® meeting at 7:30pm in the SOMS Library.

SOMS PTA® Committee Descriptions

President (or Co-Presidents) - The President is elected by the local unit members to direct the affairs of the association in cooperation with the other members of the executive board, and has frequent communication with the Superintendent, PTA Council President and the Board of Education.

Vice Presidents - Two Vice Presidents are elected. The VPs are responsible for the activities and issues that occur in their building. They oversee and work with several SOMS Committees.

Recording Secretary - The Recording Secretary is responsible for keeping accurate records of the proceedings of the association and maintaining a permanent file of these recordings.

Corresponding Secretary - The Corresponding Secretary is responsible for notifying PTA membership by flyer and e-mail of upcoming PTA meetings. This position handles all correspondence and gifts of appreciation for the association.

Treasurer - The Treasurer, as authorized custodian of the funds of the association, receives and disburses all monies as prescribed in the local bylaws or authorized by the action of the association. They are responsible for the yearly audit. (Accounting background is helpful.)

Council Delegates - The Council Delegates are SOMS PTA representatives that sit on the PTA Council Board. This board meets once a month and discusses issues that are pertinent to the entire district. Together the delegates discuss their individual units' materials pertaining to the well-being of the children in the district.

Building Level Team Member* - This team is comprised of: one parent per grade level; three teachers; and administrator(s). This group meets monthly and discusses topics specific to their building as well as topics that are referred by the District Level Team.

Program Enrichment - The Assemblies Committee brings visual and performing arts programs to each grade level during school hours. The committee is responsible for selecting programs in collaboration with the building Assistant Principal, booking performances, attending performances and completing paper work.

Curriculum Council Delegate* - One (1) SOMS PTA delegate serves on this council which meets once a month. The Council is a standing advisory committee to the Superintendent that has as its primary goal the ongoing improvement of the district's educational program. It seeks to provide student with rigorous educational programs. It supports the district's mission, goals and priorities and meet and exceed NY State standards.

Fundraising - The main goal for fundraising (which follow the National and State PTA guidelines) is to raise monies for our enrichment programs and other designated programs for SOMS children. The committee is responsible for selecting fundraisers, presenting them to the PTA and following through on all aspects of production.

Gifted and Talented - This committee provides information and resources for students, parents and teachers regarding gifted education. It will help parents and teachers see how they can support these children.

Health & Safety - This committee maintains an on going communication between parents and students regarding health and safety topics at each grade level. It watches over school playgrounds and buildings while listening to any needs of the staff and the children. Some issues dealt with in the past have been bus safety, bicycle safety, traffic lights and serving on the District Safety and substance abuse committee.

Hospitality - At the monthly PTA meetings and at the Meet the Teacher Nights this committee sees to it that refreshments are served. This requires shopping for and stocking up on necessary supplies.

Legislation - The legislative representative keeps the unit informed of current government issues regarding children with concern to PTA's effective participation in local, state, and national government. The rep presents (once a year) a legislative slate from the State PTA to be voted on by the association. The representative goes to the State Convention and participates in the state election and votes representing SOMS PTA.

Membership - The purpose of the Membership Committee is to promote and encourage membership. Members attend the Meet the Teacher Nights to help recruit new members (membership is on a yearly basis), collect dues, maintain an up to date list of all the members and deliver all membership cards and directories.

Reflections Program - This is a cultural arts program which encourages students in grades K-12 to express their thoughts and feelings through the creative arts. There is a new theme each year, four categories: literature, visual arts, photography and music. This committee organizes the program by sending notices of the theme and encouraging participation to all students. They also give the rules to each student who participates, collect all work and arranges for work to be judged, so winning entries are submitted for further judging.

School Photos - This committee assists the photo company by sending notices to parents, organizing the children on picture day and distributing the completed photo packages to each school.

School Store - The school store supplies students and teachers with the items needed throughout the year. It is operated by parent volunteers. Their responsibilities include shopping for merchandise, telephoning volunteers, setting up schedules and sending out notices. Profits are used by the PTA to benefit our children.

Special Events – This committee plans, coordinates and runs special events such as socials, parties, charity sporting events, etc.

Wellness Committee* -- This committee is comprised of teachers, students, parents and administrators who work to address issues that pertain to the District Wellness Policy mandated by the Federal Government in 2006. One (1) PTA Parent representative is required from each school.

Professional Development Plan Committee* -- Comprised of teachers, administrators, and PTA parent representatives (a minimum of one), this committee reviews the PDP of the District as mandated by the NYS Commissioner's Regulations, in regard to addressing the current needs of our students to create a plan that is responsive to student and teacher needs.

Volunteer Coordinator – Arranges and coordinates volunteers via phone/e-mail for events and duties the SOMS takes part in.

*PLEASE NOTE: All district committees should have ONE (1) alternate assigned to each respective district committee who can be available in the event that the regular representative is unable to attend a meeting/fulfill his/her assignment. Committee representatives are responsible for representing the concerns and issues of the SOMS PTA and its members to their respective committees and to report back to their unit on the business of their respective committees.

You must be a member of SOMS PTA to: vote at a meeting; serve on a nominating committee, serve as an officer or delegate to PTA Council, act as chair of a committee, serve as a SOMS PTA representative on any district committee or on any interview committee. An "Early Bird" membership form has been attached for your convenience. You CAN make a difference. Join PTA early and avoid the fall rush!