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## A LITTLE PTA HISTORY.....

The very first parent's group on record in Florida was the East Jacksonville Mother's Club. One year after the National PTA Congress selected the Oak tree as its emblem in 1921, Florida became the 38th state to organize a "branch" in the national PTA. The prime PTA project back in the early 20's was improving lunchrooms.

The types of projects the PTA has been involved with over the years have changed considerably. In 1992, the Florida Department of Education requested that PTA members become the trainers for the new School Advisory Councils for the Accountability System in the Florida public schools. Parents, teachers and students now work together to improve every aspect of school organization and functioning.

Even though the methods of the PTA have changed considerably over the years, the general purpose has not. Parents and teachers really strive for one common goal. That goal is to provide an appropriate educational program in an environment that enables students to succeed. It is the dream of all parents and guardians that their children grow up happy and healthy, are given the tools to become independent, are given the opportunity to reach their full potential, and are allowed to live, work, and prosper in their own communities.

To contact the FL PTA office call 407. 855.7604 , fax 407.240.9577, or email [fl\\_office@pta.org](mailto:fl_office@pta.org).



## STAFF APPRECIATION

The staff at Magnolia School work hard all year long to ensure that students are safe, happy, and getting the most appropriate education possible. In the Spring, the PTA recognizes staff member efforts with a special week of surprises, including: luncheons, desserts, ice-cream socials, and maybe some small gift. Parents are also encouraged to show their appreciation with a special note, card, or with a personal visit to the classroom to just say "Thanks!"

## EMAIL

If you would like to receive emails from the PTA board concerning specific questions you may have or if you would like to assist with a school event, please notify Wendy Lee at 407.296.6499 X2302. You may also email [wendy.lee@ocps.net](mailto:wendy.lee@ocps.net)

## National PTA

There are nearly 23,000 local organizations recognized by the National PTA in the United States. The National PTA is a non-profit organization that is 111 years old (founded 1897), with membership open to anyone who believes in the Mission and Purposes of National Parent Teacher Association [National PTA]. Every person who joins a local PTA automatically becomes a member of both the state and National PTAs.



## Magnolia School PTA



The membership of the Magnolia School PTA is made up of dedicated parents, families, and staff members who volunteer their time and become involved in the many activities scheduled throughout the school year.

**Please Join Today!**

## PTA APPRECIATION

The PTA feels strongly about recognizing Magnolia staff members for their contribution to the students success. In the early spring, the bus drivers and monitors are recognized for their role in providing safe transportation to every student. Later in the spring, the PTA hosts a recognition event to show parent appreciation to a very dedicated Magnolia School staff. Both are accomplished with the help and generosity of parents and our school partners.

## TEACH IN

This event usually held in the fall is designed to help members of student's families and the community become more aware of the educational programs and methods and techniques of instruction used to teach children with special needs. Volunteers are invited to come to the school and participate in the classroom. It is a valuable experience for everyone. (School staff will help potential volunteers get signed up on-line before the events.)

## PTA MEMBERSHIP

The PTA normally holds two membership drives per year. In the fall, membership envelopes are sent home to all parents. Dues are a nominal \$5. Half the amount goes to the national PTA organization. The other half goes to the school organization. All parents and staff members are encouraged to join the PTA. It is a way to show that you support Magnolia School and its fine programs and activities.

## PTA BOARD

President: Susan Best  
Vice President: Angie Fahey  
Vice President: Tom Oldroyd  
Secretary: Teleshia Jones  
Treasurer: Chip Tolman  
PTA Liaison: Wendy Lee

## VOLUNTEERS

If you would like to volunteer to help with any of the following school events, either by working from home or helping at the school, please contact any board member or call the school office. Some events when we could use your help are during the Autumn Dance, Winter and Spring Concerts, Sweetheart Dance, Spirit Week, High School Prom, and Staff Recognition Events (Transportation Appreciation and Staff Appreciation).

## SPECIAL SCHOOL EVENTS

The PTA hosts a variety of events for students, parents, and staff members throughout the school year. Parents are invited to take part in the school's annual welcome back barbecue, Student Recognition Celebrations, Prom, Sweetheart Dance, and Open House. For those lucky seniors a graduation ceremony is held in the Spring. The PTA is an active part of Magnolia School and invites all our families to become an integral positive force for change for all students.

## PARENT NEWSLETTER

This monthly publication is generated by staff members for parents, guardians, and family members. It includes articles written to inform and stimulate thinking about resources, programs, and activities that parents can utilize to make their lives and their children's lives happier and healthier.

## FUND RAISERS

The PTA hosts fund-raising activities during the year. One event is held soon after the students return to school in the fall. Other events may be held during the holidays and in the Spring. Over the past several years, the largest, most productive fund raiser has been the one held in the fall. Hard work on the part of parents and staff members helps fund all of the activities of the PTA during the school year. Expenditures in the past have included new therapy equipment, lifts, staff development, and student and staff recognition and special school improvement projects.

## Magnolia Web Address

<http://www.magnolia.ocps.net>



**Legoland Florida is a proud partner  
of the Florida PTA**

### OCPS EEO Non-Discrimination Statement

The School Board of Orange County, Florida, does not discriminate in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in its programs and activities, on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex, national origin, marital status, disability, genetic information, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or any other reason prohibited by law. The following individuals at the Ronald Blocker Educational Leadership Center, 445 W. Amelia Street, Orlando, Florida 32801, attend to compliance matters: Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Officer & Title IX Coordinator: Jared Brooks; ADA Coordinator: Michael D. Graf; Section 504 Coordinator: Latonia Green. (407.317.3200)