

PTO PERSPECTIVE



AN INFORMATION SOURCE FROM THE SOMERVILLE HIGH SCHOOL PTO

WWW.SHSPTO.ORG

FALL 2015

WELCOME

Parents/Guardians of the Class of 2019!

The SHS PTO has been busy organizing fundraisers for the school year. September starts with the annual fall flower sale. Be sure to place your orders! The form can be found on the PTO website at www.shspto.org. The website is updated consistently with all pertinent information regarding fundraisers and upcoming events. Be sure to check it out.

The PTO plans many wonderful events for our students and we are always looking for volunteers. We work throughout the year raising funds to support these events and we need your help. Please come out and support the PTO.

The dates for this year's meetings are: October 29, 2015; March 15, 2016 and May 18, 2016.

The PTO meetings are held in the SHS library and begin at 7pm. If you are unable to attend meetings but would like to volunteer your time, or if you have any questions, please contact one of the officers listed below. ♦

Thank you,

Michele Grimm, *President*

Don't Delay—Join the SHS PTO Today!

It costs only \$10 a year to join the PTO! Register online at shspto.org. Or look for your membership form that is included in this Back to School mailing. All freshman families who join by September 17th (Back to School Night) are automatically entered in a drawing for a "Freshman Survival" gift basket.

This basket is full of 'Ville clothing and other assorted items to ensure stress-free survival. ♦

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT US!

President	Michele Grimm	michelegrimm@verizon.net
Vice President	Dina McTernan	dina_mct@msn.com
Treasurer	Karen Ksenzakovic	kzenzak1@gmail.com
Secretary	Cindy Dailey	daileycreative@gmail.com

WHEN DOES THE PTO MEET?

The SHS PTO will meet 3 times this year. Meetings are 7-8 PM in the library.

Tuesday October 29th

Tuesday March 15th

Wednesday May 18th

If you want to get more involved, there are many subcommittees that run activities throughout the year. Subcommittees usually meet just before or after the regular meeting. ♦

Introducing Yogurtland Frozen Yogurt Cakes for Fall & Thanksgiving!

The PTO is excited to announce a new fundraising event with Yogurtland! Get an 8" frozen yogurt frozen cake for your fall & thanksgiving day celebrations and support the Somerville PTO!

Cakes are just \$25 and available in 6 flavors.

- Cookies & Cream / Vanilla
- Strawberry / Vanilla
- Strawberry / Cheesecake
- Double Chocolate
- Pumpkin / Vanilla
- Chocolate / Vanilla

**Each Cake Serves 10-12 people*

EASY ORDER AND PAYMENT

Please visit the yogurtland / somerville PTO fundraiser website at

<https://yogurtlanddelivery.com/product-category/somervillepto/>

All cakes can be picked up at Yogurtland: 135 Main Street, Somerville NJ

**ORDERS ACCEPTED BETWEEN
OCTOBER 15 – NOVEMBER 15, 2015**

QUESTIONS?

Please email Michael at yogurtlandnj@yahoo.com



IMPORTANT DATES!!

Sept. 9 First day of school (full day)
Sept. 14 No School: Rosh Hashanah
Sept. 17 Back to School Night, 7pm

IMPORTANT DATES!!

Sept. 18 Fall Plant Pick Up
Sept. 23 No school: Yom Kippur
Sept. 30 Underclassmen Picture Day

IMPORTANT DATES!!

Oct. 12 No school (staff development)
Oct. 29 PTO meeting, SHS Library, 7pm
Oct. 31 Happy Halloween!

Where Does the Money Go?

The money the PTO raises goes back to all students in one way or another. Here are a few activities the PTO sponsors to benefit our children:

PROJECT GRADUATION This is the biggest SHS PTO project. Project Graduation is an opportunity for all seniors to enjoy a supervised, drug- and alcohol-free, all-night post-graduation celebration at the Rutgers University Sonny Werblin Rec Center. This year, after formal graduation ceremonies were over, seniors who have signed a contract agreeing to follow the rules and be on their best behavior, boarded buses at 9:30 pm for the trip to Rutgers. During the evening students enjoyed DJ-led karaoke and dancing. Seniors swam in the Olympic size swimming pool and played basketball, volleyball and racquetball. The inflatable Bungee Run was a huge hit as was the Temporary Tattoo table, three caricaturists, the photo booth and the air brush t-shirt booth. Sub sandwiches, beverages and tons of snacks were available all evening. Pizza arrived at 2 am and was devoured shortly thereafter! At 2:30 am the Annual Project Graduation BINGO game began! All our students participated in ten exciting, suspenseful games of BINGO in order to win great prizes – including five 19" TVs and 4 "Beats" Headphones – all generously donated by the Project Graduation. Seniors returned home tired but happy around 5:00 am. This year, Project Graduation cost \$23,500. All funds are raised through donations from businesses and parents as well as various PTO fundraisers throughout the year. Many PTO subcommittee members are needed to organize this terrific event for the seniors.

COLLEGE INFORMATION NIGHT Each January, the SHS Guidance Department sponsors an evening for Junior and Senior parents to learn more about college admissions, college athletics, and financial aid. The PTO provides funds to sponsor the Financial Aid expert speaker.

FRESHMAN T-SHIRTS Class of 2019 t-shirts were purchased and given to the incoming freshman at their pizza social held on August 27th.

SENIOR SCHOLARSHIPS The PTO provides scholarships to deserving seniors. Scholarships are awarded to Seniors, whose parent(s) meet the criteria for service to the PTO. A good reason to join the PTO!

ADMINISTRATION REQUESTS The PTO allocates funds annually (\$1000 or more) for school administrative requests. In past years, PTO funds have been used to support the "One Book, One Community" initiative, to purchase an automated external defibrillator (AED), a portable sound system, a large laminating machine, and to defray the cost of new stage curtains in the auditorium. Other requests include funding to provide assemblies for the students. ♦

BALLOONS IN JUNE

A sure sign that SHS graduation is close at hand is the bunches of bright orange mylar Ville balloons tied to mailboxes and porches all over Somerville and Branchburg! Each June, parents, relatives, friends, and neighbors can honor SHS seniors by ordering balloons (\$5 ea). This annual fundraiser is one of the most visible indicators of the SHS PTO at work – **3,244** balloons were delivered for the Class of 2015. Profits from this fundraiser go directly to Project Graduation. PTO members inflate balloons, organize balloon bunches, and deliver the balloons. ♦



PTO Fundraisers

Here is how the PTO earns money to support its activities. If you have any successful fundraising ideas or experiences, we'd love to hear them!

PTO Fall Plant Sale pickup

Pick up is on Friday, Sept. 18th in front of Somerville High School from 10am-5pm. For questions or to volunteer on delivery day, please call Karen Ksenzakovic @908-722-9146 or email at ksenzak1@gmail.com

Clothing Sale

Start the year off right by purchasing orange and black Ville clothing. Look for new items we have added this year! Items such as sweatshirts, long- and short-sleeved t-shirts, sweatpants, flannel pants, shorts, knit hats and bags are available in a range of sizes. Ville clothing makes great holiday or birthday gifts. Order forms can be found on our website. Visit us at www.shspto.org to start building your VILLE wardrobe today! If you have any questions about VILLE clothing, please contact PTO Clothing Chairperson Rosa.Coulson@verizon.net. ♦

Frozen Falls Fundraiser

We are glad to announce that Frozen Falls will be participating all year with the Somerville High School PTO. Be sure to mention Somerville HS when visiting Frozen Falls, and 15% of your entire purchase will be donated back to the PTO. Frozen Falls is located at 1190 Route 28 in Branchburg (across from RVCC). No flyer is needed, please just remember to mention the Somerville HS PTO. ♦