

September 1, 2015

Dear YSWPCS Parents & Guardians,

The YSWPCS PTO would like to thank the four parents who volunteered to become this year's PTO officers. As all four ran unopposed, no formal elections were held.

Our PTO is a non-profit parent/teacher organization whose membership includes all parents, guardians, and staff of YSWPCS. We welcome you to attend the PTO meetings, which will be held on the First Tuesday of every month at 5:30pm, in the library. Even if you can't attend meetings, the PTO is always looking for volunteers for various events. Check out our webpage, the PTO corner, on YSWPCS' website for information regarding future events, and other information. <http://yswpcs.org/PTO/>

As a brief introduction to our new PTO officers, here are the bio's they submitted.



**PTO President**

Hello, Karrie Bender here. I have two young sons who attend the school. Nicholas "Nico" Bender is in 2B, and Carson Bender in KB.

I held the position of President for this past school year, and have decided to run for a 2<sup>nd</sup> term. We accomplished more this year than I could have ever imagined. My plan for the 2015-2016 school year is to continue building on what we started. By taking what we learned along the way, incorporating new ideas, building and recruiting active members, strengthening community involvement, maintaining open communication with teachers and staff, and ultimately implementing new ideas, initiatives and scheduling fun family events.

Prior to holding this position, I was actively involved with YSWPCS and the PTO for several years, volunteering for events when I could. I was also Homeroom Parent for 1A last year, and Homeroom Parent this year for KB, helping coordinate the in-class parties, attending field trips and reaching out to other parents.

I currently work from home for my husband's construction company, Benderbuilt Construction, as the Admin/Marketing person. Having had prior experience in interactive media, I also built his website [www.benderbuiltconstruction.com](http://www.benderbuiltconstruction.com).

Prior to motherhood, I earned my Associates Degree in Specialized Business Technology, then worked as Account Manager/Producer for a corporate video production company. Handling schedules, clients and budgets has given me the skills needed to oversee operations of the PTO.

I'm always willing to discuss key issues that are important to our school and children, and can be reached anytime at [karriebender@gmail.com](mailto:karriebender@gmail.com). I look forward to meeting you at future PTO meetings and events!



**PTO VP**

Hi, my name is Christina Kostosky. I am a mother of four; ages 17, 11, 8, & 5; two boys, then two girls. My children, Gavin (6<sup>th</sup>) & Jillian (3<sup>rd</sup>), (Zoe -K) are at YSWPCS.

I have a BA-Instructional Studies . I also have my AS- in Child & Family Studies/ Families with Special Needs/ Autism Support Behavior Therapist.

I have been a Behavior Therapist - for 8 years which I provided quality behavioral health services to children and families who are affected by Pervasive Developmental Disorders, specifically Autism, Pervasive Developmental Disorder (NOS), and Asperger Syndrome. I collaborated with families, professionals to develop unique autism services which can provide alternatives to traditional programming within a continuum of care.

I have been working with children for 13 years. I was the VP of PTO 2014-2015 at YSWPCS. I have experience in fundraising and organization with large groups. I love working with families and children. I believe that getting involved and supporting the efforts of the PTO helps advocate for our children. I look forward to the opportunity to share my enthusiasm for PTO/ parent involvement with others this year. "Go Tigers!"



### **PTO Treasurer**

Hello, my name is Kim Blade-Lauve and I am the PTO Treasurer. I have two kids in YSWPCS, Jack, 2nd grade, and Viktor, 1st grade. I volunteered last school year for the Santa Work Shop, Board Game night, and Field Day. I am a working parent as well as pursuing college part-time, so my time for volunteering was limited, but what I could do was helpful.

This past year, I become more comfortable and met some wonderful parents to ease my journey in participating with the PTO. Now, I am taking on the challenge and helping the PTO with some of the executive responsibilities. I have ten years experience in management, where I learned the skills of managing a store and it's financial goals. 17 years total in the retail force.

Basically, I want to make a difference for my children, as well as other children, in their upcoming school year. What better way to accomplish this? I feel volunteering when I can and giving my opinions to the PTO is a good way to accomplish this idea. I plan on doing this job with integrity and honesty. Also, I plan on giving my opinions honestly and in the best interest of the children of the school.



### **PTO Secretary**

My name is Jamie Christian. My son Christian Jacobson is currently in KA, where I've been the homeroom mom for this past school year (2014-2015). I loved having parties for the kids, chaperoning field trips and also coming into the school to help the class make beautiful works of art for Miss Dean. I am originally from South Park and have lived all over Pittsburgh and different parts of Ohio. We currently reside in Scott Twp. I am a fulltime Wealth Management Consultant for PNC and have a BA in finance and and AA in design. In addition to the PTO, I would like to start an after school soccer program ( I coached for Mt. Lebo) and also an arts club for ages K-2 and will be presenting my proposals to the school board in the fall for the 2015-2016 school year. I loved being a part of the PTO this year and am excited to see what the next school year brings.