

YOUNG SCHOLARS OF WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA CHARTER SCHOOL PTO



Who are your PTO Board Members and what position do they hold? How are they related to a student or students at Young Scholars? What are their goals for the PTO at Young Scholars? These are probably only a few of the questions you may have and to answer some of them, we would like to introduce our PTO Board Members now.

TINA L. CHAJKOWSKI, PRESIDENT

Hi, my name is Tina Chajkowski. I am a grandmother or as my grandchildren call me "NaNa" of three students at Young Scholars. Their names are Mariya (4th), AJ (2nd) and Makayla (2nd). I must say I've been blessed with three beautiful and intelligent grandchildren and am so proud of how far they have come with the help of Young Scholars. To watch their excitement as they learn and participate in the many activities offered through Young Scholars, make me smile and give thanks that I can share in all of it along with their parents.

You're wondering how did I get involved in the PTO? I started out when my son was in school. At the time, I was PTO Vice President and then, PTO President. As part of the PTO, we sponsored Talent Shows, Behavior Store, Family Bingos, Holiday Shops and so much more. I also went to school to help in any way possible such as tutoring some of the students or even helping teachers out with copying. This was something I truly enjoyed and seeing the excitement on the students was always special to me. I continued working as President of the Parent Committee at COTRAIC Head Start when my grandchildren were preschoolers and now that they are Young Scholars, I am continuing my involvement in PTO.

If you ever need to reach me, my e-mail is way2kind1@msn and please use subject YSWPCS PTO so that I recognize that it is not junk mail. I think you all know how that goes. LOL

RICK WEISNER, VICE PRESIDENT

Hello All.... My name is Rick Weisner. My wife and I currently have our son, Blaise, enrolled in YSWPCS. I have been in Public Safety for most of my life, currently working in EMS. I've been working with the PTO with various activities and attending the monthly PTO meetings. I am directly working with the Administration with assembling an Emergency Operations Plan and I also serve on the School's Safety Committee. I am looking forward to helping the PTO continue to serve the children and teacher of YSWPCS.

AUDREY MCNUTT, CO-SECRETARY

Hi, my name is Audrey McNutt. I am a wife and mother of two in Young Scholars (6th and 3rd grade). I am this year's PTO Secretary. My hobbies include anything that involves my children. If I am not working, running errands, throwing parties you will find me at dance or cheerleading with my daughter and football, baseball and basketball with my son. I would love to see Young Scholars have a team not only so that my daughter could cheer for my son but to get the Young Scholars name out there even more.

I work full-time as an Account Support Coordinator with a managed mental health insurance company. We provide assistance through counseling services to those that need help with everyday issues. I have been with this company for 18 years and find it rewarding. I am dedicated to helping make Young Scholars a great school not only academically but socially as well. It is important to show students that your life should be full of balance, not only those things that are important for your future, like studying hard, but also to unwind and enjoy a family game/movie night, helping in the community and doing what you love.

LORI HORTH, CO-SECRETARY

Hello! My name is Lori Horth and I am this year's co-secretary. My husband and I have a fourth grader, Hunter and second grader, Tyler, who have attended YSWPCS since kindergarten. My husband and I also have a baby girl named Lyla.

Every year the school improves and I'm very excited to help where I can this year! YSWPCS has amazing teachers who are committed to seeing their students succeed and I'm very grateful for that.

This year I'd like to work on improving the behavior management in classrooms and supporting the teachers, encouraging more parents to volunteer in their spare time, better lunches and after school clubs, and doing more activities/events for the kids.

SAMEERA PHILYAW, TREASURER

Hello, my name is Sameera Philyaw. I am responsible for four amazing students who will be attending YSWPSC this coming school year. Two active kindergarteners and two interesting sixth graders. (You would LOVE to be a fly on the wall in my home. Never a dull moment.) Although I hadn't joined any YSWPCS committees in the past, I've always been and always will be an active parent who participates in and show up for majority all the school functions.

The opportunity presented itself during a PTO meeting to become treasurer. Having an extensive background in finance, I proudly volunteered for the position. After graduating from California University of PA, where I attained my undergrad degree in accounting, I was hired full time with PricewaterhouseCoopers as a tax preparer/auditor. After giving them 6 ½ years of commitment, I went corporate where I'm presently employed with LANXESS Corporation as a Compliance Tax Manager. In addition, I attained my Enrolled Agent license in May of 2015, started the two-year traditional MBA program at Point Park University in January 2016, and launched my own tax preparer/consultation business, Crown Tax Services, in December 2016.

Free time? Down time? What's that?! LOL However, I NEVER get too busy making a living that I forget to make a life. You make a living by what you get but you make a life by what you give. I'm doing this for the students and the school...I can't go wrong if I keep them first.

I'm truly looking forward to the 2017-2018 school year and embracing the new experience of being a board member of the PTO.

The PTO's Facebook page is YSWPCS PTO – Parents, Teachers and Grandparents