



## **Hello to all of our new and returning Escondido families!**

The Parent Teacher Association (PTA) is excited to start another amazing year at Escondido, and hope that you all share our excitement! Our goal is to work in collaboration with the entire Escondido community towards supporting and enriching our children's educational and social experiences!

The beginning of the school year is exciting, but we understand that it can also be overwhelming. We hope this packet will serve as a helpful tool! **In this BTS packet you'll find:** a school calendar, Events Chair listing, a volunteer interest form, PTA budget, After-School programs, and the PTA One-Time Contribution Form, just to name a few!

**NEW this year---we are using CheddarUp to streamline Ice Cream Challenge & PTA forms, both are now ONLINE!** eChecks and Credit Cards now accepted, in addition to cash or checks

- ❖ Save time - it's fast and secure, enabled by Cheddar Up
- ❖ Save the PTA from many hours of data entry and bookkeeping
- ❖ Formerly known as the "Escondido PTA One-Check Form"

Please use this simple and secure site: <https://escondido-pta.cheddarup.com>

**What is a PTA One-time Contribution form?** It's a great way to take care of all potential purchases and contributions to the PTA in easy one form! Look for a pink form, complete (hard copy or go online) by September 6.

Two important contributions you may consider making this year are to the Escondido PTA Ice Cream Challenge and Palo Alto Partners in Education (PiE). Both are critical funding sources for Escondido.

**PTA covers "Stuff" and PiE covers Staff.** The PTA pays for "stuff" like field trips, teacher grants, classroom supplies, Noon Sports, community events, and assemblies. The Ice Cream Challenge is the PTA's primary fundraising vehicle. Every donation, no matter the amount, earns a scoop on a classroom cone poster, look for posters outside each classroom. Help the PTA continue to provide the *Cool-Stuff* that makes Escondido excellent.

PiE pays for "Staff" including teacher aides in each classroom, the science program, specialists and the Spectra Arts. PiE donations are made separately, using the included PiE remittance form. Families are encouraged to give what they can, and if you can give more, please consider it. All donations are tax-deductible. Escondido needs both stuff and staff that may not be funded by our taxes, so raising money for the PTA and PiE is essential to our kids' education.

All Escondido families are asked to join **Konstella**, our digital communications platform. With Konstella you will receive information and volunteer sign-up requests from the classrooms and the PTA regarding upcoming events. Please take a moment to look at [www.konstella.com](http://www.konstella.com) or download the app, the invitation code is: TTSR0 (zero at end) and register. Look for the flyer in the BTS packet.

**Escondido's motto is "Friends Around the World."** We are a diverse community of friends from near and far, and we host many events to strengthen connections at our school. We need your help to build the community! There are many ways to be involved and we welcome you to join us! Our first PTA meeting is Monday, September 16, at 7pm at SCRA. Join us!

We look forward to a great 2019-20 school year! Thank you for your support.

**Sincerely,**

Christine Klenow, President of Escondido PTA