

# Boosterthon & Dolphin Dash

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*We invite everyone to join us for the 2023-24 Dolphin Dash on Friday, November 17th at MES*

Throughout the year, the MES PTA works hard to improve and enhance the school experience for our students, teachers, and staff. **We love doing this work, but unfortunately, we can't do it without funding.** The primary fundraiser for the MES PTA is our annual Boosterthon. This event will take place this year **from November 9th through the 17th**. The money raised through Boosterthon and Dolphin Dash will be used to power the majority of PTA initiatives.

This year our goal is to raise **\$100,000** for all the programs we have planned for our students and staff. This includes but is not limited to:

- **Community Building**, including outreach support to our families in need, community-building programs (such as **No Place for Hate, the Monster Bash Halloween Carnival, and grade-level social events**), and community service initiatives.
- **Student Enrichment**, including events such as **Family Science Night, the MES Talent and Arts Showcase, the International Festival** and Cultural Arts performances, and the Book Fair.
- **Teacher Support**, including helping provide classroom supplies and books, teacher appreciation lunches, morale-boosting tokens of appreciation, funding for specials' classroom needs (such as musical instruments, P.E. equipment, art supplies, and library books), and funding for Support Staff needs (like play therapy toys and intervention materials).
- **Sustainability and Wellness Promotion**, including our new garden project, school-wide initiatives like **Earth Week**, smoothies at recess, Global Handwashing Day, and an epic **Field Day** experience for all students.
- **Technology Innovation**, through **PTA Grants** that are available to any teacher or student with an innovative idea, providing equipment and tools for efficient dismissal procedures and on-campus communication between administrators and staff.

Not only are we raising funds for Morningside Elementary School, our students are also learning how to live with character through Boosterthon's new character theme 'World Changes Workshop' where they will learn how to change the world in five steps: Find a Need, Write a Plan, Rally a Team, Launch it Now, and Grit it Out! Check out all of this year's character videos on [FUNRUN.COM](https://www.funrun.com).

See the reverse side for more details about this year's event!



## How Can I Help?



1. **Register your student(s)** on MYBOOSTER.COM or via the below QR code **by November 9th** (Student Pep Rally Day):



2. **Reach out to sponsors** (family and friends anywhere in the world!) and share your pledge link. Sponsors can make a pledge per lap or a flat donation. **Create a Student Star Video** which is great for sharing via email or social media.

3. **Cheer on your student at the Dolphin Dash FUN RUN on November 17th!** Parents, guardians, grandparents, and more are welcome to join in on the fun and cheer on their MES Dolphin on race day. The event day schedule is listed below.

Grade	Time
K	12:30 - 1:20pm
1 <sup>st</sup>	10:00 - 10:50am
2 <sup>nd</sup>	9:00 - 9:50am
3 <sup>rd</sup>	11:30 - 12:20pm
4 <sup>th</sup>	1:30 - 2:20pm
5 <sup>th</sup>	8:00 - 8:50am

## Have you heard the news?

If we hit our fundraising target, Principal Sofianos and Assistant Principals Dr. Sinclair and Mr. Baron will engage in an epic inflatable animal costume race. The unfortunate loser will be turned into a sticky Ice Cream Sundae!!!

## What happens on race day?

- Each grade will have two running blocks within the grade time slot - the first set of classes will run while the second cheers and vice versa.
- Class specific running times will be shared next week. Parents may attend the entire time!
- Students will run about 35 laps around the field. No laps will be recorded to avoid congestion. All runners will be pre-set in the system for 35 laps.
- Students should wear comfortable or running shoes and bring their water bottles.
- Parking can be a challenge – please walk if possible!

## What's different this year?

In alignment with this year's school-wide theme of Belonging, one of the PTA priorities this year is increasing engagement within the MES community. We want all students and families to feel included and to have a similar MES experience. Therefore, we are modifying the program's reward structure and prizes in response to parent feedback over the years, including:

- Introducing class-wide goals and prizes so everyone in the class has an opportunity to win something.
- Delivery of prizes twice during the week instead of daily, making sure every student has a prize. Larger prizes will be shipped home.
- Replacing some of the generic prizes with customized MES Spirit Wear and class recess bags.

As this is a fundraiser, the students with higher pledges will still receive extra individual prizes. A full list of prizes will be available on MYBOOSTER.COM.

**The classes in each grade with the most pledges will win a Pizza and Popsicle party!**

For full details, check out the Boosterthon page on the MES webpage at

<https://bit.ly/MESBooster2023>

**Thank you for your generosity and for supporting our school!**