

Dear Highlander Families,

It is a pleasure to welcome you to the 2020-21 school year! We are a community that values learning. We invest in making each of our child's potential a reality, and understand that virtual learning will pose new challenges to students, staff and parents. The McLean PTSA is working on your behalf with the school administration and staff to support the curriculum and provide programs that positively impact the educational and emotional growth of students at MHS. We cannot do this without our McLean parents, who play a vital role in fostering a love of learning and community service. I invite each and every one of you to **connect**, **support**, and **engage** with our McLean community.

Stay Connected and Informed: We are facilitating educational and social connections between families, school, and community resources to create a bridge between home and school life. Plan to attend the <u>PTSA General Membership meetings</u> and hear the latest from Dr. Ellen Reilly and the McLean staff. Join our virtual parent coffees to discuss important issues, and have your questions answered. Our Wednesday weekly newsletter provides up to date information on MHS events, relevant parent resources, and student activities. Stay connected and informed by subscribing to <u>McLean eNews</u>, visit our <u>website</u>, and follow us on Twitter <u>@PTSAMcLean</u>.

Support and Empower Students and Families: We strive to engage the McLean community in a supportive and collaborative learning environment by offering programming that educates and empowers students and families. Your <u>PTSA membership</u> and <u>tax-deductible donation</u> translates directly to academic enhancements, programs in the virtual environment, and improved technology for our student body to bolster support during this pandemic. We collaborate with students on innovative learning programs, staff appreciation, and health and wellness programs such as suicide prevention, substance abuse prevention, mental resilience, and parent education events. In addition, the McLean PTSA is enhancing the school building and facilities such as the courtyard rejuvenation for safe use of outdoor space. Your generous donations will help make these a reality.

Be Engaged: We are working on your behalf to help our community, provide student enrichment programs, and focus on mental health and well-being. To accomplish these goals, we rely on the time and talent of our parent volunteers and it is your involvement in our PTSA that makes the real difference. Your participation in the PTSA will get you engaged in our school community, give you a voice and benefit your child's overall experience. Learn how you can <u>volunteer</u>. I encourage you to engage in at least one activity this year. The greater involvement we have, the more we can do together!

Now, tell us how the PTSA can better support you and your child? Provide your <u>feedback here</u>. We need your ideas, your input, your expertise, your experience, your voice, your diversity, your time.

Please know that none of this would be possible without your involvement and support. We promise to keep evolving to serve you, whatever the new normal brings. I am looking forward to working with you to make this a great school year!



Best Regards,

Savitha

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"We are at our finest when we take care of each other."