CONNORS
HOBOKEN

CONNORS KOALAS

SEPTEMBER PTO MEETING



Sept 15, 2026
8:30am
In Person + Virtual

ABOUT THE PTO

- PTO (Parent Teacher Organization) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit
- Run by board of 5 officers + PTO Liaisons + committees + volunteers
- Everyone is part of the PTO; participation regardless of time/experience
- **Goals:**
  - Build a strong and engaged school community
  - Plan + fund events/activities to enrich the Connors experience
  - Support students, families, faculty, school, community

MARINA AVALLONE



CHRISSY BADGER



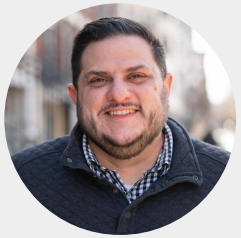
COLLEEN HERZOG



MICHELLE MAZURKIEWICZ



NICK LENZI



WHAT WE DO

EVENTS

- Fall Festival
- Halloween Dance + Costume Shop
- Bingo Night
- Multicultural Dinner
- Field Day
- Parent Socials
- + New Events!

STUDENTS

- Holidays
- Celebrations
- Trips/Assemblies
- Graduations
- Prizes
- School Spirit
- Snacks

STAFF+ SCHOOL

- Staff Lounges
- Monthly Treats
- Books + Supplies
- Holiday Spirit + Appreciation Weeks
- Building + Yard Glow Ups
- Koala Cave + Indoor Recess

SERVICE

- Committees
- PTO Liaisons
- Shelter + Pantry Drives
- Thanksgiving Dinner Baskets
- Volunteer Opportunities
- District/HPEF Support

FUNDRAISE

- Online Campaigns
- Raffles
- Donations + Company Match
- SWAG
- Community Outreach

COMMS SURVEY



Thanks to all who responded to our end-of-year survey!

We value the **positive and constructive feedback**, and will use your feedback to continue improving our comms this year!

Reach out to the PTO with suggestions + questions (**new email: hello@connorspto.com**)

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Most helpful channel = **WhatsApp;** Overall communication rating = **4.94**
- Most parents felt PTOL communication level was excellent and found the info shared to be helpful; some requested more info from PTOLs and/or more advance notice.
- Not all families have the “live” PTO calendar synced; a few did not like the comprehensive nature of PTO calendar – new solutions: (1) easier to sync from the website + (2) can select what to sync
- PTOLs felt expectations were mostly clear, time commitment was manageable, they had proper support, and generally enjoyed the experience; however, some wished all families were in WhatsApp groups and/or more participation from families who were in the groups.

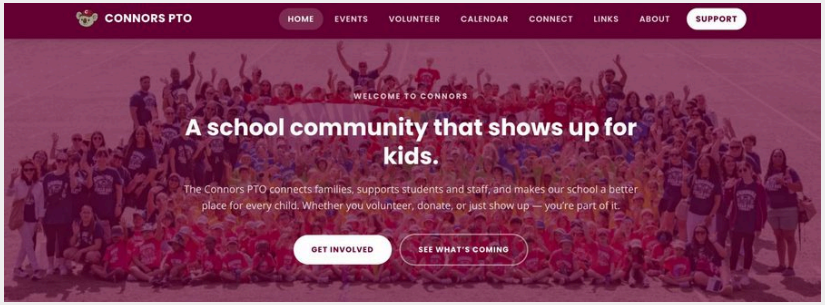
SUMMER PTO PROJECTS

- Meetings with Principal Addi + PTO Officers to plan and prepare for new year
- Creating new PTO Website – ConnorsPTO.com
- Debuting new payment system – Zeffy!
  - *100% free, all-in-one fundraising platform and donor management system built exclusively for nonprofit organizations*
- Sponsoring Kindergarten & New Family welcome swag bags
- Purchasing new basketball hoops (Deloitte + PTO)
- Creating and ordering new Connors outdoor flags, canvases, customized event banners, step-and-repeat photo backdrop
- Restocking the faculty lounges
- Inventorying and organizing all PTO items

SPOTLIGHT: CONNORSPTO.COM

BIG THANKS TO NICK LENZI FOR LEADING THIS HUGE PROJECT!

LET'S TAKE A TOUR!



- All info about upcoming events, volunteer opportunities, supporting the PTO
- Calendar - sync all OR select individual to sync/send, year at a glance
- Helpful Links - Everything you need, in one place
- Consistently updated, reliable, and user-friendly

Home Screen Shortcut: Go to website on phone browser, tap square with arrow to "send," scroll down to "Add to Home Screen," tap "Add"



PTO WELCOME BACK!

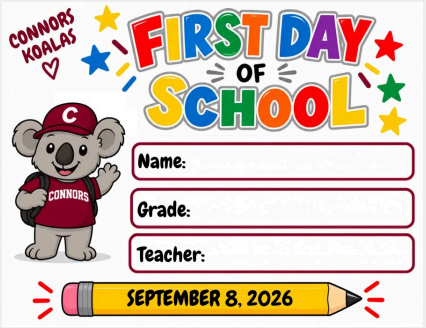










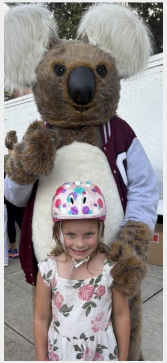
















PTOLs & WHATSAPP GROUPS

PTO Liaisons

- 1 volunteer parent for each homeroom (2 per HR for Kindergarten)
- Coordinate with teacher + grade-level PTO Liaisons for activities + celebrations; stay in the know, answer questions, share reminders, + liaise with PTO Officers
- Everyone who expressed interest will be contacted this week; meet at BTSN

WhatsApp Groups

- Created by PTO for each class; recommended to join
- Best and easiest way to communicate + connect with homeroom families; coordinate celebrations; ask questions; receive important school reminders
- Didn’t join yet? Find your group on our website!

JOIN OUR 2026-2027 COMMITTEES

Committees Info + Interest

Great way to get involved + connect with Connors community!

No PTO experience necessary. Support from PTO Officers.



- Halloween Shop + Dance (Oct)
- Multicultural Dinner (Nov)
- Thanksgiving Baskets (Nov)
- Holiday Spirit Week (Dec)
- Career Day (TBD)
- Bingo Night (Jan)
- Scholastic Book Fair (March)
- Staff Appreciation Week (May)
- Field Day (June)
- Community Service (Ongoing)
- Swag (Ongoing)
- Kindergarten Moving Up (K parents)
- 5th Grade Festivities (5th Gr. parents)

Plus day-of volunteer opportunities to be announced in the weeks prior to each event!





EVENT SPOTLIGHT: FALL FESTIVAL



Fun family event to kickoff the school year

Free, no RSVP, all Connors families welcome

- **Free:** Inflatables, games, crafts, music, snacks, drinks
- **For Sale:** Connors Swag + Lunch Food from Cal's Hot Dogs + Tastebuds
- **Raffle Fundraiser:** $5,500+ in prizes; *online participation* ***here***
- **Donate:** gently-used Halloween costume
- **Volunteers Needed:** *sign up* ***here*** *(Connors parents + alumni, HHS, Stevens)*
- **Thank You:** Mile Square Orthodontics, family table sponsors, donations, day-of volunteers, those helping with planning and raffle outreach

UPCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS

ALL PARENTS



KINDERGARTEN PARENTS



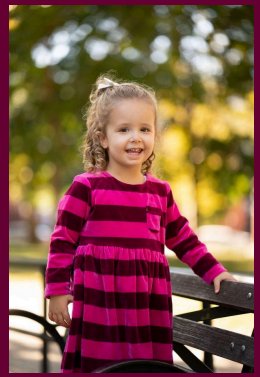
Book a Fall Family Mini Photo Session + Support Connors!

Don't miss out on this awesome opportunity for gorgeous fall family photos while also supporting Connors PTO!

- **15-Minute Fall Family Photo Session** incl digital album of 10-15+ photos with professional photographer + Connors dad Matt Roberts
- **$225** (20% donated to Connors PTO, if booked by 9/20)
- **When:** October weekend slots available
- **Where:** Pier A, Hoboken
- **BOOK HERE**
- Want more information?
  - **Email** matt@matthewdavidroberts.com
  - **Website** here

Thank you **Matthew Roberts** for this generous offer + for being new resident PTO event photographer. We appreciate you!









Shop Our Amazon List

- Thank you to all those who bought items from our Amazon List already.
- We restocked the staff lounges and have replenishment ready!
- Some items remain, and we continue to update!
- Shop the **Amazon Wishlist** here or scan QR code.



The Teacher's Lounge







TEAM: Sarah P., Nikki, Beth, Rosie, & Sarah W.

CONNORS

*Great sale @ District Ice Cream Social
*Next Sale: Fall Festival

SPIRITWEAR AND SWAG

- Building our Connors community, showing Koala Pride both within the building and throughout Hoboken.
- Online sales and in-person at school events.
- Email the Swag Team at swagconnors@gmail.com with questions, ideas, or to get involved!













LOOKING AHEAD: HALLOWEEN OVERVIEW

- **Free Costume Shop**
  - **Donations:** Fall Festival; school collection bin inside through 10/13
  - **Leads:** Chrissy Badger + Nikki Nachimow
    - *Will reach out to committee + volunteers soon*
  - **Dates:** 10/14 + 10/23, 3-5:30pm, also avail at Parent Teacher Conf 10/21
- **Costume Dance**
  - Thursday, 10/29: 6-6:50pm (K-2); 7:10-8pm (3-5)
  - PTO will reach out to committee
  - Volunteer/donation spots already open on our website
- **Parade**
  - Outside Connors on 10/30 at 9am; parents welcome

More at next mtg + full Halloween briefing (flyer+digital): events, guidelines, etc.

SUPPORT THE PTO

Raise Right

- % of all gift card purchases to PTO
- % of online shopping to PTO
- **Visit** www.raiseright.com
- Use Enrollment Code 2S9QPDASA8MS

MabelsLabels.com

- 20% back to Connors PTO
- **Visit** www.MabelsLabels.com
- **Click** Support a Fundraiser
- **Enter** Connors + select our school
- **Click** “Get Shopping”

Minted.com

- Use code FundraiseConnors for 20% off
- 10% back to Connors PTO

VOLUNTEER

- Day-of volunteer slots for event
- Join committees to plan/execute events

Other Ways to Help

- Goods/Services - students/staff/raffles
- Donate $ or Items Needed for Events
- Sponsor programming / activities
- Connections / Assemblies / Comm Svc

HOBOKEN PUBLIC EDUCATION FOUNDATION (HPEF)



All are welcome to join!

Learn more & register here!

Fun Run @ 8:30am

1 Mile @ 9am

5K @ 10am

VOLUNTEERS FOR CONNORS TABLE

8am-10am

General event volunteers needed; before and at the event.

Sign up here!

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

Connors Calendar of Events

Sync the Connors PTO Calendar!

• Kindergarten 50-Yard Line Event	Sept 16 @ 1pm
• Back-to-School Night	Sept 16 @ 6:30-8pm
• Parent Social *(after Back-to-School Night)*	Sept 16 @ 8pm (Schmitty's)
• Fall Festival (Connors Yard)	Sept 20 @ 12-2pm
• School Closed (Yom Kippur)	Sept 21
• Kindergarten Parents Night Out	Sept 24 @ 8pm (Snack Bar)
• HPEF Back-to-School Community Run	Sept 27
• Week of Respect	Oct 5th-9th
• School Closed (Indigenous Peoples Day)	Oct 12
• Picture Day	Oct 13
• Next PTO Meeting	Oct 13 @ 8:30am
• Connors Free Costume Shop	Oct 14 + Oct 23 @3-5:30pm

STAY CONNECTED + IN THE KNOW

- Bookmark our **NEW website** – **ConnorsPTO.com** – everything in one place
- Read the **PTO Corner** in Principal Addi's School Scoop sent on Fridays
- Sync the **PTO calendar** with your personal device
- Join your class **WhatsApp chat**
- Attend **PTO Meetings + Events**
- Follow us on **Facebook**
- Email us anytime – **hello@connorspto.com**

Pro Tip:
Sync the Calendar!

New: TLDR Weekly Rundown, weekend email from the PTO

GUEST SPEAKER + NEXT MEETING



Next Meeting:
Tuesday, October 13th!

October Guest Speaker:
Superintendent
Dr. Christine Johnson

Future Topics:
NJSLA Data
CTY + CoGat
Hoboken Middle School
+ more!