

# PTO MEETING

March 2025



SHEPHERD  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

# AGENDA

- Principal Update
- IB Parent Corner with Ms. Alvarez
- Appreciations
- DC Budget Fight
- February TAP Winner
- Upcoming Events
- 180 Fund
- Budget Update
- Stay Connected

# ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

## PRINCIPAL RUSSELL



# IB PARENT CORNER

MS. ALVAREZ



# APPRECIATIONS

- Food night Fundraisers - Chipotle, & Pizza
- Mardi Gras
- Movie Night
- Black History Showcase



# DC BUDGET FIGHT

**YOU MAY HAVE HEARD....  
ABOUT LAST WEEK'S FIGHT**

## WHAT'S THE ISSUE?

- DC needs the House to pass a measure, which has already passed the Senate, to restore funds to DC that were restricted due to the CR that passed Congress last week.

## WHAT'S AT STAKE?

- \$1.1 billion dollars removed from our current FY budget.
- Significant cuts to fire, police, schools, medical services and other basic services across the city.

## LET'S MOBILIZE!!

- [www.freedcproject.org](http://www.freedcproject.org)

**LAJOY JOHNSON-LAW WARD 5**

**EmpowerEd**

**WTU WASHINGTON TEACHERS' UNION**

**FREE DC**

**CARE WASHINGTON, DC**

**RECESS AT THE CAPITOL**

**PROTECT OUR SCHOOLS**

**Kids off from school on Thursday?  
Let's have recess at the Senate  
Hart Building as lawmakers  
consider DC's future**

**METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON CO AFL-CIO**

**DC CHARTER SCHOOL ALLIANCE**

**500 DC CITIZENS AND DC STUDENTS TOOK TO THE HILL**

# DC BUDGET FIGHT - LET'S MOBILIZE

## PLEASE CALL

1. HOUSE LEADER MIKE JOHNSON (LA): (202) 225-2777
2. MAJORITY LEADER STEVE SCALISE (LA): (202) 225-3015
3. CHAIRMAN, APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE, TOM COLE (OK): (202) 225-6165

WHAT TO SAY TO THEM: (Note: As always, we have plans to escalate if needed, so please make this call with a positive tone)

[MOST IMPORTANT] I urge the House to swiftly take up a vote and pass the “District of Columbia Local Funds Act of 2025” as soon as possible. This threat hanging over our heads only causes chaos and worry for service providers, government agencies, and - most especially - community members who depend on a well functioning government. FY25 spending is already well underway, so any cuts would result in a haphazard and deep defunding of many critical government functions, such as education, trash collection, human services, fire fighters, and infrastructure. I am most worried about \_\_\_\_\_ [your story] if the cuts are not prevented.

Every single House office and committee has staffers who live in the DC community and others whose lives are closely intertwined with it. They - and all those who work in the federal government - will feel the catastrophic effects of the \$1.1 billion in cuts to DC's budget, if it is not fixed. Passage of this bill makes sense for so many reasons:

- The funds at issue are local dollars, and this massive cut will not save the federal government any money.
- DC has had 28 years of balanced budgets, including this one (which Congress had already approved) and clean audits.
- Thousands of DC residents have already visited or called in to lawmakers because we count on representatives of other states to do the right thing for our great District.

I appreciate the representative's understanding of the significant harm to our residents that not fixing this language causes. I look forward to the bipartisan support for this bill in the House.

# STUDENT SAFETY

In partnership with:

OFFICE OF THE STUDENT ADVOCATE  
PEOPLES CONGREGATIONAL United Church of Christ  
PAVE  
DC CHARTER SCHOOL ALLIANCE  
T. MICHELLE COLSON  
JANESE LEWIS GEORGE DC Council Ward 4



## Student Safety Conversation

Connect with us for engaging dialogue and action planning around school and neighborhood safety in Ward 4.

WARD 4

**March 27th**

🕒 6:00pm- Doors open  
6:30pm- Convening

📍 Peoples Congregational UCC  
4704 13th Street NW

✉️ student.advocate@dc.gov



Register:  
[bit.ly/ward4safety](https://bit.ly/ward4safety)

**WARD 4 LEADERS:  
PLEASE HELP SPREAD THE WORD  
ABOUT THE WARD 4 STUDENT  
SAFETY CONVERSATION ON MARCH  
27TH AT 6:30PM.**

**RSVP LINK: [BIT.LY/WARD4SAFETY](https://bit.ly/ward4safety)**



**TEACHER  
APPRECIATION  
PROGRAM**

## **Congratulations Ms. Rajwani**

**Ms. Rajwani has always done an incredible job creating a fun and safe learning environment for my kids! My son has been thriving in her classroom and he really loves being there with Ms. Rajwani and his friends. Thank you for all that you do!**

**Liz Daly**

**Ms. Rajwani goes above and beyond to meet the needs of her students. She cares deeply about their concerns and how to approach the situation. She makes herself available to students and parents, makes time to join special events (gala, etc), and is a strong member of the Shepherd community. Thanks Ms.**

**Rajwani!**

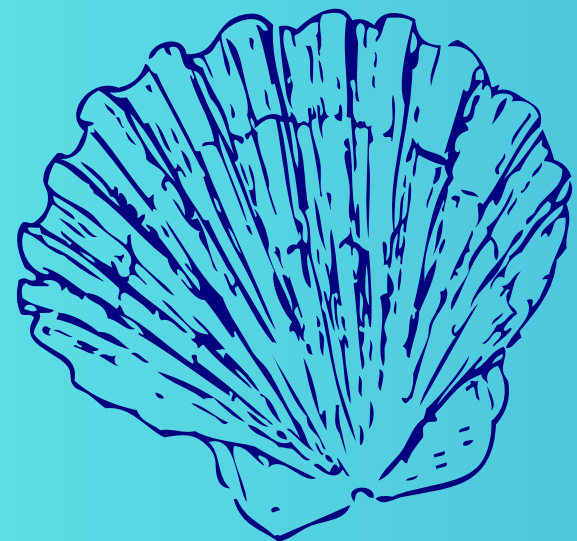
**Michelle Toussiant**



Don't Forget to Nominate a Teacher for March by the end of the month!

TAP a teacher today by submitting a nomination [here](#).

Disney  
THE LITTLE  
MERMAID  
JR.

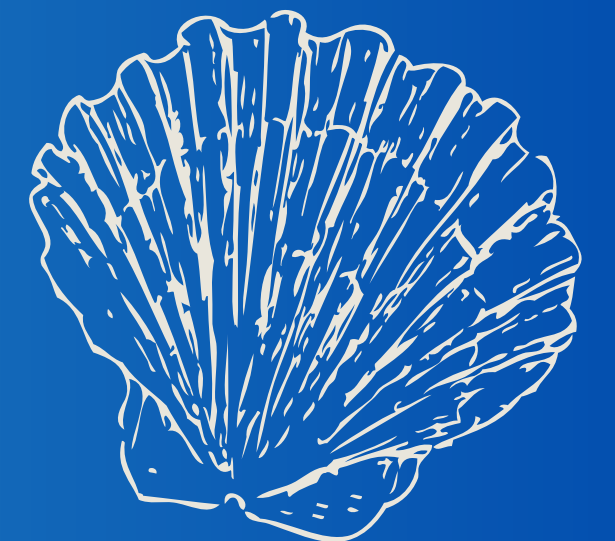


**SOLD OUT**  
**DOORS OPEN AT 5:15PM**

**MARCH 20TH & MARCH 21ST**

**6:00PM SHOW TIME**

**SES MULTIPURPOSE ROOM**





# UPCOMING EVENTS

**3/21: CLASS PICTURE DAY**

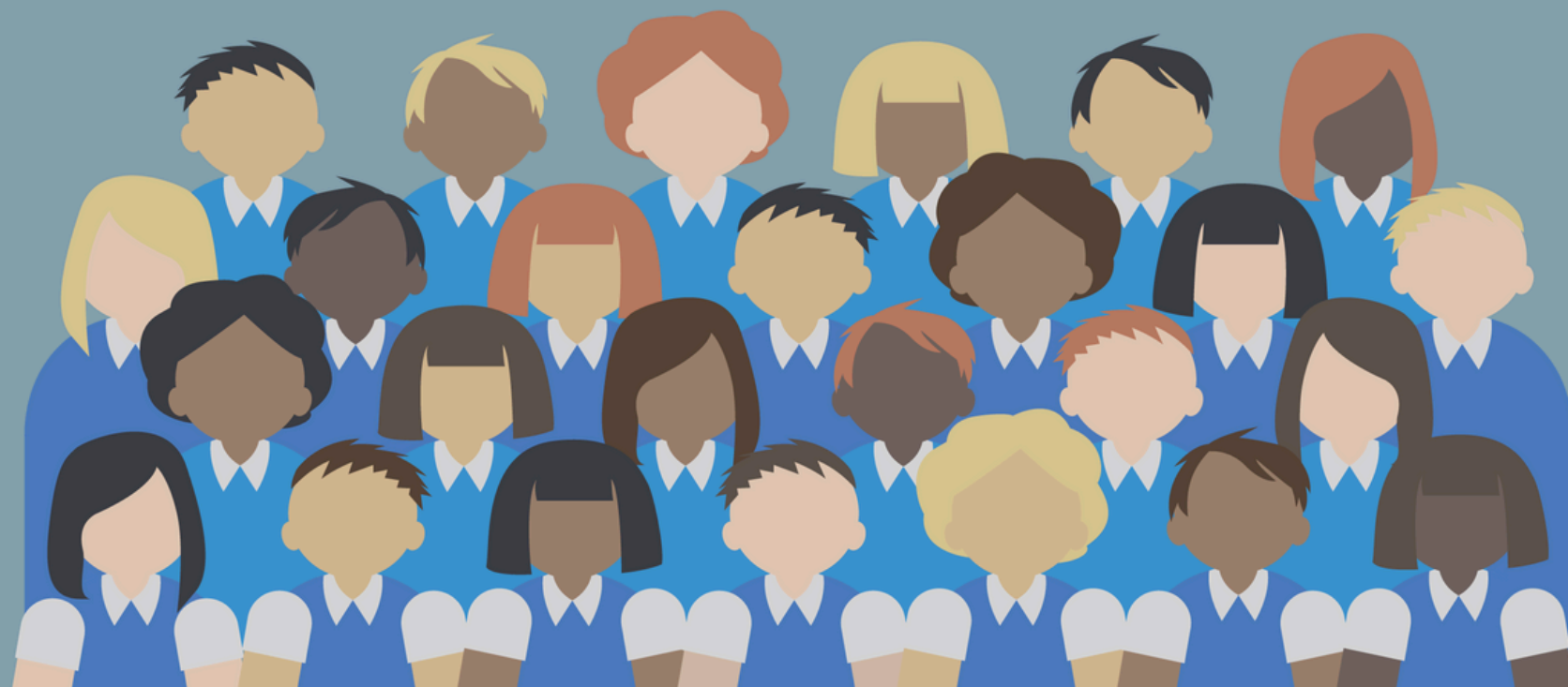
**3/26: SOCCER TRY-OUTS 3:45-4:45PM**

**4/5: CHEER TEAM EXHIBITION**

**4/6: BEAUTIFICATION DAY & CLOTHING SWAP**

**4/7: NO SCHOOL (SESSA FULL)**

**4/8 - 4/11 : BOOK FAIR**





# TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

**\$125 Early Bird**

**\$150 General Admission**

- **Buy Tickets & Attend Event**
- **Angel Tickets**
- **Donate Experiences to Auction**
- **Engage Local Businesses for Sponsorships**
- **Participate in Silent Auction on Handbid.**

**Contact [PTO@shepherd-elementary.org](mailto:PTO@shepherd-elementary.org) in you are interested in joining the committee**



**APRIL 1ST  
NOMINATIONS WINDOW IS OPEN**

**APRIL 23  
NOMINATIONS ANNOUNCED AT PTO MEETING**

**MAY 2  
BALLOT IS FINALIZED**

**MAY 5 - 7  
VOTING WINDOW IS OPEN**

**MAY 9  
ELECTION RESULTS ANNOUNCED**

**MAY 12 - JUNE 2  
TRANSITION TEAM FACILITATES ONBOARDING  
OF THE NEW MEMBERS**

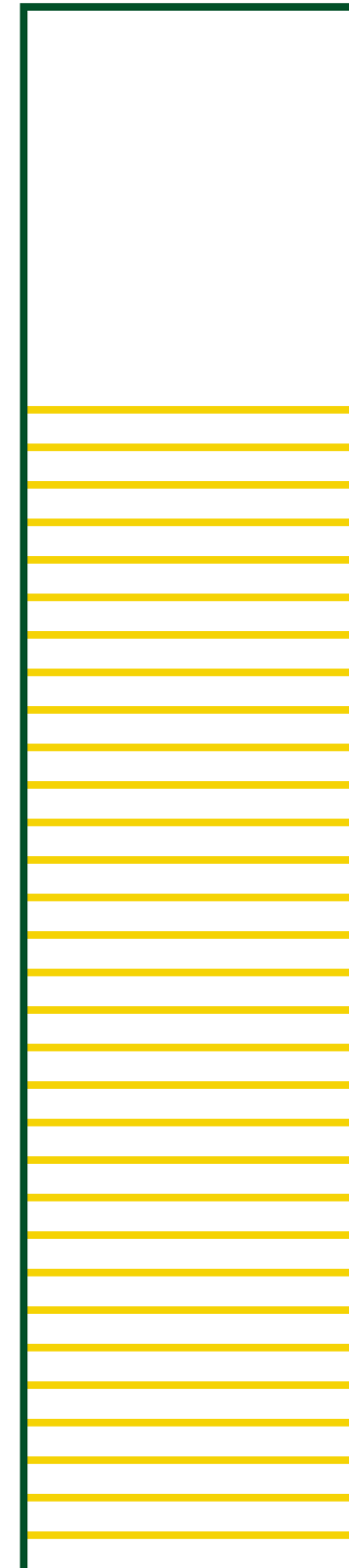
**JUNE 30  
NEW PTO BOARD AND LSAT TERMS BEGIN**

# 180 FUND GREAT TIME TO GIVE

Your contributions to the 180 Fund will directly benefit various initiatives, including:

- **Art and Music Programs**
- **International Baccalaureate (IB) Program**
- **Field Trips**
- **School Supplies**

Every donation helps enrich our students' educational experience and ensures that they have access to the resources they need. Let's come together as a community to make a difference! Any contribution is always much appreciated. And as a reminder, your contribution is 100% tax deductible. Don't forget about corporate matching!



**71 FAMILIES SO  
FAR!!!**

# BUDGET DETAIL

## Budget Detail - End of February Financials Summary

REVENUES	Planned Budget	YTD (as of 28FEB)
180 Fund	18,000.00	16,365.78
Gear Sales	15,000.00	3,875.96
Shopping for Shepherd Program	100.00	2,703.12
Yearbooks	3,400.00	0.00
Misc Rev (Benevity)	0.00	1,024.40
Fall Fest	15,000.00	15,450.85
Restaurant Nights	500.00	0.00
Fall Photo Fundraiser	5,000.00	3,196.70
Holiday Bazaar and Sale	3,000.00	1,887.30
Spring Gala and Auction	70,000.00	969.61
Cheerleading Fundraising	0.00	0.00
Drama Club Fundraising	0.00	3,830.00
Other Club Fundraising	0.00	0.00

EXPENSES	Planned Budget	YTD (as of 28FEB)
School Operational Support Fund	20,000.00	7,213.66
Principal's Fund	2,000.00	868.73
Staff Discretionary Classroom Supplies (Wishlist)	17,497.36	5,192.32
Staff Professional Development	2,100.00	0.00
Staff Appreciation	4,300.00	3,369.06
Room Parent Fund	9,386.71	2,339.74
School Field Trips	22,100.02	5,272.55
IB Program Support	12,000.00	9,660.75
Library Program Support	1,000.00	0.00
French Program Support	1,000.00	0.00
Spanish Program Support	1,000.00	0.00
Art Program Support	1,000.00	487.33
Phys. Ed. Program Support	1,000.00	0.00
Music Program Support	1,000.00	0.00
Field Day	5,200.00	0.00
5th Grade Promotion	1,300.00	40.00
Prek4 Promotion	500.00	0.00
Parking Permits for Staff	750.00	550.00
CAPE/ACCESS Testing Snacks	1,000.00	0.00
DC Business License (DCRA)	80.00	260.00
Website Maintenance (Intrepid and Google Suite)	2,000.00	692.56
Banking/Merchant Fees	5,000.00	35.26
Miscellaneous PTO Supplies and Expenses	300.00	88.03

EXPENSES (CONT'D)	Planned Budget	YTD (as of 28FEB)
Walk/Bike to School Day	60.00	0.00
Fall Fest	9,000.00	8,628.86
Fall Photo Fundraiser (Photog Fees)	2,000.00	1,300.00
Holiday Bazaar and Sale	1,800.00	1,297.40
Spring Gala/Auction	30,000.00	3,211.50
Gear Procurement	12,500	0.00
Yearbook Purchase	3,000.00	0.00
Beautification Day(s)	900.00	0.00
Miscellaneous Enhancements	500.00	0.00
Cheerleading Team (Earmarked from fundraising)	164.54	218.54
Drama Club (Earmarked from fundraising)	1,026.10	3,877.81
Donuts with Grownups/Walk with Me day	1,000.00	773.00
"Welcome to Shepherd"	110.00	106.98
Summer Playdate		
Boo-Hoo Breakfast	500.00	439.70
Faculty-Parent Softball and Kickball Games	600.00	173.93

<b>YTD Revenue</b>	<b>\$49,303.72</b>
<b>YTD Expenses</b>	<b>\$56,562.37</b>
<b>Net Change</b>	<b>(\$7,258.65)</b>

# STAY CONNECTED

1

Register for an "A to Z" account to receive the weekly bulletin & other important email announcements.



2

Join the Shepherd Elementary PTO groups.io



3

Follow us on Facebook & Instagram



4

Add the Shepherd Elementary PTO Google Calendar and clicking "+Google Calendar"





# Thank you

Next Meeting on April 23rd



**SHEPHERD  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**