CHARTER SCHOOL

September 13, 2019

Dear Charter School Parent(s),

The PTO would like to welcome you and your child(ren) back to school! We are excited to start a new year with bright new ideas and opportunities! This year we are looking to raise more awareness of the PTO and what we have been doing over the years. We have been impacting the small community of Charter with bigger and better opportunities. The PTO has been laying the groundwork to support our amazing teachers and students. Last year, the PTO went through some tremendous changes. We are looking to continue the positive momentum for the current school year.

The pillars of Charter - Respect, Freedom, Cooperation, Trust, Democracy and Responsibility - ground us and we use them to create new initiatives for our community. Last year we started the Soup and Games Night. We wanted to bring teachers, parents, and kids together with good food and games. Each night was a hit! Turnout was beyond expectations. We saw the excitement of the children watching their parents playing games with their teachers. It was wonderful to see the proud families bring in their individual recipes and watch others enjoy the comfort of a great bowl of soup.

We supported the athletic department with brand new uniforms. We watched the joy in the students' faces, proud of their new uniforms and the school. One of the best highlights for the PTO was simultaneously creating a fund for teachers and students. We supported trips to Vermont, Italy, and Boston for our students. We funded professional development opportunities for our teachers. We are a project based learning school—the PTO supported both Project Periods. And, we supported last year's K-12 theatrical production of *The Hobbit*.

Our efforts enabled us to really witness how important our community is within Charter. The PTO believes in supporting our school where it is needed the most by bringing our community together. We believe that if we can empower our teachers and students, then they all become top educational performers. The PTO is looking to maintain these high standards and continue our ongoing support for years to come. In order for us to achieve our goals, we are always looking for the participation of our parents. We are engaged in two major fundraisers every year. We can only do this with your help.

We are looking for volunteers to join us. Our small, but mighty group from last year cannot continue without more help. We will be having our meetings every second Wednesday each month, with the exception of this first meeting and those that conflict with holidays. Meetings begin at 6:00 pm and last for about an hour. We have a President and a Treasurer at the moment but are looking for many positions to be filled. We are looking for a Vice President, secretary, media personnel, and representatives for each grade. We provide free dinner and childcare during these meetings. We want to make it as easy as possible for you to join us and make a difference in our community through your participation. Come check us out! **Our first meeting will be on Wednesday, September 18th at 6pm**. *Please RSVP for dinner/childcare by 8am on Wednesday morning: Jennifer Knight 508-221-2615 (text is fine)*.

We are all very busy but your participation in the Charter's PTO can make a big difference for our children. The more they see us involved with their work, the more empowered they will become as individuals and students. If you have any questions, please contact me at <a href="mayer-empower-em

Michael Baldwin PTO President