



Talented & Gifted School For Young Scholars Parent Teacher Association

Trina Edmundson &
Anand Raghunath
Co-Presidents

Sara Coates &
Norma Corvera
Co-Vice Presidents

John Johnson &
Rebecca Yoftahie
Co-Treasurers

Rasheedah Harris &
Laura Lampert
Co-Secretaries

OCTOBER IS iPLEDGE MONTH!

Dear TAG Families and Friends:

We hope that you and your family are adjusting to and enjoying the start of this 2016-2017 school year. We are all very lucky to be part of such an incredible learning institution like TAG School for Young Scholars. Our school is, and has been, consistently ranked in the top ten of **the best elementary and middle schools in New York State**.

There are 1.1 million children in the New York City public school system, making this the largest public school system in America. Of that, only 0.1% of seats are allotted to Citywide Gifted and Talented schools. We are fortunate to have the opportunity to educate our children in an excellent public school, while many children in our city receive a sub-standard education, or their parents pay thousands of dollars a year to go to private schools, or they just leave the city altogether. Thankfully we are not in a position to make such a choice. We can just send our children to a high-quality public school simply by paying our taxes. We are a co-located school with limited space and resources and we need the full support of the TAG parent body to provide the best educational experience we can for our children. The NYC DOE provides funding for the basic needs of any school (staff, building, security), anything beyond that is subject to the individual school's budget. Anything that we as parents desire for our children above and beyond this basic funding must be provided by us.

October is officially **iPledge Month**, the PTA's direct appeal campaign. We are asking TAG parents to contribute to the school through this drive. The funds raised this year will be directed toward the following for the 2017-2018 school year:

- Singapore Math in curriculum for K-6th grade
- Chess in curriculum for K and 1st grade
- Music program for K-3rd grade
- Middle School Debate team
- Hiring an assistant teacher for K and 1st grade
- Middle School Girls and Boys Basketball Teams
- Middle School Theater
- Math Club for grades K-8
- Chess Team for grades K-8
- Field Day for grades K-8
- Physical Education assistant for K-8th grade plus recess support

Some parents have also proposed other programs, such as Math Robotics, Girl Scouts, and language programs like Spanish or Mandarin. These programs, while admirable and worthy, can only happen with adequate funding. We are asking that you please give generously and encourage your friends and family to donate as well to your child's education.

Donations to the PTA are tax deductible. Please make your check payable to TAG PTA and return it via your child's homework folder in the enclosed, self-addressed envelope. Or you can drop the sealed envelope into the secure lockbox in Ms. Bruno's office in Rm. 106.

You may also pledge online at www.tagscholarspta.org, where you can set up recurring **monthly donations** via PayPal **over a six-month period**. The following are examples of the possible breakdowns by month. Please remember: these modest amounts are so much less than any of us would pay at a private school for the kind of excellent education our children receive.

Your pledge of:

\$10,000 = \$1667 a month for six months

\$1,000 = \$167 a month for six months

\$5,000 = \$834 a month for six months

\$500 = \$84 a month for six months

\$2,000 = \$334 a month for six months

\$200 = \$34 a for six months

\$1,200 = \$200 a month for six months

\$100 = \$17 a month for six months

We also know that donations of time are equally important to our success. Please return the enclosed pledge card and let us know that you will volunteer a number of hours to assist in this year's fundraising events.

This year, we are hoping for 100% participation by TAG families. High participation rates help us when we apply for grants. Please donate whatever you can in money and/or time to help us meet this goal!

Yours truly,

Catherine Levine and Pamela Simon (TAG PTA Fundraising Committee Co-Chairs) fundraising@tagscholarspta.org



YES I pledge to enhance my child's education.

Your Name: _____

Child(ren): _____ Class _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____ *(a copy of your receipt will be e-mailed to you)*

I Pledge the Following Amount To Support TAG

- \$10,000 or recurring payments of \$1667/month for 6 months
- \$5,000 or recurring payments of \$834/month for 6 months
- \$2,000 or recurring payments of \$334/month for 6 months
- \$1,200 or recurring payments of \$200/month for 6 months
- \$1,000 or recurring payments of \$167/month for 6 months
- \$500 or recurring payments of \$84/month for 6 months
- \$200 or recurring payments of \$34/month for 6 months
- \$100 or recurring payments of \$17/month for 6 months
- Other amount: \$ _____

Check here if your employer offers corporate matching. We will contact you to help set up matching donations.

Method of Payment

- Check enclosed (please make checks to "TAG PTA")
- Online payment(s) via Paypal – please log on to www.tagscholarspta.org

I Volunteer My Time To Support TAG

- I volunteer ___ hours to assist in this year's fundraising events.
 - ___ Annual Auction
 - ___ Talent Show
 - ___ Picture Day
 - ___ Candy Grams
 - ___ Chess Tournament
 - ___ Book Fair
 - ___ Annual Dance
 - ___ Spring Fair

Your generous pledge of money or time will be memorialized as a leaf on our community pledge tree in the halls of TAG. Please look for it, and thank you for your commitment to your child's education!

MAKE YOUR IPLEDGE DONATION TODAY!

THERE'S SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE TO WIN!

for adults

for kids

ENTER THE iPLEDGE RAFFLE



Make a donation of \$100 or more by Oct. 31st to be automatically entered into the iPLEDGE RAFFLE for a chance to win one

BRAND NEW IPAD

A \$100 donation gets 1 raffle entry, \$500 gets 2, \$1000 gets 3, \$1500 gets 5, and \$3000 gets 10!

Here's The Scoop!

The class with the most money donated to the iPLEDGE drive AND the class with the most hours donated will each get a:



ICE CREAM OR PIZZA PARTY
with all the toppings you could ask for

+



SURPRISE GIFT
for every student in the class

+



DRESS DOWN DAY
pass for each student