

WELCOME TO TRACK-A-THON 2016!

**River Park Track
Friday, October 14
12:00-2:00 p.m.**

We are excited to kick off the year with Track-a-Thon, Edison PTO's biggest and most cost-effective fundraiser. Nearly every dollar donated goes directly toward our annual fundraising goal! This student-friendly event combines physical fitness, friends and fundraising into one fun-filled afternoon. We have set a **goal to raise \$60,000** through Track-A-Thon and **we'll need everyone's help to get there**. Our efforts will benefit every child at every grade level.

Now is the time to give big and get the most bang for your buck! Track-A-Thon has almost no overhead, so nearly 100% of the proceeds go back to the school. Tap into your network of family, friends, local businesses and employers and ask them to sponsor your child as well. And don't forget about corporate matching gifts, they can double or triple your contribution. These much needed funds will support the school's budget and help fill the gaps left by CPS.

To reach our goal, each student at Edison would need to contribute or raise just over \$217. But whatever your contribution, it's important that every family donates what they can. Let's work together to keep Edison whole!

Included in this packet is everything you need to make a donation and get it in on the fun:

- 1. Edison PTO:** Learn about who we are, what we do, what we fund, and why you should give
- 2. Making a gift:** Make a gift of cash, check or online via Razoo
- 3. T-shirt contest:** Entries can be submitted on a blank 8 1/2x11 sheet of white paper and are **due by Friday, Sept. 30**
- 4. T-shirt sponsorships:** For \$100, families can support their student with a special message on the back of the t-shirt. Sponsorships are **due Friday Sept. 30**
*- Please contact Alex or Karrie to learn more about corporate sponsors. For \$250, a corporate sponsor can obtain their logo on the back of the t-shirt. Corporate sponsorships are **due Friday, Sept. 30***
- 5. Prizes:** We'll award prizes to the three classes who raise the most money for Edison
- 6. Permission Slips:** Complete the permission slip and return to your child's homeroom teacher so he or she can participate

Questions? Ask Alex Burki or Karrie Stanley at edisontrackathon@gmail.com

THE EDISON PTO

Edison PTO is a volunteer-run 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that serves as the fundraising and hospitality arm of Edison RGC. We raise funds to supplement the public dollars Edison receives.

We also sponsor community-building events to give Edison's student body, families and staff a chance to connect outside the classroom.

Your donations allow Edison's teachers to expand their curriculum and enrich the school environment for all Edison students. By supporting each other and having fun doing it, we can continue to enhance the educational experience for current and future Edison students.

FUNDRAISING

This school year, Edison faced another round of significant budget cuts from CPS. Through tough choices, our school has managed to retain ALL of its excellent faculty. PTO funds were critical in making that happen. This 2016-2017 school year, PTO has already allocated:

- **\$22,000** to cover ALL non-personnel essential needs of the school (if it's not a teacher's salary, PTO is probably paying for it!)
- **\$17,000** to software, programs, and consumables for our STEM program and Maker Space
- **\$15,000** to provide weekly tech support to faculty; to build out a functional school website; and to launch a comprehensive communication system that can be used in partnership by administration, PTO and the LSC
- **\$5,000** to support our fine arts program, sport teams, competitive chess, and middle school electives
- **\$3,600** for teacher stipends to purchase classroom "extras"

Additionally, our PTO provides funding for copier contracts, stamps for the office, kindergarten orientation and many other yearly budget items that allow Edison to function successfully and pick up where CPS budgeting ends. PTO has even built a modest monetary reserve held to meet any shortfalls if state funds do not fulfill the annual CPS budget in a given year.

HOSPITALITY

Edison families come from all over the city. Unlike neighborhood schools, where we'd see each other regularly at the park, library and grocery store, the Edison community has to make an effort to get together -- and we do! From Game Night in the fall to celebrating the end of another successful school year with Fun Fair, the PTO works hard to make school fun. Over the course of the year the PTO hosts or coordinates:

- Open House
- Teacher Appreciation & luncheons
- Family Game Night
- Winter Social Event
- Last Day of School Fun Fair
- Gardening days
- School pictures
- School yearbooks
- Spirit Wear
- Hospitality for Science & History Fair judges
- Bus Driver Appreciation
- Barnes & Noble Book Fair

We have also stepped up our efforts over the past year to show our teachers and staff, in both big ways and small, just how much they are appreciated. These have included hand-written messages welcoming them back to school, an afternoon coffee pick me-up, and luncheons, with many more planned.

The money we raise through Track-a-Thon is critical to all of the above. Traditionally, half our annual budget is raised through Track-a-Thon donations. We need our whole community to pull together to maintain what we have that makes our school great!

EDISON TRACK-A-THON

MAKING A GIFT

MAKE A DONATION VIA CHECK OR CASH

When you donate via cash or check 100% of donations go directly to Edison and we avoid the fees (though minimal) charged by Razoo. Cash and check donations can be made using the attached form and sent in with your child or dropped in the PTO mailbox in the school lobby. All donations will then be tallied and added to the class total listed on Razoo. Please make checks payable to **Edison PTO**. **Donation deadline is the day of Track-a-thon, October 14th.**

MAKE A GIFT ONLINE

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:

1. Go to <https://www.razoo.com/team/Track-A-Thon-2016-2>
2. Under the LEADERBOARD, click on your Class ERGC TEAM name
3. Click DONATE to enter your own donation amount or choose from one of the suggested donation amounts on the right
4. You may leave a COMMENT which will be visible online to any other donors to your team
5. Razoo charges us fees for using the platform and processing payments, so if you want more of your gift to go towards Edison, you can choose to check the box "Cover platform fees so this fundraiser receives my full donation"
6. Share the link with your family and friends via email or social media!

If you can, please consider making a gift via cash or check (made out to "Edison PTO")—to make your full donation count and help us avoid the online fees. Please deliver your donations in an envelope, clearly marked with your child's name & grade, in the blue PTO mailbox in the lobby or send in with your child.

There will be prizes for the THREE classes who raise the most money for Edison!
To qualify for prizes, donations must be submitted by Friday, October 14th.

Questions? Contact Alex Burki or Karrie Stanley at edisontrackathon@gmail.com

EDISON TRACK-A-THON

2016 CASH AND CHECK DONATIONS

Student Name(s)*: _____

Grade(s): _____

Parent Name(s): _____

Contact info (phone # or email): _____

Donation amount: \$ _____

***if multiple students please denote how you would like your donation divided**

All donations included with this form count toward your class total if submitted by **October 14th!** Please send in this form with your child with check or cash included, or drop in the PTO mailbox. Please make checks out to "Edison PTO".

Thank you for you for your support!

EDISON TRACK-A-THON

DESIGN OUR T-SHIRT!

Though the Edison Track-a-Thon takes place in October, students love to wear their Track-a-Thon shirts all year long. How cool would it be if everyone was walking around with your original design on their shirt?

On the back of this paper or any other blank piece of white printer paper (8 ½ X 11), use a pen or pencil to depict your ideas of what the perfect Track-a-Thon shirt would look like. Let your imagination run free!

Submit your artwork to your homeroom teacher (include your name and grade) by the morning of **Friday, September 30, 2016**. Your drawing will be displayed in the cafeteria and voted on by Edison students and teachers during the lunch period on **Monday, October 3, 2016**. If your entry receives the most votes, you win!

Keep it simple and have fun!

Parents are allowed to help our smallest Eagles, but the spirit of the design should be all their own.

Please note the PTO and ERGC reserve the right to alter, edit, or otherwise change the selected drawing to fit printing requirements, enhance the Track-a-Thon message, or to comply with CPS/ ERGC policy. Track-a-Thon t-shirts are printed using only blue ink. While additional color is fine in your art, it will not be used in the final product.

GOOD LUCK!



EDISON TRACK-A-THON

CLASS PRIZES

First Prize: Track-A-Thon-Palooza*

Pizza and ice cream party, followed by a movie and popcorn along with homework passes for all!

Second Prize: An Afternoon Off*

Movie and popcorn for the last periods of the day, and homework passes for all!

Third Prize: Homework Passes for All*

*Homework passes and parties are subject to restrictions by teachers.
Prizes are not cumulative. Prizes will be given at the highest level, one per class.
Parties involving food require permission slips signed by parents.

Questions? Contact Alex Burki or Karrie Stanley - edisontrackathon@gmail.com