

# **Central Elementary PTO**

Hello and welcome to another school year at Central Elementary. The Parent Teacher Organization is excited to include you in enriching all of our students at Central Elementary.

## **What is the PTO?**

The PTO is an organization of parents, grandparents, caregivers and teachers working together to provide memorable elementary school experiences for all the students in Central Elementary.

## **What Does the PTO Do?**

The PTO does a number of things for the students during the school year. The money raised by fundraising through the PTO provides these fun experiences for the children. With the last hectic year or so, the PTO is redoubling their efforts to provide our students with some special experiences.

Santa's Workshop- a Christmas store set up at school for the students to do their own Christmas shopping for their families and friends.

Yearbooks- received at the end of the year, this book highlights all the fun and educational activities that the students experienced throughout the school year.

Field Trips- each grade goes on individual field trips to various places determined by individual grades. The PTO contributes money to each class to offset the cost of the field trip.

Holiday Parties- while the PTO does not pay for these parties, it does require members to volunteer to help organize Halloween, Christmas and Valentine's Day parties. Volunteers are assigned a job of providing a snack, a craft or a game to do with the class.

Book Fair- members volunteer their time to work the sales floor while the students shop for reading materials.

Fun To Be A Kid Day- this big end of the year celebration takes a lot of teamwork to make a great reward for students finishing the school year. A day long festival of games, snacks and fun require a lot of volunteers to run smoothly.

This year, we will be adding more fun events for the students to enjoy including a Fall Festival, a Christmas Drop & Shop night, a family game night and a Bingo night.

## **What do PTO members get out of joining?**

When you join the PTO, you get the opportunity to step into the school and enhance the experiences of not only your child, but their whole classroom. Once you are a member, you are eligible to volunteer at parties, go on field trips, and participate in PTO sponsored functions. The PTO is always looking for reliable people who like to have fun while helping children.

## **Fundraising**

As with any organization, the PTO is unable to provide quality experiences without some fundraising. Some fundraisers to expect this year include: Sarris Candies, hoagies, pepperoni rolls, trampoline park nights, spirit wear, and raffles.

## **How to Join the PTO?**

Joining the PTO is simple. Just fill out the attached form and return it to school with your child during the first few weeks of school. Also fill out if you are interested in helping out with any of the functions listed. There is a \$5.00 fee per member and membership is open to anyone who wished to show their support to Central Elementary.

### **Fundraising Buyout**

If you are someone who is unable to fundraise, you are able to buyout of any fundraising. Should you choose to buy-out, you may disregard any fundraising fliers sent home. The cost of a buy-out is \$60 for a family with one child, or \$80 for families with 2 or more students.

### **Homeroom Parents**

To aide the PTO in providing for all students, each classroom needs a volunteer to be the homeroom parent. The homeroom parent is responsible for the following:

- Communicate with classroom parents to provide volunteers at each of the holiday parties and coordinate with those parents to ensure a smooth running party.
- Communicate with parents and organize donations for gifts to the teacher at Christmas and Teacher Appreciation Week.
- Provide the secretary and the PTO secretary with a list of volunteers for each party at the beginning of the year, to ensure all clearances are on file.
- In grades 3-5, organize water bottles and snacks during the PSSA's.

### **How to Become a Homeroom Parent**

There are some requirements to become a homeroom parent. To ensure that all duties are completed satisfactorily, homeroom parents must:

- Be an active PTO member
- Must have clearances on file in the district office
- Must be responsible and reliable

To volunteer for this position please notate on your PTO membership form that you are interested, and return to school before the first PTO meeting on September 14. If there are more than 1 volunteer, a lottery system will decide on the homeroom parent.

We are looking forward to creating an exciting comeback of the PTO this year and we hope that you will join us in the fun. If you have any questions, please feel free to email Candace Jones at [candacejones825@gmail.com](mailto:candacejones825@gmail.com).

