

AUGUST 2010



THE SWORD AND THE SHIELD

From the Principal's Pen:

I can't believe we are already embarking upon October. The year seems to be flying by. Our third year at Blanton Elementary is off to a spectacular start. I am excited to see the progress our students are making each and every day. As you know, October is an extremely busy month. Our Watch D.O.G.S. (Dads of Great Students) Orientation was a tremendous success, and the Watch D.O.G.S. program will begin this month. Also, our 3rd annual Renaissance Festival (RenFest) will take place on Friday, October 8th, from 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm. Finally, the first week of October is **Early Dismissal Week**. The school day will end at 12:50. Teachers will be conducting parent/teacher conferences each afternoon.

I am grateful for the continued support our school and students receive from our PTA, parents, and community members. It is the culmination of these efforts that make Blanton Elementary a special place where students thrive.

Karen Satterwhite, Principal

940-369-0700 (school)

817-219-8041 (home)

"All that is worth cherishing in this world begins in the heart, not the head." Suzanne Chazin

Letter from the PTA President...

Welcome to Fall y'all! Our knights have almost surpassed the first sixth week mark of the 2010-2011 school year, and it seems that things are progressing at a dizzying pace. Students are settling into the routine of waking up earlier, completing homework, and participating in the various activities that accompany the start of school. We are not only beginning to see the leaves change, we are also seeing the transformation in our children as they mature and grow, embracing the new skills they learn each day.

This fall brings about another change at Blanton Elementary. The Renaissance Festival has moved and is now being held on Friday, October 8th. The finishing touches are being completed, and I really want to commend the planning committee on the amazing job they've done to prepare for this major event. The Festival is our primary fundraiser, and it's been no simple task to create this magical night so soon after school beginning. The PTA hopes that you'll come out next Friday night and take part in the fun! I encourage you to volunteer for one of the timeslots, and see the children's smiling faces as they take part in the festivities. Our major fundraising goal this year is to provide our students with an Environmental Center/ Outdoor Classroom, and it's opportunities like these, where we can work together, have fun and achieve great things.

Our Blanton Family is growing by leaps and bounds, so I'd also like to welcome all the new faces I've seen rolling up their sleeves to make each of the PTA sponsored events a success. All of you are royalty in my book, so I hope to have the chance to thank each of you personally soon!

Sincerely,

Leslie Haralson

President, Blanton Elementary PTA

**Texas
PTA**
everychild.onevoice.®

AUGUST 2010

Earn \$\$\$ for Blanton PTA while you shop!

Present the barcode below with your Kroger Plus card one time only, and every time you shop with your card, 1% of your purchase will be donated to the PTA.

It's fast, it's easy, & it's free!

(you need to re-register your card every year)



Come join us for Blanton's Family Fun Science Night! It will be held on November 18 in the Cafeteria and Gym 6:00-7:30. There will be hands-on science experiments and fun for the whole family! We hope to see you there! We are in need of parents who would like to help prepare materials- if you are interested contact Angie Passons at apassons@dentonisd.org or call the school.



Box Tops for Education/ Labels for Education

We will be collecting Box Tops and Campbells Soup Labels at Blanton this year. Please cut out all labels on the dotted lines, put in a baggie and label them with your child and teacher's name to turn into your teacher. All of the proceeds from Box Tops will benefit the PE Department.

Mrs. Dorrell stated that, "Last year we bought an IPOD for the gym to play music for the children along with the cords needed to hook the IPOD to the wall and kid songs from itunes. We also bought 2 lacrosse sets, 2 sets of gopher balls (24 balls), water for Field Day (on top of the water that Rapid Med donated), supplies and equipment for Field Day, 24 big birdie boppers, yarn balls, bean bags, basketball goals (portable for the gym), outdoor tents for Field Day shade, footballs, character education manual, buckets and bandanas for a new tag game and parachutes (smaller in size for small groups)."

Prizes will be given throughout the year for reaching our collection goals. When asked about these prizes Mrs. Dorrell said, "We give special extra play time for the winning class and we do individual prizes for the students. We give prizes for 10, 20, 40, 60 all the way to 1000."

This year our goal is 25,000 Box Tops! We are well on our way having collected 2500 this school year. Mrs. Dorrell and Mr. Birdwell thank you for supporting your child's PE program at Blanton!

You can find more information about this program by logging on to <http://rewardyourschool.com/> and www.boxtops4education.com

Meredith Lowery,
meredithlowery@yahoo.com

AUGUST 2010

Welcome back to school...

Blanton Elementary School Library

There are two new faces in the library...

Both of us would like to welcome you to a new school year. We are very excited about serving our school community! Please stop by and see us so that we can become better acquainted with you.

We will be happy to answer any of your library questions and look forward to assisting you in any way. You can get more details about student checkouts, how to handle fines, and other general information by going to the Blanton Elementary Library website.

Sincerely,

Rosanna M. Webb, MLS, Librarian

Missy Raymond, BS Education, Library Assistant



STAY CONNECTED

Blanton Elementary PTA wants you to know what's happening at your child's school. Get information about upcoming events, volunteer opportunities and breaking news. In addition to our newsletter, you can follow us on



facebook, Annie Webb Blanton PTA.

Let's Build a Green Kingdom!

Don't miss the October PTA Meeting and Environmental Kick-Off

On October 12th at 6:30PM come and learn about what you can do to help your school and your environment.

We will be unveiling the plans created by a committee of Blanton staff members. Information will be available about recycling and upcycling along with tips on living a greener lifestyle.



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www.HomeStarTeam.com

EXPO referrals are now being accepted.

Sept. 20-Oct. 20

Parents, teachers, and other professionals may refer students who were not tested in the Spring. Please contact me, or the classroom teacher, to get the referral process started for your student.

Kathleen Hindman

G/T Specialist, Blanton. 369-0718

kpiersonhindman@dentonisd.org



AUGUST 2010



Movie Night is off to a great start this year! I want to say thank you to all of the volunteers that made it a great success. And a thank you to all of the families that came out to spend their Friday night with us!

Our next movie night will be on November 12th and we will be showing a movie voted on by our Noble Knights of the 2nd Grade. Stay tuned for the big announcement on the first of November to see which movie received the most votes!

Kathleen Nash
Movie Night Coordinator
kathleennash@grandecom.net

Looking for a fun way to help out your child's teacher, class, grade, or the entire school?

Come join us in the workroom! You can work by yourself or with others ~ we need volunteers Mon - Fri, morning or afternoon.



Laminating, copying, cutting, binding...
the fun never ends!

To reserve *your* spot, contact
pegeason@gmail.com



CALLING ALL MINIONS! Recyclable Me NEEDS YOU!

Blanton Knights, build your own Trash Minion using recyclable materials and bring it to the October PTA Meeting and receive an entry to win a prize. All Trash Minions will be displayed with Blanton's "Recyclable Me" during the month of October at school.

Here ye! Here ye! The Knight's are GREEN!

Blanton Families,
Every time we send out an email instead of paper we are saving 414 copies. Thanks for Going Green!

Counts
All Student 606
Youngest Child 463
Email Option 192

Traci Cooney
tracicooney@yahoo.com

AUGUST 2010

WE ARE BUILDING A GREEN KINGDOM



Be an Upcycler!

Help Reduce what is going into our landfills and earn money for Blanton at the same time! Blanton receives 2 cents for each of the items collected below:

- **Drink Pouches** - Any brand of drink pouches such as Capri Sun or Honest Kids. No juice boxes. Please remove the straws and squeeze out any excess liquid.
- **Candy Wrappers** - Any brand and size candy wrapper. No candy boxes or gum packaging.
- **Cookie Wrappers** - Any brand and size of cookie wrapper. No inner trays, just the outer wrapper.
- **Chip Bags** - Any empty brand or size of chip bag.
- **Lunch Kits** - Any brand and size of lunch kit such as Lunchables. All parts of the lunch kit, (tray and cover) No cardboard.
- **Scotch Tape** – Any brand and size plastic tape dispenser and core.
- **Writing Instruments** – Any brand and size of depleted pen, mechanical pencil, marker, expo marker and highlighter. No wooden pencils.
- **Elmer's Glue Crew** – Only Elmer's. Any size empty Elmer's brand glue stick or plastic glue bottle.
- **Spread Tubs** – Any brand and size of spread tubs and lid. Examples include butter, margarine and cream cheese spread tubs. Please wash before sending in.

Please send these items in with your student only on Friday mornings. Volunteers will be at school in the foyer to take these items from the students before they go to class from 7:20am until



AUGUST 2010



Blanton Elementary Renaissance Festival 2010-11



Royal families of Blantonshire, get ready for a medieval good time on Friday, Oct 8th from 5 –8 pm! Wristbands (for rock climbing wall, obstacle course, games, hair, nail & face painting), and meal & concession tickets can be pre-ordered through Sep 30th, and will be sent home in your child's folder Oct 4th/5th.

Prices at the festival will be:

Wristbands ~ (Parents - no wristband req; under 3 - free wristband)

\$ 15.00 each

Pre-order for your early-bird discount!

Meal tickets ~



Hot Dog w/ chips & drink

\$ 4.00 each

Burger w/ chips & drink

\$ 6.00 each

Pulled Pork Sandwich w/ chips & drink

\$ 6.00 each

Sausage-on-a-Stick w/ chips & drink

\$ 6.00 each

Concession tickets will be available for purchase of the following items from **Carnival Catering**: funnel cakes, cotton candy, popcorn, nachos & more! Tickets cost 50¢ , and items range from 3-6 tickets.



Ye Olde Auction House



Classroom baskets and Teacher 'Gifts of Time' will be available for auction. Be sure to check out all the items on the stage in the cafeteria, & place your bids!



AUGUST 2010

NURSE NOTES

Dear Parents:

Breakfast is so very important. Children do much better in school when they start the day with a nutritious meal.

If your child eats at home, please try to give them a simple, quick meal that will stick w/ them through the morning. Oatmeal, eggs or beans on a tortilla, cheese sticks, and cereal are wise choices. In a hurry? Foods such as peanut butter sandwiches, yogurt, and granola bars are quick and filling. Make sure they have something to drink also. Milk will give them energy for learning.

If your child eats at school, they will be receiving a good breakfast each day – but only if they are in time to eat it!! Whether walking or riding, make sure they arrive early. We have many children moving through the cafeteria each morning and arriving by 7:20 gives your child time to eat and walk to class before the bell rings.

Breakfast -- what an awesome way to start the day!!!!

Terri Gilliatt, RN, School Nurse

Congratulations to Blanton Elementary for being awarded \$400.00, for collecting 25 lbs. of recycling per student, in the City of Denton Solid Waste and Recycling- Sustainable Schools Program. The awards are gifted to promote environmental education on Denton ISDs school campuses.

BLANTON ELEMENTARY IS A WATCH D.O.G.S.® SCHOOL

WATCH D.O.G.S.®, a K-12 program, invites fathers, grandfathers, uncles, or other father figures to volunteer at least one full day at Blanton Elementary School during the year.

Watch D.O.G. volunteers perform a variety of tasks during their volunteer day including monitoring the school entrance, assisting with unloading and loading of buses and cars, monitoring the lunch room, or helping in the classroom.

Watch D.O.G. volunteers will also be present for movie nights this year, so if you can't commit during the day- there's an opportunity for you!

For more information contact, Ryan Reynolds at
blantonwatchdogs@gmail.com.



AUGUST 2010

BLANTON ARTS

Hello Students and Parents, we want to kick start this year with some fun projects!

If you have any of these laying around that you would like to donate this year I could really use old:

1. Magazines, comics, anything with pictures that you're okay with being cut up that has family friendly text and image
2. Fabrics; any kinds of left over cloth specifically solid color felt, thread and yarn, matching or mismatched buttons or other sewing materials except for needles, of course, unless they are plastic.
3. Paper type scraps; wallpaper, old greeting cards, post cards, textured paper.
4. Anything that you have a bulk quantity of that you think could be useful.
5. A few old large metal baking/cookie pans or even a large plastic organizer that is shallow so it can hold water and a large size paper can be dipped inside for marbleizing.
6. If anyone has access to plaster cast that can be donated, it can be used to make masks.

This year my goal is to do multiple step art projects that may require several weeks to complete so basically quality over quantity. If you would like to volunteer to help come in and hang work, prep materials, or assist with messy projects. I could use some volunteers who are interested.

Examples of projects I would like help with this year are marbleizing, painting, printing, sewing and clay production. Being only person in the room with sometimes close to 30 kids, makes many of these projects impractical or impossible- so having a couple of adults in the room will really help expand the art program and enhance the quality of art production here at Blanton. Typically projects will go on everyday of the week possibly for 2-3 weeks so especially if you would like to help multiple days in a row. If planned in advance, please leave your contact information or speak with me directly if you are interested.

This year 3rd grade through 5th grade will be keeping a sketch book. There will be a daily warm-up and about 5 minutes of sketching. This should help your students with their observational drawing skills. Practicing drawing from observation around 5-10 minutes a day at home is a great way to improve drawing skills.

All work will go home in the Tuesday Folder this year oversized work will also return Tuesdays. Students have been throwing work away outside of my room so it is important to ask them about their artwork. I will also work to keep a list of projects on my personal website through the school's home page so you will know what projects have been produced through my class.

The second Kid's Art Fair will be held tentatively on February 15th. This is a very special occasion as it is an opportunity to recognize and celebrate our student's achievements and hard work in art. I feel that these frames are a very polished way to present our students artwork and the scale of this event would simply not be possible without a company like Kid's Art Fair's. When you sign up your child is provided a frame to display their work for the evening free of charge. Should you choose to purchase the frame it is a very wonderful fundraising opportunity for the school and you are able to take both the art and frame home with you that evening. After the event all remaining artwork is returned to students in their Tuesday folders. I hope that you consider this opportunity for your child this year and I will be sending out more information as it becomes available to me in a few months. If you ever need to contact me for any reason, please do so.

Best Regards,
Travis Williams
twilliams3@dentonisd.org

AUGUST 2010

Yearbooks...

We are offering online ordering at
www.myyear.com

- **Easily check to see if you have ordered a yearbook**
- **Order additional autograph pages (each yearbook order comes with autograph pages)**



HERE'S TO OUR
HEROES!
READING SAVES THE DAY!

Blanton Book Fair
November 8-12, 2010

Family Night: Tuesday, November 9th
5:00-7:30

Be a HERO for your teacher!
Start saving loose change to donate
to our **"ONE for Books Campaign"**!
100% of the money collected will go directly
toward books
for your teacher's classroom!
Watch for more information in mid October!

"Super" volunteers are always appreciated!
Contact Aimee Ross if you would like to be
a Blanton hero!

Aimeetross@yahoo.com



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I WANT MY 2011 YEARBOOK!!!
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QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT
COURTNEY WARRINGTON
CLWARR@VERIZON.NET

- **Order an Ad for your child for \$10.00**
- **These ads are called Heralds which are shout outs to your child or their teacher. When printed they will be approximately 3" x 3". We are offering special customization features including pictures, fonts and colors!!**
Heralds are available for purchase online only. Last date for purchase is December 3rd.
- **\$1.00 service charge for online services**
- **If you prefer to order by check- make check payable to Blanton PTA and send it to school with your child.**

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AUGUST 2010

COUNSELOR'S CONNECTION

Parent Power

There are many ways to connect with your child.

Here are a few ideas:

- ~Learn who your child's friends are. Be interested in their lives and what they are doing.
- ~Have a sense of humor. Lighten up and laugh. Tell jokes to each other.
- ~Have a special date with your child. Take your child out for dinner or somewhere fun that you both agree on. Use the opportunity to find out what is going on with your child.
- ~Eat dinner together at least twice a week. Dinner time is the time for families to share and learn. Really listen to what your child is saying during this time.
- ~Trust your child. If you have set the example by being a model of honesty, then your child will follow suit. Children learn how to behave from watching their parents. When you show your child that you trust him/her, you build your child's confidence.
- ~Have a weekly "game night". Play with your child. Don't be afraid to be a kid with them. Get on their level and watch cartoons, play board games, have pillow fights, make a fort, play superheroes or dress up.
- ~Have a Family Day. Plan a day strictly for you as a family. No work, no housecleaning, no functions or parties. Plan out what you are going to do and get excited about it. This time is reserved for your family and no one else.
- ~Tell your child thank you for spending time with you. Let your child know that you enjoy spending time with him/her.
- ~Take time to snuggle with your child. No matter how old your child is, they will always need the safety and security of your affection.

Stacey Gow, Counselor

A from the Music Room

Music Notes

I am so glad that this year is going excellently! This year, I have added many new features to my website. You can access my website with the very simple URL www.dentonisd.org/vlozada. On it you will find my daily schedule, a blog about what is happening in music, various songs that your child may sing throughout the year, neat music links including videos on how instruments are made, information on Terracycle, and of course my calendar. I will be updating this webpage as often as I can, so keep looking for updates!

Arts and Education

Our year is starting marvelously after the first PTA meeting. I hope that everyone has received in your child's take home folder information about the *Who will rule the school* contest. Remember fifth graders must create a book with sources, and the other grades will create an illustration with a description of the drawing.

Our Reflections theme this year is "Together we can..." Mr. Williams will begin working with the students to start a Visual Arts project that would be a great Reflections project to finish at home. Remember that Reflections contributions can be in dance, film, literature, musical composition, photography, and visual arts. Please turn the projects in to Mr. Lozada by October 22nd. See you all at the Renaissance Festival on October the 8th.

Victor Lozada, Music Teacher

Red Ribbon Week

Oct. 25th -29th we will celebrate Red Ribbon week. Red Ribbon Week is in remembrance of Kiki Camarena – an undercover DEA agent in Mexico. He lived for weeks among the drug lords gathering information and evidence. The drug dealers found out who he was and killed him. To honor Kiki, friends and family members along with angry parent groups began wearing red ribbons to take a public stand against the illegal use of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs and to show their support for drug-free youth. His story spread across the nation and now every year we celebrate Red Ribbon Week to take a stand against drugs. This year our themes and activities will include but are not limited to "Red Out Drugs" (wear red), "Living Drug Free is No Sweat" (wear sweats), "Don't Slip Into Drugs" (wear slippers or crazy socks), "Follow Your Dreams" (wear pajamas), and "Knockout Drugs". If you are interested in volunteering for Red Ribbon week, please contact Nancy Bonilla, nancy.r.bonilla@bankofamerica.com



AUGUST 2010

VOLUNTEER CORNER

Becoming a Blanton Volunteer is easy and fun.

Welcome volunteers. As the first six weeks of school come to a close, many of you are now ready to start becoming involved at school. If you have filled out a volunteer form then I have your information and I am passing that on to the various event committee heads you showed an interest in volunteering with. If you haven't filled out a volunteer form you can get one from the front office, the Blanton Website under Volunteering, or contact me directly.

Please remember if you are unable to come to the school on a day you were scheduled to volunteer call your teacher or committee head ASAP. This allows another volunteer come in if there was work that needed to be completed specifically on that day.

There are lots of opportunities to volunteer in the next few months, such as the Renaissance Festival, Book Fair and multiple Movie Nights, plus many more ways you can help the school. See the calendars included in this newsletter for the specific dates of the events. Nighttime volunteering is needed for both Book Fair and Movie Nights.

Always sign in and out on the Volunteer Computer located in the front office when on campus. This is important even if you are in the building for only 5 minutes.

This serves two purposes; first as security at a glance for the teachers to know that you are cleared to be in the building and second it automatically keeps track of the Blanton volunteer hours which are turned into Denton ISD.

If you do volunteer work at home the next time you are at the school please write your time on the Volunteer Log located next to the volunteer computer. You can also send your time to me by email or your child's teacher if you prefer. Hours from home include shopping for parties, computer work, sending out emails, phone calls related to events at the school, and planning meetings. If you are chaperoning for overnight trips such as 5th grade camp Blanton receives 24 hours per day for your volunteering efforts. Remember, if it is for the school it counts and no amount of time is too small!

Contact me anytime for questions regarding volunteering and thank you for giving of your time to make Blanton Elementary great.

Stacey Pascullo – Blanton Volunteer Coordinator



**No School on Monday,
October 11th
Columbus Day**

To purchase Advertising Space
please contact Christie Shrader
at shrader6@verizon.net.

AUGUST 2010

New Spirit Wear Available Soon!!

It hardly seems possible that one day soon there will be a need for long-sleeved t-shirts, or dare we mention, a zipper-hooded sweatshirt. Rest assured, that time will come and Blanton Spirit Wear will be available! Look for the Blanton Spirit Cart at RenFest for your opportunity to check out the new looks! Order forms will also be included in the student's folders in the coming weeks. Be ready for the cooler weather, Blanton Spirit Wear will be.

Karen Kreutzer

craigandkarenkreutzer@hotmail.com



"Together we can..." have every student participate in Reflections. Let's see if we can get every student to participate in the PTA Reflections contest this year! Have your child create a story, poem, song, piece of visual artwork or just about any other creative thing to express the idea of "Together We Can..." Look for applications in your student's take-home folder.

Applications will be due October 22.



Now Accepting Book Donations!

Books can be dropped off at all district campuses during regular schools hours, and are greatly appreciated.

BookCents Sale location:

**Denton Civic Center
321 E. McKinney St.
Denton, TX 76201**

Join us for the
BookCents Sale!

February 24-26, 2011!!

February 24	6pm-9pm	\$5 Individual
		\$10 Family Admission
February 25	9am-9pm	Free Admission
February 26	9am-2pm	Free Admission

Proceeds Benefiting:

PTA
everychild.onevoice.[®]
Denton Community
Council of PTAs


Denton ISD
School Libraries


Denton Public
School Foundation

Blanton Elementary PTA kicked off the year with the annual pizza meet and greet meeting on Tuesday, September 14th. PTA members approved this year's fundraisers, and celebrated the successes achieved last year, by gifting all grade level teams their own recess kits. Each color-coded kit included an assortment of balls, jump ropes and a mesh carry bag. The PTA also announced that the \$10,000 wish list for teachers had been completed, and the various supplies were already being utilized in the classrooms.

AUGUST 2010

KNIGHT'S NIGHTS

Just a quick reminder of our upcoming Knight's Nights

October 19th Giovanni's 4-8pm dine in and delivery

October 26th Freddy's 5-8pm Dine in and drive thru

November 17th Rosas Café 5-9pm dine in and drive thru

November 22nd Bowling Night tentative (details to follow)

November 23rd Giovanni's 4-8pm dine in and delivery

December 16th Pot Belly 4-9pm dine in and take out

December 21st Giovanni's 4-8pm dine in and delivery

January 13th Chick-fil-a 5-8pm dine in and drive thru

January 18th Giovanni's 4-8pm dine in and delivery

As a reminder, the key to our success for Knights Night is to mention Blanton Elementary (or bring the designated flyer we will provide closer to the event) when visiting these establishments during the designated times.

Again, welcome back and thanks in advance for your participation with Knight's Nights.

Gaby Goldberg

Knights Nights Contact: gabygold30@hotmail.com

Helpful websites: Giovanni's (gioargyle.com), Freddy's (freddysfrozencustard.com), Chick-fil-A (chick-fil-a.com), Rosas Café (rosascafe.com), Potbelly (potbelly.com)

The Staff Appreciation committee will be coordinating The Knight's Table again this year, a monthly lunch provided for all Blanton teachers and staff and sponsored by a different grade level.

October 15th will be a Soup and Cornbread Buffet provided by the 4th Grade.

You should have signed up for an item to bring during Meet the Teacher, but if you did not and would still like to contribute something toward the lunch, please contact Erica Atkinson at (940) 725-3055 or atkinsonerica@ymail.com.

Thanks so much for helping make these lunches happen as the staff really do look forward to them!



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Proud to be a Blanton Knights Sponsor!
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AUGUST 2010

MEMBERSHIP

Top 10 Reasons Parents Should Join the PTA

10. Blanton PTA rocks; we have a lot of fun while doing great work for our Noble Knights
9. We are always looking for great ideas and we want to hear from YOU
8. All the "COOL" parents are doing it
7. The "P" stands for PARENTS
6. Joining is simple, and no heavy lifting required! Plus you have the opportunity to take advantage of many valuable discounts offered through Texas PTA!
5. Parents are a valuable link between home and school
4. You will discover many volunteer opportunities that will not only help the school, but will make your children proud when they see you in the school
3. By becoming a member, you help the PTA fund school programs, teacher wish lists, and special projects that benefit every student
2. Free school directory with every \$11 membership

And the #1 reason for Parents to join the PTA:

By joining the PTA , you become part of an organization committed to making every child's potential a reality.



Contact Leslie Farris for
Membership Information at
Mommy2MnK@verizon.net