

St. Bernadette

PTO

Welcomes you to a new school year!

The St. Bernadette PTO would like to take this opportunity to welcome everyone to St. Bernadette! As St. Bernadette PTO Board Members, our goal is always to help everyone get involved, make connections and feel welcome at St. Bernadette. Although getting involved in person and making connections this year may be a bit more challenging, we hope to keep you informed and offer options for involvement on various levels. To our new families, this letter will give you an idea of all of the ways PTO is involved in the school.

The St. Bernadette PTO's mission is to promote open communication and understanding between parents and staff at St. Bernadette. Our dedication is to enhance and maximize the education of every child and to assist the teachers and staff in reaching this goal. That goal is to create a better school, a better educational experience for our children and to support our teachers and staff in this process. We strive to create an atmosphere where teachers, administrators, and support staff can do their best work – and so can our children. There is so much to be done and we always need your help.

All parents or guardians of children attending St. Bernadette School, as well as each member of the professional staff, are members of this Parent Teacher Organization and are encouraged to participate in our activities. Activities typically include ladies night, guys night, various family activities such as father daughter dance, mother daughter pottery, father/son events, holiday parties and SO much MORE. Unfortunately, this year will look different in the amount of activities and social events that we will be able to offer. We will do our best to keep or alter activities and social events that can be conducted safely and in keeping with all safety guidelines. The needs of the school will also look somewhat different this year and so will fundraising. We also understand that during this time not all families will be able to support the fundraising efforts, and that is completely ok. We will be reducing the emphasis on competitiveness on our largest fundraiser, the magazine drive, but will still make it fun for the kids.

In a typical non-COVID school year, in order to meet these extremely important goals, the organization actively fundraises through various ongoing and event specific programs and activities, such as the Magazine Drive, Fundraising Nights at restaurants, and a Craft Show. These funds enable us to: support busing for students on field trips, upkeep to the playground, special textbooks, reduce costs to families for family events, reduce the costs involved with the sixth grade trip to Camp Joy, assisting families when needed, teacher and nurse appreciation, and so much more!

In an effort to meet families where they are, our magazine drive will be changing a bit. In addition to magazines that can be ordered for your family and friends, we will also have new items that will make great Christmas gifts, general gifts and unique home items. Coops will be offered again as an incentive

BUT all of the kids will have the opportunity to get a coop without selling one item! (More information to come on this fundraiser) We will also be able to continue our LaRosa's Pizza night by promoting takeout and delivery options. This is a great way to support the school AND a night of no cooking!

We hope you are able to get involved on whatever level you are comfortable with. When parents get involved in their children's education, grades go up, test scores go up, discipline problems decline, and students are less likely to use drugs and alcohol. These are just a few of the many reasons to get involved today!

ANY time that ANY individual is willing to offer help or support, it is more valuable than we can say! Volunteering doesn't have to be a huge time commitment, and no matter your time schedule or interests, we have a need for you. As a reminder, Virtus training is required with any volunteering that involves being around the students.

We typically meet on the second Thursday of every other month, however, this year the first meeting will be Wednesday, September 23rd this will not be a typical "meeting" instead we will be holding a meet and greet for parents outdoors. (more information on the meet and greet to come) You are cordially invited to ALL meetings, virtual or in-person!

Sincerely,

The St. Bernadette PTO

Jeni Fulton/ President- jeniandrasik@yahoo.com

Kelly Brokamp/Exiting President - kellybrokamp@gmail.com

Vice President – Vacancy – VP Wanted

Vanessa Hartman/Treasurer - hartman0811@gmail.com

Denise Byrum/Secretary – dwbyrum@gmail.com

Julie Tipton, Member at Large – julieLtipton@gmail.com

Julie Schultz, Member at Large – schultz7211@hotmail.com

For more information about our PTO, please visit stbameliashool.org, go to "Parents" and click on "PTO".

Wednesday, September 23rd at 6:30 pm (meet and greet outdoor pavilion)

Thursday, November 12th at 7 pm (virtual or in-person location TBD)

Thursday, January 14th at 7 pm (virtual or in-person location TBD)

Thursday, March 11th at 7 pm (virtual or in-person location TBD)

Thursday, May 13th at 7 pm (virtual or in-person location TBD)