

Welcome

from

Buford

Elementary

PTO



Dear Parent,

We are so glad to have you at Buford Elementary School. I think you'll find that the teachers and administrators at this school love one thing – your kids. It is common for the students at our school to be greeted by name by our administration and staff. Teachers go over and above the call of duty to make sure your student understands the material. People get involved to make sure that your child has a great experience of academic excellence while at Buford Elementary.

The PTO is an organization of parent volunteers and teachers working together to make Buford Elementary the best it can be. I hope you will take time to look through the events scheduled for next year. You and your family are welcome to participate in them all. In fact, that is the best way to get to know other parents and to begin to feel a part of the community. Along the way, we hope you get inspired to volunteer – either in the school's academic programs or the PTO's special events.

We're here to serve the school, and that includes helping you to find your place; so feel free to ask the front desk how to reach us with any questions or suggestions.

We look forward to having a great 2011-2012 year with you!

Your Buford Elementary PTO,

Angela Zubar, President

Lindsey Smith, Vice President, Tracy Calhoun, Co-Vice-President
Teacher Representative

Jill Hill and Megan Gentry, Co-Treasurer

Dana Irwin, Secretary



PTO Event Calendar

(all dates tentative)

August 1st @ 7:00pm	New Parent Meeting
August 2nd @ 4-6:00pm	Open House
August 23rd @ 6:00pm	Kindergarten Curriculum Night
August 23rd @ 7:00pm	First grade Curriculum Night
August 23rd @ 6:30pm	ESOL Curriculum Night
September 30th @ 6:00pm	Homecoming Tailgate Party
October 6th @ 5-8:00pm	Fall Festival
November 10th @ 6:30pm	PTO Meeting
February 16th @ 6:30pm	PTO Meeting
February (to be announced)	Dad's Day
April 12th @ 5-8:00pm	Arts and Technology Night/PTO Meeting
April 27th	Wolf A Thon Fundraiser
May 10th	Kindergarten Mom's Day
May 11th	Field Day

Volunteer Opportunities

We'd love for you to get involved! There are many events and committees that you can be a part of. If something interests you, mark it on the volunteer form and turn it in. We'll contact you and answer any questions you have.

Fall Festival committee

WOLF A THON Committee

Spirit Wear committee

Let Me Read to You

Teacher Appreciation Committee

Homecoming Tailgate Party

BoxTop Blitz BOOK FAIR

Arts and Technology Night



PTO Volunteer Form

If you would like to help with any of these events, please indicate your level of availability below. The **Committee** will work to plan and prepare for the event. Each committee will work out the best times for its members to get together or communicate by email. A **Volunteer** agrees to come and work the hours of the event. The **Set-up team** comes 1-2 hours before the event. And the **Clean-up team** stays 1-2 hours after the event.

NOTE: All dates are tentative, based on school calendar and level of participation.

Fall Festival (October 6th)

_____ Committee (Volunteers are handled through the classroom)

Wolf A Thon Committee

_____ Committee _____ Volunteer

Spirit Wear committee (ongoing)

_____ Committee _____ Volunteer

Teacher Appreciation (ongoing)

_____ Committee _____ Volunteer

Let Me Read to You (ongoing)

This program uses volunteers to listen as students read their library books in preparation for the AR test. It is particularly useful for students who do not speak English in the home. Volunteers may also be asked to help students with their sight word cards.

_____ Committee _____ Volunteer

BookFair Committee (Twice per Year)

This Committee will be responsible for Book Fair set up, organizing volunteers to work the Book Fair, decorating and clean-up.

_____ Committee _____ Volunteer

BoxTop Blitz Committee (ongoing)

This committee will be responsible for organizing collection of box tops, giving out prizes, and mailing box tops to the company. This is free money for our school with very little work on our part.

_____ Committee _____ Volunteer

Homecoming Tailgate Party (September 30th)

This is a social event for BES students and their families to get ready for the BHS homecoming football game.

_____ Committee _____ Volunteer _____ Setup _____ Clean up

Arts and Technology Night (April 12th)

_____ Volunteer

*****Please Fill-out the form on the back*****

Name _____ Phone _____

Email _____

Child's Name _____

Teacher _____ Grade _____

Frequently Asked Questions

What is PTO?

PTO stands for Parent Teacher Organization. It is a group of parents and teachers working together to help make BES the best it can be.

What does PTO do?

The PTO sponsors many events throughout the year. These events are designed to help you meet more parents and teachers in the school system. We also support our teachers and show appreciation to them throughout the year. The PTO will have one fundraiser this year. The money collected goes to projects in the school. In the past year, we have purchased picnic tables for the pavilion, umbrellas for picnic tables, Net Books for use in the classroom, for our ongoing Outdoor Learning Center we have purchased trees, benches and many other purchases to help our school.

How can I join?

You can join PTO at Open House and any curriculum night. We will have a special table set up to greet you. There are three different levels at which you can join the PTO; the Bronze, Silver and Gold levels. Bronze level members are entitled to voting privileges. Silver level members are entitled to voting privileges and their names will be entered for door prizes at PTO meetings. Gold level members are entitled to voting privileges, their names will be entered for door prizes and they will be able to pick out a book for the library in their child's honor.

How can I be involved?

With all the activities sponsored by the PTO, there is sure to be one that you will enjoy being a part of. Included in this packet is a volunteer form. Simply fill out the information, including the activities in which you are interested in helping. Return the form to the front office, or your child's teacher. There are many ways you can help. If you enjoy planning and have the time to meet two or three times in preparation – select "Committee". If you can be at the event and help during those hours – select "Volunteer". We also need people who are available to come early and help "Set up", as well as those who can stay later and help "Clean up".

Who are the PTO officers?

Angela Zubar: President; Lindsey Smith: Vice-President; Tracy Calhoun: Co-Vice-President/Teacher Representative; Megan Gentry and Jill Hill: Co-Treasurer; Dana Irwin: Secretary.

What is the Box Top Blitz?

Our school collects Box Tops for Education. Periodically throughout the year we will have contest among the classes for great prizes. This past year our earning were \$1,448.

What is the Homecoming Tailgate Party?

This is a social event for BES students and their families to get ready for the BHS homecoming football game. This past year this event was held at the tennis courts at BHS. We had a cookout, face painting, temporary tattoos and crazy hair for the kids. Afterwards, those who were interested were able to walk to the stadium for the game.

What is Fall Festival?

All of the Buford City schools participate in Fall Festival. It is a fun time for families to play games and ride giant inflatables. There is a silent auction for baskets that are put together by each class. In years past, pizza, sodas, cotton candy and chili pie were available to purchase. All the proceeds from Fall Festival are split between BES, BAS and BMS.

What is the “Let me read to you” program?

This program uses volunteers to listen as students read their library books in preparation for the AR test. This is especially helpful for students who do not speak English in the home. Volunteers may also be asked to help students with their sight words.

What is Curriculum night?

Curriculum night is an evening to meet with the teachers and other parents in your child's grade level. The teachers explain important information about the subjects your child will be taught. You will learn about the disciplinary policy, as well as ways to communicate with your teacher. It is important to attend the curriculum night for your child's grade level.

What is Open House?

Open House is when you and your child will come to the school and see your child's classroom and meet their teacher before school starts. This is when you will purchase your child's agenda, be able to purchase Spirit Wear and join the PTO. At this time you will be able to obtain car rider tags, find out bus information and pay for lunches.