

# September

## PTO NEWSLETTER

### PTO DUES & FAQs

#### WHAT IS THE PTO AND WHY AM I GETTING THIS NEWSLETTER?

The Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) is made up of every parent and teacher at Cary Woods Elementary School (CWES) working together with the common goal, to meet the needs of students and show appreciation to the teachers so we can all have an exceptional year! PTO is not an exclusive club just for parents who want to volunteer, it takes all of us contributing in whatever way we can to provide the best experience for all of our teachers and students.

#### DO I HAVE TO PAY DUES? WHAT IF MY STUDENT IS ATTENDING CWES VIRTUALLY?

Let's be honest- talking about money is awkward and asking for money is uncomfortable, but we think it is important for you to know how much we need PTO dues from every CWES family (tradition and virtual.) Although it is not required, we ask EVERY teacher and family at CWES to make at least a \$5 donation we call "dues" each year to cover our basic start of school expenses for the things we provide for each student and teacher at CWES. We understand that for some families a \$5 donation may be a hardship right now, but if you are able to contribute, quite honestly, we need your donation.

#### WHAT DOES PTO DO WITH THE MONEY WE RAISE?

PTO's goal is to bridge the gap between the funds provided for our school by Alabama + Auburn City Schools and what it costs to have special events and extra educational tools that makes our Cary Woods school experience exceptional. For example, we think it is important for EVERY student to have a school spirit t-shirt, so PTO pays for one shirt for each student from the money we raise from these dues. This month, we have already donated \$4,450 in Back to School Classroom Grants given to each teacher to supplement the purchase of classroom supplies and teaching aids teachers usually pay for out of their own pockets. Starting September 28th, we will host an online, virtual fundraiser. The fundraiser will run through October 14th. Last year we were fortunate that between our fundraisers and corporate sponsorships, we were able to provide 2 catered lunches on teacher work days, purchase robots for STEAM night and future classroom experiences, fund the Winter Musical, and cover the cost for special events. Since our school year transitioned to distance learning before some of the special events, including Teacher Appreciation Week, we were able to pool the remaining funds and fulfill each teacher's Amazon.com wishlist for their classrooms of up to \$100 and had a "remote," schoolwide pizza party where we provided 245 complimentary Marcos pizzas, one for every Cary Woods Family who wanted to participate in celebrating a great year.

The only way PTO can raise money to do these fun things each year is through donated "dues", fundraisers, and family or corporate sponsorship donations. Money is spent during the school year it is collected. Although the needs this year are different due to the Covid-19 limitations on many of our traditional special events and gatherings, we want this year to be just as special and wonderful as any other year for your students- yes, even if they are attending CWES virtually. We would LOVE to be able to grant as many wishes as we did last year and MORE to support the students and show appreciation for our teachers who are giving their all to help teach and love our students through this unprecedented time. We will be sharing the detailed projected budget for the 2020-2021 school year on our website in September and conducting a vote during the virtual PTO meeting (TBD). More information about this year's fundraiser will be published in the next newsletter.

### GET CONNECTED

#### EMAIL

CaryWoodsElementaryPTO@gmail.com

#### INSTAGRAM

@CaryWoodsElementaryPTO

#### FACEBOOK GROUP

"Cary Woods Elementary Parents"

#### WEBSITE

<https://www.auburnschools.org/domain/551>

#### PTO INFO FORM

<https://forms.gle/sxBGyCdbh47eyxU59>

### GET INVOLVED

#### 2020-2021 BOARD

President Rhannon Keel

Treasurer Rachael White

Secretary Lauren Vick

#### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED ON ALL COMMITTEES

Please fill out the info form to get on the volunteer email list.

#### Committee Chairmen

Fundraising- Tasha Ray

BoxTops/Publix Partners: Kayleigh Hornsby

T-Shirts: Delta Evans

Teachers Appreciation: Jenna Otwell & Ashley Ramsey

BookFair: Paula King & Ellen Wiley

Community Connections: Ashley Miller

#### COMMITTEES THAT STILL NEED A CHAIRMEN + VOLUNTEERS

please email us if you are interested in chairing a committee.

**RESTAURANT SPIRIT NIGHTS:** Contact local restaurants and schedule CWES spirit nights.

**SCHOOL SUPPLY KITS:** Communication with School Supply Kit company, being a liaison between CWES and the SK coordinator. Setting up the kit ordering and delivering. Possibly assisting in the receiving and distribution of kits when they arrive at CWES. (Last year all orders were placed online only and drop shipped to student homes.)

**SPECIAL EVENTS/DONATION DROP OFFS:** Person must occasionally be available during car line AM & PM to manage collecting donated items dropped off in car line when we request item donations (ex. if we request donations for the teachers lounge or host a snack drive.) Advance notice will be given.



# TO-DO LIST

- Pay planner fee You can pay by searching for PTO on myschoolbucks or cash/check in a PTO envelope\*
- Pay PTO dues
- Sign up for Publix Partners
- Download the Box Tops App.
- Get Connected
- Order a Car Magnet

Links available on our website

\*No refunds or change. All undesignated money over the \$5 planner fee will be considered a donation.

# FROM MRS. SNYDER

Welcome back to Cary Woods. We are so excited to be back together, whether in person or virtually. We look forward to joining some remote classes soon to say hello. The new building is coming along and we are getting so excited. We can't wait to give our traditional students a tour the last week in August and get ready for our first day in the new building. That date isn't set in stone yet. It is pending some final inspections.

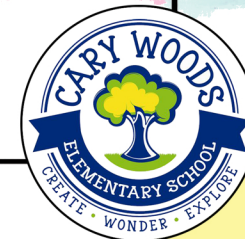
There is no way for us to adequately express our appreciation for your support and your grace as we manage the continuous changes that COVID and construction throw our way. Arrival is running like clockwork now and dismissal is getting better every day. And it is all because our families are so understanding and patient.

Please take this opportunity to support the efforts of PTO by joining the general membership. That \$5.00 goes a long way when everyone joins. We are so lucky to be able to provide things for our faculty and students because of our strong and active Parent Teacher Organization. We appreciate them and couldn't do all we do without your help.

Welcome Back and Cary On!  
Karen Snyder

# September

30 Mrs. Blahwell's Birthday	31 Mrs. Behea's Birthday	1	2	3	4	5
6	7 Labor Day NO SCHOOL	8	9 Dr. Lyda's Birthday	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18 Mrs. Gander's Birthday	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 FUNDRAISER STARTS!	29	30	through OCTOBER 16		



don't forget to order a CWES Car Magnet

CaryWoodsElementaryPTO@gmail.com  
or visit our website at  
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