



## Howard Elementary PTO

Dear Families,

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome each of you, and your families, to Howard Elementary School. As Howard PTO Board members, it is our responsibility to talk with you about our organization, and to encourage you to get involved in your school. But first, since for many of you this may be your first time at Howard, it is important for us to explain what PTO is all about.

### **What is PTO and who can be a Member?**

Our PTO (Parent-Teacher Organization) strives to enhance our children's educational experiences. We're about working together toward a common goal. That goal, simply stated, is creating a better school and a better educational experience for our children. We strive to create an atmosphere where teachers, administrators, and support staff can do their best work – and so can our children. There are no dues to be part of Howard PTO. All parents and guardians of Howard students are members. Being a member does not mean you automatically sign up to volunteer. It is your choice, but the success of our school depends on the success of our Parent-Teacher community.

### **PTO Programs & Fundraising**

Our primary objective as a PTO is to provide our school with funds, programs, resources, and services that will enrich and maximize the education of every child. To meet this important objective and afford services that are no longer covered by our school budgets, we must fundraise. Fundraising can be an opportunity for families to come together as a school community. Our efforts supplement funds to provide our children with field trips, Artist in Residency, concerts, nature walks, assemblies, and other hands-on interactive experiences. PTO activities will be posted on our "PTO Corner" bulletin board, which is located by the office in the main hallway.

A volunteer table will also be set up during Curriculum Night. Stop by to see all of our volunteer opportunities! Volunteering doesn't have to mean a huge time commitment. We understand it is increasingly difficult to find time to give, but please, whatever time your schedule allows, we appreciate. We even have tasks that can be performed in the evenings, during the day, or that don't even involve coming to the school at all. We look forward to meeting you!

On behalf of the Howard Elementary PTO we would once again like to extend a warm welcome and best wishes for a successful school year! Please contact any of us with questions or comments.

Sincerely,  
The Howard Parent-Teacher Organization