

Welcome **to the River Bend PTO**

Dear families,

The River Bend Elementary Parent-Teacher Organization welcomes you back to school! Although PTO may be the last thing you are thinking about, we want you to know that we are still planning to be active this year. PTO will look different, but our purpose remains the same—to promote and support the educational and social activities that create a school community that is uniquely River Bend. Whether you are new to River Bend or have had children here for many years, we want to remind you that all parents and guardians are members of PTO. There's no special appointments, elections, or service requirements for you to be an active member!

This year we will be partnering with staff to create opportunities for students and families to stay **connected** to each other, teachers, and school. A drive-through celebration of the new parking lot, car parades, photos for the yearbook, or an online book fair are just a few ideas. Although our traditional activities may not be possible, we invite you to help us reimagine what we can do.

Already this year, the generosity of families and partners like you have made it possible for PTO to purchase back-to-school **signs** for every family. (If you did not get a sign, they are available at the school while supplies last--you must make arrangements for pickup.) We also plan on purchasing a custom River Bend **mask** for each student (distribution TBA). Several families have also made donations to welcome our staff back with chalk messages and a pinwheel display on campus. Thank you!

An easy way to start give to PTO is to participate in **Box Tops for Education**. Download their mobile app and start scanning your shopping receipts. It's no cost to you and there's no cutting and saving box tops anymore!

Mark your calendars for the **2nd Monday of each month**. We will hold our general meetings on these dates. The first one will be **September 14 at 6:30 pm**. Until further notice, PTO meetings will be held via Zoom. If you have questions or ideas you would like to share, we encourage you to submit them to the PTO email before a meeting date. **New this year**—our goal is to feature a guest presenter at meetings to share topics pertinent to our families.

For **Kindergarten and new-to-RB families**, PTO will be hosting a **virtual Meet-and-Greet**. This will give you an opportunity to see some more parent/guardian faces. You'll hear about what makes the River Bend community special. You'll also be able to ask questions such as, "Who's Roary?" Stay tuned for more information.

The best way to stay up-to-date with PTO is to watch your email, text, and the school's social media sites. PTO also has a page on the school's website that has been updated with links and info for 2020/21.

We are looking forward to a great year!

Lynette Black—President
Syndey Smith—Vice-President
Jennifer Quinn—Treasurer

Erica Borchardt—Corresponding Secretary
Kate Walls—Recording Secretary
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