

# Cumru Elementary PTO



Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

On behalf of the Cumru PTO (Parent Teacher Organization), I would like to welcome you back to school for the 2009-2010 school year. This year is a year of big change in our district, but a change we are ready to handle. We bid farewell to many Cumru teachers and students this past year, but we will have the pleasure to welcome a bunch of new faces to Cumru this fall. I know that you will find Cumru to be a warm and inviting place to learn and grow. Please take a moment to read on and find out what our PTO is all about and how you can help make Cumru the best it can possibly be.

The PTO consists of parents, teachers, and other individuals whose goal as an organization is to support and promote the education of all of the children at Cumru. We are fortunate to have such a dedicated group of professionals at Cumru Elementary School. They are committed to providing a strong foundation and nurturing environment for our children. That is where we come in. Together, we help to provide the best educational opportunities possible for all of the students.

The PTO is responsible for supporting, organizing, and funding events such as assemblies, field trips, special treats, and festivals/celebrations. None of these events would be possible without our volunteers. We are pleased to tell everyone that because of your help and support through our many fundraisers over the past few years, we are currently in the process of purchasing add-on pieces to enhance all three of our Cumru playgrounds.

There are many opportunities for you to become involved in the Cumru PTO. Some volunteers assist during the school day, but many also assist at home or at a time that is more convenient. Just let us know what works best for you, and we will try to find a valuable way that you can contribute.

How much of your time is needed? Well, any time that you can give is greatly appreciated. While some can volunteer more often, we ask you to give what you can. Even one to two hours is a big help to our organization. Some of the volunteer opportunities are listed on the enclosed membership form. Please read over it carefully, see what works for you, and check the appropriate boxes so we know that we can contact you when your help is needed.

Volunteers who work directly with students will need to have a Criminal Background Check (Section 1-111 of the Pennsylvania School Code – Act 34) and a Child Abuse Clearance (Sections 6354-6358 of the Public Welfare Code – Act 151). The forms needed to complete the two clearances are located in the Cumru office, or they can be downloaded from our District website ([www.GovernorMifflinSD.org](http://www.GovernorMifflinSD.org)). The Background Check and Child Abuse Clearance each require a \$10 payment in the form of a credit card (Criminal Background Check only), certified check, or money order (made payable to the Commonwealth of PA). If you intend to volunteer with children (in the classroom, on field trips, etc...) you will need to have these forms completed.

Please take the time to peruse the enclosed Cumru PTO Membership Form, fill it out, and drop it off at the PTO table as you enter the school on Drop In Visitation Night or Meet the Teacher Night. The membership fee for the 2009-2010 school year is \$5.00. Each member will receive a CUMRU SPIRIT item!

When you receive your district calendar, check to see when Cumru PTO monthly meetings are and highlight them. You can also check the Cumru PTO link on the District website, [www.GovernorMifflinSD.org](http://www.GovernorMifflinSD.org). Try to come to a few of our meetings. We'd love to see our attendance increase this year. Remember, the PTO's efforts benefit our children, and it is with your help that we can make this a FANTASTIC year!

Last year we introduced several new FREE family nights. We are happy to say that those nights will be back again. Also, join us on Wednesday, October 14<sup>th</sup> for our first meeting of the year. This will be held in the Cumru faculty room and will be informative as well as productive. We will introduce the board members, give an overview of PTO, and tell you about all of the opportunities that will be available for you to volunteer and make a difference in the life of a child. We will also reintroduce everyone to our many passive fundraisers such as Box Tops for Education, Campbell's Labels, and Target.

Join us as we make Cumru the BEST IT CAN BE!

Sincerely,

Beth A. Stanislawczyk  
Cumru PTO President