

WELCOME

Welcome to a new school year! While we know parts of this year will look different than we expected, we are working hard to help bring our Memorial community together in really exciting ways.

We want to encourage both new and experienced Memorial families to embrace the joy of the elementary school years. We hope that you will be inspired to join the PTO's mission to help make your child's years at Memorial something your whole family will cherish for a lifetime.

Let's do our best for our kids and have a good time doing it!

Please consider joining us to help, whether it's one event or multiple events throughout the school year!

We hope to make this a fantastic school year!

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Mission Statement

The Memorial PTO is dedicated to providing enrichment opportunities for our children and enhancing community involvement. Our goal is to provide funds that enhance the education of students through cultural arts programs, assemblies, technology, etc. We also aim to foster a relationship between families, students, and staff through Family Fun Nights and staff appreciation days.

How is the money used?

Enrichment: We provide cultural arts programs for each grade, add books to the library and classrooms, add new technology to the classrooms (like pods of Nooks, ipads, website memberships), supplies for special units, and typically pay for field trip busing.

Social Events: We sponsor Family Fun Nights, school wide events like Field Day and 4th-grade Send-Off and staff appreciation celebrations.

Teacher Requests: We support teacher innovation by providing funds for teachers. Some requests we have fulfilled in the past are: flexible seating in classrooms, Read Across America supplies, playground chalk, bucket drums for PE, Leveled readers for classrooms, Tower of Books prizes, and more!

Important Dates

General Meeting Dates
Typically Second Wednesday of each month
We hope to meet in the Memorial Library, but some meetings may be held via Zoom 6:30 PM
Wednesday, September 8
Wednesday, October 13
Wednesday, November 10
Wednesday, December 8
Wednesday, January 12
Wednesday, February 9
Wednesday, March 9
Wednesday, April 13
Wednesday, May 11
Wednesday, June 8

PTO Events

August

- 28 - Kindergarten Play Date

September

- TBD - Fall Book Fair

October

- 2 - National Custodial Worker Recognition Day
- TBD - School Picture Helpers
- TBD - Halloween Spooktacular

November

- TBD - Parent-Only Event

December

- TBD - Family Fun Night

January

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February

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March

- TBD by Mrs. Gale Read Across America

April

- 5-9 - Specialist Teachers Week
- 21 - Professional Admin. Assistance Day

May

- 1 - School Principal Day
- 1 - School Lunch Hero Day
- 4 - Teacher Appreciation Day
- 6 - National School Nurse Day
- TBD - Spring Book Fair

June

- TBD - Field Day
- TBD - 4th Grade Send Off
- TBD - End of year event

Ways to Volunteer

Book Fairs Chair & Volunteers: Have you always loved books? If you want to share your zeal for books with the students of Memorial School, running the book fair is an awesome way to do it. This is a larger time commitment, and it may be something that you want to do with a group of friends. We also need people to help the kids shop during their assigned library time so that all children are able to purchase books if they so wish. There is a special need for volunteers who can commit to longer shifts at the fair and learn how to run the registers.

Cultural Arts Members: Do you want to help, but work full-time and can't commit to being at the school during school hours? Cultural Arts is a great way to help. You set up the assemblies for two grades via phone or email. The Cultural Arts chair will keep in touch with you to report to the board and general members. It doesn't take much time, but the rewards are huge for the students.

Family Fun Night Members: Throughout the year, the PTO holds several fun family events. Last year we had a Halloween Spooktacular and Gingerbread House Decorating Night. We are looking for people to help sell concessions, set up, and so much more. If you are willing to help plan, prep, or host one or all of our Fun Night events, please let us know!

Library: Help shelve books for Mrs. Gale in the library once a week or once every other week, or whenever works for you. Other library projects may include changing out the display case, processing new books and checking books in.

PTO Bakers: Throughout the year baked goods are needed for events such as Read Across America, Book Fair Sneak Peek breakfasts, meetings, etc. This is a quick and easy way to volunteer!

PTO Taxes: Are you qualified to process the state and federal taxes for the PTO (a non-profit organization)? If so we'd love your help! Please let us know!

Route 140 Sign Changing: Volunteers are needed each month to update the message board during school hours. The office provides the messages; you just need to swap all the letters around. It takes about thirty minutes to update the sign.

School Pictures: Come in for the morning and/or afternoon on school picture days to organize the kids and make sure they look picture perfect for the photographers. We need 2-3 volunteers per shift.

Square 1 Art: Volunteers needed in early December to help our Square 1 Art chairperson sort and distribute Square 1 Art purchases to the classrooms.

Staff Appreciation Committee: The Memorial staff works tirelessly for our children. You can help show how much we appreciate all they do to keep the school running smoothly by organizing a celebration day or by helping out the day of.

Grant Writing: Do you have experience writing grants? If so, we need you to research and/or submit for grants. This is a great way to bring in funds that help us provide many cultural arts events for our kids.

*If you would like to share other talents with the Memorial community, please contact a board member to see how we can incorporate your gifts.

Use the following link to sign up to join
Memorial PTO

<https://goo.gl/forms/pWQrJJIsLj9FenBh1>

You can also sign up at our website

Other Ways to Help

Become a member of the General PTO

By paying your \$5 dues, you support the PTO's efforts to improve our children's educational experience. You are also entitled to vote on general PTO matters once you've attended one meeting. You are welcome to help as little or as much as you'd like. By becoming a general member you are not mandated to attend meetings or volunteer, but we really hope that you will!

Do you have a fundraiser suggestion? Do you have an idea for a cultural arts program to share with the school? Please share your ideas! Attend a meeting or email a board member.

Box Tops

While we are still accepting unexpired physical Box Top labels from products like General Mills, Annie's, Lara Bars, Kleenex, Lysol, Ziplock & Hefty, we are also encouraged to use the digital platform because the physical box tops are being phased out. The new digital platform will have you scan your receipt to your Box Top app on your smartphone. You can have your family members do this as well. We earned over \$1,100 last year in Box Tops!! For more information on using the Box Tops App to earn money for Memorial, please visit: <https://www.boxtops4education.com>



Amazon



You can give to Memorial PTO by shopping as you normally would, without any additional cost to you. Go to our website and click the link on the PTO website and bookmark for later use. You can also use Amazon smile <http://smile.amazon.com>. When you set up Memorial School PTO Upton as the organization, Amazon donates 0.5% of each purchase to our school.

Shutterfly Storefront: SHop at Shutterfly through our link and 8% of your purchase will be donated to the PTO. <http://uptonmemorialschoolpto.shutterflystorefront.com/>

Flat Donations are always welcome to help us provide enriching experiences and fund requested materials for staff and students. You can mail a check to Memorial PTO % Memorial Elementary School, 69 Main St, Upton, MA 01568. Checks should be made payable to Memorial PTO.

Thank you for your support!

Interested in becoming a board member?

President: Oversees and directs the PTO activities; Serves as a liaison to the Principal

Vice President: Assists President in directing PTO activities

Treasurer: Responsible for all PTO accounting, including payment of bills, preparation and posting all monthly financial information for members review, balancing books and preparation of an annual budget for the following school year

Recording Secretary: Maintains all records and documents, prepares and distributes meeting agendas and minutes

Corresponding Secretary: Primary liaison between the Executive Board and the community; Receives emails from other co-chairs to be a point person for communication dissemination; Works closely with Website Coordinator

Volunteer Coordinator: Works with various chairs to obtain volunteers for PTO events.

Cultural Arts Chair: Responsible for communicating with cultural arts committee members and reporting to the President and members

Fundraising Chair: Coordinates all fundraising activities such direct requests, and other ideas that members vote on moving forward with

Contact Information

- Be sure to “like” us on Facebook (Memorial Elementary School PTO)
- Visit our website at www.MemorialPTO.org.
- Feel free to reach out to any board member

