

In order to provide our children with an exceptional school experience, additional financial resources are needed. The support and participation of all families is necessary for the fundraising to be successful. Here's an outline of our events and some basic information about what to expect. Parent volunteers are needed for ALL of these! **PLEASE NOTE:** The beginning of the school year can feel busy. The 2 major events are in the Fall semester because of testing and other demands on the school and our teachers in the Spring. The expectations for each of these are not huge, but it can feel like a lot of communication in a short time. But once this time passes, the big stuff is over! So be patient and know that this too shall pass and that the work we do during this time is important.

**MAJOR FUNDRAISERS:****SEPTEMBER - PANTHER PROWL FUNDRAISER**

The year kicks off right away with this fun, school-wide fundraiser. Students will receive a fundraising webpage and donation envelope and are asked to get pledges for their mile-long walk around the neighborhood during school. The "prowl" ends in Crane Park with social time & snacks. Students also earn prizes!

**NOVEMBER - HOOPLA! FUNDRAISER**

The PTO puts on the party of the year with HOOPLA! Parkwood families come together at Loy Norrix for this fun night to watch their teachers and staff play a basketball game against parents! There is a HUGE auction, face painting, food and more. Families are asked to provide one item for their classroom's auction basket (each class has a theme). Other than that, we just need you to come out, have fun, and volunteer if you can! It's a great night.

**OTHER EVENTS AND SOME FUN THINGS TO LOOK FOR:**

- FALL and VALENTINE'S DANCES: Just for fun! These awesome dance parties benefit the PTO.
- LIBRARY MOVIE NIGHTS: Just for fun! Come to the gym & watch movies with friends. These benefit the library.
- SPIRIT WEEK: About twice a year, students will be able to participate in several fun days at school. The schedule varies, so keep your eyes peeled. Pajama day is always a favorite!
- CONFERENCE MEALS FOR TEACHERS: The PTO provides meals for teachers on long conference days. Many volunteers are needed to provide food. Please sign up to help in any way that you can when this comes around.
- BOOK FAIR: This is a kid favorite held twice a year in the library. Enjoy great prices on books!

*If you have any questions at all, please reach out to our principal, Robin Greymountain, at [greymountainrc@kalamazoopublicschools.net](mailto:greymountainrc@kalamazoopublicschools.net). The school is closed over much the summer, but you can also message the PTO anytime. Please see below.*

**EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW  
ABOUT THE PARKWOOD UPJOHN PTO**

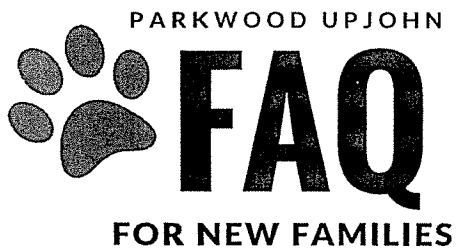
We need family involvement in order for our school to be successful!  
PTO meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at  
7:00pm in the library. Childcare is provided.

If you can't make it to meetings, there are many ways you can help. 😊

Don't miss  
a thing!



- Get info online at [PARKWOODUPJOHNPTO.COM](http://PARKWOODUPJOHNPTO.COM)
- Connect on Facebook at [PARKWOODUPJOHNPTO](https://www.facebook.com/PARKWOODUPJOHNPTO)
- Get messages via the REMIND app using [@pupjohnpto](https://www.remind.com/app/users/@pupjohnpto)



**WELCOME!** Here are answers to some of the most frequently asked questions. Please reach out to us anytime if you have others. We look forward to working and learning with you and your children.

1. **COMMUNICATION?** - This is absolutely #1! It is important that you stay connected with the school. Be sure to check your student's backpack every day for information coming home. Get connected with the PTO to stay informed about school events (see info on the reverse side). "Robocalls" will be made occasionally to share important messages, so be sure the school has updated phone numbers and emails on file. **But being involved in the school is hands down the best way to stay connected and informed. Your student's success depends on it!**
2. **SCHOOL SUPPLIES?** - All school supplies are provided for your child. Really! All you need to buy is a backpack & a lunch bag (if your child will bring lunch to school). Teachers will have a list of needs for their classrooms and donations are always needed and appreciated.
3. **MEETING YOUR TEACHER?** - You will receive a letter in July inviting you to a Kindergarten Playdate (held in August) and a Back to School Meet and Greet (held just before the start of school). You will find out who your child's teacher is and meet them at the Meet and Greet. These are both fun events for meeting new friends.
4. **BREAKFAST?** - The school provides free breakfast to all students. They eat in the classroom at the beginning of the day. Of course, you can choose to feed them breakfast at home!
5. **LUNCH AND RECESS?** - Lunch & recess combined are 50 minutes long. Lunch lasts 20-25 minutes. Be prepared for your child to have an adjustment here. In the beginning, they may come home with uneaten food, but the staff will work with them and in time they will be masters at eating while having fun with friends!
6. **LUNCH VISITS?** - You are always welcome to have lunch with your child in the cafeteria. Check in at the front office whenever you visit the school.
7. **HOT LUNCH?** - If you want your child to get hot lunch at school, create an account at [sendmoneytoschool.com](http://sendmoneytoschool.com), deposit money in their account, and keep a balance available. They will have a card that is kept at the school.
8. **SNACKS?** - Kindergarteners receive a daily snack in their classroom. If your child has allergies, please communicate and make arrangements with their teacher.
9. **VOLUNTEERING IN CLASS?** - Classroom volunteers are welcomed and get coordinated with the child's teacher. All volunteers have to get a background check (the front office has this quick & easy form).
10. **DROP OFF AND PICK UP?** - Instructions on where & how to drop off & pick up your child will be sent over the summer. Grades K-3 line up at the front of the school with their teachers before entering.
11. **ALLERGIES & MEDS?** - Make sure all allergies are noted on your child's registration. Medication should not travel with students to school; it should be dropped off at the front office with instructions.
12. **WHAT ARE "SPECIALS"?** - Your child will have art class once a week and gym and music class twice a week. They must wear proper athletic shoes to participate in gym class. No sandals, open-toed shoes, boots, etc.