



## Bells Mill Elementary PTA

# BEAR POST



## NEW



2019 kicks off exciting NEW enrichments, STEM activities and fundraising opportunities for our community. We launched this newsletter in an effort to revamp and improve communications.

Dear Parents, Teachers, and Friends,

Welcome Back! The Bells Mill ES Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) is a volunteer, non-profit organization that promotes learning of all students and strengthens our community. Over the summer our group of dedicated volunteers have been getting ready for the new year, including planning many NEW educational activities you will see on the PTA calendar.

**Now we need your help to put our plans into action! How? There are lots of ways to support the PTA:**

**First**, it is critical that each and every family join as a member to ensure continued success of our programs. We are bring back a Read-a-Thon this Spring which enabled us to lower the suggested family contribution. Your fall packet includes a membership form to return to school and you can also join on our website [www.bellsmill.org](http://www.bellsmill.org).

**Second**, we're always looking for volunteers! We know you have busy schedules, but there are many of ways to help, large and small. An easy way to get started is by returning the volunteer interest form. The PTA board can help match you with your interests and where we have the greatest need for assistance. Thanks to your participation, last year we won the **Engage It! Membership Award** from the Montgomery County Council of PTAs – let's do it again!

Your PTA board wishes all our Bells Mill families and staff a great year!

**Devin Donaldson**  
President (nominee)

**Debbie Fleischer**  
VP Communications

**Georgia Karamalikis**  
VP Committees

**Laurie DeMarco**  
VP Fundraising (nominee)

**Matthew Barlow**  
Treasurer

**Nick Kamphaus**  
Secretary

**Richard Chang**  
Delegate

**Kia Coleman Cook**  
Delegate

## SPIRIT WEAR

ORDERS CLOSE SEPT. 13TH



Show your BEAR PRIDE Fridays at school. Visit **BELLSMILL.ORG** to place your online order. Orders will go home with students in early October.

## STAY IN TOUCH



Send the board your questions and suggestions to [info@bellsmill.org](mailto:info@bellsmill.org)



Get the latest updates on our Facebook page @bellsmill



Subscribe to the PTA email newsletter on our website. [www.BellsMill.org](http://www.BellsMill.org)

# THE PTA DOES THAT?



So much of the PTA work takes place behind the scenes. We wanted to make sure you knew the wide range of educational enrichments, teacher appreciation, and fun community activities the PTA supports.

## Recent back-to-school PTA sponsored activities include:

- Welcome back breakfast for teachers and staff
- Popsicle Social
- Support for teacher's classroom and educational supply expenses
- Ordering student planners for our 3rd through 5th grades
- Summer Kindergarten Playdate
- Fun Back-To-School picnic on Sept. 6th!
- Updates to the AtoZ directory

## YOUR PTA BY THE NUMBERS

**\$30,000**

Invested in academics, cultural arts, student affairs, school affairs, and staff appreciation to benefit BMES.

**50+  
Activites**

Made possible with the help of over 100 volunteers and 50 committee chairs.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### SEPTEMBER

- 6th Back-to-School Picnic
- 11th Back-to-School Night (K-2)
- 12th Back-to-School Night (3-5)
- 25th Restaurant Night at Shake Shack

### OCTOBER

- 2nd Room Parent Meeting
- 2nd **PTA General Meeting**
- 14th Open House & Book Fair
- 23rd Restaurant Night at California Tortilla and Celebrity Scoop Night at Baskin Robbins

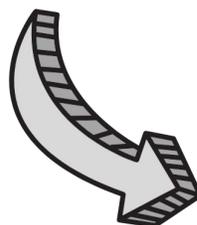
### NOVEMBER

- 2nd **NEW!** Magic & Muffins (K-1)
- 15th Bingo Night



## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

- Jackie Iseman, who planned the incoming kindergarten playdate
- Shelley Hyland and Amy Matush, for coordinating membership and the directory
- Jen Hsin for sending weekly Bear Posts
- Kelly Groft for organizing the Popsicle Social
- Kemi Macaulay-Newman and Ratna Oetama for the Back-to-School breakfast
- Stella Kourtsounis, Asmaa Seif Eldin, and Devin Donaldson for leading spirit wear sales



*The success of our events depends on the help from our volunteers. We send our thanks for your time and commitment to our community!*