

Kenbrook PTA Resource Guide and Volunteer Opportunities



What is the PTA?

PTA stands for Parent, Teacher Association. The PTA is the largest volunteer child advocacy association in the nation. The overall purpose of PTA is to provide a powerful voice for all children, a relevant resource for families and communities, and be a strong advocate for the education and well-being of every child. The Kenbrook PTA has a governing board of six PTA members. Executive Board positions are one year terms and may be held by any PTA member.

The 2011-2012 Executive Board:

Lisa Shenton - President

Heather Baker - VP (Membership)

Leigh Collins – Treasurer

Amy Simpson - VP (Activities/Events)

Laura Jackson – Secretary

Open Position – VP (Fund Raising)

Please feel free to contact any board member with questions, concerns or suggestions:

kenbrookpta@gmail.com

What's the PTA's purpose?

Our purpose is to supplement and enrich Kenbrook Elementary School's students and staff by helping provide events, activities, volunteers, and funding. PTA helps bridge parent and staff communication and helps maintain a sense of community.

What do we do? Here is a list of many of the events/programs that the PTA has sponsored in the past:

Art Smarts – The Farmington Arts Council offers prints of famous paintings to area schools. Parent volunteers are given portfolios and information about the artists and materials they have received. These presenters visit two classrooms each month and present the pictures, drawings and sketches to the classes.

Assemblies – Several assemblies are provided for all students each year.

Book Fairs – We team up with Scholastic twice a year to provide a variety of books for purchase. There are books available for preschool through adult.

Dance - One of our best attended and most lively events of the year. Music, dancing, friends!

Directory - Your resource for Kenbrook family contact information.

Donuts with Dads – An early morning breakfast for students and their dads.

Flower Sale - Get ready for spring with quality flats of flowers and potted/hanging planters.

Hospitality – Volunteer and financial help with special events such as ACES walk and Field Days, Parent Coffees and forums.

Junior Great Books - A literature-based enrichment program, designed to support classroom reading skills. .

March Literature Event - An evening of reading and literature-based activities. This event alternates each year between "Reading Lock-In" and "Literature Extravaganza".

Math Olympiads – A math-based enrichment program for students in fourth grade.

Math Pentathlon – A math-based enrichment and competition program for students in three elementary school divisions (K -1st, 2nd-3rd, 4th-5th).

Projects With a Purpose - A variety of “kid friendly” service projects that actively involve Kenbrook students and their families, and that directly benefit the community.

Publishing Center - Student “manuscripts” are published in book format.

Reflections – This National PTA program offers students in preschool through grade 12 the opportunity to create works of art for fun and recognition. It celebrates the many skills of our students and encourages them to pursue artistic expression in a number of different ways including Film/Video Production, Dance Choreography, Musical Composition, Photography, Visual Arts and Literature.

Safety / Traffic Committee Parent volunteers supervise student drop-off and pick-up times at school cross-walks, in our parking lots and outside building entrances.

Skating Party - Halloween fun at Bonaventure!

School Yard Beautification – Volunteers make improvements, clean-up and maintain flower beds, borders.

Science Fair - Is a non-competitive event that encourages students to think like young scientists with an emphasis on fun and exploration and then share their scientific exploration with the rest of the school.

Spirit Wear – Apparel displaying the Kenbrook name is available for sale several times throughout the year.

Staff Appreciation Week - A week of activities designed to demonstrate our appreciation of the great staff at Kenbrook.

Yearbook - The photographic record of our school year!

How does the PTA do it?

The PTA is able to do all this with money and volunteers. The money is obtained from family memberships and fundraising. Volunteers are family members of the students. Without enough money and volunteers, the PTA cannot sponsor all of these great programs.

How can you help?

Join the PTA and volunteer. There is a Membership Drive at the beginning of every year in which a form comes home in your child's backpack. Forms can also be obtained at any time from the membership chairperson (see contact info. at top). Your PTA membership is good for one school year. If every parent donated 1 to 2 hours of time per school year, we would have enough volunteers to run all of our programs. For working parents, there are plenty of volunteer opportunities that can be done when it is convenient for your schedule.

Why Join the PTA?

The number one priority for parents is their children's well-being. More than 30 years of research has proven that children do better when their parents are involved both at home and at school. Grades and test scores climb. Self-esteem grows. Schools improve. The PTA provides information and resources that strengthen the connections between children, parents, schools, and the community.

Why do we fundraise?

All of the money that we raise goes towards programs that enrich the educational experience of the students and/or support the school staff. The PTA holds a variety of fundraisers throughout the year, with the expectation that each family will participate in the fundraisers that are appropriate for their individual family. Our most important fundraiser is the Kenbrook Fun Run, scheduled for early October. We ask for pledges from each student to cover the per child cost of our programs and events.

We also have many fundraising programs that you can be a part of that do not require you to spend any additional money in order to support Kenbrook. These programs are outlined below.

Paper Recycling We have a big green and yellow collection bin at the far end of our parking lot that is used to collect paper for recycling. Kenbrook earns money based on the total weight of recycled catalogs, magazines, newspaper, mail, office & copy paper. (Shredded paper is also accepted, but needs to be bagged. Please, no cardboard or phone books.)

Grocery Scrip – If you shop at Kroger, Busch's or Hiller's you can earn money for Kenbrook PTA just by purchasing your groceries. This is how:

Busch's & Hiller's - Obtain a scrip card from the PTA (see contact info. for fundraising at top). The cards are free with a zero balance and need to be activated at the store. Take the scrip card to the respective store and add money to the card. You can either do this at the cash register or at the service desk. You can add money to your card with cash, check, debit card or credit card. Every time you reload your card up to 5% is returned to Kenbrook PTA.

Kroger - You can earn rewards for the Kenbrook PTA just by using your Kroger Plus Card. First though, you need to register your Kroger Plus Card for Kenbrook to get credit. You can do this online at www.krogercommunityrewards.com. During the registration you will be asked for an NPO number, which is 84584. You will only have to register your card once and then it will always be credited to Kenbrook PTA. If you don't have a Kroger Plus card, applications are available at all Kroger service desks. Once you receive your card you will then need to take the steps outlined here to link your card to Kenbrook.

Great Lakes Scrip - This is a Win/Win way to shop for your family and earn money for the PTA! When you purchase scrip through the PTA, you're purchasing gift certificates and prepaid cards that are used just like cash. You can use scrip to purchase everyday expenses like clothing, gas, sporting equipment, electronics, dining and other essentials. In addition, the scrip cards make great gifts for birthdays, weddings, holidays, etc. With every purchase you earn revenue for Kenbrook PTA. You pay face value for a gift card from the PTA but the PTA receives a discount when it is purchased through the Scrip company and this discount is the PTA's revenue.

Meijer Community Rewards – This program requires you to use a Meijer Credit Card or a Meijer 1 Card. It's free and can be done online at Meijer.com/rewards or in store by applying for a Meijer Credit Card. The Meijer 1 Card is a non-financial card that should be used with cash or a PIN-based debit card to link your purchases to your Meijer Community Rewards Kenbrook account. You can go to Meijer.com/rewards to sign up for a Credit Card, Meijer 1 Card or to link either one to the community rewards programs so that Kenbrook can receive cash back. Then all you have to do is pay for your purchases with your Meijer credit card or swipe your Meijer 1 card when paying with cash or your PIN-based debit card whenever you shop at Meijer. Use it for Meijer gas, food, clothing, toys, housewares, jewelry, hardware, garden and more! We'll automatically receive a percentage of your purchase totals, with double the rewards when you use your linked Meijer Credit Card!

Staples Rewards – Kenbrook receives a voucher for 10% of all paper, ink, toner and "Copy and Print" center purchases made by Kenbrook families. We also receive \$3 for each printer ink cartridge recycled. When shopping at Staples provide the school's phone number (248-489-3711) for proper credit.

Market Day – Kenbrook PTA participates in this monthly program that offers a wide selection of foods at competitive prices, many of which may not be available at your grocery store. Products range from meats and poultry to easy family meals, appetizers and desserts. Order forms are sent home each month and families can order by completing and returning the form or you can order online at www.marketday.com. Market Day is then delivered to Kenbrook, sorted by volunteers, and made available for convenient pickup.

Campbell's Labels/General Mills Box Tops – Families are asked to save the UPC from Campbell's labels and the Box Top symbol from General Mills products throughout the year and either send them to school in your child's backpack in a marked envelope or put them in the collection box inside the front entrance. The Campbell's labels earn points for Kenbrook, which can be redeemed for merchandise from their catalog. The PTA earns 10¢ for every box top label.

Please support your child and Kenbrook by becoming involved in PTA. The first step toward a stronger school community is completing and returning the form below to let us know your interests.

Thank you!



www.aaa.com

Please be an active participant in deciding which events, programs and activities we will offer for 2011-2012 by listing those you would like to see offered:

Committee/Event _____

Committee/Event _____

Committee/Event _____

Committee/Event _____

In order to offer these events and programs we need active volunteers.

Please show your support of PTA programming by listing the committees and activities you would like to help with:

Committee/Event _____

Committee/Event _____

Committee/Event _____

Committee/Event _____

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Thank you! Let's get started!

(Please return this form to Kenbrook)