



everychild.one voice.®

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) about the Walnut Grove PTA

What is the PTA? The PTA (Parent Teacher Association), established over 100 years ago, is the largest volunteer child advocacy organization of parents, educators, students, health and welfare professionals, and community members working exclusively to improve the education and well-being of all children and youth at home, school and in the community.

When are the meetings? Meetings are held 4 times a year on the first Thursdays in September, February, April and May. Our first meeting this year will be on Thursday, September 2nd at 7pm. At the meetings, members discuss issues affecting the school, ask questions, and vote. It is one of the best ways to keep abreast of what's happening at Walnut Grove and the Pleasanton Unified School District.

How much does membership cost? Each membership is \$15 and it is \$25 for 2 adults in the same household.

How is the money donated and raised by WG PTA spent?

38%	Classroom and Curriculum Support
34%	Science and Technology
9%	Art/Music
7%	Library
6%	Community Building
6%	Overhead

What are some of the events and programs sponsored and/or coordinated by the Walnut Grove PTA?

<i>Back to School BBQ</i>	<i>Spelling Bee</i>	<i>Coffee with the Principal</i>	<i>Mornings with Moms & Dads</i>
<i>Math/Writing Enrichment</i>	<i>WG Cookbook</i>	<i>Monthly Birthday Table</i>	<i>Social Groups & Clubs</i>
<i>Teacher Appreciation Week</i>	<i>School Supply Kits</i>	<i>School Directory</i>	<i>Annual Giving Tree</i>
<i>Family Education</i>	<i>Family Fun Nights</i>	<i>Scholastic Book Fairs</i>	<i>Red Ribbon Week</i>
<i>2/3 and 4/5 Performances</i>	<i>Holiday Boutique</i>	<i>Reflections Art Competition</i>	<i>Roadrunner(Newsletter)</i>
<i>Science Fun Fair</i>	<i>Yearbook</i>	<i>Ice Cream Social</i>	<i>Fun Run</i>

Why should I join the PTA? Even though the Pleasanton Unified School District(PUSD) is an outstanding school district, there is not enough money to fund all the programs our children need to have a well rounded education. The PTA works hard to fill that gap by providing the funding Walnut Grove needs to enrich each child's education and school experience. With the current California budget crisis upon us, PTA membership is more important to the welfare of your child's education than ever before. Your membership and contributions directly enrich the educational experience your child receives at Walnut Grove. PTA membership gives you the right to attend PTA meetings, ask questions, vote on issues and how PTA dollars are spent.

What are the member benefits? In addition to the right to vote on issues directly affecting Walnut Grove and your child's education, each membership includes a free copy of the Walnut Grove directory which is only available to PTA members. PTA members are also entitled to discounts through the "Pleasanton Shops P-Town" program, Southwest Airlines, Legoland, T-Mobile, the HP Academy Store and more!

If I join the PTA, what will I be obligated to do? Do I have to attend the meetings? Do I have to volunteer my time? Joining the PTA does not obligate you to do anything further. You do not have to attend meetings or volunteer in any way. Of course, all members are invited to the meetings, and volunteers are always needed and appreciated.

If I join the PTA, do I "HAVE TO" volunteer? No, being a PTA Member does not obligate you to be a volunteer. We do not use the membership list to recruit volunteers.

Why should I volunteer for the PTA? While it is not required, volunteering at Walnut Grove PTA events is a fun way to meet other parents and to give back to the school. Research over the past 20 years has shown consistently that parent involvement increases student achievement and self- esteem. Although volunteering helps all the children at Walnut Grove, none benefit as much as your own. When families are involved in their children's education in positive ways, their children achieve higher grades and test scores, have better attendance at school, complete more homework, and demonstrate more positive attitudes and behavior. Volunteering for PTA events at school shows your child(ren) that you care about their education and their school, and it provides an opportunity for you to be a positive role model.

I want to be involved in PTA, but I don't know how. The easiest way is to check the YES box on your Reg Day Form. This gives us permission to add you to the General Volunteer Pool. As opportunities arise throughout the year, you will be contacted via e-mail. If an opportunity fits your interest and schedule, simply respond to the request for help.