

Welcome to J.B. Watkins Elementary School,

The PTA is excited for the upcoming 2020 - 2021 school year! We might not be starting the year together but being a part of the PTA means being a part of the Coalminer community. Today, PTA's role is more important than ever in connecting parents, teachers and administrators, and supporting critical school needs. We want every family in our schools to join PTA, because we can do more together than apart.

Below are a few examples of the programs at Watkins that are possible because of the PTA. Some of these will be on hold for now and some will look a little different but we are still committed to supporting the school and teachers however we can.

- *CHESS CLUB
- * SPIRIT NIGHTS
- *GREEN TEAM
- *LUNCH BUDDIES
- *SPRING FLING
- *WATKINS ENRICHMENT PROGRAM
- *YEARBOOKS
- *TALENT SHOW
- *STAFF APPRECIATION
- *BOX TOPS
- *PUMPKIN LIGHTING

Last year through our Apex Fun Run and Spirit Nights the PTA was able to fund:

- * Agendas for 3rd-5th graders
- *Educational Online Programs for Classrooms
- *Book Vending Machine
- * Staff Appreciation Week
- *Donation to the Chesterfield County Food Bank
- * Teacher Reimbursements in the Fall and Spring
- *Parking lot banners and new entry way floor mats

By joining the PTA, you will be partnering with the amazing teachers, staff, and students of J.B. Watkins Elementary. Go online now and become a member. You will not regret taking an active role in your child's education. Join the PTA now at www.jbwpta.com.

We will be communicating through our Facebook page (Like and Follow **J.B. Watkins Elementary PTA**) and also on the PTA website www.jbwpta.com. We will be posting important information and upcoming events on these sites.

Our first PTA meeting will be held on **September 15th** at **6:30pm**. For the foreseeable future all PTA meetings will be virtual. Look for a google meet link to join us!

Sincerely,
Sara Sitkiewicz
PTA President
J.B. Watkins Elementary School

J.B. Watkins PTA

Join online at JBWPTA.COM

\$9 for a single membership

\$17 for a double membership

GREAT MEMBER BENEFITS INCLUDE:

Positive Experiences - PTA raises money for the school through fun family events such as Spirit Nights at local restaurants and businesses, APEX Fun Run (postponed until Fall 2021) and direct donations. Participation provides opportunities for artistic expression through the Reflections Art Contest and Talent Show as well as curriculum - based programs like the Science Technology Engineering Art and Math (S.T.E.A.M) night, and Chess Club.

Be a Role Model - As a PTA member, you demonstrate to your child the importance you place on education.

Share ideas - The PTA is forum for idea exchange and advocacy. Being an active member of the PTA is a way for you to influence change.

Stay Connected - There is no better way to know what's happening at school, to visit the website go to: JBWPTA.com. Sign up and we'll email you important updates and events at the school. Join us for our monthly PTA meetings. Right now they will be online so look for a link to join us.

Tap into a Network - Share parenting ideas, concerns and experiences with other parents and educators. PTA functions are opportunities to meet other parents and teachers, build relationships and discuss issues.

Personal Growth - Volunteering with the PTA provides opportunities to put your skills and hobbies to good use for a good cause... the education of your child and all children! There are many PTA committees to be involved with. Go to our website to see how you can be part of it all!

DID YOU KNOW?

Research shows that kids do better in school when their parents are involved

READY TO JOIN? Please visit the PTA website at jbwpta.com. To sign up please go to 'Get Involved' and select 'Join PTA'. All parents are encouraged to join. Extended family and community partners can donate directly without joining by selecting 'Donate'. Thank you for your valued support!

2020-2021 J.B. Watkins PTA Committee Highlights

Please visit jbwpta.com for more information!

Box Tops - Katie Berkman & Erin Clippinger

Box Tops for education is a great way for our school to earn money. A lot of products you already buy have the Box Top Logo. Cut and save the Box Tops for our monthly collection dates or drop them off anytime in the bin located outside the front lobby doors. If your package has a new scan label, there is no need to clip. Use the NEW Box Top app to scan your store receipt within 14 days of purchase. The app will find participating products and instantly add Box Tops to your school's earnings online.

Lunch Buddies - open committee

We need a new Lunch Buddy coordinator for when we are back together in the cafeteria. Lunch is an important part of our children's school day. The packaging for convenient lunch items was not designed with elementary children in mind. Do you think the folks at Dole realize the disaster a fruit cup can make when opened by a young person? Lunch Buddies come to the rescue! We also help with all the other difficult to open items like tubes of yogurt and tight thermoses. It's a great way to check in with your child and meet their friends. If you would like to volunteer please email president@jbwpta.com.

Green Team - Arielle Greene & Whitney Revell

Are you a gardener, conscientious recycler, or just interested in creating a greener, cleaner environment at your child's school? Then the PTA Green Team is for you! Our projects include overseeing school-wide recycling, maintaining three gardens around the school, and recycling used markers through the Crayola ColorCycle program. In the upcoming year we would like to grow the program to include establishing a composting garden. Whether you have a lot of time to give or a little, the Green Team is happy to have any and all levels of involvement, so please consider joining us. For more information, please email arielle.myhre@gmail.com.

Yearbook - Erin Smith & (open position)

The Yearbook is a great way to chronicle the memories of your child's school year. We are waiting for more information regarding what our yearbook will look like this year if it's possible to have one. In the meantime, we encourage you to take photos of the first day and your experience with virtual learning. Yearbook sales will be online only this year and we will keep you up to date with information regarding them. Please contact Watkinsyearbook@gmail.com if you have any questions.

Spirit Wear - Courtney King and Emily Parnell

We are excited to fulfill your Watkins Spirit wear needs for the 2020/2021 school year! The Spirit Wear committee is working on a JB Watkins t-shirt and other items that will be for sale later this fall. By wearing Watkins gear you can celebrate every Friday, Spirit Day, in style. Email spiritwear@jbwpta.com if you have any questions!

Reflections - Kim Johnson

National PTA's Reflections program provides opportunities for recognition and access to the arts which boost student confidence and success in the arts and in life.

This 50+ year-old program helps them explore their own thoughts, feelings and ideas, develop artistic literacy, increase confidence and find a love for learning that will help them become more successful in school and in life.

The theme for the 2020-2021 program year is *I Matter Because....* You're invited to create an original work of art for the Reflections PTA National Art Program. Deadline for entries is Sunday, November 1, 2020. Entry forms can be found at PTA.ORG/REFLECTIONS. For questions, email Kimberly Johnson at jbwreflections@gmail.com.

WEP - open committee

Does your child like art, karate, legos or tree climbing? These are just a few options during the Watkins Enrichment Program. It runs from 4:15-5:15pm once a week for 6 weeks. We don't have any information for the spring WEP but will keep you updated. Please email wepjbw@yahoo.com with any questions.

Denim Drive - open committee

Your old denim equals cash for our school! Start saving your denim now. The fall denim drive collection has been postponed to the spring. Save up to drop off in late March. More details to follow! Prizes will be awarded to the top three Chesterfield County public elementary, middle and high schools who collect the most denim.

Membership - open committee

Membership Chair is a great way to get involved in the PTA. This committee oversees online signup from parents and community partners that join our PTA. The committee promotes joining the PTA that supports the school and teachers. As a PTA member you demonstrate to your child the importance you place on education. Email president@jbwpta.com for more info!

JB Watkins Elementary School
PTA Calendar
2020-2021

<p style="text-align: center;">September 2020</p> <p>7 - Labor Day Holiday 8 - First Day of School for everyone 15 - PTA Meeting 6:30pm* 28 - Student Holiday</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">October 2020</p> <p>1 - Spirit Night at Marcos Pizza (All day) 13 - PTA Meeting 12:30pm* 15 - Box Top Collection at school 16 - 3hr Early Release</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">November 2020</p> <p>2 - Student Holiday/ Teacher Conferences 3 - Student Holiday 16 - PTA Meeting 6:30pm* 18 - Spirit Night at Chicken Fiesta 5-8pm 25 - 27 Student Holiday</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">December 2020</p> <p>21 - 31 Winter Break</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">January 2021</p> <p>1 - Winter Break 4 - Back to School 12 - PTA Meeting 12:30pm* 18 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday 29 - 3hr Early Release</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">February 2021</p> <p>9 - Box Top Collection at school 15 - President's Day Holiday 16 - PTA Meeting 6:30pm* 26 - 3hr Early Release</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">March 2021</p> <p>15 - PTA Meeting 6:30pm* 30 - Spirit Night at Marcos Pizza 5-8pm</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">April 2021</p> <p>2 - Student Holiday 5 - 9 Spring Break</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">May 2021</p> <p>3 - 7 - Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week 11 - PTA Meeting 6:30pm* 13 - Holiday 31 - Memorial Day Holiday</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">June 2021</p> <p>8 - PTA Meeting 6:30pm* 17 - 3hr Early Release 18 - 3hr Early Release LAST DAY OF SCHOOL</p>

** all PTA meetings will be virtual until further notice*

Don't miss out on all the events and happenings!
Sign up at JBWPTA.COM to receive important PTA updates!



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