

## **Welcome to (or back to) J.B. Watkins Elementary School!**

Your PTA is excited to support the students, faculty, and staff of JB Watkins Elementary as we head into the 2024-2025 School Year! As our numbers continue to grow, PTA's role is critical in connecting parents, teachers and administrators, while supporting our school and student needs. We hope you'll join us at a monthly meeting, attend the variety of fun events we have planned, and volunteer to help make each of these successful. You can stay up-to-date with us via the weekly **Miner's Message**, the **PTA Facebook** page (Like and Follow J.B. Watkins Elementary PTA) and also on the PTA website [www.jbwpta.com](http://www.jbwpta.com).

Please also keep an eye out for the **Fall At a Glance** calendar!

This will provide an overview of the events the PTA has planned for the fall, and where we need your help with volunteering and fundraising to make these events happen!

**Volunteering:** The PTA Executive Board, Committee Chairs and other volunteers are a committed bunch! We have about half a dozen Committee Chairs and an Executive Board of five (5), supporting a community of over 1,000 students and staff. **Your involvement is essential – especially this year since it's the final year of our dedicated Executive Board's term! So, if you are interested in learning more about the different board positions, this is an awesome time to talk with our team, increase your involvement, and consider being a leader in your school community!**

But, you don't have to join the board or chair a committee to make a difference! Throughout the year, we encourage you to take a look at the events and drop a line to [outreach@jbwpta.com](mailto:outreach@jbwpta.com) if you, or a family member, can offer an hour or two. For example, as we get the year started, maybe you'd be interested in volunteering at the **Bus Loop** to help our littlest new students learn how to get to their classrooms? Or, perhaps you want to get involved with the annual **Book Fair**, help serve as a **Lunch Buddy**, encourage your child to make a submission in this year's '**Reflections**' contest, or sign up to help show some **Staff Appreciation**? As you can see, there are many opportunities for you to help make this year extra special!

Also, if you have a student who would like to lend a hand, please let us know - we are looking for **4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Ambassadors** as well!

**Fundraising:** Fundraising is a necessary part of providing extras to our students and teachers. We are so incredibly grateful and blessed to have a generous Watkins community, as well as local business sponsors. If you know of a small business that would be interested in supporting the PTA or the school through a donation of money or services, please email [vpwaysandmeans@jbwpta.com](mailto:vpwaysandmeans@jbwpta.com)

As you return to school, please check out our new Toss Up and Triple Shoot Out games – installed thanks to your ideas and funding from the **Apex Fun Run**! Since this event has been such a major fundraiser, we are able to pause for this year, **but will resume participation next year!** Additionally, we will continue our monthly evenings at local restaurants and businesses, known as **Spirit Nights**. We have a full list for this coming year, including Chick-fil-a, Skate-A-Way and Mellow Mushroom – and can't wait to see you there!

Along with our new playground games, we had many other exciting PTA-Funded Initiatives, including 12 outdoor picnic and lunchroom tables purchased (more to come this year), and an outdoor learning board/white board installed to improve the library courtyard/outdoor classroom.

We are committed to working with you to develop and implement the initiatives that best benefit our community and thank you for your generous support!

By joining the PTA, you will be partnering with the amazing teachers, staff, and students of J.B. Watkins Elementary. Please go online now and become a member – it's \$9 for an individual and \$17 for a family. <https://jbwpta.givebacks.com/store>. We appreciate your support and you will not regret taking an active role in your child's education.

Thank you and wishing you all the best for a successful year!

Sincerely,

Liza Maddrey, PTA President, 2024-2025 & Allyson Duffy, Volunteer Coordinator, 2024-2025  
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