

**CLEMENS CROSSING PTA
MEMBERSHIP AND FUNDRAISING FORM**

**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
CCES PTA MEMBERSHIP AND FUNDRAISING PROGRAM**

WHAT IS THE CCES FUNDRAISING PROGRAM?

After trying lots of different fundraisers over the years, the CCES PTA's major fundraiser is now a direct donation program. Rather than sell merchandise, we ask each family to contribute \$50 in addition to their membership dues to support the programs we sponsor throughout the year. The PTA will receive 100% of the proceeds and donations are 100% tax deductible! Our fundraising goal is \$11,500 and if every family makes the suggested donation, we will easily reach it.

This year, we will again sponsor a Read-a-Thon to include other members of our school community (e.g., neighbors, friends, co-workers, extended family members) in our fundraising program. Again, rather than buying merchandise, they can sponsor students' reading goals with their tax-deductible donations and *all* proceeds will benefit the PTA.

HOW DO I JOIN THE PTA AND MAKE A CONTRIBUTION?

It's super easy! You can join the PTA and make your contribution at the same time online at www.clemenscrossingpta.org or by sending the direct donation and membership form to school in the attached envelope along with a check made out to CCES PTA. Writing a check is preferred, as it saves us the paypal processing fees.

DO I NEED TO JOIN THE PTA IN ADDITION TO MAKING A DIRECT DONATION?

Yes! We need you to join AND donate. The number one reason to join the PTA is to benefit your child. Joining PTA also provides other advantages such as:

- Creating opportunities to connect with CCES families.
- Providing the opportunity to shape the PTA as members have voting privileges and can serve as PTA officers.
- Connecting our school community to many resources at the national, state, and county levels. Through our affiliation with PTA Howard County, we learn about many initiatives and events, including those sponsored by Howard County Public School System.
- Receiving discounts from retailers through PTA's National Member Benefits Provider Program. Go to PTA.org to activate your membership and check out available discounts.

HOW IS MY DONATION USED?

The PTA funds many programs that benefit our students including Cultural Arts class enrichment programs, Family Fun Night, Roller Skating Night, Bingo Night, International Night, Paw Print Press, School Play, Talent Show, Visiting Author, Science Fair, teachers' classroom fund, field trip support, and the spring carnival.

WHAT IF MY BUDGET IS TIGHT?

We understand that back to school costs can be significant. We suggest that families donate \$50, but appreciate ANY amount you can give. As this is our major fundraiser, every dollar we raise makes a difference in the programs we can provide. Remember, you can donate at any time during the school year. Our goal this year is to have 80% or more of our families contribute any amount to our direct donation program.

CAN YOU TELL ME ABOUT OTHER PTA AND SCHOOL FUNDRAISERS?

The PTA raises the majority of its funds in the fall through the direct donation fundraising campaign and the read-a-thon, however, we also sponsor other programs that provide revenue to our PTA including the Book Fair, Holiday Shoppe, restaurant nights, and spirit wear program.