

Committee Overview

Below is a list of PTA committees with descriptions. If you need any additional information, please contact the chairperson listed. Volunteers are needed for these programs to exist. Please consider volunteering your time to help throughout the year!

Any committee with an asterisk (*) requires you to have your clearances, and to be approved as a volunteer for Burrell School District. These are subject to change as new information is added. These clearances include Child Abuse History, Criminal Record Check, and FBI Criminal History (fingerprinting).

To obtain information on getting your clearances, please see Stewart webpage under the INFORMATION tab.

If you have any questions, please contact Michael Discello,
724-334-1406 or email michael.dicello@burrell.k12.pa.us

ASSEMBLIES *

Tricia Sullivan tlz327@hotmail.com

PTA arranges at least two fun, educational, and enjoyable in-school programs/assemblies for the students each year. The chairperson will be the contact person for the companies and organize any needs prior to coming to our school; filling out contracts and processing payment. All dates and programs must be approved by the school and should be age appropriate.

BOOK FAIR *

Renee Sallach snoopy_renee@yahoo.com

There are three book fairs each year; Fall, Winter, and Spring. The goal for having book fairs is to encourage students to read and putting books into the hands of the students. During the first fair, there is a 25% discount. During the second fair, each student receives a free book. The third fair is a BOGO fair. Volunteers will help students to shop during the fair, and help to set-up and tear down the fair.

BULLETIN BOARDS:**OPEN**

There are three (possibly more) bulletin boards in the school that are maintained by PTA, including an events board, a birthday board, and an informational/as needed board. Volunteers use their creativity to help to decorate these boards at school.

COMMITTEE COORDINATOR: Jen Ploskunak dlny2027@gmail.com

This committee is comprised of only the Chair. Their job is to collect/gather all of the PTA volunteer slips at the beginning of the school year. They then enter all of this information into a spreadsheet and forward a list of volunteers to each committee chair so that they have an informational list to base their communication off of during the school year as they need volunteers.

FIFTH GRADE CELEBRATION* **OPEN- Needs a 5th grade parent**

For Fifth Grade Celebration, we have shirts made up for the 5th graders, and we take them to Zone 28 to celebrate their completion fifth grade. The chair of this committee must be a 5th grade parent, and will take care of designing the shirts, getting shirt orders from the students, and getting the shirts distributed to the students. The chair is also in charge of planning a day (with approval from Mr. Croushore) to take the kids to Zone 28, etc. As for volunteers, we need chaperones for this event. We ask that you are a fifth grade parent. You need all of your clearances, be board approved, and be a PTA member. Chaperones will not ride down on the buses with the students, so you must have your own transportation to and from Zone 28. The fifth graders love this. This gives them one last day to have fun with their classmates, before they start middle school.

FUNDRAISING **Christina Bowman** bowman634@comcast.net

Fundraising provides the funds that PTA needs for its programs. PTA pays for students to go on field trips, funds many activities, and purchases needed supplies. Cooperation is needed from all school families so that PTA is able to continue to provide services and programs. The chairperson will research fundraising opportunities, bring the information to the PTA and school for approval, and plan the fundraiser. Volunteers will assist as needed.

HOLIDAY KICK-OFF***Maureen Weitzel** weitzelmk@gmail.com

In December, Holiday Kick-off for the Christmas season for Lower Burrell is held at Stewart School. Activities include Santa, entertainment, and refreshments. The chairperson will work with a contact from Lower Burrell City Hall to coordinate events, communicate with the music teacher to plan for the choir and/or students to provide musical entertainment, decorate the hallway/stage with minor Christmas décor. and plan refreshments/ask for cookie donations. Volunteers will assist with preparing for the night and help with events that evening.

HOLIDAY PARTIES ***Jamie Rydeski** rydeskijames@comcast.net

There are three holiday parties during the school year; Halloween, Christmas, and Valentine's Day. Volunteers are needed to plan the activities (games, crafts, etc.), provide a snack, and to help during the parties. The chairperson will gather sign-up forms, make lists of party helpers, and communicate with the Home Room Reps. The Home Room Rep for each classroom will be responsible for communicating with the class' volunteers.

HOLIDAY WORKSHOP ***Cheryl Weitzel** lovetogotonapa@gmail.com

A Holiday Workshop is held during December to give the students an opportunity to purchase gifts. The chairperson will select a company and/or purchase the items and handle the workshop, work with the school to choose a week to run the sale, set the schedule with the teachers, and obtain school approval. Volunteers are needed each day to work at the sale, assisting the children with shopping and wrapping their gifts.

MEMBERSHIP**Jen Ploskunak** dlny2027@yahoo.com

There is a membership drive at the beginning of the school year. This committee is responsible for collecting all of the PTA membership dues for the school year. All parents/guardians and teachers are encouraged to join. The committee collects all of the dues and submits them to the PA PTA by mid-October. They are also responsible for distributing the membership cards.

NEWSLETTER

OPEN

A monthly newsletter is published online which gives important information about school and PTA events. Information includes important dates, information about upcoming events, PTA announcements, and school news. The chairperson for this committee will gather information from PTA committees, the school office, and staff on a monthly basis. They will use a home-based computer to organize the newsletter and submit it to the school for review and publishing on Skyward.

PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports)*

OPEN

The purpose of this committee is to reduce and prevent bullying problems among school children and to improve peer relations at school. The chairperson will work with school staff to coordinate volunteers as needed. Volunteers will assist as needed with activities and events.

READING INCENTIVES / BOOK NOOK* Cindi Venanzio cindiven@gmail.com

This committee will work with the principal and teachers to encourage students to read. This may change depending on the program that teachers are using in their classrooms to monitor student's reading progress. Volunteers for this committee: (1) help to manage the Book Nook Library (2) Possibly will need to create and maintain a display to track students' reading progress (3) help with activities and awards for the students who earn them.

RED RIBBON WEEK *

OPEN

Red Ribbon Week promotes a healthy, drug-free lifestyle and is held at the end of October and is a fun and educational week for the students. The students do activities, the school is decorated, and there are classroom pledges to be "Drug-Free." The chairperson works with the school to set dates and plan activities. Volunteers will help as needed.

REFLECTIONS*

Jen Ploskunak dlny2027@yahoo.com

The Reflections Arts Program is a national arts recognition and achievement program for students. The chairperson is responsible for correspondence with the Council, Regional, PA, and National Reflections Committees. Students will be provided instructions and applications to submit art entries in one of six categories: visual arts, photography, literature, dance choreography, video production, and musical composition. Once entries are submitted, they are categorized and forwarded to be judged on a local (or school) level. All students who enter the Reflections program will be acknowledged at the end of the year awards ceremony, with awards being granted to the judges' top five ranked entries in each category. Any entries that are forwarded to the next level are acknowledged in a council, regional, state-wide or national awards ceremony. Volunteers may be asked to help promote the program (through poster making and hanging (etc.)), collect art entries, prepare the entries for submission to the judges, and returning the artwork to the students.

RELAY FOR LIFE */ CHARITY DONATION DRIVE

OPEN

The Committee Chair will pick a Charity/Cause to gather donations and provide awareness in honor of that charity/cause. It may be, **The American Cancer Society Relay for Life**; which celebrates people who have battled cancer, remembers loved ones lost, and gives everyone the chance to fight back against the disease. A mini-relay could be held as a fun-filled, hands-on way for the students to learn. The chairperson is responsible for coordinating a schedule and planning events. Volunteers may be needed to run stations and to assist with set-up and clean-up.

SCIENCE OLYMPIAD *

Erin Pruitt erinpruitt@msn.com
Stephanie Harris stephandkerry@hotmail.com

The Science Olympiad provides students with activities designed to spark the imagination and illuminate the world of science. Students will cycle through a variety of challenges that correspond to the STEM philosophy, working in teams to solve problems, build structures, test their scientific knowledge, and stimulate their creativity while having FUN. The chairperson is responsible for working with teachers in organizing the challenges and making sure that the volunteers understand their role(s) in helping with the implementation of the event. This is a 2 day event: Team Building Day and The Olympiad Events Day. There will be a Luncheon each of the 2 days for all staff/volunteers. Many volunteers will be needed to continue the success of this major event.

SHOP AND CLIP

OPEN

The PTA participates in programs that provide money and items to the school in exchange for family participation. Items such as Box Tops, Tyson's labels, and Campbell's labels may be collected. Families can register their Giant Eagle Advantage cards with Giant Eagle Apples for Students. The chairperson is responsible for the coordination of these, with help from volunteers as needed.

SPIRIT WEEK/SPIRIT SALE * Christina Bowman: bowman634@comcast.net

Spirit Week can be held in the fall during the week of Elementary School Night at the Burrell Buc's football game or in the winter during the boy's high school basketball season. A theme is planned for each day for the students to show their school spirit. Activities, such as a pep rally or contest may be planned. The chairperson is responsible for working with the school to develop a schedule and to plan events. In addition, the chairperson may coordinate a school clothes sale for families to purchase spirit clothes. Volunteers will help as needed.

STAFF RECOGNITION*

OPEN

A Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week is held each spring to show appreciation to school personnel. The chairperson will schedule and plan events, a luncheon, and surprises/gifts for the staff. Volunteers will help as needed.