

Bret Harte Family & Friends,

We need volunteers for some upcoming events, see details below and please sign up!

(As always, if you want to be removed from our mailing list or have anyone else you want to add, please let me know by replying to this email.)

Donations & Volunteers Needed

We have some upcoming events and activities that we need help with!

1. **Trick-or-treat** - the teachers and staff at Bret Harte are planning lots of fun activities during Spirit Week / Red Ribbon week at the end of October. On Friday Oct 29th, PTA is supporting their efforts by providing lots of toys and some snacks for the school's Halloween Parade. PTA has already gathered lots of toys & tricks, but we still need some snack donations. Please see the items requested on the sign-up page, pick something from the list, and drop it off at the school office by **Monday Oct 25th**. Due to the school district's health policy, no homemade snacks are allowed. Please stick to the items listed on the signup page here:
 - o <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050449A4A82FA6FD0-bret>
2. **Garden work days** - We will be having some upcoming work days for the school garden. It has had minimal maintenance over the past year and there is work needed to get it in shape. The Garden Committee will be meeting next week on Oct 26th to start making plans for this school year. We will keep you informed of our garden work day schedule and will need lots of volunteers for our weekend garden cleanup projects! Please come to the garden committee meeting on Oct 26th, or email me and let me know if you're interested in helping with the garden.

Updates on our Association meetings

A quick update from our October meeting - now that we have committees meeting to plan events and fundraisers, our association meetings are shorter and have less work involved. If time was a factor impacting your ability to come to our meetings, we are on track to have shorter meetings, most likely they will be 1-hour or less. Our October meeting was just under an hour and I expect November will be the same.

Our association meetings are the 2nd Monday of the month in November, January, and March; we hope to see you there!

We are also considering new ideas or programs for our association meetings, so if there is some program or seminar that you would like to see at our association meetings, please let me know.

What we have accomplished so far

We have plenty to be proud of since the school year has started! What PTA has accomplished so far:

- Held our past-due election & appointed our committees
- Made plans and budgets to get us through the end of the 2021 year
- Supported the school music program by providing for the Kindergarten music program
- Our first activity, doing chalk art during lunch, was a success. Lots of students loved it and we have some great photos to add to the yearbook.

Upcoming Events and Activities To Get Involved With

Our Events Committee and Fundraising Committee have been working hard making plans. You can come to their committee meetings to get involved or help with planning. See below for the list of dates/times for the next meetings. These are the upcoming activities they are coordinating:

1. **Bears in the Park play date** - on Saturday November 13th we will be hosting an afternoon of play at Curtis Park from 11:00am to 1:00pm. Bring your picnic lunch and come play games and have fun with friends. PTA will be providing some drinks and snacks, but you are encouraged to bring your family lunch and a picnic blanket. PTA is also providing some game equipment, and you are encouraged to bring your own as well.
2. **Thankfulness Art Project** - PTA will be providing art kits to each classroom in November for group art projects related to thankfulness. More info will be provided next month. Come to the association meeting or Events committee meeting to get involved!

3. **See's Candy Fundraiser** - we will be doing our yearly See's Candy fundraiser to support PTA and give an opportunity for some holiday shopping. This will start before the Thanksgiving break and any in-person and online-orders will be completed prior to the winter holiday break. More details to come later.
4. **Holiday Lights Scavenger Hunt** - enjoy a family evening with a scavenger hunt in the neighborhood to look at the winter holiday lights. Stop by the school to visit the PTA table and get some hot cocoa, cider, and treats. More details to come later.

Reserved Parking Space

At our October meeting we had a drawing and the first winner was chosen for the reserved parking space, which will be used for the month of November. If you would like to win the reserved space for a month, come to our November association meeting (Nov 8th) where we will be drawing the names for December and January winners.

Our next meetings

We are continuing to hold virtual meetings, via Zoom. Please join any of the meetings to get involved:

Tuesday Oct 26 6:00pm - 7:00pm :: Garden Committee

Monday Nov 8 6:00pm - 7:30pm :: PTA Association Meeting

Tuesday Nov 9 6:00pm - 7:00pm :: Fundraising Committee

To attend any of these online meetings:

(contact PTA for meeting number and password)

Thank You!

Adam Gothard

President, Bret Harte Bears PTA