

Dear Families and Friends of York Jr. High,

**We would like to welcome all new and returning families to York Jr. High.** We are looking forward to meeting families, parents, and grandparents that would like to get involved with our PTO this school year. We encourage you to not only join our organization, but get involved as well! Everything we do is based on volunteers and we are always looking for those of you to help make a difference in the lives of our children. Every positive imprint we make on our children can go a long, long way. If you are able to give some time, day or evenings, please join us!

The Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) is the primary supporter of our school. The money raised by the PTO provides opportunities for the teachers and staff to enhance the students' learning experiences. In the past, we have supported the programs such as the A/B Honor Roll incentive, Breakfast of Champions, technology enhancements in the classroom, STAAR and the Blue Carpet Awards. We strive to enrich children's educational experiences as well as promote open communication and understanding between parents and the staff at York JH. It is important that we have volunteers to continue carrying out these objectives.

### **Who is a MEMBER?**

You are automatically a member of York JH PTO - if you are a parent or guardian of a child attending York JH. No sig-ups required! You do not have to attend monthly meetings to be an active member of the PTO, however, we highly encourage you to join us every 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the Month at 9:30 a.m. The Board discusses events, plan fundraisers to enhance all programs, and share ideas. This is a wonderful way to find out what is happening at our school from the PTO's perspective. Participation through attendance at PTO meetings gives you a voice. You help decide what we do as a group. Join us on **September 9** at **9:30 a.m.** in **Room 143**. We welcome any new ideas and can always use your help.

### **Volunteers**

Volunteering doesn't mean a huge time commitment. And whatever your time, schedule and interests are, we have need of you. We have tasks that can be performed in the evenings, during the day, or that don't even involve coming to the school at all. A description of the various PTO jobs and committees needing volunteers is available in the PTO [website](#). If you are interested in any of these opportunities, complete the [Volunteer Form](#). For any questions, please email the [PTO Volunteer Coordinator](#).

This year we're hoping to make it even easier for parents to volunteer and get involved. We're using Sigupgenius.com, an online calendar sign up and reminder tool, to schedule and coordinate many of our events and activities. If you completed the [Volunteer Form](#), you will receive a Sigupgenius.com email when volunteering opportunities becomes available.

Thank you in advance for your hard work and dedication to our school, staff, and students!

### **Ways to Support**

As with volunteering your time, we ask that you participate in as many as possible, but you should not feel obligated to participate in all of them. The PTO has planned a variety of fundraisers at different times throughout the year, recognizing that different families will feel more comfortable participating in certain ones over others. These are the following:

**Spirit Nights** is a monthly fundraisers at the local restaurants. Please come by and support our school while enjoying a meal and great company. The schedule this fall 2016 are:

September 20 at Sonic in Rayford from 4:30 pm – 8:30 pm

October 18 at Crust Pizza in Rayford, All Day

November 15 at Chick-Fil-A in Sawdust from 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm

**Check Writing Campaign** is a tax-deductible PTA fundraising initiative that is Easy, Fast, and Direct. Families no longer need to be burdened with various fundraising solicitations such as gift wrap, magazines, jewelry, cookie dough, etc. Now you can write a check or make a contribution with your credit card via [PayPal](#). Our goal is to raise \$30,000 this year. That is approximately \$25 per student at York JH. If we can meet our goal by October 1<sup>st</sup>, we will be able to provide the students an incredible experience at York this year without a single sales drive where the company gets a large percentage of the sales. Help us reach our goal so we can stay away from sales drives! Your donation will directly support each and every student. We invite you to join us in making this campaign a huge success for our school!

**Color Run** is a three-kilometer, un-timed event on November 4, 2016 at 5:30pm in which participants, or “Color Runners”, are doused from head to toe in different colors at each kilometer. With only two rules, the idea is easy to follow: (1) Dress up “Crazy to School” at the starting line (2) Finish plastered in color! Pre-register by October 28 to receive a complimentary personal color packet. Registration fee is \$10 per participant. For more information or to register online, go to the PTO [website](#).

## Get CONNECTed



1. Sign up for text notifications by texting [@yorkpto](#) to 81010.
2. Go online to the [remind.com/join/](#) url. Enter the class code [@yorkpto](#) and follow the directions.
3. [Download the Remind app](#) from the [App Store](#) or [Google Play](#), [sign up for an account](#) with your email address, and enter the class code [@yorkpto](#) when prompted.



**York JH PTO**

## Where does the money go?

A crucial mission of York JH PTO is to provide funds essential to our schools operation. York JH PTO supports and funds educational activities that benefit all students. This school year, our PTO’s proposed operating budget is forecasted to be approximately \$35,000.

In addition, the projects slated to be funded this year are

<b>Educational</b>	<b>Community</b>	<b>Enrichment</b>	<b>Recognition</b>
AB Honor Roll	CISD Pals program	Campus Improvements	Staff Appreciation
Blue Carpet Awards	Operation Graduation	Safe School Ambassador	Staff Birthdays
Breakfast of Champions	Shattered Lives	Classroom Grants	Student Appreciation
STAAR		Dance	Volunteer Appreciation
<b>\$6,900</b>	<b>\$800</b>	<b>\$9,800</b>	<b>\$5,500</b>

York JH PTO are about men and women working together toward a common goal. That goal, simply stated, is creating a better school and a better educational experience for our children. We strive to create an atmosphere where teachers, administrators, and support staff can do their best work – and so can our children. We, in the PTO, believe that it is in the ultimate importance that we do everything we can to enhance the learning environment of our children as they truly are our future. It will take all of us working together to ensure that this happens.

We look forward to meeting you at the “Open House” on September 1, 2016 a 6:00 p.m. Come visit our table!

Sincerely,  
York PTO Board