

WELCOME to the RP-E PTA!

Many of us are still transitioning from summer break to the routine of school, but the halls of Rosa Parks-Edison Elementary are already filled with new students, new teachers and lots of excitement! As the school year gets underway, the RP-E PTA wants you to know that we welcome your talents, ideas and contributions. All of our children benefit from your time, talents and effort.

What is PTA? Why join?

“PTA” stands for Parent Teacher Association. Our school chapter is part of the Indiana PTA and National PTA organizations, but all of the money we raise at RP-E stays right in our school!

The top reason to join is to benefit your child. Research shows that students whose parents are involved in their school lives perform better academically.

Plus, there are many more advantages of PTA membership:

- ✓ **Connect.** It’s the easiest way to keep up with what’s happening at RP-E.
- ✓ **Network.** Each event is a great opportunity to meet other families and get to know our teachers.
- ✓ **Grow.** By volunteering with our PTA, you put your skills and hobbies to use for a great cause.
- ✓ **Lead.** PTA offers you many opportunities to contribute ideas and make positive changes.
- ✓ **Improve.** You can help facilitate improvements to our building, technology and resources.
- ✓ **Serve.** As a PTA member, you demonstrate to your kids that you care about their education.

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What does our PTA do?

RP-E’s PTA provides important ongoing support for our school. We manage a variety of fundraising activities, including an outdoor movie night, Entertainment Book sale, cookie dough sale and family spirit nights. Over the last three years alone, we’ve raised more than \$90,000 to buy SmartBoards and other technology, fund teacher grants and supply essential resources.

This year we hope to expand our membership to include the *entire* RP-E community: moms, dads, stepparents, teachers, school administrators, staff members, grandparents, aunts and uncles, local businesses, friends and neighbors. Specifically, our goal is to achieve at least 500 members, including 100% of RP-E’s staff and at least 5 businesses. Check out the membership meter in the RP-E lobby and at www.rpepta.com to check our progress.

What can you do to support RP-E?

Today we’re asking you to do three simple things:

1. **Join PTA.** Help us meet our goal of reaching 500 members this year.
2. **Volunteer at school.** Consider giving at least 3 hours of your time this year at RP-E. For ideas, please see the attached list of volunteer opportunities.
3. **Connect with us.** Join the “Rosa Parks PTA” Facebook group, bookmark www.rpepta.com and subscribe to our e-newsletter (e-mail manda_newlin@yahoo.com to sign up).

If you’d like to know more about our PTA chapter, please e-mail rpepta@yahoo.com.