WELCOME TO BEN FRANKLIN PTO!!

We have many exciting things planned for this school year including assemblies for ALL grade levels, field trips, holiday parties, a **FREE** soft cover yearbook for every student, family events and much more! In order to provide our children with all of these events, we need your help. It takes an **estimated $20,000 per year to operate all of the PTO activities.** You can help us raise this money by becoming a member of the PTO (membership form attached) and participating in our fundraisers. We have many different fundraisers planned throughout the year with the hope there is at least one type of fundraising that appeals to each family. We also wanted to share the news that the Ben Franklin PTO holds a 501c3 tax status. As a result, your donations to the PTO may qualify as a charitable deduction for federal income tax purposes.

Each month the PTO will be sending home a calendar and the “Franklin Flyer,” a newsletter containing information about upcoming events at Ben Franklin. After the first couple of weeks of school, we will try our best to limit all PTO papers coming home., It is our goal to get to a point where we can send the majority of our information home via email, so please be sure that your email on file with the school is current and correct. All completed PTO forms can be sent in with your student and the classroom teacher will ensure they find their way to the PTO Mailbox in the Main Office. (When in doubt, please write PTO Mailbox on the top of a form or in an envelope.)

**Our PTO meetings are going to be held every other month, at 7PM in the school cafeteria. The first meeting will be held Tuesday, August 27th.** Children are welcome to attend, as there will be child care at the meetings. We encourage everyone to attend and get involved in the Ben Franklin PTO. As a reminder, if you plan to volunteer during a school event, you must comply with the district policy regarding clearances needed for volunteers. More information on this new policy can be found on the homepage of [www.bpsd.org](http://www.bpsd.org) and included in the District School News emails. If you have any questions, concerns or ideas, please do not hesitate to contact the PTO at benjaminfranklinpto@gmail.com or contact one of the board members directly.

**BOARD MEMBERS**

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