

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. What is the difference between PTA Membership and Community of Giving?

The \$7.00 PTA Membership gives you full membership privileges in the Oak Grove PTA. Membership Dues (\$7.00) cover some of our PTA operating expenses at school. 50% of the dues go directly up to our PTA Council, District, State and National levels. At the state and national levels, members' dues are used to advocate for public education for all students. Our unit is only part of a much larger organization that advocates for the needs of children and supports public education and its goals.

“Community of Giving” is the Oak Grove PTA fundraiser that asks all Oak Grove families to consider making a donation to our PTA to fully fund programs that benefit all students at Oak Grove. We do not ask families to sell anything. We ask for a donation and we strive to make certain that every dollar goes back to serve our students. The money raised in our “Community of Giving” fundraiser supports PTA-sponsored programs which include but are not limited to: Grade Level Curriculum-related assemblies, a portion of MIND Music program, EXCEL Math program materials, Imagination Machine assemblies, technology enhancements, Field Trip Scholarships, and portion of shared costs of 5th Grade Science Camp.

2. How does PTA Membership benefit me and my child? What do we get out of it?

PTA Membership includes the **privilege of making decisions about how our PTA monies are raised and spent at Oak Grove.** PTA Members **vote on our calendar of activities and approve all events** our PTA will sponsor. PTA Members **vote and approve our budget.** PTA members **approve our expenditures** for programs like Primary Music, Art Masters and More! Membership is about having a VOICE and EMPOWERING parents.

PTA Membership also entitles members to **discounts** at national retailers like Barnes and Noble and Kinkos. PTA Members **stay informed** about events and school activities through e-mails and communications sent out to our members. **Membership gives families another way to stay connected to their child's school.**

3. Can I still join the PTA even if I can't make it to meetings and help on committees?

Absolutely! **Membership is about having a VOICE!** Even if you can not make it to our Association meetings every other month, you can still **e-mail or call our board members** to ask questions, share ideas and express concerns. Your PTA Board was selected to **serve you and all families at our school** and we consider communication with our families to be vital. We understand families are busy and parents are working and your **membership can keep you connected** to your child's school. Your input helps us serve you and your child.

4. Why can't I just make a donation to Community of Giving? Why join PTA?

“Community of Giving (COG)” is a PTA fundraiser. **PTA Membership** is an association that determines how monies collected through PTA sponsored fundraisers are allocated and spent on school programs, materials, and enhancements. **They go hand-in-hand.** Families that make a donation to our Community of Giving should be enjoying the benefit of membership that allows them to determine how those monies are best spent.

5. How much should do we donate to Community of Giving?

The suggested amount for your **“Community of Giving” donation is \$50.00** per child. Every child at every grade level benefits from programs funded by our “Community of Giving”. With every family helping us reach this donation level of \$50 per child, we can fully-fund all of our outstanding programs without fundraisers!

www.oakgrovepta.com