

November 10, 2011

What is 5th Grade Committee?

For those of you who are not familiar with the 5th Grade Committee, I would like to take this opportunity to explain what role this committee plays in our school. I hope this will also help to clarify why there are a variety of fundraisers occurring throughout the school year.

What is the purpose of the 5th Grade Committee? The 5th Grade Committee is comprised of parents/guardians of 5th grade students attending Hatfield Elementary with the sole purpose of raising the necessary funds for 5th grade activities throughout the year. All parents are welcome and encouraged to participate as this committee determines fundraisers and makes plans for the 5th grade banquet. This year's committee is being headed by me, Mrs. Suzanne Marmol and Mrs. Jonica Vauger.

What is the purpose of the PTO? The PTO is comprised of parents/guardians of students in grades K - 5 attending Hatfield Elementary. The money raised by the PTO is used for field trip admissions and buses (grades K-4), Fun Day activities, educational programs and presentations, and the PSSA ice cream social.

Is the PTO required to donate to the 5th Grade Committee? Hatfield Elementary School bylaws state that the PTO is required to donate a minimum of \$850.00 to the 5th Grade Committee for the Jumonville Outdoor School. Recently, the school district asked the PTO to donate an extra \$150 to the 5th grade committee towards helping support the cost of students attending Jumonville.

How much money is the 5th Grade Committee required to raise? The 5th Grade Committee is required to raise enough money to cover all expenses and leave a balance in the checking account of approximately \$3,000.00 for the next class. The total expenses in years past was approximately \$10,000. Fundraisers to date include Spirit Day Tattoo and Silly Bands, Sarris Candy Bars, and Halloween Smencils. Market Day is an ongoing fundraiser and we are currently selling raffle tickets for an IPAD, and Christmas Trees which are located in the school lobby.

What is the 5th Grade Committee required to pay for?

- All 5th grade students are given a yearbook and class t shirt.
- Field trip admission, lunch and buses for 5th grade students are paid for by the Committee.
- Each May there is a banquet held for the 5th grade students at Laurel Highlands Middle School. Students are given dinner, a picture DVD, and framed class photo. They are also given at least one other gift which the school district requires to be the same as the other three elementary schools (examples: beach towel, blanket). Other student gifts are given at the discretion of the Committee and will be determined by the amount of money raised. These items will be voted on at a future meeting.

When does the committee meet? The committee meets monthly in the school library. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 21 at 6:00. Parents/guardians of all 5th grade students are encouraged to attend.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions, concerns or suggestions.

As always, our students greatly appreciate the cooperation and enthusiasm of our families to help make Hatfield Elementary a wonderful learning environment for our students.

Educationally yours,

Ed Zelich

Principal, Hatfield Elementary School