

2018 - 2019
Member's Guide
Cub Run Elementary School
Parent Teacher Association



Home of the Courageous Cubbles!

The Cub Run Elementary PTA
www.cubrunpta.org

Cub Run Elementary School
5301 Sully Station Drive, Centreville, VA 20120

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Welcome to Cub Run Elementary School

We are very excited to start a new year at Cub run elementary and are glad you are here! The purpose of this guide is to give you an overview of the Cub Run Elementary PTA, help you see where you can get involved, and preview some of the PTA and school activities throughout the school year.

What is a PTA?

'PTA' stands for 'Parent Teacher Association,' which is represented at three levels in the United States:

- The National PTA: founded in 1897 in Washington DC, as the 'National Congress of Mothers.'
- The State PTA: pursues the goals and objectives of the National PTA at the state level.
- The Local PTA: works within the school to support the needs of the students, following the goals and guidance of the State and National PTA.

Every person who joins a local PTA automatically becomes a member of both the State and National PTAs.

National PTA: www.pta.org

State PTA: www.vapta.org

The Goal of the PTA

The National, State and Local PTA all share the same goals. Our local Cub Run PTA supports these goals in everything we do.

- To support and speak on behalf of children and youth in the schools, in the community, and before governmental bodies and other organizations that make decisions affecting children.
- To assist parents in developing the skills they need to raise and protect their children,
- To encourage parent and community involvement in the public schools of this nation.

About the Cub Run PTA

The Cub Run PTA is a group of engaged parents, guardians, family members, teachers, school staff and administrators. We are all focused on a single objective: the well-being and education of our children. The PTA places its attention on the needs of our children by connecting the PTA (officers, committees, and members) with the school (administrators, teachers, and staff). Working together, we can provide the best possible learning environment for our children.



What does the Cub Run PTA do for you?

Some PTAs are only known for their fundraising; the constant barrage of candy, popcorn, wrapping paper, and candle sales. The Cub Run PTA prides itself on having only 1 (yes, only 1) fundraiser per year. The money raised from that 1 fundraiser is then used throughout the school year to provide fun educational activities and events for the families of Cub Run.

The Cub Run PTA provides:

- A forum for you to share concerns or ideas that affect your children's education.
- A wealth of information through weekly emails and monthly meetings.
- Fun activities where a family can be a family: Bingo Night, Science Night, Winter Dance, Spring Fling
- Educational Opportunities for students: Science Fair, Spelling Bee, Fine Arts Night, After School Activities

The Cub Run PTA sponsors Summer Sports Camp, the Book Fair, Assemblies, and other special projects. We also reimburse all Cub Run teachers up to \$200 per year for classroom expenses, on which they otherwise spend their own funds.

Who are the Cub Run PTA Officers?

Cub Run PTA Board includes a President, VP of Enrichment, VP of Involvement, VP of Community, Special Education Liaison, Treasurer, and Secretary. The PTA also includes multiple committee chairpersons or coordinators who serve as the point of contact for the committee or activity they represent. Each committee chair is aligned with a PTA officer. This relationship creates a communication channel between the committees and the PTA leadership and provides support and guidance to those chairpersons who may need it. We operate on a calendar that has been coordinated with the school's administrators prior to the start of the school year.

- President: Jordan Railsback - cubrunptapresident@gmail.com
- Treasurer: Suzanne Leonard - suzanneleonard@aol.com
- Secretary: Charity Ponton - cubrunptasecretary@gmail.com
- VP of Enrichment: Natalie Whitley - cubrunptaenrichmentvp@gmail.com
- VP of Involvement: Ari Kloehn - cubruninvolvement@gmail.com
- VP of Community: Kristin TA - cubrunptacomunity@gmail.com
- Special Education Liaisons: Stephanie White - stephkitnjas@yahoo.com and Christina Davis-Luczak - cddavis.11@gmail.com

Membership

Our goal is to have *every* household with at least one member of the PTA. We believe the strength of our school depends on the strength of parent involvement within the school and in the lives of their children. And we know that membership in the PTA is one of the best ways to support Cub Run and our children!

How do I join?

The Cub Run PTA starts registering members each year, at the beginning of the school year in September. Joining is as simple as filling out the membership form at the back of this packet and turning it in. There will be a PTA membership table set up at each back-to-school activity this fall to include the Back-to-School Night/Family Fiesta. You can also send your membership form and dues to school with your child, in an envelope marked 'Cub Run PTA.' You may become a PTA member at any time during the school year.

What does it mean to become a member?

When you become a member of the PTA, you will be included on all Cub Run PTA emails throughout the year. The emails are sent weekly and include information about upcoming events, activities, and meetings. You also have the ability to vote and make decisions that affect the school and your children. In addition there are some wonderful discounts that the VA PTA and National PTA offer with membership. Those discounts can be found at the end of this packet.

How much does it cost?

The Cub Run PTA membership fees are described below. There are membership levels to suit multiple family dynamics. Each PTA member/family will receive a Cub Run Student Directory just for becoming a member! (The Student Directories will only be available to PTA members)

For this type of membership...	You get...	The fee is...	This amount goes to the Cub Run PTA...	This amount goes to the County, State and National PTA...
Bronze	Single membership	\$12.00	\$8.50	\$3.50
Silver	Two (2) memberships	\$22.00	\$15.00	\$7.00
Gold	Two (2) memberships, Paw Print car magnet, and a gold star on the PTA website	\$40.00	\$33.00	\$7.00

Monthly PTA Meetings

The PTA holds monthly PTA Meetings to conduct the business of the PTA but to also provide engaging presentations for our members. Find out more about our upcoming events and activities, meet other parents, and learn how you can help! Both the Principal and Vice Principal attend the majority of the meetings to provide an update on the school, including staff changes. There is also an open Question and Answer period at the end of each meeting where you can bring up any subject or questions for discussion. Some older students provide child care.

Staying Connected

Throughout the school year, we use a variety of ways to communicate with PTA members and our school community.

Cub Run PTA Website: The PTA Activities Calendar, meeting agendas and minutes, volunteer opportunities, fundraiser information, and a list of afterschool activities are hosted on the PTA website.

<http://cubrunpta.org>



Facebook: The PTA is on Facebook! The board members will post information about upcoming events, activities and meetings; educational resources; and volunteer opportunities; please 'Like' us to get the word out!

<https://www.facebook.com/cubrunpta>



Fairfax County Public Schools Website: access current updates/news as well as parent resources from the county website.

<http://www.fcps.edu>



Weekly PTA Email: The PTA sends out a weekly email that includes upcoming events and activities, reminders and general information on what is happening with the PTA.

Twitter: Follow Cub Run PTA!

Bulletin Board: The PTA bulletin board is located in the school lobby to the right of the office. Check it out when you are at school.

Volunteer Opportunities

The PTA is not just the small group listed above. It takes many hands to run all our events and activities. You can volunteer for small projects, one-time activities, large projects or year round. It's up to you, your schedule, and your comfort level. The level of participation can be as high as volunteering to serve as an officer to making photocopies, sending emails, or simply providing a baked good. Your help is critical in continuing to bring enriching activities to our children. Below are descriptions of major events/activities that are in need of volunteers.

Most of the request for volunteers will come during the monthly PTA meetings or through Sign-Up Genius. Sign-Up Genius is an online sign-up sheet that is easy to use. You create one account that can be used to sign up for any volunteering activity. When there is a need for volunteers, the organizer creates a sign-up sheet that includes the details as to what is needed, how many, and where. They produce a link which is emailed or posted on Facebook and the PTA site. You simply click the link, sign into your account and follow the on-screen instructions to sign-up.

Room Parent

This is an important role that helps both the teachers and the PTA. The classroom teachers provide the room parents with information and instructions regarding how they need help. Typically, the classroom parent helps organize class parties, helps collect classroom items, or creates the sign up lists to organize classroom volunteers. The room parent can be a mom, dad, or multiple people helping out.

The room parent is also a liaison between the PTA and the parents/guardians in each class. Most room parents attend the PTA meetings and then provide a summary email to the class parents about the meeting. There are two main events with which the PTA asks the room parent to help: Spring Fling and Teacher/Staff Appreciation weeks.

Spring Fling: The Spring Fling, Silent Auction and raffle are held in April. The raffle includes a basket of goodies, following a predetermined theme, put together by each grade. The room parents send out information regarding the theme for the raffle baskets and a request for volunteers and/or donations for the Silent Auction.

Teacher/Staff Appreciation: The PTA plans activities for Teacher/Staff Appreciation Weeks. The room parents work with parents in their classroom to assist with the planned activities.

Events

There are many events throughout the school year that require volunteers. Some of these include:

- Cub Run-a-thon
- Scholastic Book Fair
- Spelling Bee
- Bingo Night
- Talent Show
- Volleyball Game
- Science Fair
- Family Science Night
- Winter Dance
- Spring Fling

If you would like to volunteer for any of these activities, please contact one of the board members.

PTA Sponsored Programs

The PTA sponsors many programs throughout the school year. Many of these programs are made possible due to fundraising, which will be covered in another section. The programs offered help enrich our children’s education experience while attending Cub Run. Your participation in fundraising events, by being a PTA member, or through volunteering, makes these programs possible. Dates are subject to change. Please check the PTA website for final dates.

PTA Sponsored Programs

Teacher Welcome Lunch	August 23, 2018
Family Fiesta/Back to School Night	August 23, 2018
OmegaMan Assembly	September 6, 2018
Cub Run-a-Thon Kick-off	September 14, 2018
Reflections	September - October 2018
Cub Run-a-Thon	October 12, 2018
Bingo Night	November 9, 2018
Family Science Night	December 6, 2018
Scholastic Book Fair	December 6 - 10, 2018
Winter Dance	February 1, 2019
Spelling Bee	February 7, 2019
Fine Arts Night/Reflections Awards	February 28, 2019
Science Fair	March 2019
Talent Show	March 2019
Original Works	March 2019
Volleyball Night	April 2019
YoJo Assembly	April 22, 2019
Support Staff Appreciation	April 29 - May 3, 2019
Spring Fling	May 5, 2019
Teacher Appreciation	May 6 - 10, 2019
Volunteer Appreciation Reception	June 2019

Additional Programs

In addition to PTA Sponsored Programs run by parent volunteers, the PTA provides supplemental programs run by outside vendors. With these activities, the fee goes straight to the outside vendor. Past programs have included the following: Yoga, Chess Club, Lego Robotics, Intro to Minecraft Modding, Kid Art, Whiz Kid Science Discovery, POP Golf, Public Speaking Essentials, and Science Exploratorium.

Fundraising Programs

PTA's are non-profit organizations and funds are generated through fundraising events. For the past few years, we have held one major fundraiser, met our goal, and did not have another fundraiser the rest of the year. We hope to continue this tradition. We will hold the Cub Run-a-thon fundraiser from September 14 - October 12, 2018, and it will be our one and only deliberate fundraiser. We do have other items that generate funds. These include:

Donation: At any point, you may donate directly to the Cub Run PTA.

Spirit Wear: The PTA coordinates the selling of Cub Run Spirit Wear. This includes t-shirts, sweatshirts, pajama bottoms, and jersey shirts. Check Wednesday folders this fall for the opportunity to order spirit wear.

General Mills Box Tops for Education: Collect your box tops for education labels and send them in to school. They are worth 10 cents apiece and add up fast! Go to <http://www.boxtops4education.com/> for more information and to see the participating products.

Amazon Smile: Shop at <http://smile.amazon.com> for the same products as amazon.com. Select Cub Run Elementary PTA as your charitable organization and a portion of your sales will be donated to the PTA. Hint: Search for 'Cub Run Elem PTA.'

PTA Membership Discounts

Membership in the Virginia PTA provides special discount, fundraising opportunities, and other valuable benefits. The VA PTA works constantly to establish relationships with additional member benefit providers.

VA State Membership Discounts:

- Colonial Williamsburg: Provides discount pricing on a variety of admission passes.
- Great Wolf Lodge: Offers 30% discount to Virginia PTA members.
- R.V. Nuccio & Associates: Provides A+ rated insurance products.
- Ticket Monster: Members can buy sports, concert, theater tickets to events nationwide as well as discounted movie tickets and theme park passes with listed partners.
- Watch D.O.G.S.: offers a discount or extra WATCH D.O.G.S. resources exclusively to Virginia PTAs.

National PTA Membership Discounts:

PTA members receive discounts on services and products to help you and your family save money. Help keep your budget on track throughout the school year with offerings from these retail and service providers: AARP, Boxed Bulk Shipping, Good Housekeeping, Hertz, LifeLock, MetLife Auto & Home Insurance, Mountain America Credit Union, Quicken Loans Home Mortgage, Schwan's Cares Fundraising Network & Home Food Service Delivery, Sylvan Educational Tutoring, and TeenSafe Youth Smartphone Monitoring.

2018-2019 PTA Membership Form

Cub Run PTA has three levels of membership to support our PTA. Please return this form to your child's teacher or the Front Office. Cub Run Student Directories are only available with a PTA membership. If you have any questions, contact cubruninvolvement@gmail.com.

Please select one of the options below and make checks payable to Cub Run PTA.

- **Bronze Membership**
\$12 for an individual membership and a Cub Run Student directory
- **Silver Membership**
\$22 for a family membership and a Cub Run Student directory
- **Gold Membership**
\$40 for a family membership, a Cub Run Student directory, recognition as a donor on the school PTA website and a Cub Run car magnet

Member 1 name:

Member 2 name:

Address:

Phone:

E-mail addresses:

Child(ren): Name/Teacher

_____/_____

_____/_____

_____/_____

_____/_____

Method of Payment: _____ Date entered into Database: _____

Help Your Child Grow and Thrive

Sign Cub Run PTA's Three For Me Volunteer Pledge!

WHAT? The *Three For Me* program helps families plan meaningful ways to be involved in their student's learning experience.

WHO? Parents, guardians, or other trusted family members.

WHY? Research shows that students do better in school when their parents and family members engage in the school community. Family involvement plays a CRUCIAL role in the long term academic success of children. A partnership between home and school makes a big difference in creating the most ideal learning environment for students. It's also a great way to connect with other parents and become a part of the Cub Run community.

WHEN? You can fulfill your pledge anytime during the school year.

HOW? It's EASY. Just sign the pledge to dedicate 3 hours of your time to volunteering for the school and PTA. Suggestions include:

- Lead or join an event committee.
- Raise funds for the Cub Run-a-Thon.
- Attend a PTA meeting.
- Help plan our new Outdoor Classroom.
- Take a volunteer shift at an event (concession sales, book fair, set up, clean up, etc).
- Volunteer in the school library.
- Photocopy PTA fliers.
- Serve as a room parent.
- Stuff Wednesday folders for a teacher.



Please Sign Me Up for Cub Run's Three For Me Program

Please check all that apply

I'd like to help with:

- Classroom activities (stuff Wednesday folders, copy materials for teachers, etc.)
- Library support (return books to shelves, assist students, etc.)
- Photocopying PTA fliers, making decorations, etc.
- Lead an after school club
- Set up/Clean up/Sales during events
- Fundraising committee
- Outdoor Classroom committee

I pledge:

- 3 hours of volunteering this year
- I can do more...let's talk!
- I'm not sure what I can do, but I want to help. Please contact me as needs arise.

Please print

Name
Email
Best Phone

Thank you! Please return to Cub Run Elementary School, attn: Jordan Railsback, PTA President