



## Bates Elementary PTO

*Kindness, Learning & Leadership, Best Effort*

The Bates Parent Teacher Organization (PTO), made up of parents, teachers and school staff, serves the purpose of supporting the school and its students. The PTO provides support mainly by fundraising and recruiting volunteers to help in various roles. Funds raised by the PTO are used for things such as enrichment programs, teacher appreciation and support, and technology. The school seeks to offer high quality events and programs in which the community is excited to participate. Throughout the year you will see specific requests for volunteers. Please jump in and help out to the extent that you can.

Here are some examples of PTO events held during the year:

**New Family Coffee:** All new families are welcomed to Bates the day before school with a coffee hosted in the cafeteria.

**Picture Day:** Each fall a professional photographer is scheduled to take class photos and individual photos of students. All students receive a complimentary class photo. Families wishing to purchase their child's individual photograph have several options from which to choose. Scholarship funds are available for families in need of financial assistance. Please contact Mrs. Jolley.

**Bates Pumpkin Fair:** A fun-filled PTO tradition, the annual Pumpkin Fair is held at Bates on a Saturday in October. The day includes many games, a DJ, inflatables, a café, dance performances by local dance troops, raffles, a silent auction and sweet treats for sale made by the Bates community.

**Halloween Parade:** Students are invited to wear a costume and participate in a short all-school parade. Students who do not wish to participate in the parade are invited to participate in fun activities in the gym.

**Bates Book Fair:** Students and families are invited to browse and purchase books for sale during one week in March, including an evening for parents.

Family Nights: Bates families are welcome to take part in several evening activities held throughout the year, including a winter party and a pre-Mini Marathon dinner.

Field Day: Students participate in a lively afternoon on Kelly Field with their choice of competitive and non-competitive games and activities facilitated by Bates' parent volunteers.

Family Picnic: Families celebrate the end of the school year with an annual picnic on Kelly field.

Fifth Grade Activities: The fifth grade committee organizes special end-of-the-year activities for the fifth grade class, including a fifth grade ceremony and a "Fun Day."

Bates Auction: Every other year the PTO holds an auction, inviting all Bates families. All proceeds help fund the many PTO activities, teacher grants and professional development opportunities, and enrichment programs for students at Bates.

If you're interested in helping out with the PTO sponsored events, taking on a Board role, or just learning more about our PTO, please check out the website at <https://www.batespto.org> for more information.