

Dear parents,

We're thrilled to be beginning the 2018-2019 school year at Elsmere. The PTA has lots of activities and events in store for your family, and we welcome your suggestions and ideas as the year progresses. The PTA offers several ways for you to get information about what's happening at school. Here's how to connect:



1. **PTA email list:** If you're not already receiving emails from **ElsmereSchoolPTA@gmail.com**, drop us a line to get on the list! We try very hard not to spam you, and it's a great way to get ongoing reminders about school and PTA information throughout the year.
2. **Elsmere PTA link on school website:** Visit <https://www.bethlehemschools.org/elsmere/pta/> for more information about the PTA's involvement in school activities.
3. **Aspen:** Aspen, the portal in which you access your student's report cards, standardized test results, and information from the teacher and school, also has a link to the PTA from within the Elsmere homepage. There, you can find forms and other PTA communications.
4. **Facebook:** The Elsmere PTA maintains a closed, secret parent group on Facebook. That means that no one outside the group can find it by searching, and we only allow parents/guardians of Elsmere students to join the group. We keep it secret for our children's safety and security, because we often post updates and invitations to upcoming school events. To join, please friend "Elsmere PTA" (as though it were a person) on Facebook, and we will then add you to the group.
5. **PTA meetings:** PTA meetings usually take place on the second Tuesday of each month at 7pm in the Elsmere library. They will be listed on the Elsmere calendar. All parents are welcome at PTA meetings; it's a good way to hear about what is coming up at school, and also to lend your voice to the discussion. We're always happy for new ideas, new ways of doing things, and new faces to participate in events.

PTA membership

There is a membership form on the back of this page. We encourage all Elsmere parents to join the PTA. This does not obligate you to volunteer commitments; the membership dues are used to support our membership in the NYS PTA, which is required in order for us to have the liability insurance we need in order to hold programs outside school hours (which are not covered under the district liability policy). If you are able to become a member, your dues help support all of the beloved programs (including Halloween Happenings, movie nights, Community Day, math & science nights, grade breakfasts, and more) that the PTA sponsors throughout the year.

If you would like to contact the PTA anytime during the year, please don't hesitate to reach out. I can be reached directly at **elsmere.pta.president@gmail.com**, or you can email the PTA address at **ElsmereSchoolPTA@gmail.com**. Thank you!

Regards,

Sarah Patterson, PTA President

2018-19 Elsmere PTA Membership

Membership dues: \$10/adult



Parent name(s): _____

Email (1): _____

Email (2): _____

Child (1) Name / Teacher: _____

Child (2) Name / Teacher: _____

Child (3) Name / Teacher: _____

Child (4) Name / Teacher: _____

Please check one:

Amount enclosed: _____

or

Amount submitted via PayPal: _____

Please return this form with payment to school in an envelope marked "PTA Membership" or submit via PayPal at ElsmerePTATreasurer@gmail.com

If PTA membership or activities are cost-prohibitive for your family, please contact Principal Kate Kloss anytime during the year for confidential financial assistance.