



William S. James Elementary School Parent Teacher Association  
1 Laurentum Parkway  
Abingdon, Maryland 21009

Dear William S. James Elementary Families,

On behalf of the WSJE PTA Board of Directors, I would like to take a minute to welcome you to a new school year at William S. James Elementary School. If you are new to the school, you are joining a remarkable community of administrators, teachers, parents, and students.

If you are new to the PTA, we are an all-volunteer organization working with and within the school to support our students and families. Our goal is to support and strengthen William S. James Elementary School as a whole, and to ensure each student has the opportunity to reach their full potential! In a typical year, we do this by providing things like: student agenda books, field trips, social and enrichment activities for our students and families, teacher reimbursements, and staff appreciation initiatives.

Although school will be opening this year on a distance learning platform, the WSJE PTA is just as committed to our students, families, teachers and community as we have been in the past. Many of our beloved programs and events have to be put on hold during this pandemic, but our goal as a PTA is to work with our school and families to find ways to support our students, regardless of where they are engaged in learning this year.

Now comes the part where we ask for your help making it happen! The PTA provides support and resources through your membership and participation! Please consider any and all of the following:

- **Become a member of the PTA!** No experience necessary and no requirements are asked of you, but you do get voting rights which shape the direction of our PTA.
- **Join the conversation!** Attend General PTA Meetings where we look ahead at defining new goals and implementing existing ones. Meetings are held at 6:30pm on the third Thursday of each month. Normally, we'd meeting in the school's Media Center, but for now we are exploring a hybrid of Zoom meetings and socially distanced in-person voting options.
- **Get Involved!** We need your new and innovative ideas to support our students in this digital environment. We need your professional expertise or hidden talents. Whether you can help every day, an hour a week, or for a specific event, you are definitely needed!

As you can imagine, our students need your help more than ever!

If you have questions, comments or idea, please reach out to us via our PTA's email address: [WJESPTA3900@gmail.com](mailto:WJESPTA3900@gmail.com). We invite you to join our William S. James Elementary PTA Facebook group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/711870195872137/>) for regular information and updates. And our school's amazing administration has also provided us a space on the official WSJ Elementary School webpage as well (<https://wjes.ss18.sharpschool.com/PARENTS/pta>).

Best wishes for a happy and healthy start to this school year, and thank you for your support!

Lynnea Jackson

WSJE PTA President