



Welcome Back!

The Pleasant Avenue PTA wishes all students and their families - both new and returning - a wonderful year!

We have started planning many of the activities sponsored by the PTA and open to all Pleasant Avenue Students. Favorite events are back and new ones have been added. The following is a small sampling of happenings for the 2011-2012 school year. (A more extensive list can be found on the Calendar of Events page.)

- ❖ **Accelerated Reader (AR)** - Begins with a BBQ Kick-off and is a yearlong program which encourages children to read and earn fantastic rewards.
- ❖ **Reflections Program** - Provides an opportunity for students to use their creative talents by expressing themselves through their own original works.
- ❖ **Fall Family Fun Festival** – Pleasant Avenue, Glebe Street and Warren Street elementary school PTA's will host this huge event for the Kindergarten through Sixth Grade students and their families.
- ❖ **School Photos** – Taken in the Fall and ready in time for the holidays.
- ❖ **Pleasant Avenue Yearbooks and T-Shirts** – Capturing the spirit of Pleasant Avenue.
- ❖ **Bingo Night** – Bring the whole family out for some fun!
- ❖ **Holiday Movie Night** – New this year!
- ❖ **Parents As Reading Partners (PARP)** – Winter reading program with built-in excitement.
- ❖ **Academic Fair** – Students showcase their various interests.
- ❖ **Pleasant Avenue Dance Party** – Sure to be entertaining. Karoke anyone?
- ❖ **Popcorn Sales** – Each class will host a sale and use the proceeds to purchase items for their classroom.
- ❖ **Minute to Win It Night** – Are you up to the challenge? New this year!

These are just **some** of the many undertakings that your PTA is planning. We are always looking for ideas and suggestions to improve our Pleasant Avenue community.

In addition, we welcome both new and returning volunteers (parents and other family members). Be sure to complete the School District's Approved Volunteer Form sent home with your child. See the attached volunteer sheet for the numerous opportunities to contribute to Pleasant Avenue, as well as the membership form.

**Please return Volunteer and Membership Forms by Friday, September 9th.*

Thank you and we look forward to a great year!

Pleasant Avenue PTA Executive Committee:
Co-Presidents: Deb Ammann & Pam Donohue
1st Vice President: Karlene Peck
2nd Vice President: Christine Lamori
Treasurer: Monica Poitras
Secretary: Rachel Truckenmiller
Corresponding Secretary: Helen Reed

Central Council Representatives: Karen Miller & Elena Willett

The Pleasant Avenue Executive Committee Board can be reached via e-mail at pleasantavenuepta@gmail.com.

Calendar of Events for 2011-2012

September 12 th , Monday	PTA meeting, PA library @ 6:00pm – <i>*vote on budget for this year</i>
September 16 th , Friday	Family BBQ to benefit AR program @ Whitey's, 4:30pm-7:00pm
September 21 st , Wednesday	Back to School Open House & Book Fair, 5:30pm – 7:30pm
October 3 rd , Monday	PTA meeting, PA library @ 6:00pm
October 15 th , Saturday	Fall Family Fun Festival in conjunction with Warren and Glebe families to be held at Jansen Avenue School grounds, 12pm – 4pm
October 20 th , Thursday	National PTA Reflections Theme Search deadline
October 21 st , Friday	School photos – class and individual
November 7 th , Monday	PTA meeting, PA library @ 6:00pm
November 9 th , Wednesday	Picture Retakes
November 9 th , Wednesday	Family BINGO Night, PA cafeteria, 6:00pm – 8:00pm
November 15 th , Tuesday	Reflections Entries for the theme “Diversity means...” are due
November 18 th , Friday	Participation in the Johnstown Holiday Parade
December 5 th , Monday	PTA meeting, PA library @ 6:00pm
December 9 th , Friday	Holiday Movie Night, 6:00pm– 8:00pm
January 9 th , Monday	PTA meeting, PA library @ 6:00pm
January 13 th , Friday	Pleasant Avenue Dance Party, 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm
January 26 th , Thursday	Parents As Reading Partners (PARP) Kickoff (during school hours)
February 6 th , Monday	PTA meeting, PA library @ 6:00 pm
February 16 th , Thursday	Family Night “Minute to Win It”, 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
March 4 th , Sunday	Pancake Breakfast, 8:00am – noon @ Moose Club, Johnstown
March 5 th , Monday	PTA meeting, PA library @ 6:00 pm
March 29 th , Thursday	Pleasant Avenue Academic Fair, 6:00 pm -7:00 pm, <i>*set-up for participants at 5:30pm</i>
April 2, Monday	PTA meeting, PA library @ 6:00
April 18 th , Wednesday	Family Night Out @ McDonald's, Time TBA
April 26 th , Thursday	Student Art Show, Book Fair, and Ice Cream Social from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
May 7 th , Monday	PTA meeting, PA library @ 6:00 pm - <i>*Vote for 2012-2013 PTA officers</i>
May 10 th , Thursday	Talent Show, PA cafeteria @ 6:00 pm
June 4 th , Monday	PTA meeting, PA library @ 6:00 pm
June 27 th , Wednesday	Student Wellness Day (during school hours)

PTA Annual Membership Drive

- **Who can join?** *Anyone who is interested in helping our students (parents, grandparents, friends and other family members)*
- **Why?** *The Pleasant Avenue PTA, along with the NYS & National PTAs, is more than fundraisers and event planners. We are a strong group that supports all levels of child advocacy and has a voice in legislation.*
- **No time to attend meetings?** *That's okay. You still can purchase a membership, enjoy the benefits (i.e. discounts), and go to any or all of the activities.*Meeting Minutes are available online at <http://johnstownschoools.com/pleasant/pleasantPTA.htm>.*
- **Cost?** *An annual membership is \$5.00 (that's less than 50 cents a month)*

Please, consider joining & supporting our children via your membership!

**Membership forms will also be available at Open House Night on Wednesday, September 21, 2011.*

To join or renew your previous PTA membership . . .

Complete the form and return to your child's teacher. If you have more than one child at Pleasant Avenue, simply send in one form with oldest child.

Include exact cash or check payable to: *Pleasant Avenue PTA.*

**A membership card will be sent home with your child, unless you request otherwise.*

(Although always welcome, you do not need to attend meetings in order to have a membership and support the students.)



Name(s): _____

Amount Enclosed (\$5 per annual membership) _____

Child's Name: _____

Teacher/grade: _____

Some *SIMPLE and FREE* ways you can help Pleasant Avenue Students

Box Tops – Find Box Top coupons on hundreds of products you probably already purchase (e.g. Cheerios). Each Box Top is worth 10 cents for Pleasant Avenue. Clip and send them in with your child to give their classroom teacher. There are prizes for classroom that brings in the most Box Tops!

Campbell Soup Labels – Save UPC Labels and beverage caps from participating products and send them in to your child's teacher. Pleasant Avenue will earn rewards for all labels collected. For more information, go to <http://www.labelsforeducation.com/>.

GoodSearch.com – When you are searching for information via the internet, use <http://www.goodsearch.com/> which is a Yahoo-powered search engine that donates half its advertising revenue to Pleasant Avenue (once you choose Pleasant Avenue School, Johnstown, NY as your charity of choice). The new online shopping mall, <http://www.goodsearch.com/goodshop.aspx>, donates up to 37% of each purchase to Pleasant Avenue School! Hundreds of great store including Amazon, Target, Gap, eBay, and Barnes & Noble have teamed up with GoodShop.com!

Ink Cartridges – These can be recycled and Pleasant Avenue will receive funds from each approved cartridge they accept. There a collection box in the school lobby or just send in a bag to your child's teacher.

SchoolMall - <http://www.schoolmall.com>, is an online shopping mall where over 200 nationally known online merchants have agreed to give a percentage of sales to K-12 schools. Companies like WalMart.com, Sears, Target, DisneyStore.com, Family Book Store, and Oriental Trading Company participate. Most merchant contributions to your school will average 5%-10% but some go as high as 50% of sales! You can also donate a Caring For Classrooms gift card to a student's classroom. Your donation will be used by their teacher for books, educational magazines and classroom supplies.

Target Redcard – If you have and use a Target RedCard, a percentage goes to the school of your choice (Pleasant Avenue). They will track purchases made, then send a no-strings-attached donation check directly to the school principal. You can choose Pleasant Avenue and track our school's progress at <https://sites.target.com/site/en/corporate/page.jsp?contentId=PRD03-005158>.

Tools for Schools – Go to <http://www2.pricechopper.com/toolsforschools/> with your Advantage Card and follow the instructions. Everything you purchase at Price Chopper with your Advantage Card earns points to help Pleasant Avenue get a larger share of the \$500,000 in FREE equipment to be distributed to participating schools. For example, last year we received two Listening Centers in addition to smaller items. **You must register your Advantage Card EVERY year.*



Volunteer Form

Complete and send back to your child's teacher by **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9th. (One form per family.)**

Your Name _____ Phone Number _____ E-mail _____

Student(s) Name _____ Teacher(s)/grade(s) _____

District Approved Volunteer (**circle one**) I am. I am not. I am not sure.

Program/Event/ Activity		Chairperson - If you would like to co-chair, mark the appropriate box.	Volunteer – Choose at least 1 or 2 with which you could help.	Snacks or juice? Check as many events for which you would like to provide.
Choose at least one or two programs with which you might be able to help – either as a chairperson, a volunteer at an event, or a baker, if needed.				
Academic Fair	Help coordinate/supervise event–minimal time commitment	H. Reed		N/A
Accelerated Reader Program	Assist with BBQ and/or yearlong program – an opportunity to help on your own time schedule	E. Cox K. Peck		N/A
Back to School Open House/Book Fair	Help at Warren or Glebe during their open house. They do the same for us, so we can be with our children. <i>*Book fair help needed during the few mornings following Open House Night.</i>	B. Edel D.Sepanara		(for our school)
Dance Party	Assist with planning and overseeing this new event! *New activity	P. Donohue		
BINGO Night	Assist in organizing and/or overseeing family BINGO night (e.g. pouring juice) – an easy opportunity to get involved	C. Lamori M. Poitras		
Fall Family Fun Festival	We will need LOTS of people to work games in shifts during this district-wide elementary school event and/or help organize, set-up, clean-up – MANY different opportunities. We'll need some males to help with setting up booths, etc. *New activity	E. Willett		
Fundraising Committee	Discover or design, organize and oversee various ideas for fundraisers, as a team. <i>*Let's try something new!</i>	L. VanAernam		N/A
Holiday Movie Night	Assist with planning and implementing a movie night to be held at PA – a fun opportunity. *New activity			
Holiday Parade	Assist in choosing theme and creating a float for Johnstown Holiday Parade			N/A
Minute to Win It – Family Night	Help organize and oversee – minimal set-up and clean-up. *New activity			
Pancake Breakfast	Assist with selling tickets, cooking, serving, set-up and clean-up (Sunday volunteer opportunity)			N/A
Parents As Reading Partners (PARP)	Work as part of a team to organize theme, events, final celebration, as well as track student participation	K. Meashaw K. Peck B. Brownell D. Sepanara		
Room Parents	Available to assist teacher with classroom events *Chosen at teacher's discretion, not PTAs	C. Lamori		N/A
School Photos	On picture day, assist children to look their best pretty quick and easy volunteer opportunity for someone who is available during the day.	E. Willett		N/A
Spring Art Show, Book Fair, and Ice Cream Social	Many opportunities – help scoop ice cream, assist in book fair, and/or set-up, clean-up. <i>*Book fair help needed during the few mornings following Art Show.</i>	K. Bintz B. Edel D. Sepanara		N/A
Talent Show	Assist in organizing and running event	S. Nasadoski J. Poling		N/A
Teacher Appreciation Luncheon	Assist with luncheon to be held June 21 st for teachers & staff	E. Willett		
Wellness Day	Assist with planning and implementing Wellness Day	R.Truckenmiller		N/A