

The Burr Elementary School PTA supports, through volunteer hours and financial assistance, a wide variety of programming -- from fundraising and spirit events to schoolwide and classroom enrichment programs. Of course, none of these programs and events would be possible without volunteers and the financial support of our parent community. Here is a list of programs and events:

## **Spirit & Fundraising Events**

### **Tears & Cheers -- August 29 @ 9:00 am**

Welcome and cheer students as they get off the bus on the first day of school! After, join the PTA Board in the cafeteria to catch up with old friends and meet new, fill out/turn in PTA forms and sign up for volunteer opportunities.

### **Ice Cream Social -- September 12**

Kick off the school year with an after school ice cream with friends. The ice cream truck will be on the playground for students to enjoy a cool treat while playing with new and old school friends!

### **Spooktacular -- October 25**

Get in the spooky spirit with this can't miss fundraising event. Students come in their Halloween costumes and enjoy bouncy houses and obstacles, games, photo booth, Cake Walk and bake sale. A costume contest wraps up the night.

### **Book Fair -- October & March**

Parents, teachers and children have an opportunity to shop at the Scholastic Book Fair store in school. Each class is scheduled with a half hour time slot during one of the three days, and there is a family night event one evening from 6-8. A portion of book sales goes directly to the PTA.

### **Ice Skating Social -- Martin Luther King Jr. Day**

Spend MLK day with your school friends in a fun ice skating outing.

### **Winter Games -- January**

Join your Burr friends in a little friendly family competition. Students and parents are divided into teams as they battle each other in fun games.

### **Mother/Son Dance -- March**

Boys! Grab your special someone and show them a night out. Dance includes DJ, photo booth and treats.

**Adult Social/Auction -- March**

Why should the kids have all the fun? Join fellow parents for a night out at Penfield Pavillion. Support the Burr PTA with the annual silent auction.

**Father/Daughter Dance -- April**

Girls...Now it is your turn! Grab your special someone and show them a night out. Dance includes DJ, photo booth and treats.

**Teacher Appreciation Week -- May**

Celebrate our teachers with a week of appreciation and pampering for our teachers. Notes of thanks, staff meals and snacks are just a few ways students and parents show our appreciation.

**Variety Show**

Sing, Dance, Magic, Juggle? Students are invited to show off their special talents and hobbies.

**Field Day**

An elementary tradition that celebrates the end of the school year with fun outdoor Olympics-type games.

**Family Picnic -- June**

Cap off the school year with a picnic at the Burr playground. Super Duper Weenie serves up all you can eat hot dogs, burgers and fries and the ice cream truck handles dessert!

**Burr Family Days -- Throughout**

Cheer on the Jets, Yankees, Sound Tigers and the Stags with fellow Burr students. Special discounted rates are offered with group seating.

**Book Swap**

Bring in your gently-used books and swap them with other classmates and even teachers!

**Fifth Grade Activities**

To mark the end of a chapter for our 5th graders, a variety of events and activities are planned throughout the year from their own, off-campus field day to an art and service project. Click here for more information.

## **Before & After School Programs**

### **After the Bell**

Through a third-party company, Flex Academy, before and after school activities are offered to students over four sessions -- fall, winter and spring and one mini-session (between Thanksgiving and winter breaks). Activities include sports classes, arts & crafts, STEAM and more. [Click Here for information \(INSERT LINK TO FLEX\)](#)

### **Chess Club**

Students learn and practice the game of chess. A beginner program is offered to teach new students the game and advanced level lessons are also available. Several local tournaments are offered including an annual one with Riverfield. A year-end tournament and awards breakfast celebrates the group's accomplishments.

### **Odyssey of the Mind**

Teams of five to seven students meet weekly from November through March to compete in an international creative problem-solving competition. The state-level competition takes place in March.

### **Running Club**

This fun, non-competitive club prepares third and fourth grade students for the 4th grade one-mile run given as part of the Fitness Assessment. Students will learn good running form, pace-setting, stretching and more. Running Club is held before school in the spring and fall.

## **Classroom Enrichment Programs**

### **Art in the Classroom**

Art in the Classroom introduces children to the world's great artists and encourages them to express their feelings and comments about a piece of artwork.

### **STEAM Enrichment**

Building on the STEAM curriculum already offered, teachers schedule outside vendors (High Tech, High Touch, Discovery Museum or Mr. Dirtmeister) to give students more hands-on STEAM experiences.

### **Branches Literary Magazine**

Showcasing some of the best works from students in grades 3-5, Branches is distributed at the end of the school year featuring poems, fiction and non-fiction pieces and artwork.

### **C.A.N.E. (grades K-2) and Mill River Lab (grades 3-5)**

An extension of the Fairfield Public Schools science curriculum, these programs offered across all grades give students hands on and in the field science experiences.

### **Storytellers**

Preserving the tradition of storytelling, parents recite a story from memory to students based on grades curriculum.

## **School-Wide Enrichment Programs**

### **Author Visits**

Throughout the school year a variety of children's authors are invited to engage the students into the world of literature through the eyes of an actual author. Previous authors have included Dan Gutman, Cynthia Lord and Sarah Weeks.

### **Diversity Week**

Encouraging acceptance and understanding of others, this week long program concluding with an assembly is geared towards 3rd and 5th graders as they learn what it is like to face different challenges from food allergies to sight impairment and physical limitations. Leading up to the assembly, all grades will hear a story about different challenges people face and discuss what they learned with their classmates.

### **Fairfield Arts for Youth (FAY)**

A PTA Council town-wide program that brings the arts to the schools.

### **Health & Wellness**

A variety of school-wide assemblies and activities are offered throughout the year to further educate students on the importance of a healthy lifestyle. Programs have included Tae Kwon Do, basketball with the Fairfield University men's team and yoga.

### **One Book/One School**

Students, teachers and families alike are encouraged to read the same book throughout the designated month with events and discussions based on the book taking place throughout the month.

### **Reflections**

A nationwide, PTA-sponsored contest open to all students. Students may enter their work in the areas of photography, musical composition, visual arts and literature.

# Other PTA Programs

## **Outreach**

Lending a hand to both our community at large through meals for Operation Hope as well as to our own community in need with meal trains, playdates, rides, etc through Bear Hugs.

## **Picture Day**

Capturing the Elementary years -- individual and class photos are taken and available for purchase.

## **Yearbook**

Creating a keepsake to cherish for years to come, a yearbook is offered to all students to purchase featuring individual and class photos along with candid photos of events throughout the year.