

## General PTA

- 🌐 Who can **join** the PTA? We invite adults involved in the lives of one of our students at GWCS to participate in PTA. We welcome mothers, fathers, teachers, school administrators, grandparents, mentors, foster parents, and other caregivers. By getting involved with PTA, the child who benefits most is one's own.
- 🌐 How does the PTA operate? The PTA is a part of the Pennsylvania and National PTAs. Thus, we have bylaws based on their bylaws – with local chapter modifications – and an Executive Board & Committee elected by the members. It is a democratically run organization, so that all members (families) have an opportunity to participate and vote.
- 🌐 How long is my **membership** good for? One year, July 1-June 30
- 🌐 How can I get **involved** in the PTA if I work full time? There are many volunteer opportunities to accommodate most any schedule. Some committees need help organizing volunteers via e-mails and telephone calls while others need help on one evening or one Saturday during the school year. The best way to find out what suits your family and work schedule is to contact our [volunteer coordinator] who can assist you in finding the right fit.
- 🌐 Do I have to do everything the PTA **sponsors**? All PTA activities are completely voluntary. The PTA sponsors a wide variety of activities and events for children and their families. Parents should choose the activities that suit their families' needs. If you have any questions about an event, call the chairperson or anyone on the PTA board [link]
- 🌐 What exactly do the PTA **fundraising** efforts support? This may change from year to year, as voted on by the PTA general membership. It has included in the past: sponsoring special field trips, assisting with the costs of transportation for field trips, helping teachers with special projects or equipment, adding iPads to the media center, assisting with the funding of the outdoor fitness and play equipment, etc.
- 🌐 Does GWCS support the advocacy efforts or programs of the **Pennsylvania or National PTA**? It can; similar to fundraising, this is something the PTA general membership must vote on. GWCS PTA is a member of both of these, and a 501(c)3, so we cannot "lobby," but we can advocate to parents to contact their own elected officials. All GWCS PTA members are members of the PA and National PTAs.
- 🌐 What **committees** are within the PTA? Presently they are: Classroom Parent/Volunteer, Events and Hospitality, Fundraising.
- 🌐 As a PTA member, do I need to **join** a committee **or** can I just **volunteer** when my time permits? You can volunteer either way – you can work at the book fair for one shift or you could coordinate multiple fundraisers as a part of the fundraising committee.
- 🌐 What is the **difference** between the **Board**, the **Foundation**, and the **PTA**? Green Woods Board of Trustees is the governing body for Green Woods Charter School. The Board of Trustees helps create a vision for the future of Green Woods and then directs and supports that vision – they are the Charter School version of the traditional public district's "School Board." The Green Woods Foundation for Environmental Education was created to provide a way for organizations, grant providers and individuals to directly support GWCS through a 501(c)3. The Foundation is able to accept donations and apply for grants on behalf of the school for the purposes of ensuring the continued quality operations of the school and its unique curriculum. The PTA is the organization that supports the families, faculty and staff of GWCS as a community.