

HEY FAMILIES!

JOIN THE COTTAGE STREET SCHOOL PTO

Help us build a strong school community and join us as a partner in education. Cottage is a central part of our children's lives. By giving some time, expertise or financial support to the work of CSS PTO, you help ensure that Cottage is a place where our children will thrive.

**ALL PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS INVITED!
JOIN US FOR OUR FIRST PTO MEETING:
"SELTZER MIX AND MINGLE"
THUR SEPT 5
7 PM - CSS LIBRARY (FREE BABYSITTING)**

We can't do this without YOU!

Please join and help us achieve our goal of **100% membership participation.**

Return to your child's teacher in an envelope marked **CSS PTO Membership**. Only paid members will receive a **Cottage Street School Directory**.

YES, we want to support Cottage Street Elementary School as a partner in education and join the PTO community. Enclosed is our membership dues of \$30 per family (checks made out to PTO, memo "Membership") to jumpstart school, teacher and student resources.

Please check this box if you paid your membership fee online at CottagePTO.org.

Child(ren) Name(s) and Teacher(s) and Grade(s) _____

Parent(s) Name(s) _____

Email cottagepto@gmail.com with any questions.



WHAT DID MONEY RAISED SUPPORT LAST YEAR?

- **EVERY CSS teacher received a stipend to purchase materials for their classrooms.**
- **Each grade level received 2 ENRICHMENT programs** (i.e., Discovery Museum of Lights and Lasers; Museum of Science Wind and Energy, Southwick Zoomobile).
- Supported field trips for **EVERY CLASSROOM.**
- Sponsored Teacher Appreciation Week and Teacher "Snack Breaks" throughout the year.
- Supported the 5th grade Broadway Cougars and Graduation.
- Funded special classroom items for the gym, music and library teachers.
- Bagged hundreds of luncheons for the MainSpring lunch program for those in need.
- Popped over 6,500 bags of popcorn for our students!
- Purchased new equipment for the playground.
- Sponsored a bullying seminar for parents, as well as speakers to speak on curriculum topics throughout the year.
- Hosted and sponsored multiple community building and family events, such as the Back to School BBQ, Halloween Bingo, Game Night, Winter Dance, Cultural Festival, Chinese New Year Parade, STEAM Night and Fun Fair.



PTO MYTHBUSTERS

MYTH: The PTO is for stay-at-home moms and dads.

FACT: The PTO is for EVERYONE! We think of everyone at CSS as a Partner in Education.

MYTH: If I donate, then I have to go to PTO meetings and volunteer.

FACT: Nope! There are no membership requirements. And, while we would love to see you at meetings or love the extra hands at events, we understand people share a variety of resources - time, talent, finances - to make this school great.

MYTH: Volunteering takes too much time.

FACT: Only you decide how much time you want to spend at the school! Drop off a food item, or sign up for a class booth at the Fun Fair - we appreciate all help!

MYTH: The only volunteering opportunities are while I am at work.

FACT: No, some are in the evenings or weekends! And, some just require organizing while at your computer, which can be done on your own schedule.