

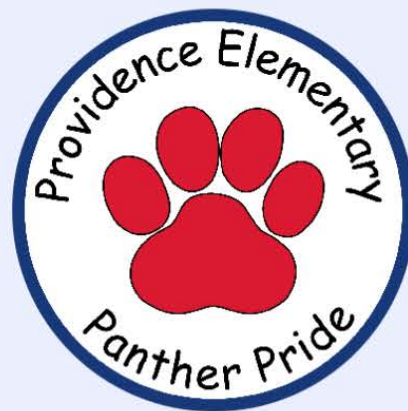


**BACK TO  
SCHOOL**

**PROVIDENCE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
PTA GLOSSARY**



**SCAN TO VISIT  
OUR WEBSITE**





# WELCOME TO THE PROVIDENCE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FAMILY!

THIS PTA GLOSSARY IS A GREAT STARTING POINT FOR ANYONE NEW TO PROVIDENCE. WE STRONGLY ENCOURAGE YOU TO VISIT THE PTA WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ALL THESE TOPICS. CHECK YOUR TUESDAY FOLDERS (NOW ONLINE!) FOR INFORMATION EACH WEEK! THE PTA WILL HOLD AS MANY EVENTS AS WE CAN, AND WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!



## 2023 - 2024

**PROVIDENCE WEBSITE** [HTTP://PROVIDENCES.FCPS.EDU](http://providences.fcps.edu)

**PROVIDENCE FACEBOOK** SEARCH FOR @PROVIDENCES

**PROVIDENCE TWITTER**

[HTTP://WWW.TWITTER.COM/PROVIDENCES](http://www.twitter.com/providences)

**PROVIDENCE/FCPS NEWS YOU CHOOSE**

[HTTPS://PUBLIC.GOVDELIVERY.COM/ACCOUNTS/  
VAEDUFCPS/SUBSCRIBER/NEW](https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/vaedufcps/subscriber/new)

**PES PTA WEBSITE** [HTTPS://PROVIDENCE.PTBOARD.COM/](https://providence.ptboard.com/)  
(SCHOOL CODE HBPMF9)

**PES PTA FACEBOOK** SEARCH FOR @PTAPROVIDENCE



## A-Z STUDENT DIRECTORY

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We strongly encourage you to log into our website and add your address, phone number and other information you would like to share, so students and families can stay connected, however that works for you and your family. It could mean a play date or a Zoom call for your kids. This could be the extra support your child needs to stay engaged and involved. Kindergarten parents and other new families will also be able to use this information to find other students that may live near them and begin to establish relationships NOW! This information is only available to **PAID PTA MEMBERS** of PES that choose to use this site. You can view the directory once it's been uploaded (hopefully mid-September) on the PES PTA website.

<https://providence.ptboard.com/>  
School Code: HBPMF9

## BACK TO SCHOOL BREAKFAST FOR TEACHERS

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We like to welcome our teachers back to school in August with a fun breakfast.





## BINGO NIGHT

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Join us in the PES cafeteria for a family-friendly night of games and prizes. Game cards and concessions are available at the door. Pizza must be purchased in advance.

## BOOK FAIR WITH SCHOLASTIC

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This is an event where children, families and teachers can purchase scholastic books at our school. It is organized by the PTA and directly benefits the library at PES. Grades 1-6 visit the fair during the school day at the beginning of the week. Parents can send in money with their students to purchase books or use the online wallet provided by Scholastic. We also invite the entire family to attend our family nights, or parents are welcome to come in during school hours and browse the selections as well.



## CANDY GRAMS

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This is a Student Council Association (SCA) sponsored event. Write a note to your friends or favorite teacher/staff member. They will receive your note as well as a lollipop. The SCA uses the proceeds to help the school.

## CHESS CLUB

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Playing chess is a great way to develop a child's critical thinking skills, sportsmanship and patience – all while having fun! Chess club is taught by experienced Silver Knights Chess players and educators, using a curriculum developed by National Masters.

## CODING CLUB

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Students will learn to code their own interactive animations, stories and games using Scratch. Scratch is a fun and creative way to learn programming skills and computational thinking.



## FACEBOOK

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Please "like" us at PTA Providence! We post lots of information and reminders here and you don't want to miss it.

## FAMILY NIGHTS OUT

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A great and easy way to support our school! The PTA partners with local restaurants to bring you fun and fundraising at no extra cost to you. The businesses donate anywhere from 10-50% of the proceeds directly back to the PTA, so come hungry! These social events are fun for the kids and give you a chance to meet other PES parents and teachers.

Check the PTA calendar for dates and times as well as information in the Tuesday folders.

## FCPS TEXT MESSAGING FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS

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Also called News You Choose. Receive PES and FCPS information directly on your phone.

[https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/VAEDU/FCPS/subscriber/new?qsp=Providence\\_ES](https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/VAEDU/FCPS/subscriber/new?qsp=Providence_ES)



## FUNDRAISING

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The PTA runs events throughout the year to raise funds. These events typically include a fall fundraiser (Read-A-Thon) and a spring fundraiser (Fun Run/Spring Fling event), as well as Family Nights Outs and other activities that are listed separately within this glossary.

## GIRLS ON THE RUN (GOTR)

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This is an after-school program (grades 3-6 only) offered in the fall/spring which teaches life skills through dynamic lessons and running games. Certified GOTR coaches (also teachers at PES) teach the curriculum. GOTR programs across Northern Virginia participate in a 5K race at the end of their season. Runners of all ages and abilities are welcome and invited to register for the 5K, even those that do not participate in GOTR during the year.



## KISS & RIDE

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A dedicated area at the side of the school for students being dropped off and picked up during arrival and dismissal. Please review the Kiss & Ride policies with your children and all potential drivers to avoid confusion. The safety of our children is our primary goal. If all drivers cooperate, we can accomplish a safe and efficient Kiss & Ride process.

## OLDEST AND ONLY

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When the school or PTA sends home information in a Tuesday folder it sometimes goes to every child. When possible, we use an "oldest and only" distribution list to avoid having parents receive duplicates. This means the oldest child in the family or an only child will receive the flyer.

## OUTDOOR MOVIE NIGHT

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Bring your blanket and beach chairs, sit back and enjoy the show. This is a free family-friendly event. Popcorn and concessions will be available for purchase and food trucks will be present. This is typically held in late September/October.





## PANTHER DANCE

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A school-wide favorite - join us for a night of dancing and fun! Held in April, this is a night the entire family looks forward to and it's one of our most popular events! Music and games with a DJ, dancing for everyone, and popcorn and other concession available.

## PTA MEETINGS

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The PTA hosts meetings for parents and teachers with paid PTA membership in order to communicate information regarding past and future PTA events and business. School updates are provided by administration, teachers, PTA committee chairs and PTA officers. Meetings last about 60 minutes. The PTA tries to alternate meetings during the day and evening to encourage all to attend. Meetings may also be paired with guest speakers. Information regarding PTA meetings and presenters are communicated in the Tuesday folder.



## PTA MEMBERSHIP

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Everyone – parents, educators, students and other citizens active in their schools and communities – is invited to join our not-for-profit parent association. You may join at any time during the year, but we encourage you to sign up early to maximize the benefits.

- The number one reason to join the Parent Teacher Association is to benefit your child. In doing so, you also help your school.
- Please note our membership is annual - you will need to sign up each year.
- Receiving the PTA emails and information is free, but we encourage you to become a member. This year we will have tiered memberships that include lots of goodies!

The PTA is always looking for volunteers to assist with all the wonderful activities we do for the students, as well as teachers, administrators and support staff. Even if you only have 30 minutes to help, we greatly appreciate it!



## READ-A-THON

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A three-week, school wide program that focuses entirely on reading. This is the PTA's largest fundraising activity of the school year, and it is organized and managed by the PTA. Students will rally pledge support with the help of an easy to use online fundraising page. There are several incentives for the students and classrooms each week. Information will be communicated through the Tuesday Folder and PTA website.

## SCHOOL SUPPLIES

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The PTA selects an outside vendor to provide school supply kits for the following school year. Order forms are distributed in the spring. Payment is collected in school and online. School supply kits are delivered to students' classrooms prior to the first day of school. This is an easy way for families to purchase school supplies for their children. Information will be communicated in the Tuesday Folders in the spring.

<https://www.campussurvivalkits.com/providence>



## SPIRIT WEAR

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The PTA creates and sells school spirit wear to promote School Spirit and Pride. We have long- and short-sleeved shirts, sweatshirts, hoodies, car magnets, and so much more. Our new online shop makes customizing your spirit wear easy, and everything ships directly to you! You choose to ship purchases to school to be sent home or delivered directly to you. Information regarding Spirit Wear sales will be communicated through the Tuesday Folders. This is a PTA fundraiser. You can view information on the PES PTA website.

## STAFF APPRECIATION

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Throughout the school year, we show our gratitude to those that help our kids each day. This recognition includes our custodians, crossing guards, and administrative staff. During this time the PTA recognizes and shows our appreciation to these staff members on behalf of the parents of PES. Students are encouraged to provide recognition and appreciation to these staff members as well. Please refer to the PTA calendar for event dates.



## STUDENT COUNCIL ASSOCIATION

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The SCA is a group of student leaders who work with an adult advisor to collaborate with others to impact their school community, which impacts their city or town, which impacts our state, which impacts our country, which changes the world. Elections are held for graders 3-6 for class representatives.

## SIXTH GRADE PARTY

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Ouy Sixth Graders have worked hard for 7 years at PES, and they deserve a day of fun! The last day of school is a party, just for the graduates. The party is planned, organized and hosted by 6th grade parents on a volunteer basis. It is preceded by the 6th grade parade, where the 6th graders walk through the hallways of Providence while being cheered on by the younger grade students and teachers. It features a secret theme voted and decided upon by the parents. Past 6th grade parties have featured food, a DJ, games and a photo booth. It's a special event in which the 6th graders are given a big send off as they leave PES and head to middle school. Donations are needed to pay for this event, and parents will be contacted during the year



## STEAM LAB AND STEAM NIGHT

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PES uses a dedicated lab space and two STEAM resource teachers to cycle all students through three to four engineering challenges during the year. The challenges require five consecutive days for each class, which allows students to understand the challenge, take it through the engineering design process to collaboratively find solutions, collect and share data, improve designs, and reflect on how they used their Innovator Skills. A family STEAM night is held during the school year where you can be hands-on with your child, using these Innovator Skills.

## STRINGS

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PES students are invited to join Strings (grades 4-6) or Band (grades 5-6). This is a great opportunity for your child to try out different instruments.



TEACHER  
APPRECIATION  
WEEK

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In recognition of the hard work of our classroom teachers, instructional assistants and specialists, the PTA organizes a week of activities to show them our gratitude. Detailed information is sent home in Tuesday Folders and posted online prior to this week. Students and families can celebrate and contribute individually throughout the week. Teacher Appreciation Week is celebrated in the spring.

TEARS AND  
CHEERS

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There's no better way to dry those tears as you leave your kindergartener's classroom than meeting other parents experiencing the same emotions you are. Join us for a little snack, coffee and conversation for an opportunity to meet some of our administrators and PTA volunteers.



## THANKSGIVING LUNCH

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A PES tradition that we hope to bring back. Come to school and celebrate Thanksgiving with your child! Each grade eats together. Lunch prices and individual times are provided closer to the date. Volunteers may be needed to help serve lunch.

## TRIVIA NIGHT

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Join us for a night of trivia fun! This event is for the whole family and was new during the 2019-2020 year. We hope to bring this back as well!

## TUESDAY FOLDERS

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This is now accessible online every Tuesday via your Schoology account. This folder contains important information from the school, teachers, PTA and community to communicate important dates, events, and information. This folder is a very important means of communication from our school to each family.

## YEARBOOKS

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This is a great way for your child to celebrate and remember each year at PES. Pre-sales will occur in the spring.

