



Rydal Elementary School
PTO

WELCOME PACKET

LOOK INSIDE FOR THESE IMPORTANT INFO SHEETS AND FORMS:

- Welcome Letter
- Volunteer Form
- PTO Meeting Schedule
- PTO Dues Form
- Room Parent Letter and Form
- Family Directory Form
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Rydal Elementary School's Parent Teacher Organization

September, 2021

Dear Rydal Families,

Welcome to the beginning of another exciting school year! We are looking forward to working together to make all of our events and activities fun and engaging for everyone. For all of our new families, we are so thrilled to have you join our Rydal Community!

We are very fortunate at Rydal Elementary to have a group of excellent teachers and staff. Our goal as the PTO is to support the school by adding to our children's curriculum with exciting and educational programs, activities and events. Examples of PTO sponsored events and programs include the Back to School Picnic, Briar Bush Nature program, assemblies, the SUN Center at West, our Winter Dance and Family Outing, End of Year Carnival, and more. We work hard to make every child's experience at Rydal memorable.

It is important to understand that we are a VOLUNTEER organization whose success is based on the participation of parents! Our events and programs can't happen without involvement from our Rydal community. As your board officers, we are here to help parents in any way we can. Please remember that the PTO board are your fellow parent volunteers and need your support to ensure the success of the organization. If you would like to volunteer please fill out the form in this packet and feel free to contact any of us with questions or concerns. You'll find the list of meeting dates for the upcoming school year in this packet. Please come to the meetings to stay informed and to be an active participant.

Take some time to visit and explore the Rydal PTO website at www.rydalpto.com where you can find information you may need to make your year easier, including links to the forms in this packet, current PTO events, a calendar and important links to Skyward and MySchoolBucks and more.

This is a wonderful community of families and together we can make Rydal Elementary an enjoyable place for our children to learn and grow. We can't wait to see what this school year will bring!

Your PTO Officers 2021-2022

President:

Co-Vice President:

Co- Vice President:

Co -Recording Secretary:

Co-Recording Secretary:

Corresponding Secretary:

Treasurer:

Morgan Selkirk

Deb Donahue

Alex Mareiniss

Colleen Regan Pratt

Ofra Shoham-Bazel

Laura Reale

Jamie Frey

MamaMoSelkirk@gmail.com

DebRN421@verizon.net

AlexMareiniss@yahoo.com

BenAndTessasMom@gmail.com

Ofrabazel_shoham@hotmail.com

LauraReale@verizon.net

Jamie@classicfrey.com



School is back in session and so is the PTO!

Please come (or sign on) and get involved in your student's experiences at school including fundraisers, Book fairs, outdoor learning opportunities, parties, building community, and so much more...

We can't do it without you!

Below is a list of the PTO meetings for the upcoming school year.

- **Monday , September 27, 2021** 8:00 pm - Zoom
- **Monday, October 25** 8:00 pm - Zoom
- **Monday, November 29** 8:00 pm - Zoom
- **Monday, January 31, 2022** 8:00 pm - TBD
- **Wednesday, February 23** 8:00 pm - TBD
- **Monday, March 28** 8:00 pm - TBD
- **Monday, May 23** 8:00 pm - TBD

****We will remain on zoom for the beginning of the year and assess our ability to get into the building in the new calendar year.****

Special topics may be added to our scheduled meetings. These will be posted on the buzz blast (link to sign up on our website) and on RydalPTO.com prior to the PTO meeting.

**Please don't forget, at least one room parent per room and event chairpersons are expected to be present at ALL meetings.

The schedule and meeting minutes will be posted at www.RydalPTO.com

Rydal Elementary PTO Volunteer Form 2021-2022

Your Name _____

Current Abington School District Clearance Badge (circle one): YES NO
(Please note: This is a requirement to volunteer in the school and a copy will need to be provided)

Student(s) Name(s) _____

Teacher(s)/Grade(s) _____

E-mail address _____

Phone _____

There is a volunteer opportunity for everyone!

We understand that everyone's schedule is different, but there is something for everyone. The list of PTO activities are on our ABOUT US section of the website. If you don't see something that fits in your calendar, feel free to contact us to hear of other opportunities that may work for you.

Please fill out this form and return it to school in an envelope marked:
"RYDAL PTO VOLUNTEER FORM"

**** MANDATORY:** Please provide a copy of your valid Volunteer Clearance badge with this form or send a picture of it to rydalschoolpto@gmail.com for school office files. Instructions can be found by clicking on the "Clearance Instructions" button at www.rydalpto.com/pto-forms-and-flyers.html **

If you are interested in taking a leadership role in any event/activity committee, please indicate below.

We are always looking for new ideas for events and/or after school activities.
Please feel free to share those with us at rydalschoolpto@gmail.com.

_____ I would be interested in chairing/co-chairing the following event/program this year

_____ I am interested in shadowing a specific position or event chair for an upcoming year for the event/activity./position of: _____

Please refer to **RydalPTO.com** for brief descriptions and time commitments of PTO sponsored events.

Please Return This Form by Friday, September 17, 2021



Welcome to the 2021-2022 Rydal school year! Being a **“Room Parent”** is a great way to become involved within your child’s classroom. Some of the responsibilities that go along with this role are:

- One room parent per class is designated the “lead” who will maintain contact with the classroom teacher and coordinate with the other room parent and classroom volunteers. The lead room parent will create an email chain for your classroom and send out necessary emails.
- Develop sign up genius’ to send to classroom parents requesting snacks, games and crafts for parties. (If you need help with a sign up genius, we will be happy to help.)

Please note: We do NOT collect any money for parties from the parents - instead parents sign up to send in a party donation item(s).

- Collect money for teachers gift(s) before the Winter and End of the Year party. (Sixth grade room parents WILL NOT be following this protocol)
- Help collect items and create a basket for Rydal Ringo.
- Collect classroom parent contact information and maintain communication as needed.

If you are selected, all of this and MORE will be discussed at a MANDATORY Room Parent Meeting on **Monday, September 27th immediately following the general PTO meeting.**

If you are interested please fill out the bottom portion of this form. Filling out the form DOES NOT confirm Room Parent status. We have been asked to limit room parents to 2 room parents per classroom and they will be chosen at random. If you have multiple children in the school, we can’t guarantee that you will be assigned to each classroom. This year, classroom parties will be limited. Class room parent involvement will be determined at a later date and may be at the discretion of the teacher’s requests. Please have your form sent into school to the attention of “Laura Reale, PTO, Room Parent Form” by **September 17, 2021.**

PLEASE NOTE: It is required to submit a picture of your CURRENT ABINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT VOLUNTEER BADGE. This will be turned into the main office. You can send in a copy of your badge with this form or you can email a picture of it to rydalschoolpto@gmail.com. Please be aware that a drivers license, any other clearance badge from work or another district cannot be accepted and you will not be admitted into the school as a volunteer for any classroom activities without the ASD approved version.

Please Print Clearly

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Grade/Teacher’s name(s) that you would like to be room parent for: _____

Interested in being Lead Room Parent: YES NO NO PREFERENCE

I HAVE A CURRENT ABINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT CLEARANCE BADGE (Please Circle One)

YES NO

I AM INCLUDING A PICTURE OF MY CURRENT BADGE: ATTACHED OR EMAILING IT

(PLEASE CIRCLE ONE)



Volunteer Clearance Badges

We would LOVE to have you volunteer with us at Rydal Elementary School, but in order to do so you MUST have a current Abington School District Volunteer Badge!

If you do not have this badge, you may be turned away at the front office. Don't let this happen! We have included an information sheet to guide you through the steps to get you the clearances you need. You then need to bring those clearances to the Administration building to obtain your ID badge.

You can also find the links to the clearance forms on our website, www.RYDALPTO.com

Please feel free to contact us with any questions at rydalschoolpto@gmail.com

Thank you!

HOW TO OBTAIN CERTIFICATION FORMS - VOLUNTEERS

To assist you in obtaining the **PA State Police Criminal Record Check**: (FREE)

1. Go to <https://epatch.state.pa.us/Home.jsp> and click on "submit a new record check".
2. Select "New Record Check (Volunteers Only)" in the middle of the screen.
3. After reviewing the Terms and Conditions of Use, check "Volunteer Acknowledgement" and "Accept" at the bottom of the screen.
4. Type "Abington School District" and "215-884-4700" as Volunteer Organization name and Volunteer Organization Telephone Number
5. Follow the prompts.
6. You may receive an immediate "No Criminal Record" response or "Under Review" response. It is your responsibility to check the website frequently until you receive a "No Criminal Record" or "Criminal Record Found" response. If you receive a "Criminal Record Found" response, the results will be mailed to your home.
7. Print 2 copies of the "No Criminal Record" results (one for you to keep and a second copy for the Office of Human Resources). If you have a Criminal Record, you must bring in the original copy to the Office of Human Resources.

To assist you in obtaining **the Pennsylvania Child Abuse History Certification**: (FREE)

1. Go to <https://www.compass.state.pa.us/CWIS>
2. Create an account
3. Follow the prompts and be sure to select "Volunteer" to avoid paying any fee.
4. Submit your certification application online.
5. Print 2 copies of the results (one for you to keep and a second copy for the Office of Human Resources).

To assist you in obtaining the **Federal Criminal History Record Information (\$22.60)**

1. Go to: <https://uenroll.identogo.com/>
2. Input 1KG6XN in the "Enter your Service Code to get started" field
3. Select "Schedule or Manage Appointment"
4. Complete all necessary demographic information including legal name, date of birth, email address and phone number
5. Create a security question and provide the answer
6. Select country of birth from the drop down menu, "*Country of Birth"
7. Input the city of your birth in the "City of your Birth" field
8. Select state of Birth from "*State/Province of Birth"
9. Select Country from drop down menu, "Country of Citizenship"
10. Select "Yes" or "No" from the radio buttons to answer "Have you ever used an alias?" Remember: maiden names or nicknames that you may have used are considered aliases
11. Select "Yes" or "No" from the radio buttons to answer "Is your mailing address the same as your residential address?"
12. Select "Yes" or "No" from the radio buttons to answer "Do you have an Authorization Code (Coupon Code) that you will be using as a method of payment?" (The School District does not provide an Authorization Code.)
13. Select "Continue"
14. Input your height and weight and select your Hair and Eye Color, Gender, Race and Ethnicity from the drop down menus.

15. Select "Continue"
16. Select Country from drop down menu "Country" and input your Address where indicated.
17. Select "Continue"
18. Select the type of identification you will bring to the fingerprint location from the drop down menu "Document"
19. Select "Yes" or "No" from the radio buttons to answer "Does the name you are enrolling under match the name on all documents selected?" Note: Legal name must match exactly on all identification documents brought to enrollment.
20. Select "Continue"
21. Input your zip code where indicated to search for a location closest to you.
22. Select a location to be fingerprinted and select "Next"
23. Select an appointment date and time or choose "Walk in"
24. Print the Pre-Enrollment form and take with you to the fingerprint site with a business check, money order or credit card to pay the fee of \$22.60

2021-2022 PTO Dues

For a PTO to successfully enrich our children's school year, many factors play a role. Rydal's PTO spends approximately \$75 per child every year for educational programs, field trip subsidies, assemblies, author visits and more!

We hold several fundraisers throughout the year, but similar to most organizations, those efforts won't cover all costs. Please support us by joining the 2021-2022 Rydal PTO by sending in your yearly **PTO dues of \$20 per family.**

Your dues can be paid at the Open House, Back-to-school picnic, by sending the attached envelope with your donation into school with your child (*in an envelope marked with your name and "Colleen Regan Pratt - PTO dues"*) or via PayPal by going to www.rydalpto.com.

You may ask, what do my dues cover???

Great Question! *Did you know that Student Enrichment Programs are not Abington School District Funded? Nope, they're all PTO funded. Some of these programs are:*

- All Briar Bush Enrichment Programs in the classroom and at Pumpkin Fest and Earth Day activities
- Dialed Up Action Sports Assembly (the BMX presentation/anti-bullying presentation in September)
- Supplemental gym and recess supplies
- MCIU Reading Olympics Program
- Author Visit(s)
- All Bee Cart prizes for East and West
- Back To School Picnic
- Trunk or Treat/Fall Fest
- Winter Formal
- Family Fun Night
- Carnival
- Rydal Ringo
- Copier rental and supplies for all PTO forms and flyers
- West students receive the Rydal vinyl 3-pocket folder
- East students receive a green Rydal Elementary folder
- East students receive a Daily Planner/Homework Journal
- Pretzels for students at Raccoon Rally
- Pretzels for students at the end of PSSA week
- Kindergarten and New Student Orientation - snacks and water during events in May and August.
- Refreshments at all General PTO Meetings
- Teacher and Staff Appreciation Lunches in September and at the end of the school year
- Room Parent supplies support
- DJ and music for school events
- Teacher Birthday gifts, condolence gifts and new baby gifts
- ...And so much more.

RYDAL DIRECTORY

2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN to your child's teacher by:

Friday September 17, 2021

PLEASE DO NOT INCLUDE Our Family in the Directory.

Childs First Name	Last Name	Teacher	Grade

PLEASE INCLUDE Our Family in the Directory.

Family Contact Information

Parent/Guardian 1:

Name	
Address	
Email	
Phone	

Parent/Guardian 2:

Name	
Address (if different)	
Email	
Phone	

In order for your information to appear in the directory you must provide your signature below:

X _____
(Residence 1)
(I authorize Rydal Elementary to Publish my family information)

X _____
(Residence 2, if applicable)
(I authorize Rydal Elementary to Publish my family information)

Please Note:

For parents with separate residences, the district requires each parent to authorize the publication of his or her address, phone numbers and e-mail.



Please obey these signs on school property!

Rydal Elementary School is committed to ensuring the needs of all members of our community are respected.

If you don't have a DMV issued placard or license plate to occupy an accessible spot and you **block** or **park** in a handicap parking space **OR** within the lined boxes on either side at Rydal East OR West, your license plate number will be recorded and reported to the Abington Police Department.

Title 75: You risk having your vehicle towed and/or incurring parking violation fines up to \$400.

**Be aware that Rydal has students and parents that require the use of these reserved spots legally.*

Please be mindful.