**ERIEVIEW**

**PTA**

**GUIDE**

**2018-2019**

**WELCOME!**

Welcome to a new school year! Erieview is an amazing place for our students to learn, grow and have fun. This is thanks to the cooperation of our wonderful Erieview staff, families and PTA. This guide is designed to give you an overview of the Erieview PTA and to explain our programs. We invite you to find one or many PTA sponsored activities that interest you. Involvement will look different for everyone. It could be a little or a lot. It might happen at school or from home. **Every little bit that we each contribute makes a huge difference for our students and our school**.

THE PURPOSE OF PTA

The Erieview Parent Teacher Association is a non-profit organization for parents, family members and school staff. The goals of our PTA, in common with those of the Local, National and State PTA, are to promote the welfare of our children, to encourage a closer relationship between parents and the school, and to foster cooperation between parents and teachers in the education of our children. Simply, Erieview’s PTA works to support the school, Erieview students and Erieview families. Our goal is to welcome all who wish to work together to better our school community. We strive to be an organization that is able to grow and change with our school’s, students’ and families’ needs and wishes. New PTA programs and committees are established as members offer ideas and input. Suggestions for improvement of current programs and new programs are always welcome and appreciated. Please contact a board member at any time with questions, suggestions or new ideas.

WHAT IS PTA ABOUT?

There are five main components of the Erieview PTA:

**Membership**: We hope all Erieview families will consider becoming members of PTA. **Communication:** PTA supports communication between school and home.

**Fundraising**: PTA raises funds to purchase gifts for the school and to provide fantastic programs for our students and families.

**Service**: PTA provides services and conveniences to Erieview students and families, as well as the staff, school and community.

**Activities & Enrichment**: PTA organizes activities to have fun, promote school community and to enrich each student’s educational experience.

MEMBERSHIP

**EVERYONE can join the PTA – parents, grandparents, other family members, teachers, friends and caregivers are ALL WELCOME!** As a member of Erieview’s PTA, you have the opportunity to participate in a variety of programs that benefit your student, your family and our school. Membership involves a small fee that goes to support the Local, State and National PTA. Most importantly, membership shows your support of your student and Erieview**.** Membership also allows you the opportunity to be actively involved in our school community. *You MUST be a current PTA member to volunteer at PTA organized or sponsored events.* PTA members receive a copy of the Erieview Student Directory. PTA members are also entitled to discounts at a number of local and national businesses.

COMMUNICATION

***Monthly PTA meetings* –** Erieview PTA holds monthly meetings. These meetings provide time for us to discuss pertinent topics about our school and to talk directly with Erieview’s Principal, Mr. David Schindler. This year our meetings will be held the first Tuesday of each month. There will be at least 2 evening meetings throughout the year. Please refer to the PTA calendar for specific dates and times.

***Erieview Bulletin*** – The Erieview Bulletin is a weekly email sent out to all Erieview families. It includes information and reminders about current and upcoming school events. A designated PTA member creates the Bulletin each week. It is then forwarded to Mr. Schindler so that it can be distributed to all Erieview families. If you find that you are not receiving the bulletin, please send an email to Mr. Schindler (david.schindler@avonlakecityschools.org) so that he may update the distribution list.

***Directory*** – As a member of the PTA you will have the option of including your family’s contact information in our directory. The directory is a helpful resource to have in order to contact other parents and children about school happenings or to set up social gatherings! As a PTA member you will receive the directory via email along with updates throughout the year.

***Website –*** Visit the PTA link on the Erieview website where we post announcements, updates, PTA contact information and various forms.

***Kindergarten/New Student Liaison*** – Being new to a school can be exciting and overwhelming. So…if you are new to Erieview please feel free to contact our Liaison with ANY and ALL questions, thoughts or concerns. Please refer to the current PTA Roster on the Erieview website to find the current Liaison.

FUNDRAISING

PTA raises money to support our many programs listed in this guide. Fundraising also allows PTA to purchase gifts for Erieview to enhance the school and the learning environment. For example, last year PTA purchased tables for classrooms, contributed to school wide assemblies, supplemented interior painting of the building, purchased new outdoor recess materials, books for the library, gift for new teachers as well as fulfilling requests for many other classroom and school organizations.

***Fall Fundraiser* – *Saleless Fundraiser***

Stay tuned as more information comes home about this convenientand highly profitable fundraiser!

***Spring Fundraiser*** –Erieview PTA typically holds a spring fundraiser. Recently, we have partnered with Mixed Bag Designs, Furbish and Fire Candles and will be hosting another Fun Run. Volunteers will be needed for the fundraising events. The FunRun has become a highly anticipated event and a great fundraiser for our school.

***Marco’s School Challenge –*** This school year,Marco’s Pizza is sponsoring a $50,000 Online School Challenge. This event runs September 1 – April 30. When you order online, **no matter the date**, Erieview earns points towards the Challenge. Remember to select Erieview under the School Challenge tab when you place your order.

***Box Tops for Education*** – Erieview participates in the national Box Tops Program. To participate, clip the Box Top logo on sponsored food items you purchase. Place clipped box tops in a zippy bag with your child’s teacher’s name on it and send the bag to school with your student. Erieview receives money based on the number of box tops submitted. The classroom donating the most box tops earns a reward. Volunteers are needed to help sort and count box tops throughout the year.

***Retail Programs*** – Did you know that local stores including Giant Eagle, Heinen's and Target offer special school programs where they donate money or give points to a school of your choice based on your purchases?  All you need to do is register your Rewards card or Target RedCard and choose your school.  Often, you need to re-register your card each year. Please visit the links below for more information.  Spread the word to family and friends too…don't forget to register Erieview as your school of choice!

Giant Eagle:  *Apples for the Students*

*http://www.gianteagle.com/Save/Supporting-Our-Schools/Apples-for-the-Students/*

Heinens:  *ABC Program*

[*http://www.heinensrewards.com/abcprogram.aspx*](http://www.heinensrewards.com/abcprogram.aspx)

Red Robin: *Burgers for Better Schools*

*http://www.redrobin.com/company/giving-back/fundraising.html*

***Amazon*** – Simply access this popular website thru the link on Erieview’s website. Erieview is rewarded with a portion of your purchase.

***Recycling*** *–* Erieview has two “green” ways to raise money*.*

*• Paper Recycling:* Please utilize our recycling bins located on the Electric Boulevard side of our building. These bins accept newspaper, printed paper andmagazines. Erieview receives money based on the amount of recycled materials received.

*• Ink Cartridge Recycling:* You may also recycle your empty ink cartridges from your home or office printers here at Erieview. Send empty cartridges to school with your student. PTA sends cartridges for recycling and in turn we receive money to be used toward PTA programs.

*• Colorcycle* – Erieview and lots of other schools throughout the country have teamed up with Crayola to help students play a role in protecting the environment. Colorcyle is a program where students collect used markers of any brand including dry erase markers and highlighters. The markers are collected in a bin outside the Erieview Art Room. When the bin is full, the markers are boxed up and mailed to Crayola. They are then melted down and repurposed into fuel. Go to www.crayola.com/colorcycle for more information and a short video about the process. Help Erieview keep used markers out of landfills…send in those markers!

SERVICES to Students, Families & Staff

***Advocacy*** – This committee chairperson keeps Erieview families updated on current topics at the local, state and national PTA levels.

***Birthday Board*** – PTA maintains the birthday board located in the main hallway near the cafeteria. Each month the board is updated to announce students’ birthdays.

***Cookie Walk*** – Each December, a holiday cookie walk is organized for Erieview teachers and staff. PTA looks for over 50 bakers to contribute baked goodies so the staff can take home treats during the busy holiday season.

***Health and Safety***- In cooperation with the school nurse, this committee keeps the student body and families informed of pertinent health and safety issues. This committee’s main duty is to assist the school nurse with hearing and vision screenings for 1st and 3rd graders.

***Library Committee*** – This committee chairperson works with Erieview’s librarian to coordinate library volunteers, assist with special activities as well as choose new books for the PTA to purchase for the school library.

***Room Parents*** – The Room Parent Program is designed to give teachers the additional help they might need to make seasonal parties and special classroom events fun and easy! *Please visit our* ***Cheddar Up webpage where you can sign up to become a PTA member and a Room Parent: https://erieview-pta-membership2017.cheddarup.com.***

***Scholarship*** – Erieview PTA donates money annually to the Avon Lake PTA Council Scholarship. Erieview PTA also awards a $500 scholarship to a graduating Avon Lake senior who attended Erieview Elementary. The scholarship committee meets in the spring to review applications and choose a recipient.

***School Supply Kits*** – Each year, Erieview families have the opportunity for one stop shopping for school supplies. Orders for supply kits are placed toward the end of the school year. Kits are picked up at a back to school event prior to the start of school in August. This is not a fundraiser, simply a service offered to Erieview families.

***Spiritwear*** – The PTA offers Erieview spirit wear for purchase each fall. In the past, we have offered long & short sleeve t-shirts, football jerseys, sweatshirts, sweatpants, pajama pants, cinch backpacks and car magnets.

***Staff Appreciation*** – Staff Appreciation Week is typically the beginning of May. This committee organizes special events to recognize and thank the Erieview staff throughout the week. This committee also donates food to provide dinner for the staff during fall and winter conferences.

***Yearbook*** – Each year, Erieview families are offered the opportunity to purchase a yearbook. Volunteers are needed to take and gather photos and to prepare the layout of the yearbook.

ACTIVITIES & ENRICHMENT

***Back to School Event*** – Erieview holds a “Back to School” social each August before school starts.

***Assemblies*** – The PTA sponsors educational speakers and enrichment programs for our students throughout the year.

***Homecoming*** – Each Avon Lake Elementary School is encouraged to enter a float in the city’s annual Homecoming Parade each fall. Help is needed to build the float and families and students are needed to participate in the parade on Homecoming Saturday morning.

***Book Fair*** – This event is held twice per school year, usually once in the fall and once in the spring. Students and their families have the opportunity to purchase books through the Scholastic Books program. Volunteers are needed to set up the day before the book fair. Volunteers are also needed during book fair hours to help students find books and to help operate the cash registers.

***Family Fun Nights*** – Erieview usually holds two family fun evenings per school year in coordination with our Scholastic Book Fair. These events range from a DJ dance party, to movies, to animal acts and magicians.

***Holiday Shoppe*** – Each December, Erieview holds a holiday shop for students to purchase small gifts for their family members from many local vendors. Most gifts range in price from $ .50 to $5. Volunteers are needed to help children find gifts and to wrap purchased items.

***COSI on Wheels*** – COSI on Wheels brings a science-learning program to Erieview each year. This event typically occurs in late February. The COSI program is a full day event and needs many volunteers to help run activity stations for small groups of students. The day is usually divided into 2 shifts and the day’s schedule is posted in advance so that families can choose to volunteer when their student will be participating. This program is always a favorite of the students!

***Activity Day*** – Erieview’s Physical Education Teacher and a PTA Activity Day Chairperson coordinate a Field Day for the entire school. Activity Day is usually held near the last day of school. It is a great day filled with obstacles, challenges and fun! The day is usually split into two shifts and many volunteers are appreciated to help run activity stations.

***Reflections*** – The Reflections program is a National PTA art fair designed to showcase the talents of all school-aged children. Students are encouraged to draw, paint, compose, photograph, dance or sing something related to the annual theme. All entrees are displayed at the local Cultural Arts Fair usually held at Avon Lake High School in early spring. All entrees are judged for ribbons and a chance to move on to local and state levels. This committee holds brief “creative sessions” during school hours, helps collect artwork, and helps mount pieces for display. This committee is also encouraged to help set up, take down and work a booth at Avon Lake’s Art Fair.

***Fourth Grade Recognition*** – Each year a committee of 4th grade parents honors the outgoing 4th grade class by organizing a ceremony and other fun activities in May. The 4th graders and families celebrate their time here at Erieview and look forward to success at Troy. Many 4th grade families are needed to help organize activities and donate necessary items.

VOLUNTEER IN EDUCATION PROGRAM - VIE

Aside from PTA programs, families can also choose to participate in Erieview’s VIE (Volunteer in Education) Program. The Erieview PTA does not organize this program. As the school year gets underway, your child’s classroom teacher will provide information about his or her specific VIE needs. Typically, a VIE volunteers in the classroom helping children practice academic skills as directed by the teacher or helping students or teachers with special projects, etc.

HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?

We invite you to support your student and Erieview by becoming a PTA member!

• Please complete the Membership form on the website: [***https://my.cheddarup.com/c/erieview-pta***](https://my.cheddarup.com/c/erieview-pta) ***Membership can be paid online,*** checks payable to Erieview PTA, or cash is also accepted.

*•* ***Volunteers are an integral part of the PTA! Volunteer sign up opportunities will be posted by Committee Chairs in the weekly email Bulletin. Please keep an eye out for ways to volunteer!***

• If interested, please complete the ***Room Parent Form on the Cheddarup website:*** [***https://my.cheddarup.com/c/erieview-pta***](https://my.cheddarup.com/c/erieview-pta)

If you have any questions about membership, volunteering, specific events or committees please feel free to contact a Board Member directly or Erieview PTA at [erieviewpta@gmail.com](mailto:erieviewpta@gmail.com)

THANK YOU!