

James River Elementary School Parent Teacher Association

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Who Is the PTA?

The PTA is all of us! Every parent, grandparent, guardian; every teacher, administrator, staff member and community member. Anyone who fills out a membership form and pays the \$5 membership fee.

What Does the PTA Do?

We work with school leaders, teachers, and staff to build a sense of community and enhance the learning experiences of all students at JRE. We do this through programs, events, fundraising and advocacy.

How We Communicate:

All members are added to the PTA email list and will receive regular updates about meetings, programs, and events.

Contact us directly via email:
jamesriverelementarypta@gmail.com

Updates are available on the PTA page of the JRE website and our Facebook page.

Follow us on social media:
Facebook:
JamesRiverElementaryPTA

Our Programs:

Mini Grants

The funds from our Mini Grants program enhance the educational experiences of James River students by supporting the creative initiatives of our teachers.

Past Mini Grants:

- Batons for Dolphin Madness
- Grade level field trips to VA Living Museum and Zoo
- Sound system for events
- Sketchbooks for 5th Grade artists
- High Interest Low Level Books
- Filament for 3-D Printer
- Raz Kids Subscriptions
- Math and Literacy Games played then raffled at Math and Literacy Night.
- Books for Book-Walk at Math and Literacy Night
- Incubators for Kindergarten
****Over \$4000 awarded since 2019**



Reflections Arts Program

This annual themed arts contest, organized by the National PTA, is now in its 52nd year. The 2020-21 theme is "I Matter Because..."
<https://www.pta.org/home/programs/reflections>

Teacher and Staff Appreciation

We love our teachers and staff, and we show it with meals, treats and other acts of appreciation throughout the year. National *Teacher Appreciation Week* is May 3-7 2021.

School Beautification

*****New for 2020-2021*****

The JRE PTA along with our community partners in the Williamsburg Satellite Rotary Club are committed to making the campus of James River warm and inviting to promote a friendly and welcoming learning environment for the students, teachers and staff.

James River Elementary School PTA

Our Events:

Fall Festival

Autumn celebration for all James River students and families-*adapted for 2020*

Back to School Lunch and Winter Concert Dinner

The PTA provides meals to teachers when they are required to stay at school late for student events.

Scholastic Book Fairs

Virtual for 2020

Night at the Art Museum

Our largest community event is an art show and spring fundraiser combined. Families enjoy refreshments while browsing their children's creative works and participating in a silent auction.

Muffins for Mom and Donuts for Dad

Families enjoy a breakfast treat together at school in honor of "Families in Schools" week.

Word Book Day



****New for 2020-2021****

The PTA will collect and distribute books to every JRE student to celebrate World Book Day on April 23rd 2021

Ice-cream Social

Families, teachers and students celebrate hard work and share treats together following spring student-led conferences.

Stepping Up Celebration

We join the James River teachers and staff in celebrating our newest alumni and their families-*June 17, 2021*

Our Advocacy:

Grant Writing

- Last year our PTA was awarded \$10,000 from Dominion Power to provide classroom libraries and "Book Nooks" for all students.
- We are currently awaiting a decision from National PTA on a \$5000 grant to support distance learning for our most vulnerable students.

School Supply and Book Drives

When school closures in the spring forced impromptu distance learning for our students, the JRE PTA collected school supplies and books from throughout the Williamsburg community. We then distributed the items at school during grab-and-go meals to ensure all students had access to materials to support at-home learning.



WJCC PTA Council

Our JRE PTAC representative connects us with our district council's initiatives—
wjccschools.org/community/pta-council4/

Virginia PTA

Your \$5 membership fee automatically makes you a member of the Virginia PTA vapta.org.

National PTA

The National PTA is the largest child advocacy group in the nation—
pta.org.

How We Fund Our Programs:

Dolphin Dollars



The *Dolphin Dollars* campaign is our primary fundraising activity—a direct request for donations in any amount.

<https://jamesriverelementary.nw.memberhub.store/store>

The JRE PTA is a 501 (c)(3) organization and your donation is 100% tax deductible.



Silent Auction

PTA volunteers solicit donations from local businesses to auction at Night at the Art Museum.

More Ways to Contribute

Join other James River families for **Spirit Nights** at Local Restaurants

Link you **Harris Teeter VIC Card** to support JRE (# 8130).

This can be done either at customer service or under My Account online.

Make purchases through **Amazon Smile** and select James River Elementary PTA as your beneficiary.