

September 2023

Hello All Star families and welcome to a new school year!

We had a great—albeit hot—first day this morning! It was wonderful to see everyone together again. Big thanks to the parents who came into the cafeteria for coffee or tea to chat with the PTO after our kids entered the building. We enjoyed meeting and reconnecting with all of you!

The Stony Brook PTO has a lot of great activities planned for this school year, and we look forward to your continued support as we work hard to create excellent and fun experiences for our All Star children. Our PTO group is run by a dedicated team of parent volunteers, and we're always looking for more help so please keep reading to see how you can be involved. And remember—every parent, guardian, and family with a child in Stony Brook is a member of our PTO. There are no dues or fees to join, so welcome to the coolest club in town! 😊

First—please join our online school directory. We use Membership Toolkit to host our website, school store, and student/family directory. We ask all families in our school to create an account. If you already have one, please update it to make sure your child's proper grade/class is displayed.

1—Visit <https://stonybrookelementarypto.membershiptoolkit.com/> to login or create an account.

2—Once you're logged in, you'll be prompted to complete your Parent/Family and Student Information. Fill that info in.

3—Review your sharing preferences. You can share as little or as much information as you want (example: student name and grade, address, phone number, email, etc.). Parents can use this information to find your student for birthday party invites, etc.

Once you're set up, you can peruse our school store and make donations to the PTO online.

The Stony Brook PTO funds ALL field trips for our school and EVERY grade is taking one this year, from Pre-K through 5th. You will get a permission slip sent home for your child's grade-level field trip, and the fees associated with it (admission, bussing, etc.) will be paid in full by the PTO. We also fund school assemblies, staff and teacher appreciation gifts, teacher grants and supplies, and alumni scholarships, and we organize the school room parent/classroom coordinator program, as well as the yearbook and book fairs.

We raise money through donations—you can donate online through Membership Toolkit when you sign up!—and through many events over the course of the school year. September and October are shaping up to be very busy in terms of PTO events (see key dates below) and we hope to see everyone in our school community at our special happenings as we kick off a new year.

Sept 13—PTO Meeting 7pm (Zoom and in person)

Sept 15—Dine Out Night at Panera TCNJ

Sept 22—Family Fun Night BBQ & Picnic (admission is free, food will be sold)

Sept 23—SB Car Wash

Sept 27—Back To School Night

Oct 5—School Photo Day  
Oct 13—Color Run  
Oct 18—PTO Meeting 1pm (Zoom and in person)  
Oct 27—Trunk or Treat

Flyers will be sent home and/or emailed for most of these events.

*\*Note: There will be a Dine Out scheduled for October and we will also start soft pretzel snack sales in October. Dates to come.\**

Room Parent signups will go out next week via email. Please note that we are changing the room parent program a bit this year in response to feedback from teachers and staff. There will be 2 room parents/classroom coordinators per class and 1 classroom photographer per class. The 2 room parents/classroom coordinators will equally share duties for helping plan and execute class parties and activities, as requested by their teacher. The photographer will take photos of class events for use in the yearbook. If teachers want extra parent help with parties, activities, or specific events, that information will be shared as the year progresses.

To stay up to date on all things Stony Brook PTO, please join our Facebook page! Search for Stony Brook Elementary School PTO in Pennington NJ (there are other schools with the same name, so look for our town!). And please answer the group questions when you request to join—our group is private and we use those responses to make sure you're a real person and not a scammer trying to gain information on our families or school.

The PTO will hold public meetings once a month for this school year. Meetings will alternate between 7pm (our usual time) and 1pm (new this year!). You can attend in person or via Zoom. Joining our meetings is the best way to stay informed about upcoming events and school activities, and find ways to volunteer and help the PTO.

We look forward to a great year!

If you have questions, reach out to us at [stonybrookpto@gmail.com](mailto:stonybrookpto@gmail.com) or through Facebook.

Thanks for your support  
SB PTO