



Berkeley Lake Elementary PTA

# Paw Prints



Sept./Oct.

Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) News  
for the BLES Community

2017

Welcome to the school year! Already feeling the excitement of all the activities?

*Paw Prints* delivers a snapshot of what's going on in the BLES community. It's brought to you by your PTA volunteers. Have feedback or ideas for the PTA? Send us a note at [infoblespta@gmail.com](mailto:infoblespta@gmail.com).

Or, sign up for one our committees at <http://www.blespta.org/get-involved/>. Get information about each of them [here](#). Several of our volunteers will be graduating to middle school next year. It's a great time to shadow someone to learn about what goes on with our events.

We look forward to working with you to help our students have a successful year.

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## Today's top 3

BERKELEY LAKE



TURKEY TROT

1. We have immediate needs for a PTA Co-President and volunteers for these key committees: Turkey Trot and Membership. Turkey Trot was in danger of being cancelled this year. [Elisa Friedman](#) has offered to organize the event. Please jump in and help if you can. Visit our [committee list](#) to learn more, get contacts and help us keep our BLES traditions alive.



Membership

2. Your 2017-2018 PTA budget was approved at our August 17 and 24 Curriculum Nights general meetings. Thanks to all who voted. Find out more at <http://www.blespta.org/>.



STEM NIGHT

3. Have you seen all that goes on around our school each month? A calendar was sent home with each student In August. You can also follow along on the [BLES PTA website](#). You can post activities to your calendar using Google Calendar. Never miss an event!

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## Why we do what we do

One of the things your membership dollars goes to is the BLES PTA support of our teachers. Each year, at least \$100 is budgeted per teacher to help pay for school supplies and other classroom needs.



So, get that spirit wear, buy those yearbooks, visit our supporting restaurants on spirit nights – get involved. Every hour volunteered and dollar donated goes a long way to help our school.

## Upcoming PTA events



1. Sept. 19: Spirit Night at Zaxby's on Peachtree Industrial Blvd.
2. Sept. 20 (new deadline): All Charleston Wrap Fall Fundraiser items due  
*Note: The pig races to see which class gets the ice cream party will be broadcast during an upcoming morning announcements show. Don't know about the pig races? See the Charleston Wrap packets sent home with your student.*
3. Sept. 30: Duluth Fall Festival Parade
4. Nov. 1, 2 (media center) and 4 (outdoors): [Family Portraits](#)
5. Nov. 11: Turkey Trot
6. Last Friday of each month: Yearbook/spirit wear sales

## Support BLES when you shop



Did you know that when you shop Amazon, Ingles, Publix, OfficeMax a percentage of those sales could go to BLES? Sign up with your online accounts.

You can also send in your Box Tops for education. To help with counting, you can download this [Box Tops Collection Sheet](#).

### New this year!

Make sure to put your name on your Box Tops collection sheets. We'll hold a random drawing each month. All students who submit Box Tops will be entered. The prize? A coupon for a free ice cream or an item from the student store.

## Why get involved in your PTA?

For those who might not know exactly what PTA is... It's a membership association of parents and teachers that raises money to fund activities to help enrich our students' education experience. PTA volunteers actually do the committee work to plan and make the activities happen, too. That's why we are always in search of volunteers. We have lots to do.

**Do you have to join a committee?** No. You can simply join for \$7 and/or make a monetary contribution. Membership numbers are important to show we are an active school that supports our students. (However, we do love our volunteers that make all our events come to life!)

**Will I have to come to meetings?** No, not unless you want to. We try to send email blasts with updates or weave our PTA general meetings into activities parents will already be attending – and we keep them short. You're welcome!

**Did you see the discounts you get for being a PTA member?** Sponsor organizations give great discounts to PTA members. [Check it out!](#)



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There are many ways to help at BLES.  
**Have lots of time to dedicate? Or only a few hours during the whole school year?**  
Either way, we have something **important** for you to do!

**Want to know more?** [Click for a full list of our 2017-2018 volunteer opportunities – with contacts!](#)  
Or, contact the BLES PTA at [infoblespta@gmail.com](mailto:infoblespta@gmail.com).

5<sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion | Bingo Night | ATL/PTA Sports Events | Box Tops | Candlelight Luncheon  
Communications | Cultural Arts | Duluth Fall Festival | Fall Fundraiser | Family Portraits | Field Day  
Helping Hands | Membership | Photo Fundraiser | Reflections | School Calendar Organizer  
School Supply Kits | Spirit Nights | Spirit Wear | Spring Fundraiser | STEM Night  
Teacher Appreciation | Turkey Trot | Yearbook

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**Questions? Feedback? Contact us at:** [infoblespta@gmail.com](mailto:infoblespta@gmail.com).  
Find out more about BLES PTA, officers, committees, etc. at: [www.blespta.org](http://www.blespta.org).