

## **Inquiring minds want to know.....ABOUT PTA !!!**

### **What is PTA?**

PTA is an organization made up of parents, teachers, and others in our community who take a special interest in our children's education. By joining PTA, a member becomes part of the largest child-advocacy organization in the state – over 630,000 strong across Texas, and 6.5 million across the United States. PTA membership is open to all adults who care about children and school.

### **When was PTA formed?**

On February 17, 1897, two thousand women and men met to discuss what could be done to mobilize and act on behalf of our nation's future - our children. Thus, the national PTA was formed, soon followed by the Texas PTA in 1909.

### **PTA's mission:**

- To support and speak on behalf of children.
- To assist in developing parent and student skills.
- To encourage parent involvement in our public schools.

**PTA's goal:** To improve the lives and education of America's children, and to advocate for children's rights to better health, education and well-being.

### **What does PTA do?**

PTAs meet, study and discuss topics and issues, support parents and teacher's ideas, and volunteer time at school and school functions. We become informed on important issues regarding our children and pass that information along to other families in our community.

### **Why should I get involved?**

Studies have shown that being involved in PTA provides your child a greater chance to succeed in his or her education. Children benefit academically, emotionally, personally and just do better when parents are involved. Grades and test scores are higher and attendance improves. Their confidence and well-being is uplifted. Communication between parents and teachers form positive relationships for all involved. Children are happier and make greater progress.

### **What do my dues pay for?**

PTA dues are \$5.00 per person or \$8.00 per family. A small portion of the dues go to state and national offices. In return, they provide our local PTA valuable resources and information. They also advocate at the national level for education, safety and health laws for our children. The remaining funds stay at Ed Cody and contribute to things not covered under school budgets. Examples are field trips, scholarships, fun field day, graduation ceremonies, etc. We also have fund-raisers as a means to help carry out these goals.

**Together, we can make a difference !**