

What is the PTO?

The PTO is the Parent Teacher Organization. The PTO meets a critical need by funding programs, initiatives and supplies not covered in Newton's School Budget.

Why does the PTO fundraise?

The PTO holds fundraisers to support curriculum, provide for enrichment programs such as the city-mandated Creative Arts and Sciences, and hold community-building events. We are able to cover our costs through three main fundraisers: the **Annual Fund**, our Rockin' Raffle and one additional event.

What is the Annual Fund?

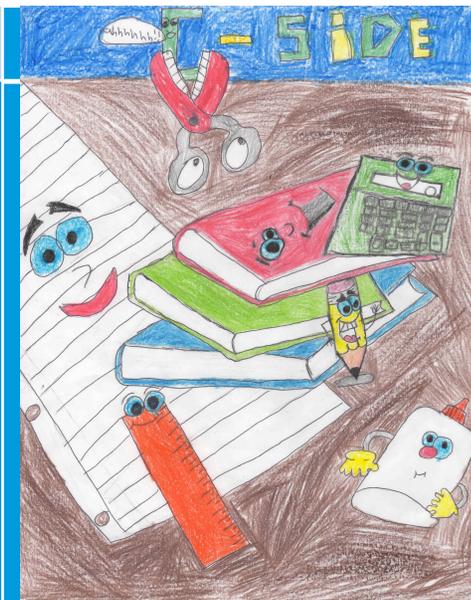
The Annual Fund is the PTO's biggest fundraiser and accounts for approximately 40% of our annual budget. It is voluntary and tax-deductible

**Cover artwork by Noah Gonzalez, runner-up in the 2014-15 4th grade art contest.*

What did your money pay for last year?

In addition to our yearly expenditures, the PTO made significant investments last year by improving the school grounds and purchasing equipment, technology and curriculum-related supplies. The following are a direct result of your contributions to our fundraisers:

- ✓ A **mini-grants program** for teachers to pay for innovative curriculum-related initiatives
- ✓ Books and an eLibrary to expand our library
- ✓ US and World pull-down maps for grades 3-5
- ✓ Additional laptop cart and charging station
- ✓ Laptops to replace aging computers for 3rd grade
- ✓ New, larger outdoor soccer goals
- ✓ New, gym mats and equipment
- ✓ Additional bike rack to encourage riding to school
- ✓ Landscaping to improve and beautify the school grounds



Countryside Elementary PTO Annual Fund 2015-2016

Support our teachers.
Support our kids.

Why give?

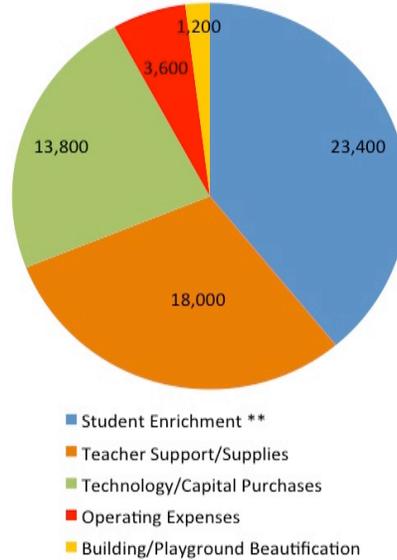
As the PTO's first fundraiser of the year, the Annual Fund is critical. Contributions to the Annual Fund help us to reduce the amount of fundraising we do throughout the year.

Show you Countryside pride! Donate to the PTO Annual Fund by October 30th and receive a Countryside car magnet!

Does your employer offer matching gifts?

Double or triple your gift at no additional cost to you! Please check with your human resources department to see if your gift can be matched through a gift-matching program. Go to countryside.org for a list of Massachusetts companies that participate in this program.

Annual PTO Expenses¹ \$60,000



** 75% of Student Enrichment (\$17,500) pays for the City mandated Creative Arts & Sciences program

¹ Represents average of 2013/2014 plus 2014/2015 actual expenditures plus 2015/2016 projected budget

How much should I give?

The PTO budget for the school year is the equivalent of approximately \$135 per student.

Each family has its own obligations and expenses. Please contribute an amount that is comfortable for you!

Please make check out to Countryside PTO. Return this completed form with your check. Send it in with your child's folder or put it in the PTO mailbox inside the main office. Thank you very much!

Name: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Child(ren)'s names: _____

My gift to Countryside: _____

\$135 dollars supports one student for the year. Please give what you can.

Does your employer offer a matching gift? If so, please contact your HR office and submit the appropriate form with this slip.