

What Programs does the University Elementary PTO Support?

The purpose of the University Elementary Parent-Teacher Organization is to support the educational goals and programs at UES, encourage parental involvement in the school, and promote a sense of community among families, faculty, and staff. Providing that support requires both time and money. The budget for the UES PTO comes from a variety of events, initiatives, and community partnerships. Mostly it comes from your participation in those events and initiatives and the time you spend supporting them. Each year we raise money for the following year. Money we spend during the 2017/2018 school year was raised during the 2016/2017 school year. Money we raise this year will go toward spending in 2018/2019. Each May the elected officers look at how much money we have raised and determine a budget for the following year. The more money we have raised the more programs we can support. When you spend money at events, attend Dining for Dollars or Skate Nights, clip box tops, and participate in the Fall Campaign you are supporting these programs. Every small contribution makes a difference. It might seem like those little Boxtops don't matter much, but they add up! In 2017/2018 our budget is being spent in the following ways:

51% Kindergarten and 1st grade literacy aids

17% Classroom supplies

6% Grants for Teachers

6% Economic Needs Fund

3% Staff Professional Development

3% Playground Improvements

14% Other (including gardens, academic recognition, supplies, classroom support, website development, and more)

There are many opportunities for you to support these programs at University.
Read on for ways you can support our school.

Fundraisers at University

Events:

Fall Campaign (September): In lieu of any door-to-door sales fundraiser, UES asks each family to give directly to our Fall Campaign. This is our only non-social fundraiser. UES gets to keep 100% of the money raised.

Learning Festival (May): Learning Festival is a celebration of the year of learning at University Elementary School. Our children and their teachers display their best work for us to see. This is also the biggest event fundraiser of the year for PTO. There are crafts, games, silent auction, food, and so much FUN!

Stay up-to-date by joining our Facebook group. Go to Facebook and search for
University Elementary Parent Teacher Organization-PTO
Check out our website for additional information: <https://uespto.org>

Other Events: The PTO at University organizes several social events each year. At most of these events there are some fundraising opportunities, mostly in the form of apparel and food sales. When you come and have fun at these events consider grabbing a snack, dinner, or a UES t-shirt to support PTO programs at University.

Art to Remember: A partnership between the UES Art Teacher and the PTO, this fundraiser gives you the opportunity to make your child's best artwork into a keepsake item. Each purchase contributes to the PTO. These make great gifts to extended family members!

Ongoing Initiatives:

Kroger Community Rewards: Do you shop at Kroger? Register your Kroger card with their Community Rewards program and part of every purchase will go toward the non-profit of your choice-University Elementary PTO! Go to <https://www.kroger.com> and click on the community tab. Then follow the Community Rewards link. If you already have an account, sign in. If you don't, create an account. Then click Enroll Now and search for University Elementary School to find and choose the school to partner with. By doing this, Kroger will donate a percentage of your purchase every time you shop at Kroger.

Boxtops for Education: Clip Boxtops Proofs of Purchase from grocery items and send them in with your child to his/her classroom. Also, visit the website at boxtops4education.com to register for UES and enter to win bonus boxtops! These small proofs of purchase add up together in amazing ways! Plus, the classroom with the most boxtops each month gets an extra recess!

Pizza X POP for Education: Tear Proofs of Purchase (POP) from Pizza X boxes and send them in with your child. For every 100 POP's we collect, Pizza X will send us \$25.00.

Dining for Dollars: Several times per year we partner with local restaurants who will donate a percentage of their profits from a particular evening to UES. Come dine out (and skip doing dishes) to support your school!

Skate Nights: On the 4th Tuesday of each month from 6-8 University Elementary rocks Western Skateland! Join in the fun! Western Skateland gives \$1.25 of each skater's admission back to the school.

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You convinced me! There are lots of opportunities at University Elementary School and the PTO does great work! What can I do to help?

There are many opportunities for service at University Elementary. Read on for more information about each area and decide what role you are most interested in.

Committees and Planning:

There are several available opportunities for leadership within the PTO. Please see the attached sheet for a list of openings. If you are interested in helping plan and organize events, be regularly involved, and provide leadership within the organization please contact PTO President, Hopi Stosberg at hopi@stosberg.com and let her know what you are interested in helping with.

Volunteer at Yearly Events:

Food Truck/Open House (August): Help needed with set up, clean up, and apparel sales.

Fall Campaign (September): Volunteer with our coordinator to count checks and write receipts. This is a very flexible task that occurs during the month of September. Consider working with our coordinator to learn the ropes and coordinate a future Fall Campaign.

Faculty/Staff Appreciation Events (October & May): If you like to cook, sign up to feed the faculty and staff at their Appreciation Luncheons. Create wonderful delicacies and/or help with set-up and clean-up. Other appreciation events may be scheduled through the year as well.

Book Fair (November & May): Volunteer to sell items before, after, or during school during the fall and/or spring book fairs.

Art to Remember (November): Art to Remember is a partnership between the PTO and the art teacher at University. Support is needed to sort and organize orders.

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International Potluck (November): Help needed setting up, organizing during the event and helping clean up afterward. This is a great social event for our community. The food at this event is made and enjoyed by our University families.

Family Fitness & Health Night (February): Volunteer for a shift at this very fun, high-energy event. It is our mid-winter social event and the perfect time to get out of the house and get ACTIVE!

Learning Festival (May): This is the biggest event of the year. Help is needed to set up and clean up, staff a craft or information booth, sell tickets, work the food line, and monitor the auction. Committee help is also needed. The Learning Festival Committee organizes the silent auction, plant sale, food area, and activity booths.

Ongoing Volunteer Opportunities

Room Parent: The Room Parent program at UES is in early stages. This year we need a coordinator for the program as well as a room parent for each classroom. If you really want to get to know your child's teacher and fellow parents sign up!

Needs Committee: A new committee is starting this year. This committee will provide support to the school social worker to identify economic needs within our school community and address those needs. Additionally this committee will manage teacher grant requests (a new fund we have started this year).

Committee Support: Are you available during the day to do things like photocopy and collect items from classrooms? Join the list of support people who are available to assist during the school day.

Of course, another great way to support University Elementary is to attend events and participate in school initiatives. Keep an eye out for event fliers, read U's News (a PTO newsletter), come to PTO meetings on 3rd Tuesdays from 6:30-7:30, and stay informed.

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Use the following chart to help figure out where to help based on what you like to do.

If your preference is to help UES by ...	Then you might volunteer for ...
Cooking and bringing food	Faculty/Staff Appreciation Lunch International Potluck Learning Festival (desserts)
By doing crafts/decorating	Learning Festival Teacher/Staff Appreciation
By handling money or doing math	Open House Learning Festival Book Fair Fall Campaign
Through physical labor (set up or clean up)	Open House Faculty/Staff Appreciation Lunch International Potluck Family Fitness & Health Night Learning Festival
During the school day	Committee Support Book Fair Art to Remember Book Fair Ongoing Fundraisers Room Parent
In the evening	Open House International Potluck Family Fitness & Health Night Learning Festival Room Parent
On the weekends	Room Parent Ongoing Fundraisers
Managing People	Learning Festival Room Parent Coordinator
Alone	PTO Bulletin Board Committee Support
Administrative Tasks	Committee Support Needs Committee
Where most money is raised	Fall Campaign Learning Festival

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