



# Smith Magnet Elementary | PTA NEWSLETTER – January 2024

## What the heck is this “Dojo Cart?”

The Dojo app is used by the teachers and staff at Smith for recognition of students who are thriving in their environment. These points are banked for each student in their Dojo account. On the first Friday of each month, a PTA volunteer takes the cart around to the K-2 classrooms and the students are allowed to select items from the cart using their banked points. For students in grades 3-5, once they have accumulated 60 points in their Dojo account, they can attend the monthly Dojo party. The PTA has a budget for keeping the cart stocked, but we can always use more items through donations. The wishlist is kept [here](#).



### Topic of the Month:

### Dance Party

In January we celebrated a “brain break” with the kiddos because of the success of the catalog fundraiser. We surpassed our goal of \$500 by almost 8 times that amount! With the help of PTA members and teachers, along with Principal Smith, the gym was ablaze with disco lights and a dance-worthy playlist. Our thanks to all of the parents and students who supported this fundraiser and made this (and other PTA-sponsored events) possible! We look forward to doing this again!



“The main hope of a nation lies in the proper education of its youth.” - Desiderius Erasmus

# PTA News



## Upcoming Events

- ▶ February 2 – Dojo Day
- ▶ February 14 – Valentine’s Day Staff Appreciation
- ▶ February 23 – City Barbecue Fundraiser
- ▶ May 3 (TENTATIVE) – Field Day (Rain date May 10)

## Committee Reports

**Fundraising committee** – We set a small profit goal of \$500 for the first catalog fundraiser and raised nearly \$4,000! We’re still waiting for the final numbers from scholastic on the book fair, but our sales exceeded last year! We’re tentatively planning a spring book fair for April. Watch for updates on that event.

**Dojo committee** – Dojo cart inventory is doing well, but we have a [wishlist](#) created for keeping it well-stocked for the students. Next Dojo Day is February (2).

**Teachers appreciation committee** – Sponsored the staff holiday lunch in December as well as snacks and coffee for the Careers on Wheels event. The next event is the Valentine’s Day appreciation.

**Yearbook committee** – Cover has been submitted and all student photos have been submitted from Strawbridge. Still collecting candid photos of 2+ students to fill out the pages, which will start in February.

**Events committee** – Field Day is tentatively set for May 3 with a rain date of May 10.

**Merchandise** – No news to report here, but you can shop online [here](#).

## Volunteer Opportunities

▶ We can’t do what we do without you! We have plenty of opportunities for members to volunteer and help us to provide events for the students and teachers. Our current need is for the book fair, so watch for more information coming soon about that! Be sure that your volunteer registration is updated annually! Information available [here](#).

## PTA Meetings

▶ The PTA board meets monthly and these newsletters will provide updates from those meetings. We will have open meetings quarterly – some will be held virtually (on Zoom) and some in person at the school. Watch for those via email and the upcoming events!

In the meantime, feel free to reach out to the board with any questions!



*"Education is a partnership between parents, teachers, and students, lighting the path to a brighter future."*



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