



# Albany PTO Welcome Packet 2017 - 2018

YOU are the “P” in the PTO!

Come join us for an exciting year!  
Help make your child’s year full of fun!



Bring your talent and fresh ideas for committees, events or small projects. Whatever your commitment, we will always welcome your help – the more the merrier!

So join us!

- ✦ Come to a PTO Meeting! You’ll be glad you did!
- ✦ Join as a volunteer for any event, anytime throughout the year.
- ✦ Find us on Facebook: Albany PTO
- ✦ Check out our website at: [http://www.albany.k12.wi.us/parents/parent\\_family\\_involvement/p\\_t\\_o](http://www.albany.k12.wi.us/parents/parent_family_involvement/p_t_o)
- ✦ Email us anytime at [albanypto@gmail.com](mailto:albanypto@gmail.com).

Look inside for more information...

Dear Parents,

We would like to welcome each of you and your families to the Albany School District! As PTO members, it is our pleasure to talk with you about getting involved in the school. But first, let us explain what the Albany PTO is all about.

The Albany PTO's mission is to promote a strong partnership between school, parents and the community that directly and positively affects the success of all children's learning. It is important to note that you will automatically become a member of the Albany PTO. In fact, all parents or guardians of children attending Albany, as well as each member of the professional staff, are members of the Parent Teacher Organization and are encouraged to participate in our activities. We are an independent organization and do not belong to any state or national affiliation, or support any political platforms and we keep all of the funds that we raise for our school.

We are looking forward to meeting families, parents, and grandparents that would like to get involved with our PTO this school year. We encourage you to not only join our organization, but get involved as well! Everything we do is based on volunteers and we are always looking for those of you to help make a difference in the lives of our children. Every positive imprint we make on our children can go a long way. Studies show that when parents get involved in their children's education grades go up, test scores go up, children become more likely to pass and to attend better schools after high school, they have fewer discipline problems, and they are less likely to use drugs and alcohol. It's also a great way to meet and get to know other parents in the community!

You can participate and help us make 2017-2018 a great school year. We will need as many volunteers as possible, and are flexible enough to work around your schedule. Our group meets approximately once a month to discuss events, plan fundraisers to enhance all programs, and share ideas. This is a wonderful way to find out what is happening at our school from the PTO's perspective.

Volunteering doesn't mean a huge time commitment. Whatever your time schedule is and interests are we need you. We have tasks that can be performed in the evenings, during the day, and most don't even involve coming to the school at all.

Won't you join us? Becoming active is easy - and it really makes a difference! We look forward to getting to know you!

If you have any questions please feel free to call or email one of the PTO members.

Thank you!

Albany PTO Members

[albanypto@gmail.com](mailto:albanypto@gmail.com)

### **PTO Officers**

Leah Riesser – President/Secretary

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Mariah Solchenberger – Vice President/Treasurer

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## Events and Fundraisers Details

- Outdoor Game Night – This event is held in September of each year and features a parents vs. kids kickball game in the field across from the school. The event goes from 5:30 to 7:00 with the kickball game starting at 6:00. Who will win this year?
- Teacher Night – This event is held in October and is planned by the teachers with different ways to have fun from year to year!
- Make a Craft Night – A hands on expo-style event with different craft stations to rotate between held in December. Make a gift for that someone special or make a craft to keep!
- Movie Night – Wear your jammies, bring your blankie and cozy up to a new release movie from the year before projected onto the small gym wall. Held in January. Popcorn, snacks, and drinks available for minimal cost.
- Sweetheart Dance – Grab your sweetheart and get ready to show off your moves at the Sweetheart Dance in February! We'll have a DJ and free punch and snacks for the kids.
- Open Gym Night – This event is held in March of each year and features a parents vs. kids dodgeball game. "Remember the 5 D's of Dodgeball: Dodge, duck, dip, dive and dodge" – Patches O'Houlihan
- Spring Carnival and Raffle – the Spring Carnival and Raffle is the most popular event the Albany PTO sponsors. Last year's event featured Disney princesses, members of Albany's very own police force throwing people in 'jail', visits from EMS and Fire staff, Win a Goldfish game, face painting, a cake walk, a bounce house and many other exciting activities! The Spring Carnival also hosts a very popular raffle featuring donations from local businesses and community members and themed class baskets. The Spring Carnival and Raffle are our longest running and biggest fundraising event – the majority of the PTO funds come from this event. Don't miss out on the fun!
- Parent/Teacher Conferences – The PTO supplies dinner and breakfast for fall and spring conferences.
- Teacher Appreciation Week – The PTO treats the teachers with lunch and other goodies during Teacher Appreciation Week.
- Eat Local – Once or twice a year the local restaurants sponsor an "Eat Local" event where they donate a percentage of their profits to the Albany PTO. In return, the PTO and Albany School staff members donate their time to help make, serve and deliver food to the patrons.
- Box Tops – Save those Box Tops throughout the year! Send them with your child to give to the teacher – this is a great, easy way to bring in extra funds!
- Power of Positive Students and Staff – this program encourages positive behaviors. 100% of the money that is raised by turning in cans collected from the collection cage at the Albany Mobil goes to the teachers.

*We would love to hear your ideas!*



### 2017 – 2018 PTO Events

Date	Time	Event
Sept 22 <sup>nd</sup>	5:30 – 7:00	Outdoor Game Night
Oct TBD	6:00 – 7:30	Teacher Event
Dec 1 <sup>st</sup>	6:00 – 7:30	Make a Craft Night
Jan 12 <sup>th</sup>	6:00 – 7:30	Movie Night
Feb 2 <sup>nd</sup>	6:00 – 7:30	Sweetheart Dance
Mar 16 <sup>th</sup>	6:00 – 7:30	Open Gym Night
Apr 27 <sup>th</sup>	5:30 – 7:30	Spring Carnival

### 2017 – 2018 PTO Meetings

Meetings are held the second Tuesday of the month at 6:00 in the cafeteria

September 12 <sup>th</sup>	February 13 <sup>th</sup>
October 10 <sup>th</sup>	March 13 <sup>th</sup>
November 14 <sup>th</sup>	April 10 <sup>th</sup>
January 9 <sup>th</sup>	May 8 <sup>th</sup>

## 10 reasons you'll be happy you joined the PTO:

1. It's nice to be "in the know" on what's going on, not just in the classroom but in the school district as well.
2. Working full-time or not, you'll feel involved and connected to your child's school.
3. Building relationships and getting face time with the principal never hurts.
4. You will have the opportunity to meet some talented and dedicated parents.
5. You'll form a larger and more meaningful connection with our community.
6. You can take pride in using your time and skills to help improve your child's educational experience.
7. It allows you to have a voice in what is happening in our schools.
8. It gives you a forum to discuss or share concerns.
9. By being involved in your child's school and taking on volunteer work to help your community you're setting a good example about the importance of both education and citizenship.
10. It can be hard work, but it is also incredibly rewarding.