

Welcome to Barnsley Elementary School's Back to School Night! I'm Alison Russ, and I'm President of the Barnsley Elementary PTA.

Along with the rest of our PTA board, I'd like to thank you for being here tonight. Parents are so important to a school's success, and the PTA is a key way that parents can support our school.

By "support," I'm not just talking about fundraising. Yes, we raise money for library materials, field trips, and much more, and you'll be hearing more from us about that as the school year gets under way.

But we also organize great family events like the Spooktacular, BINGO Night, Science Fair, International Night, and more!

Here are just a few of the highlights from last school year, made possible in part by the PTA:

- We provided lunch and treats for our staff's first week back after summer break, treats were provided for staff meetings, and a variety of special things were provided during staff appreciation week.
- We ran two book fairs, one at Barnes and Noble and one Scholastic book fair, during which books went

home with students and onto the shelves of our school library.

- We provided teachers some funding for their classroom supplies. Books for classroom libraries, inviting decorations, pillows for reading corners, and other supplies and learning tools not covered by MCPS... these are just some of the many things Barnsley teachers have told us they purchased with the money the PTA gave them.

If you're looking for a way to get involved at school, we can help.

We have moms, dads, grandparents, and other family and community members who help out. Our volunteers are in the classroom but also at home. Any amount of time you can give is great, whether it's two hours a year or two hours a week. Whatever works best for you, we can make it work!

We don't ask our parents or our students to sell anything and that is why our Buy Nothing events are key to our PTA's success in helping our school and students.

Myschoolanywhere, is our directory but it is also now a place where you can easily sign up for the PTA and/or

donate to our Buy Nothing Campaign - all while signing up to receive our newsletter, The Bayer Report.

Don't forget to "Like" us on Facebook, too. Thanks again for being here tonight.

I look forward to getting to know you this school year!
Enjoy your night!

