

A welcome message from your PTA Co-Presidents...

Greetings fellow Jaguars! This is our first welcome letter as the incoming PTA Co-Presidents and we are very excited about the school year! First, we want to warmly welcome all new incoming families to the North Chatham Elementary family. It seems like yesterday our kids were starting school and we were worrying about new kindergarten teachers, school supply lists and wondering if our neighborhood school was going to be a good experience or not. All of our concerns were quickly washed away as we became part of one of the best communities of families, teachers and staff!

The NCES PTA is an integral part of North Chatham Elementary School. Not only do we host fun events during the school year, such as festivals, book fairs, Spring Fling, Art shows and talent shows, but we also provide funds and volunteers for our teachers and staff.

We have several major fundraisers during the year. Our biggest fundraiser is the Chatham PTA Thrift Store. Last year our school earned over \$26,000 from parents and teachers volunteering at the store. Boosterthon is another fun and profitable fundraiser. We earned over \$20,000 in our first year! There are numerous other smaller fundraisers that help grow our school and support our teachers and students.

As Co-Presidents of the NCES PTA our primary goals are to make sure our community feel welcome, informed and involved. We have some new and exciting capital improvement projects planned that cannot happen without YOU, the Parents. Along with supporting the students, teachers and administration at the school, our focus for 2017-2018 is to increase active PTA membership and follow through on our projects. This includes 1) installing 2 new pieces of playground equipment with some complex drainage at a cost of over \$25,000, 2) laying the engraved bricks purchased by parents in the courtyard and 3) purchasing over \$17,000 in new technology for the classrooms with the money raised from Boosterthon last year.

All of this takes the hard work and dedication of our community members. Each one of us has different skills, talents, and resources that are desperately needed to make NCES what it is. For some it is volunteering in our classrooms. For others, it is heading up or joining a committee that brings something special to our students. We all want the very best education and experience for our children, and that is why we must all individually do whatever we can to make it happen. We need our community to come together and support our great school in any way possible. Even 1 hour of time is worth so much. Please get involved and meet others in our school community. You will not regret it!

Please join us, the PTA board, and our entire community as we embark on the quest to ensure North Chatham Elementary reaches its greatest potential. The old adage, "It takes a village", comes to mind when we think about all the wonderful things that happen at NCES. And with your help, we can strengthen and build our village to unbelievable heights. We hope to see you at our monthly PTA meetings on the 2nd Tuesday at 6pm in the media center.

Finally, stop by the PTA membership tables at the upcoming NCES Open Houses, Parent Teacher Partnership Night and at the Fall Festival, we'd love to meet you!

Warm regards,

Jessica Boutin (Mom to Alex 4th grade + Cooper 2nd grade DL)

jessicaboutin@gmail.com

Nikki Richardson (Mom to Ben Kindergarten DL + Alex preschool)

nikki@nicholelynnphoto.com