

About the PTA

PTA Annual Membership

Joining the PTA enables you to have a vote in how the PTA spends its money on programs during and after school, elects officers, selects fundraisers and supports the teachers.

A PTA membership costs \$6 per person and must be renewed each year.

There is an opportunity to join the PTA at Meet the Teacher, the Welcome Back Picnic and the PTA Open House. A registration card and envelope will also be sent home in the Monday folder.

PTA Volunteers

The PTA is a non-profit organization whose sole support comes from volunteers. Wake County requires all volunteers to sign up on a Wiley computer each school year. Even if you are not a member of the PTA, anyone who volunteers in the school must register with WCPSS. This is a safeguard procedure and cannot be done right before a field trip.

Getting Started

New Parent/Guardian Meeting – Wiley's principal, guidance counselor, nurse and PTA President meet with parents and guardians who are new to Wiley. Information about the school is handed out and questions are answered.

Meet the Teacher Grades 1-5 – Students receive a letter in the mail before school starts identifying their new teachers. At meet the teacher, Wiley students and their families are invited to come to school and meet their new teachers, visit their new classrooms and meet their new classmates before school starts. Parents and guardians can also join the PTA, put money in their child's lunch account, sign up on a Wiley computer to volunteer at the school and link Harris Teeter VIC card, Target and Kroger cards. This must be done each year.

Meet the Teacher Kindergarten – Students receive a phone call the night before this event from their new teachers. The next afternoon Wiley students and their families are invited to come to school and meet their new teachers, visit their new classrooms and meet many of their new classmates before school starts. Parents and guardians can also join the PTA, put money in their child's lunch account, and sign up on a Wiley computer to volunteer at the school, link Harris Teeter VIC, Target and Kroger cards. This must be done every year.

Welcome Back Picnic – Bring a picnic dinner with chairs or a blanket and attend one of our favorite events. The picnic is a time to catch up with old friends and meet new Wiley families and teachers. There is a bake sale so bring a baked good to sell or money to buy a tasty treat. Wiley T-shirts, water bottles and magnets will also be on sale.

PTA Open House and Information Night – During the PTA Open House and Information Night, parents and guardians can meet with homeroom teachers as well as elective and specials teachers. Attendees can learn more about the PTA and how they can use their time and talents to help at Wiley. Parents and guardians can sign up on a Wiley computer to volunteer in the school. This event is for parents and guardians only – childcare is not provided.

Signing Up

It takes no more than 5 minutes and can be done anytime during the day, at many PTA events or at any other Wake County school.

PTA Board Meetings

At Wiley there are no full member meetings. Instead, the board meets the 1st Thursday of every month from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the media center. The meetings start with a Principal's Report, then a report from the PTA President and Treasurer. Committee Chairs and Co-chairs then give an update on previous, current and upcoming programs.

These meetings are open to all PTA members. The PTA also sponsors a school-wide program, usually the 3rd Thursday of every month.

The Wiley Student Directory – The PTA Student Directory Committee solicits information from Wiley families to produce this incredibly useful resource. An information form will be sent home in the 1st Monday folder of the school year. Please fill this form out and return it to the school as soon as possible. The sooner we get your information, the sooner the directory can be produced and sent out. The student directory is produced with PTA funds.

The Wiley Student Handbook – The PTA funds the printing of this valuable parent/guardian resource which is created by Wiley's Principal.

Phone Messaging System – This allows the school and PTA the opportunity to leave a message on each students home phone. Messages can be reminders such as "Tomorrow is field day, please wear sunscreen," or an emergency alert such as, "the school is closing due to weather conditions."

Web Site Calendar – A yearly calendar combining the school and PTA events, has been created using Google Calendar. The calendar can be viewed on the Wiley Web Site or it can be downloaded to your computer and merged with your own Google calendar. Google Calendar is a free service provided by Google. Join Google Calendar at www.google.com/calendar. Once it is set up on your computer, proceed to the Wiley web site's calendar and click on the Google Calendar link at the bottom right corner. It automatically adds this to the Google Calendar you created earlier. Google Calendar also works with other calendar programs.

Carpooling – At the beginning of the school year the PTA helps families find carpool buddies. Families can sign up at Meet the Teacher by placing a numbered dot sticker (which coordinates with a sign up sheet) on a county map. The map and sign up sheet will be mounted on a bulletin board. The sign up sheet will also be entered into an excel spreadsheet sorted by zip code and sent via email to all all participants.

Wiley Clothing – Show your school spirit! Wiley families receive an order form in the October Monday Folder inviting them to purchase Wiley clothing, magnets/stickers, water bottles, etc. Every other year, the Wiley Clothing Committee hosts a spring clothing sale which includes other items like shorts, shirts, bags, magnets and other items not offered annually.

How the PTA Raises Money

The Phantom Fundraiser

Our annual Phantom Fundraiser is the PTA's main fundraiser at Wiley. There is nothing for our students to sell, no orders to take, and nothing to deliver. On top of that, 100% of the proceeds goes directly towards our school and is fully tax deductible! Additionally, many businesses will match their employees'/retirees' contributions, doubling your donation! In the third Monday folder at the beginning of the year, the PTA sends an envelope home marked Phantom Fundraiser. Families return the envelope to their respective teacher with their donation enclosed. It's that simple! The PTA will provide a suggested amount; however, we ask families to give what they can. The PTA depends on the money raised with this fundraiser to do many things for your child and school, such as Cultural Arts Programs, Teacher Grants to be used for educational materials, and beautification of school grounds and technology. Please write "Phantom Fundraiser" on the memo section of your check so we can send you a form acknowledging your donation for tax purposes.

PTA Programs and Events

Listed as they come up in the calendar year.

PTA Vision Screening Fair – The PTA committee chair and co-chairs receive training and provide vision screening to the Wiley students.

International Book Fair – In support of the Wiley International 2nd Language Program, the PTA gives Wiley students, families and staff the opportunity to purchase supplemental books, CDs, dictionaries and puzzles in the languages Wiley offers for home reinforcement. Items can be bought before, during and after school, the fair is open one weeknight as well. Volunteers are essential to make this program successful.

Time of Giving Thanks: Food Drive to Make Thanksgiving Food Baskets – This Community Service Project gives students a chance to collect and bring in food beginning in November. Wiley families, teachers and staff then gather together the Thursday night before Thanksgiving to sort the food and create baskets for Wiley families in need and our community. A list of desired foods will be sent in the Principal's weekly letter and posted on the Wiley web site. Monetary donations and baskets are also accepted.

10,000 Villages– A special arrangement has been made with the 10,000 Villages store, located in the Cameron Village Shopping Center, inviting Wiley families, teachers and staff to a special night of shopping as a holiday kick-off. Families, staff and teachers have a chance to purchase items from artists around the world as gifts or for themselves while making money for Wiley. 10,000 Villages will donate 10% of everything purchased to the Wiley PTA.

Winter Thanks Program – During the month of December the PTA celebrates Winter Thanks! All Wiley students are invited to decorate cards, supplied by the PTA, during their morning work and present them to their teachers and staff. In addition, the PTA offers parents and guardians an alternative to buying individual holiday gifts for teachers and staff. The PTA encourages Wiley families to give a monetary, tax deductible, donation to the Winter Thanks fund. The PTA then asks the teachers and staff to choose item(s) that will help make their jobs easier and more enjoyable. In the past, the laminating and die cut machines, refrigerators and microwaves have been purchased. Please write "Winter Thanks" on the memo section of your check so we can send you a form acknowledging your donation for tax purposes.

6 Easy Ways to Earn Money for Wiley - Wiley earns money when you, family members and friends

1. Link your Harris Teeter Vic card to Wiley. (This must be done every year.) #2920
2. Register your Food Lion MVP card for their Shop and Share program indicating Wiley as your charitable organization. www.foodlion.com
3. Stop by any Kroger's customer service and register your Kroger Plus Card to our school. #80757
4. Get a Target REDcard or if you already have one, enroll in the Take Charge of Education program. #81109
5. Save and turn in your Harris Teeter milk lids.
6. Clip General Mills' Box Tops for Education coupons from their products and send them into school. These "Box tops and the milk lids can be sent in the Monday folder or placed in the designated Box Tops for Education folders found in the hallways.

Lily's Pizza Social – During the busy holiday season, what better way for Wiley families to get together than to meet and eat at Lily's Pizza on Glenwood Avenue! This event is typically held from 4:00 - 6:30 p.m. Lily's donates 20% of everything purchased to the Wiley PTA. Teachers and staff are invited to attend.

Wiley Talent Show – A true measure of Wiley Elementary School! Students perform on stage either in a solo or as a group for their peers, parents/guardians, teachers and staff. The last act is usually a surprise planned by the teachers!

Wiley's Annual Science Night– Science Night is a great family program that makes learning fun. The organizers of Science Night solicit interactive exhibits from exhibitors within and outside the Wiley community. A new theme is chosen every year. The time, talent and imagination put into this event really shows.

Spring Book Fair – The PTA invites a book vendor to bring their bookstore to the Wiley Media Center for a week during the Spring Book Fair. This allows students, parents and guardians a chance to look through and buy some of their favorites or perhaps a new release while supporting Wiley. Families can help Wiley students who might not be able to buy a book by contributing to the Book Fairy Fund. Books can be bought before, during and after school. The book fair is open one late night during the week as well.

Wiley Clothing Swap – The Go Green committee and PTA join together to host this event. In order to help the environment by recycling and reusing, Wiley students are encouraged to go through their closets and bring in clothing that is in good condition but isn't worn anymore. Volunteers sort the clothing and on a designated Saturday morning, all students are invited to come and "shop."

International Night – International Night is Wiley School's and the PTA's premier cultural program, developed for Wiley's ESL program 26 years ago. It is always changing with each committee chair's vision. The centerpiece of this program are the songs, dances and skits written and choreographed by our very own ESL and 2nd Language teachers and performed by the ESL and 3rd –5th grade 2nd language students. Afterwards there is a picnic with water and lemonade provided by the PTA along with exhibits, dances and performances. There is a bake sale so bring a baked good to sell or money to buy a tasty treat.

PTA Supports Wiley Teachers

Stipend for Teachers

The PTA is aware that each teacher has many out-of-pocket expenses. The PTA helps out by allotting each teacher \$100. The 2nd Language, ESL and special needs teachers receive \$5 per student.

Faculty Grants

The PTA wishes to support the teachers through the Faculty Classroom Grant. The Faculty Classroom Grant has been the backbone of the PTA's teacher support. Teachers submit proposals to purchase tangible items for the classroom such as books, consumables such as workbooks (not craft supplies), computer programs, supplies for a particular project, etc.

Staff Appreciation

The PTA committee chairs and co-chairs find many opportunities to spoil our Wiley teachers and staff to make them feel appreciated throughout the year. Volunteers are the backbone to this program, donating money, time and food items.

Staff Appreciation Week

This four-day International Food Festival for our teachers and staff is the Staff Appreciation Committee's premier event. Each day focuses on a different country or continent and Wiley families are called upon to provide food or a monetary donation. Wiley families also help coordinate the food, keep the teachers lounge table stocked and clean up every day. A form will come home in an April Monday Folder.

Year Long Programs

Tutoring – The PTA committee chair works with the Wiley Guidance Counselor to provide students with extra help in core subjects. Volunteers both within and outside the Wiley community are essential to make this program successful.

Health Room – Volunteers are needed to take bed sheets and clothes home to wash, fill ice packs. During the beginning of the year and flu and cold season, volunteers are needed to come into the office and lend a hand.

Garden and Grounds Days– Wiley's gardens and grounds are beautiful. To keep them up, Garden and Grounds Days are scheduled on Saturday mornings throughout the year.

Cultural Arts – The Cultural Arts Committee selects materials, programs and performances that enhance our students' international and cultural knowledge. Cultural Arts also organizes the purchase of ballet and symphony tickets at a reduced price.

Advisory Council – Wiley's parent representative attends Wake County's District Advisory Council quarterly meetings. The PTA's quarterly newsletter will contain information gathered at these meetings.

PTA Newsletter – The PTA sends home a quarterly newsletter in the Monday Folder. The newsletter highlights PTA programs along with current school issues and includes an update from the advisory council, a letter from the Principal and PTA President.

Awards – In the spring, the awards committee gathers and submits names of PTA volunteers who are eligible for state-level PTA membership awards.

Go Green – Go Green was formed by the Wiley teachers to address environmental issues. The committee also includes parents and a PTA representative. The PTA helps support all Go Green events.

NOTE: *You can help **Wiley Go Green** by using the Student Directory form to sign up to receive the principal's weekly letter and PTA flyers and news emailed to you with a blind return receipt so no one will have your address.*

Interested in Volunteering?

*Here Are Ways
You Can
Get Involved!*

Volunteers can sign up at the Welcome Back Picnic, Meet the Teacher and at the PTA Open House and Information Night or return the Volunteer form you received in the first Monday folder.

A roster of current Board and Committee Chairs and Co-chairs along with position descriptions and openings are posted on the Wiley Web Site.

Wiley and the PTA Go Green...

*You can save Wiley
money and paper
by signing up
to have flyers
and news emailed
to you with
a blind return receipt
so no one will have
your email address.*

*There are 2 ways
to sign up; 1) through the
student directory form or
2) the Wiley Web Site.*

*NOTE: Almost all PTA
Correspondence will be
put on golden rod paper.*

Community Service Programs

*The Wiley PTA believes in giving opportunities for
Community Service to Wiley families, teachers and staff.
The PTA supports these yearlong programs*

The Cecilia Rawlins Endowment Fund— The PTA, in 2007, created an Endowment Fund in honor of our past Principal, Ms. Cecilia Rawlins of 15 years. Her dedication to children in need in the Wiley Community is continued through this fund. Contributions are accepted throughout the school year. This is a tax-deductible contribution. Please write "Endowment Fund" on the memo section of your check so we can send you a form acknowledging your donation for tax purposes.

Food Drives — The PTA is excited to announce that the Backpack Buddies Program may come to Wiley. Backpack Buddies sends students in need home with food, in a backpack, for the weekend, holidays and vacation breaks. In order to support this program the PTA asks Wiley families, teachers and staff to bring food items, listed on the Wiley Web site, to all programs and events. The Backpack Buddies Program relies on each school's support for its program to work. Backpack Buddies coordinators look at how much support a school shows before it admits them into the program. So the more food we bring in, the better chance Wiley has to be accepted into their program.

Eye Glass Collection — The PTA collects eyeglasses throughout the year and donates them to Lens Crafters "Give the Gift of Sight" program.