



We would like to take this opportunity to welcome each of you & your families to the Greencastle-Antrim Primary and Elementary Schools and tell you about our organization.

### **What is the Greencastle-Antrim Primary/Elementary PTO and what do we do?**

The purpose of the Greencastle-Antrim Elementary/Primary PTO is to enhance and encourage the educational and social environment of our school through the cooperation of parents, teachers, and administrators. The goals of GAPS/GAES PTO are to complement the school curriculum with additional opportunities for parents, teachers, and students to learn, socialize, communicate, and grow. GAPS/GAES PTO seeks to improve the school environment by providing volunteer and financial support.

We consider all **Parents and Teachers** part of our **Organization**, so everyone is a PTO member. In lieu of an annual membership pledge, we will be asking for those dollars to be redirected towards our postage fund for **Race for Education** - envelopes will be coming home in September. A PTO news will go to all families so that everyone is well informed.

### **PTO Fundraising**

The PTO fundraisers provide funding for field trips, assemblies, classroom grants, teacher appreciation, free family social events, author visits and other materials and technology for our students that are not covered by the GASD budget.

In 2012, we made a move to do one active fundraiser a year... **Race For Education**. This move helped reduce papers coming home, demands on parents to sell products, and helped us simplify our fundraising efforts. With the generous support of families, parent volunteers, and local businesses, it was a huge financial success (and so much fun for the students)!! Please understand that we need your continued support - whether it be through volunteer hours, stamp donations, or monetary donations. The **6th Annual Race For Education** event will be Friday, October 13th, 2017. Stay tuned for more R4E information that will be coming home in the first couple weeks of school.

The PTO also manages three passive fundraisers, the **Box Tops** program, **Martin's A+ Rewards** program and monthly Domino's Pizza Night. The funds raised by these programs are a significant portion of our yearly budget and take minimal effort on your part. Box Tops information is attached. Martin's Bonus Card Program and Domino's Pizza Night information will be sent home as soon as it's available.

### **Become a Volunteer...We need YOU!**

We need your help, and so do your children. We understand it is difficult to find the extra time, but please, whenever your schedule allows, please join us - there are many different opportunities throughout the year. If you would like to join the volunteer database and you have your clearances, please fill out the back panel of the yellow pamphlet and send it in with your child. In an effort to minimize paper usage, a majority of our communications will be through email, so watch for volunteer opportunities to arrive in your inbox, or **"Like" Greencastle-Antrim Primary/Elementary PTO on Facebook** to get updates on events and activities.

**Thank you for your continued support! We hope to see you soon.**

2017-2018 GAPS/GAES PTO Executive Board Members