

What you should know about why ABMS PTO is different

Funding requests are smaller, so the budget is also much smaller, decreasing the necessity for large fundraisers.

The need to fill the classrooms with supplies, or buy new playground equipment isn't there.
Fees cover elective classroom needs.

Time in classrooms is more limited, so parent ability to meet and get to know staff is also limited.

In class celebrations are much fewer with the changing of classrooms.

There are no room parents and if teachers need things sent in, they contact parents directly.

Teachers have so many more students than elementary, PTO support becomes even more important.

Though financial requests might be smaller, PTO support comes into play for staff appreciation, unforeseen costs, and even personal support when needed.

What does that mean for you?

Time commitments go way down.

With less time commitment, working parents are more able to participate. Currently, 6 out of 7 on our Executive Board work full time. Of the rest of the volunteers on our PTO, more than half work full time.

The breadth of the family involvement can go way up because of smaller time commitments. We have two dads on our executive board and multiple dads volunteering for our one off events and needs. Meetings run about 1 hour and meet via Zoom, so you can pop in for a bit, even if you are at work. PTO volunteers have a better opportunity to interact with staff outside of conferences, general emails, etc.

PTO volunteers have a unique opportunity to have passive observation/ interaction with their child even as they become more independent as middle schoolers.

Different positions are available that may be more appealing to parent interests.