



Atkinson Elementary PTA Newsletter

September 8, 2024

Hello Atkinson Families!

We hope you all have had a smooth start to the school year, it's been wonderful seeing you and your students again and getting to know some new faces! We're very excited for our first PTA meeting of the year and hope you can make it.

First PTA Meeting

Our first PTA meeting will be on Thursday, September 12th from 6:30 - 8pm in the Cafeteria. For those not able to attend in person, the [Zoom link is here](#).

Early Release Days

Reminder that Atkinson will have one early release day per month for the 24-25 school year. Please see after school activity options [here](#) if you need care after school.

Early release is at 11:50 a.m. on the following Wednesdays:

Sep 25 // Oct 23 // Nov 20 // Dec 18 // Jan 22 // Feb 26 // Mar 19 // Apr 23 // May 21

Quick Links

- [PTA Website](#)
- [PTA Calendar](#)
- [After School Programs](#) (website)
- [After School Program Flyers](#) (more detail)
- [Spiritwear Shop](#)
- Aug-Sep Free Meal Menus: [Breakfast](#) and [Lunch](#)
- [School supply lists by grade](#) Please let the school know if you need financial support to purchase supplies.
- [Join the PTA](#)
- [Volunteer with Us](#)

Join Us!

Welcome packets and membership information went home in students' backpacks last week, but it's not too late to join the PTA! Everyone is welcome, it's quick and easy to join, and the one-time membership dues are based on a "pay what's comfortable" scale (between \$1-15 per member - just know that we are responsible for paying the Oregon PTA \$9.50 for each member). Being a member allows you to vote on important school issues and be involved in exciting events and happenings. You can [sign up here](#), and pay your membership dues [here](#). If you were a member last year, you can renew your membership for the 2024-2025 school year via the same link. We also have some open positions on the Board - [reach out to us](#) if you are curious at all!

Calendar and Upcoming Events

Please add the [Atkinson PTA Google Calendar](#) to your Gmail account to keep track of important dates, school events, and other activities. We have several exciting happenings in September and hope to see you at one or all of these events. You can also find these on the [calendar page of our website](#).

Friday's heat advisory and early release meant that Running Club and Popsicles on the Playground were rescheduled. See below for new dates.

- * **Sep 10, 16, 24:** Outdoor Learning Garden Work Party (details [here](#))
- * **Sep 11, 18, 25:** Bike Bus (details [here](#))
- * **Sep 12:** PTA Meeting — 6:30 pm in the cafeteria
- * **Sep 13:** First Running Club at Lunch Recess
- * **Sep 13:** PTA popsicles on the Playground — 2:30 pm
- * **Sep 19:** Back to School Night — 6:30 pm
- * **Sep 23 and 24:** Student Picture Days
- * **Sep 23:** Dine Out for Atkinson at Migration Brewing — 5-9pm (details [here](#))
- * **Sep 25:** Early Release — 11:50am
- * **Sep 26:** Online with the Principal — 7:00 pm (link [here](#))
- * **Sep 27:** Principal's Coffee — 8:10 am in the cafeteria
- * **Oct 3:** Family Game Night — 5:30-7:30 pm

Back to School Night!

Please join the Atkinson community for Back to School night on Thursday, September 19 from 6:30 - 8pm. Your opportunity to meet our wonderful teachers & staff and explore the school!

Dine Out for Atkinson Fundraiser

Our first Dine Out of the year will be on September 23 from 5-9pm at Migration Brewing (2828 NE Glisan). 10% of all sales will be donated to Atkinson PTA. This goes for to-go sales and packaged beer sales as well for those who can't hang out but still want to participate! And this is an Atkinson parent-owned business so we'll be supporting our community too!

After School Programs

We have many exciting after school programs for students this year! Please continue to [check our website](#) for updates as more options become available - we will continue to update the list and keep you informed of additions and changes as we're made aware.

We've recently added [Dance](#), [Soccer](#), [STEAM](#), and [Musical Theater](#), but check out all options [here](#).

***Note that several of these programs have low enrollment, and may have to cancel** if there are no additional sign ups. If you're interested in a program, please sign up today!

Please contact the programs directly to enquire about scholarship information.

Outdoor Learning Garden Work Party

The OLG needs some love after a long summer break from weeding and maintenance. Please join us in the Multicultural Garden any time from 8 – 9:30am. BYOGloves.

Dates:

- * Tuesday, September 10th
- * Monday, September 16th
- * Tuesday, September 24th

Atkinson Bike Bus

Join the Atkinson bike bus for the 2024/2025 school year! We'll be riding together **every Wednesday**, rain or shine! We've got an east and west route planned, and you can find the route map and schedule [[here](#)] *(This is a good link to bookmark as it will be updated with any route or schedule changes throughout the year)*

You can also find the latest updates and information on our Instagram page [@atkinsonbikebus](#) Please follow and share with other families in our community. We'll use IG to share information, community resources, and upcoming family-friendly bike events.

We really could use a few additional ride chaperones. It's a pretty low-effort commitment, especially if you are already biking to school. Please reach out to Jodi Jacobson-Swartfager (jodilee1981@gmail.com // 971-341-5009) if you can be a ride chaperone!

Questions for the Principal

Have a question or idea you'd like to share with Ms. Armendariz anonymously? [Add it to this list](#) to be addressed at the next monthly Principal's Coffee!

Stay Connected

Social media is a great way to stay connected to the Atkinson Community. Please consider joining our [Facebook Group](#) and/or following us on [Instagram](#).

Other Ways to Support the PTA

- Connect your Fred Meyer Rewards account to the Atkinson PTA through Community Rewards. Details and how-to can be found [here](#).
- Show your Cheetah Pride through our [Spiritwear Shop](#)
- [Donate directly](#) to the Atkinson Elementary PTA general fund to help us sustain projects, programs and events for our Atkinson students throughout the year.
- Volunteer! Whether you have 3 hours a week or 3 hours a year to volunteer, there are many ways you can make Atkinson a great place to learn and grow. To learn more about volunteer opportunities, [visit our website here](#).

As always, we also welcome your thoughts and participation in making Atkinson a special place for all students and families. If you have any ideas, suggestions or feedback on events, programs, or ways to improve communications, please [reach out](#)!

Warmly,

Your 2024-25 PTA Executive Board,
Vigdis Bronder Haas, *President*, president@atkinsonpta.org
Mattie Tiegreen, *Vice President of Communications*
Danielle Garcia, *Secretary*
Diana Chavez, *Treasurer*