

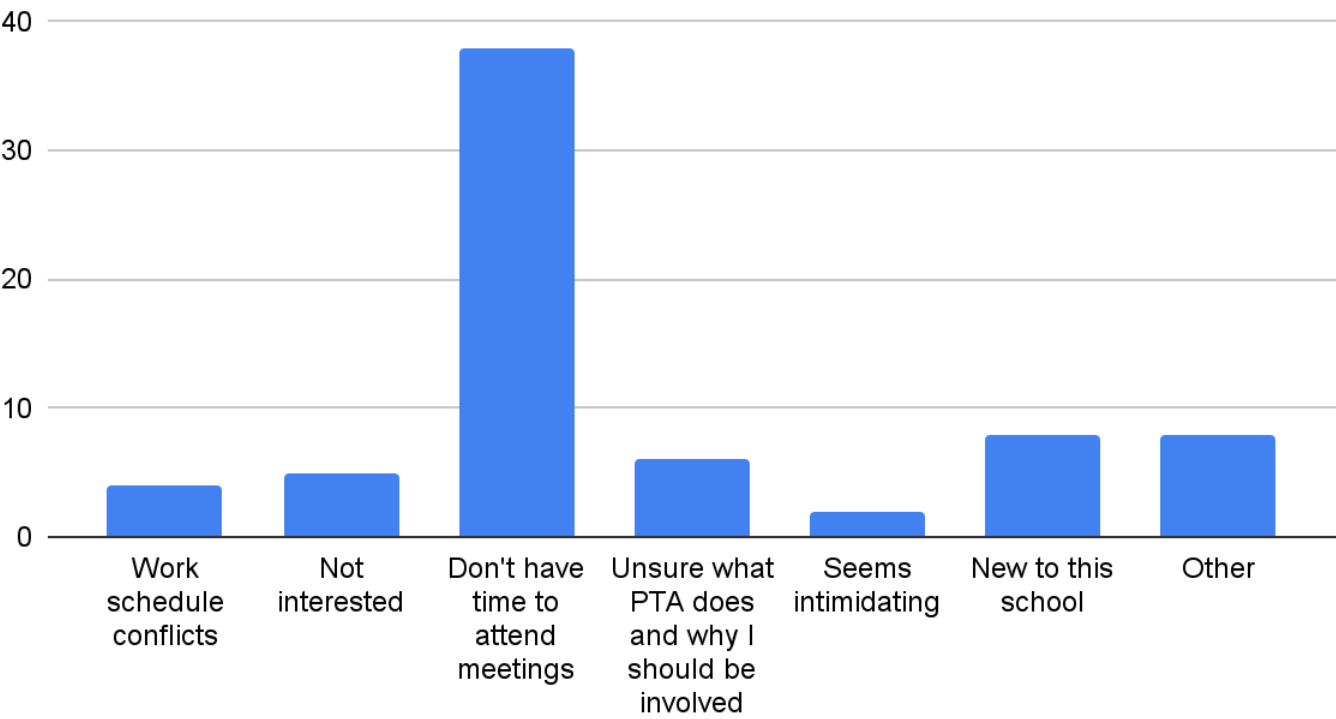
PTA Parent Survey Results and Response to Comments (Fall 2022)

115 Total Responses

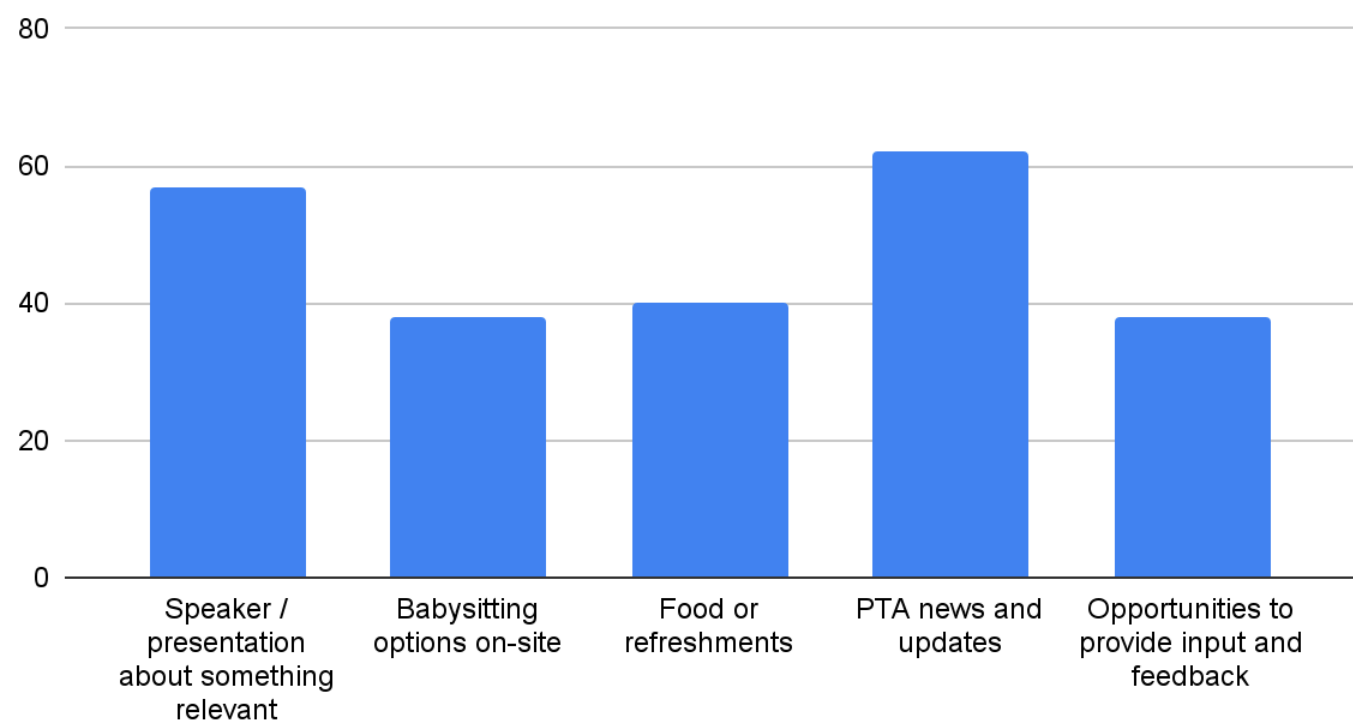
In the past year, have you attended a PTA meeting?



Barriers to meeting attendance

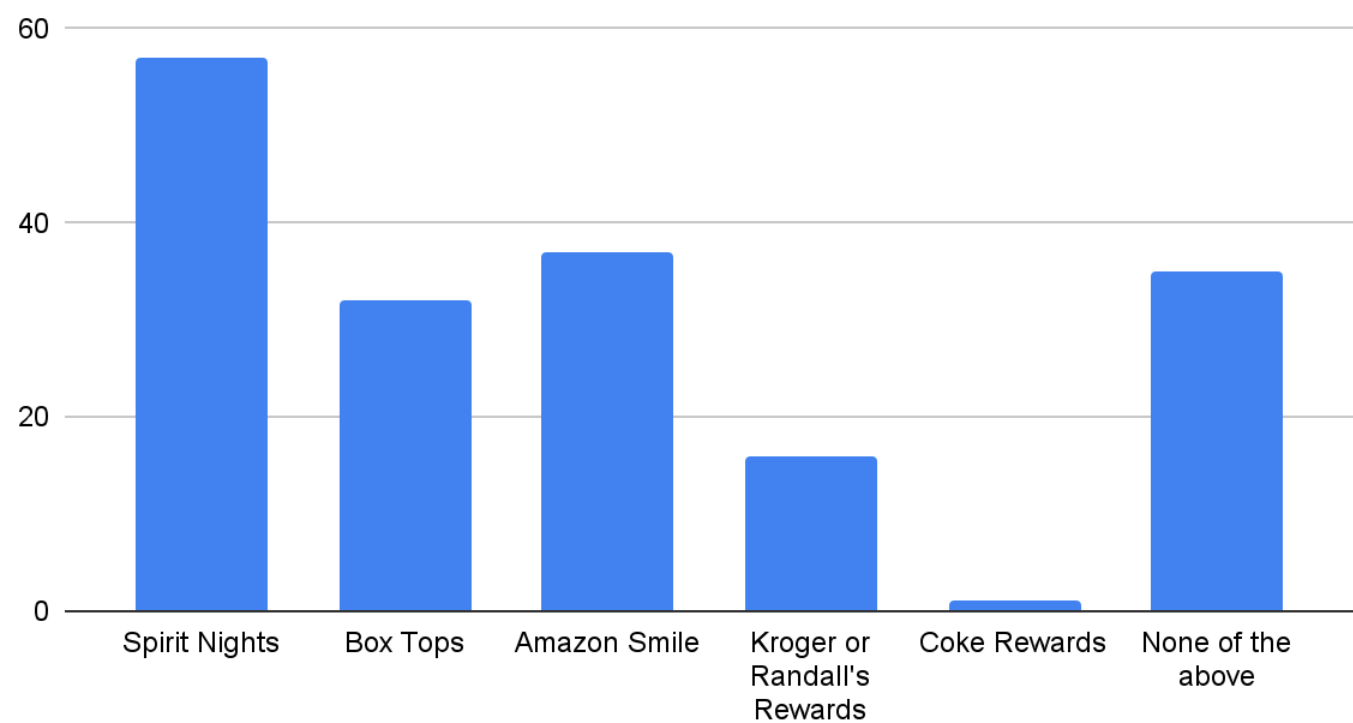


What would you like to see most at PTA meetings?

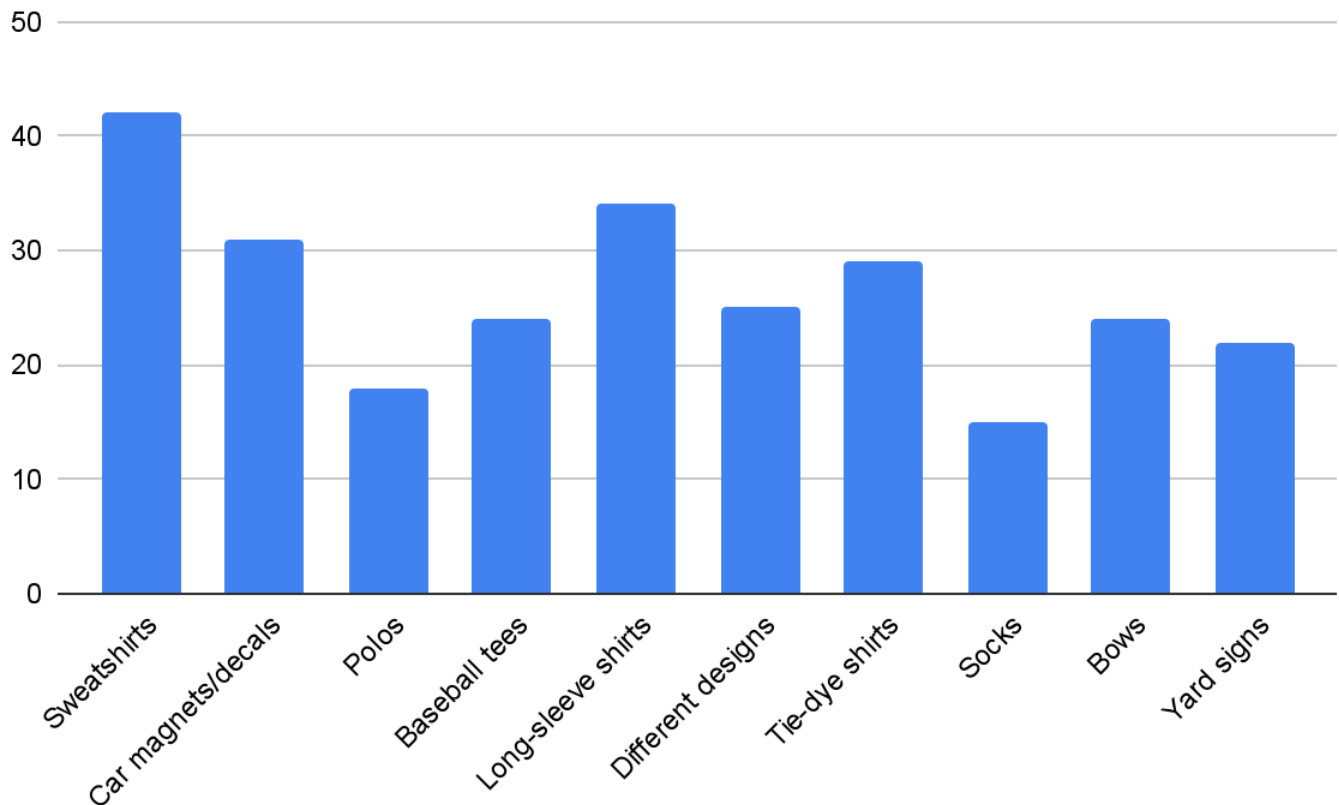


Other suggestions: fundraising plans and where the funds are going, ability to vote on PTA decisions, discuss effective ways we can improve the education of our kids

Which of the following have you participated in the past?

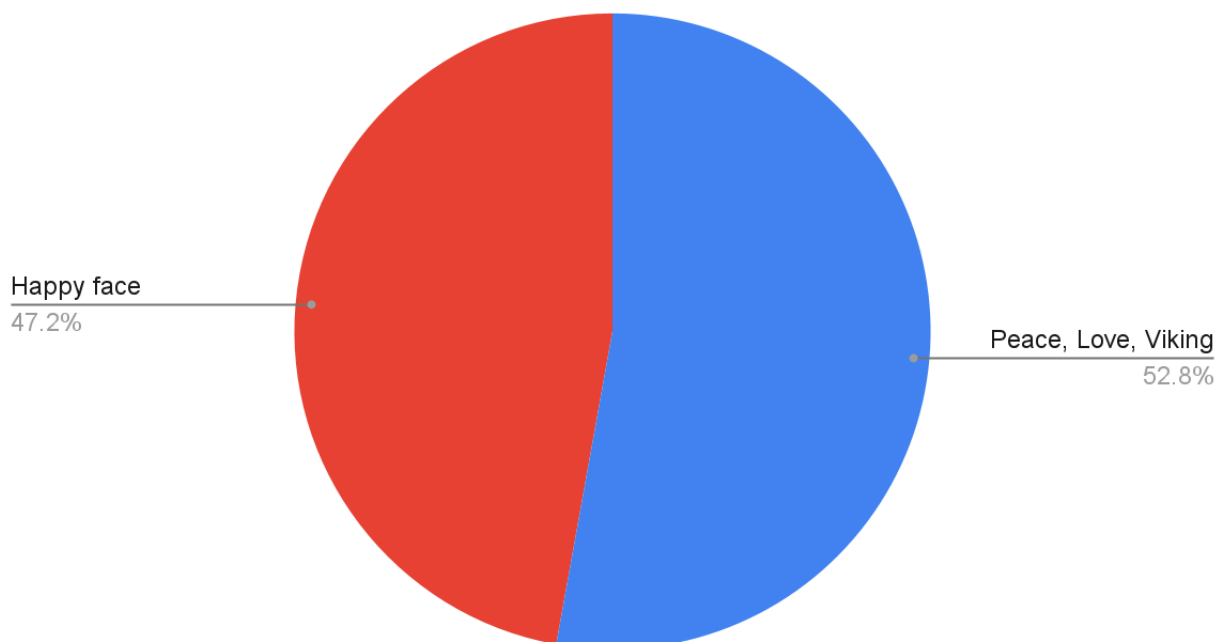


What spirit wear are you interested in seeing?

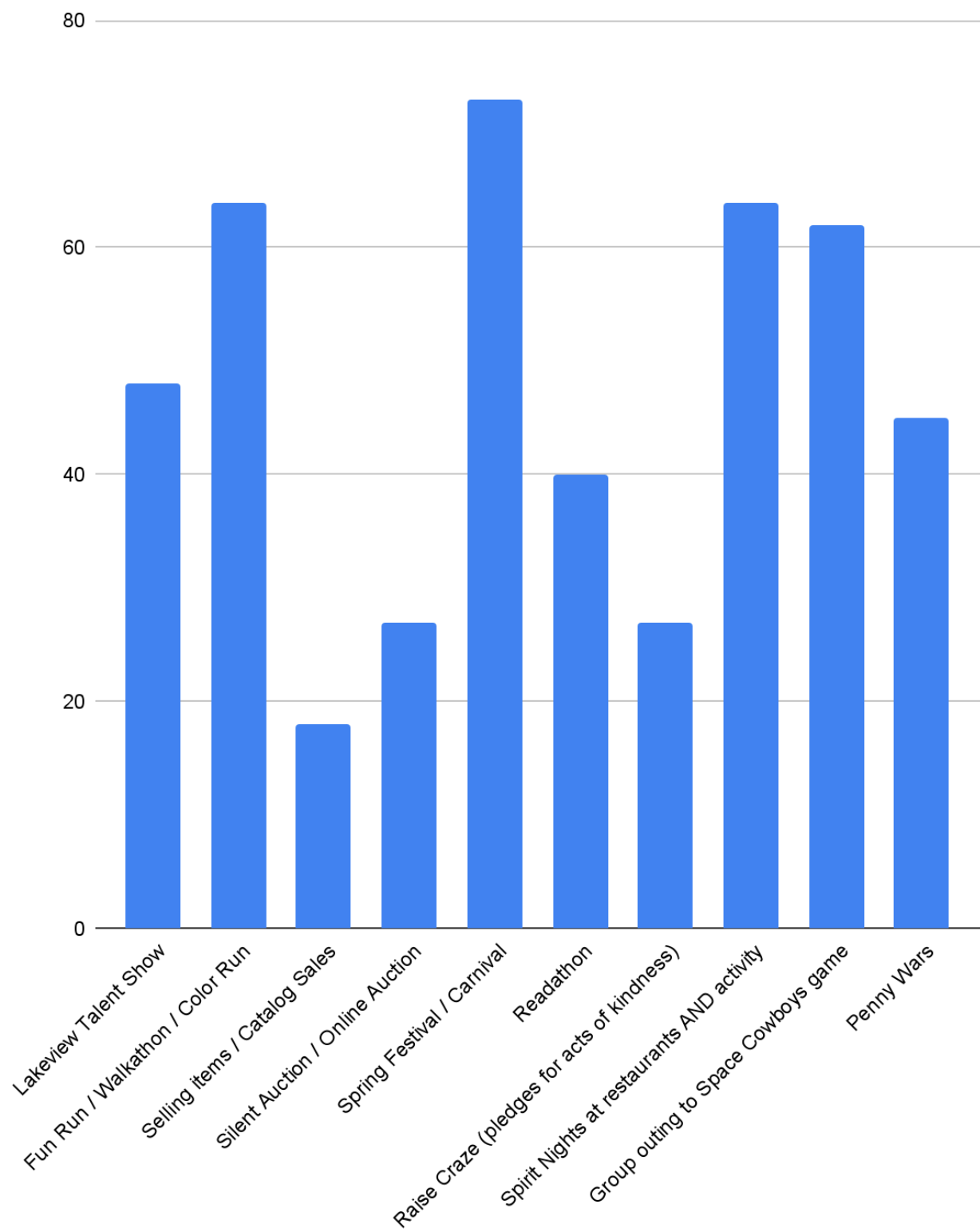


Other suggestions: tank tops, dri-fit shirts, swing bags, jackets,V-necks, coffee cups/water bottles, baseball/trucker hats

Which shirt do you like better (new Spirit Wear item)?

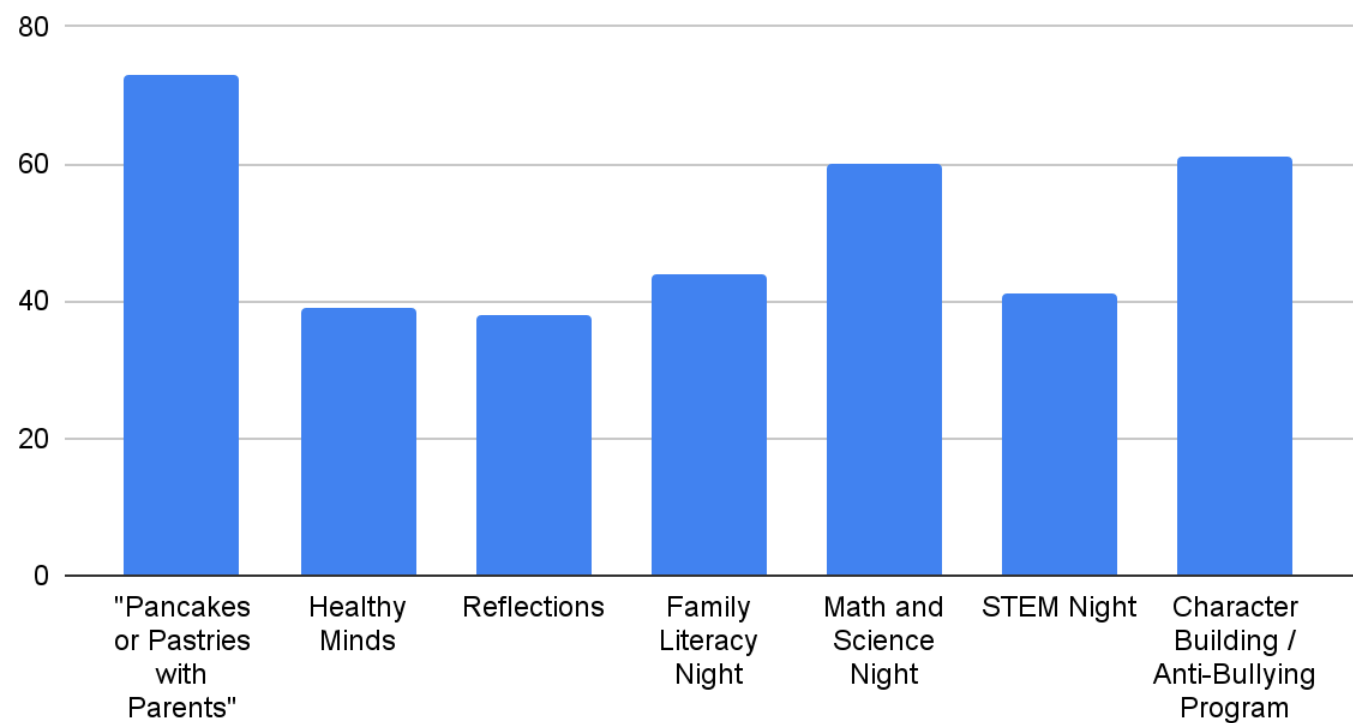


What fundraisers would you like to see at Lakeview?



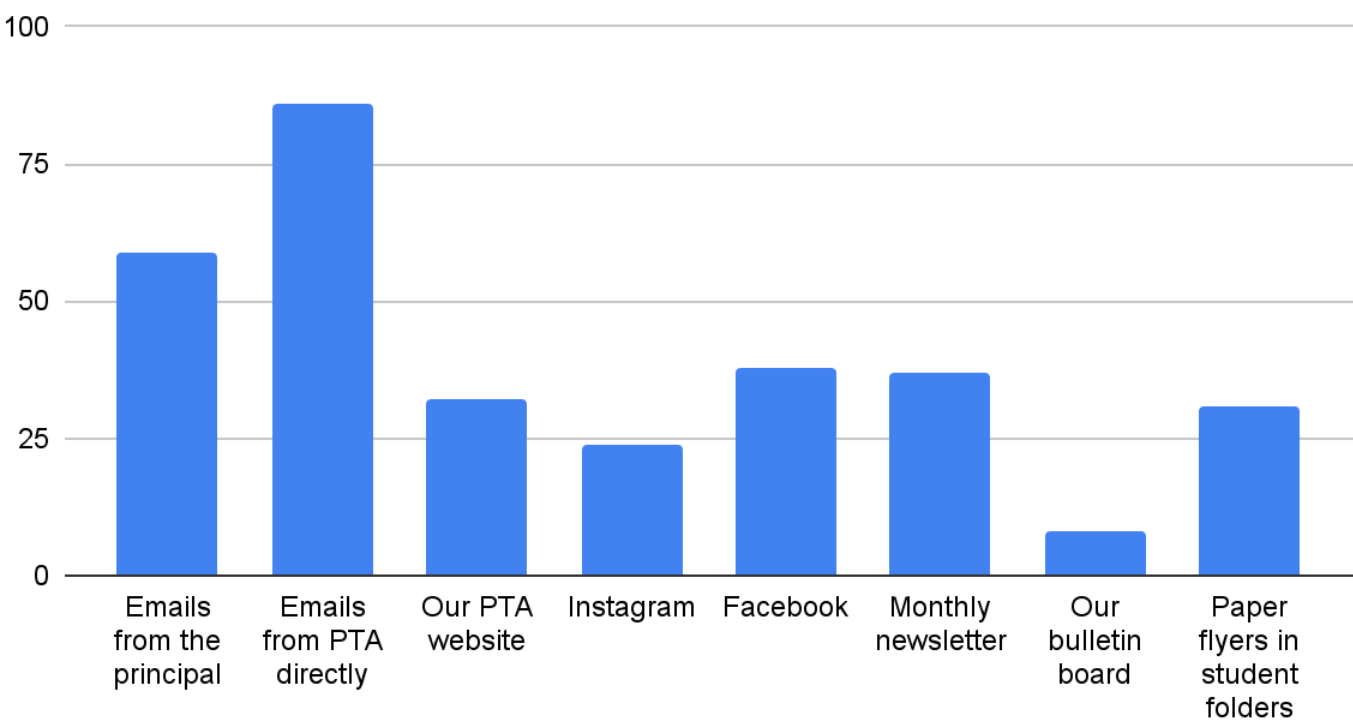
Other suggestions: if doing a fun run, do it "in-house" versus through a company since they take such a large cut, 5th grade dance, kids setting up a lemonade stand / bake shop / car wash at Lakeview, community garage sale online and certain percentage is donated to Lakeview PTA, family activities as part of auction packages

What programs would you like to see at Lakeview?

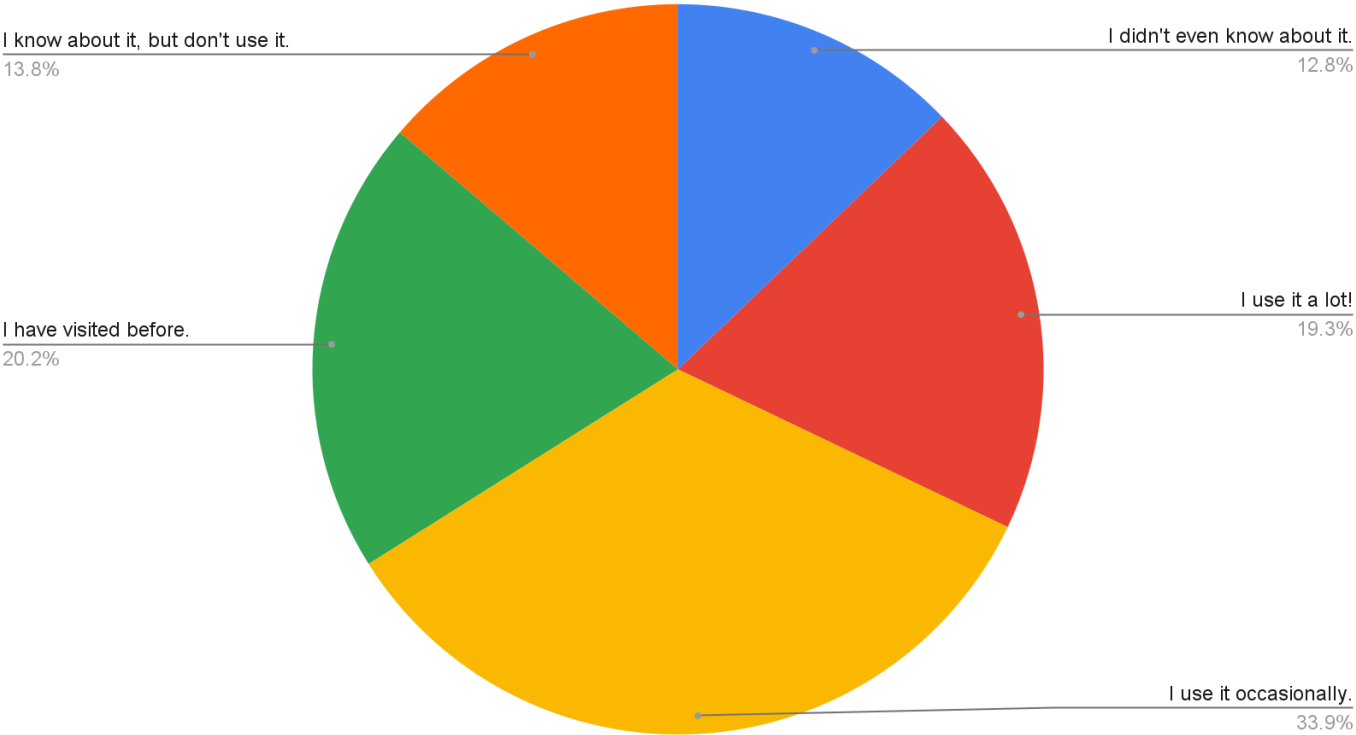


Suggestions: lecture series with a cool guest speaker, NASA field trip, something culturally specific to Black youth, music-oriented programs, Grandparents Day

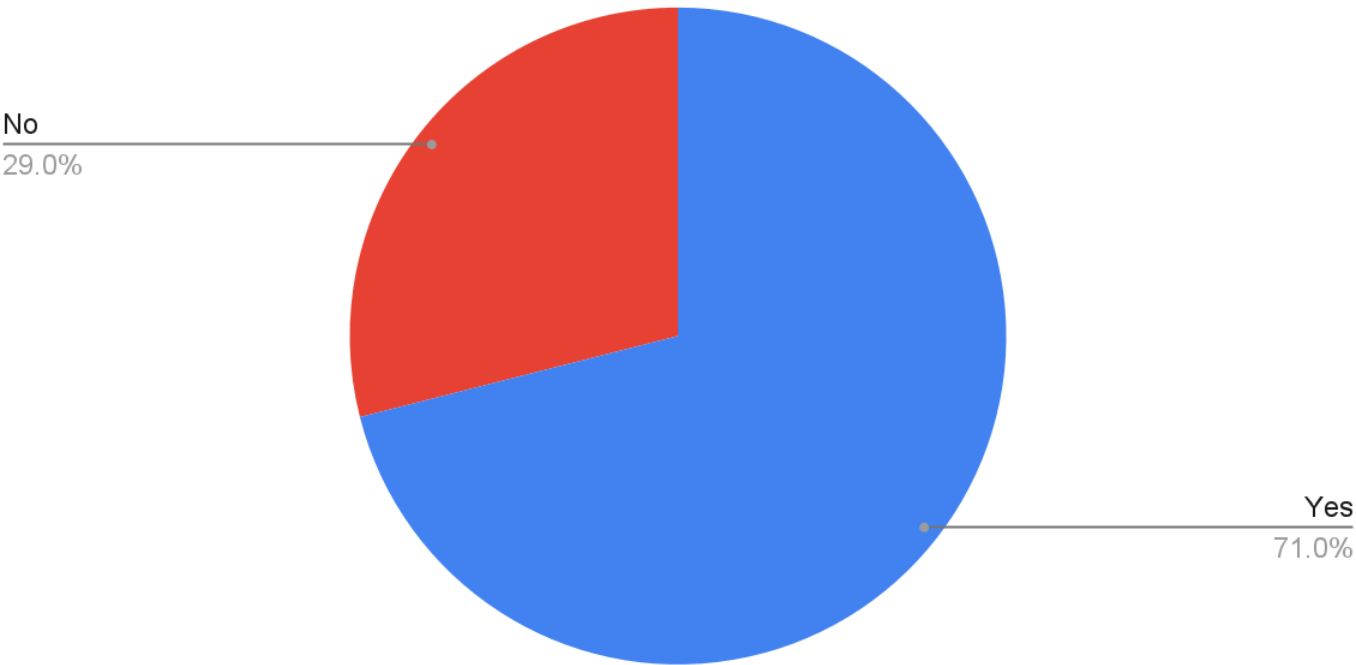
How do you like to receive PTA news and updates?



Do you refer to our PTA website? (www.lvepta.org)



Would you be interested in a Facebook group for Lakeview parents where anyone can post and discussion can take place?



Opportunities for Improvement - Your Comments and Our Responses

1. Meeting times to accommodate working parents.
 - This is definitely a major concern for us since many of us are working full-time as well. This year, we are trying out both morning and evening meetings times to see how engagement and participation differ between the two meeting times. If we notice a big difference in meeting attendance and participation for evening meetings, we are open to voting to change the meeting times moving forward.
 - Our evening meetings have moved from 5:30 last year to 6:30 this year to accommodate for parents getting home from work / dinner time, etc. Hopefully, pushing the meeting time back will allow working parents to be able to join.
 - In order to allow more people to participate, we have opted to continue Zoom Board meetings this year. Our general membership meetings will be in person (September, November, January, April, May) - these are usually piggybacked with a program happening at school.
2. Have a set time and date for meetings monthly (will help parents adjust work schedules to attend).
 - All of our board meeting days and times are set for the year. The times alternate between 9:30-10:30AM and 6:30-7:30PM. See our website for the full schedule (under "Our PTA" → "PTA Information").
3. A more efficient schedule for a shorter meeting.
 - Your time is valuable and we respect that! This year, we are adding time slots to our meeting agenda and trying our best to stay within the time limits. We are also working offline and having separate meetings to get most of the leg work done prior to board meetings in order to use that time most efficiently.
 - Sometimes, our agenda is so packed that we will go over. Please bear with us - if we notice this is a regular occurrence, we will extend the meeting or try our best to make cuts.
 - If you are short on time, you are always welcome to look at the meeting agenda beforehand to see which section of the meeting you want to tune into. PTA members have access to these documents on our website under "Our PTA".
 - We will try our best to secure childcare options for our in-person meetings!
4. Have things to do on the weekends, it's difficult to juggle work and family life during the week. Give some people the opportunity to do something on the weekends.
 - We will definitely take this into consideration and try to spread out our activities to the weekends! Oftentimes, the limiting factor for weekends is that restaurants may not offer Spirit Nights on those days since they are already busy. Also, for facility rentals, the PTA has to pay to reserve space at the school on the weekends, but not the weekdays. We do have a Spirit Night coming up on Sunday, September 25th at the Space Cowboys baseball game - we hope you can join!
5. Not being biased and give preferences towards certain grades because parents may be more involved (this comment gave an example of the ice cream party winner and 2nd place).
 - We strive to run the PTA without bias to any teacher, grade, parent, or student. Specifically for the membership contest, it was specified that family members, friends, neighbors could be added as a PTA member (anyone can join). The winning grade did have a lot of new memberships at the very end by taking advantage of signing on friends and family. Moving forward, if we do this again, we will revisit our contest rules to try to be more fair and potentially look at giving prizes for 1st and 2nd places, especially if they are close.
 - If you notice more pictures being posted of certain kids, it's because we can only post pictures of kids who we know their parents approve of online posting. Since we don't have access to the list of approved students, we rely on our own kids or on YOU to send us photos. We encourage you to send photos for all our spirit days and events and we will be sure to post them!
 - If you ever feel like we are being biased or unfair, please reach out to us. We are real humans and parents and doing the best we can, but rely on your feedback! You can always reach us at pta@lvepta.org.
6. I'm not able to make most of the meetings, but it would be nice to have a summary of what was discussed and

decisions that are made.

- PTA members have access to ALL of our meeting minutes! They are posted on our website and accessible only to PTA members (this is in the bylaws set by National PTA and is a perk of being a PTA member).
- To find our meeting minutes, you must be logged in under your account on our website. Navigate to “Our PTA” → “PTA Documents” and here you will find our meeting agendas, meeting minutes, financial documents, budget, and more.

7. Recorded meeting sessions.

- Our bylaws (set by Texas PTA) actually state that we can only record meetings for the purpose of assisting with minute-taking, but need to be destroyed after minutes are finalized. Consent also needs to be obtained from all participants. Due to this restriction, we choose not to record meetings, but make sure to take detailed meeting minutes.

8. Have a monthly newsletter sharing what’s in store and having a running register showing how much \$\$ is available on the PTA. What expenses have been made so far and what is budgeted for in the future.

- We are publishing a monthly newsletter this year! Our first newsletter was published the day after school started (August 12th) and sent out via email from us, as well as Principal McClanahan. If you missed it, it can also be found on our website under “Our PTA” → “PTA Information” at the top, or under “Our School” → “Newsletters and Handouts”. Our second newsletter was published on September 14th.
- We do share recent expenses on our newsletter, but for a more detailed financial breakdown, you can view the financial documents under “Our PTA” → “PTA Documents”. Meeting minutes also have reimbursement and purchase requests that we vote on. Any spending with PTA funds needs to be voted on and we keep this very transparent. In addition, PTA requires that we have a non-signer review our transactions and statements on a **monthly basis**. (A non-signer is a PTA member who does not have access to our account - the president, secretary, and treasurer). We invite you to attend our meetings and volunteer to be a non-signer!

9. Signup lists for volunteers for specific tasks or at-home opportunities.

- We have specific sign-ups for our volunteers! You need to be logged into our account to see the volunteer opportunities, and we usually advertise specific sign-ups throughout the year (e.g. donating items for teacher appreciation lunch, volunteering for events like Field Day, etc.). We have a great need for volunteers at our Viking Store EVERY Friday (you can sign up to volunteer on the calendar), and if you are involved with Dudes on Campus, they organize their own car rider line / security check volunteer opportunities (weekly).
- The Volunteer Interest form is a little more vague, but we do utilize the list of people who sign up and reach out to ask for help during specific times. For example, people who specify an interest in helping with the hospitality team will be contacted monthly during our teacher appreciation events and be asked to help if they are able to. See what’s available here - <https://lvepta.membershiptoolkit.com/volunteer/90732> (you need to be logged in to view, but creating an account is easy!).
- For at-home work, there is a whole section dedicated to things you can do to help at home. We utilized those volunteers last year to put together Valentine’s bags for the whole school!

10. Understand what school needs and what PTA does and how it meets the gap.

- We actually work very closely with the school. Principal McClanahan is a member of the board and is present at all of our board meetings (in addition to other admin). We run all of our big decisions by her, as well as depend on the feedback of the teachers and staff.

11. More communication with newer Room Parents please.

- Thank you for the feedback! We are just starting this program back up this year and there was somewhat of a delay while we worked on securing a room parent for every teacher. Communication should have been sent out to all room parents already, but please reach out if you ever have any questions or concerns! Our Room Coordinator, Katie Landin is amazing and only an email away. She can be reached at classcoordinator@lvepta.org.

12. Suggestions on activities:

- Please do not do fundraisers where we have to ask family and friends for money.
 - i. We are aware that most parents may not like to solicit donations from friends and family, but we also don't want to stretch our parents out too thin. Statistically, most fundraisers gain funds primarily from people outside of immediate families. This is a great way for us to earn money outside of what our Viking families can provide - especially given that we are the *smallest* elementary school in Fort Bend, we really need the support of our surrounding community. Keep in mind that your PTA board works very hard to try to gain corporate sponsorships from local businesses to cut down on the amount we need to fundraise from individuals. We welcome anyone who would like to help us reach out to local businesses by serving on the Sponsorship Committee!
- Opportunities for the kids to get involved in the fundraising (like the fun run or book reading ideas).
 - i. Yes! It is important for our students to be involved in raising money for PTA and the school. We hope to incorporate a fun way of raising money that will help them set a goal, work together, and be able to reap the benefits of their hard work.
- More opportunities for students to spend time together outside of classroom instruction. / More activities for kids for growth and building time.
 - i. We agree! We love when our kids get to spend time with their school friends outside of class. New this year, we are trying to do more Spirit Nights that are activity-based so that Vikings can see each other outside of school. Our goal is to do one activity and one restaurant per month. :)
- I wish the school organized a camping trip for the kids Grade 1 and above. Here both parents and PTA can share the expense. / Glow in the dark party / BINGO or trivia night.
 - i. Thank you for these ideas and suggestions. Have you considered joining a committee or a PTA leadership position? We are always in need of volunteers with ideas like these to lead the way.
 - ii. Texas PTA does not allow for BINGO nights even if prizes are not handed out. Would you like to help plan a trivia night for the future?
- More activities with parents.
 - i. We have introduced several initiatives this year that include parents. Our "Dudes on Campus" initiative ropes in dads, uncles, grandads, and other male figures into volunteering at the school. Parents can also get involved by volunteering at the school (Viking Store, workroom crew, events like the book fair and field day, etc.). We always need volunteers! Other ways parents can get involved is at our Spirit Nights - we will have an upcoming Spirit Night at the Space Cowboys baseball game here at Constellation Field on September 25th! If you ever have other suggestions or ideas, feel free to send them to pta@lvepta.org!
- Doing more for staff / continue to show appreciation for staff.
 - i. The past several years have been challenging to hold teacher appreciation events due to the pandemic and our school being housed at neighboring campuses. This year, since we are back on campus and in-person volunteering is back open, we plan to do something for the teachers and staff at least **monthly**. Our hospitality chair, Kirsten Ramirez is working hard to set up these events, both hosted by the PTA and by parent donations with something new and different each month. Kirsten is planning an afternoon tea and coffee with sweet treats for the staff on September 22nd.

13. Better t-shirt designs for fundraising.

- We actually have 2 new designs coming out this year! We are so excited to share them with you. :)

14. Use of microphone and good volume during in person meetings.

- Thank you for the suggestion! We have been used to Zoom meetings for the past several years, so bear

with us as we adjust back to in-person meetings. :)

15. Consistency across the board for communication with teachers...different apps, ease of communicating with teacher.
 - Classroom communication is determined by the teachers and school with no direct involvement from PTA. We can pass along this suggestion to the school though.
16. Each event seems very separate from one another.
 - We are actually adding on a lot this year. We try to space it out a little bit to give parents some breathing room. From spirit days, spirit nights, fundraisers, contests - we have multiple events each month planned out. If we misunderstood your comment or you would like to clarify, please let us know at pta@lvepta.org and we'll be happy to chat. :)
17. Break the cycle of using food as reward or punishment. Consider non-food rewards. Remove chips and candy from Viking store.
 - Thank you for this comment - we will definitely bring this to the administration.

Things we're doing well in:

- Communication
 - Communication (x6)
 - Engaging and keeping parents up to date via web/social media. Emails get lost in the sea of everything else...
 - Keeping us informed.
 - Great communication, new ideas.
 - Newsletters / current events.
 - You guys are doing great! This is my first year joining the PTA. I plan to help out more starting in October. You communicate about activities well.
 - Safety, communication is getting better.
 - Communication to the parents and actively involving parents through different PTA activities.
 - Keeping the parents informed of all the activities the PTA is involved in.
 - Improving website, events.
 - Communication has definitely gotten better this year!!
 - More communication!! Thanks!!
 - Love the improvement in communication this year.
 - Everything, communication is amazing.
 -
- Engagement:
 - Getting people to participate.
 - Creating opportunities for parental engagement.
 - Gaining involvement, super organized, encouraging participation, frequent communication.
 - Engagement and some fresh new ideas that pull parents closer to Lakeview.
 - Great enthusiasm!
 - Updating, planning things, social media, getting more involvement.
 - Lots of involvement with old and new parents, fresh ideas, keeping parents and teachers together.
 - Advertising, programs, friendliness.
 - Getting new people involved.
 - Membership & school spirit.
 - Encouraging parent participation.
 - Involving new parents and events.
- Activities
 - Trying to bring events back to the school. We really miss those.
 - A lot more fun activities this year compared to past.
 - Very active.
 - Very active, one of the best I have seen in compare to other schools! Taking initiative of safety of kiddos,

- starting DOC (Dudes on Campus), I can keep going.
 - Fun activities for the students.
 - Great new activities & engagement initiatives.
 - Staying active.
 - Conduct meetings with parents to update school year.
 - Having refreshments for staff & showing appreciation for them.
 - Planning and activities.
- Organization
 - Organization
 - Involvement, organization with yearly plans.
 - Everything! So grateful for the new site and organization.
 - Coordination.
 - Organization. Smile on every PTA member's face. Approachable. Very informative. Polite.
- Other
 - Recruiting and showering teachers with gifts.
 - Growing.
 - LVE PTA is much more productive than the PTA I experienced at another FBISD elementary school.
 - Higher visibility is great!
 - More involvement. I truly appreciate the leaders doing everything they can to be as involved as they can. I wish I had the time to do more. But I'm willing to give resources and time as long as permitted (off work hours, etc).
 - Definitely!
 - I believe the PTA is very involved in what is best for the school which in turn becomes something great for the kids.
 - Dudes on campus.
 - Love the new dad group.
 - Supporting the teachers and paras.
 - You are doing awesome.
 - How to improve? → You have already begun that process.
 - I think y'all are doing great and I hope to be able to participate more this year.
 - Everything that has been done thus far has been amazing!
 - Personal outreach from class specific coordinator.
 - You love our school.
 - Staying connected and involved.
 - Spirit nights at restaurants.
 - You are doing great.