

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As some of you may know, there have been some significant changes with our PTO board this year. With new changes comes growing pains and with growing pains, there are activities/events that are significantly impacted.

We are writing you to ask you to help us make our carnival a success. Many games that we have used over the past years were loaned to us by a generous family of Elder Grove, and we no longer have access to these, due to circumstances beyond anyone's control. We do own a handful of games, but we need a significant amount more to get anywhere near our goal of funds raised last year. We are already looking at cutting the silent auction from the carnival as the PTO board members are all brand new to any of this and are very overwhelmed and lacking volunteers.

Here is what we need from you:

- games or items to piece together games
- food for the carnival
- prizes for games
- Volunteers to help collect items and put baskets together for the silent auction.
- run the booths the night of the carnival
- set up/take down
- clean up
- man the silent auction the night of the carnival

We have recently had 3 volunteers step forward and take on the silent auction. This can be a success, but we have to hit the ground running and get many volunteers to help in order for this to be a success. They too, are busy with everyday life with work, kids and businesses to run. It won't consume your day every day and a bonus; you will have the pleasure of meeting some driven, fun and energetic young women. We need you to get involved; get your feet wet. We have some fabulous parent volunteers at our school and many hands make light work! :-) Please contact Jenn Hoffman at [jhoffmanpto@yahoo.com](mailto:jhoffmanpto@yahoo.com) if you are able to volunteer with these 3 ladies. They would greatly appreciate your help!

We currently have a few games and will have a list of everything that we own by the end of the week.

Here are some examples and ideas of games/booths that have been discussed:

- Pig races
- Radar throw (baseball throw or football throw)
- Fishing for ducks
- Dunk tank
- Balloon pop
- Angry Bird game
- Hair braiding/hairspray color
- Nail painting
- Face Painting
- Kettle Corn
- Picture Booth - Being created by Tech Ed students

We are hoping to get a few food truck vendors to see if they would be willing to come out instead of having to find a grill to rent or borrow. It streamlines the food and makes things simple.

Please, if you have any resources that you can donate to make a game (i.e. to use as prizes or even if you want to donate money for prizes to be purchased) we would be so very grateful. It takes a lot of time, resources and volunteers to pull off such a huge fundraiser and with everyone involved, we can make it a huge success! The carnival is Elder Grove's BIGGEST fundraiser of the year (second is the Read-A-Thon). It prevents us from having to have our kids sell several different things throughout the year. We need to rally together to make this happen.

Resources ideas that we will need to make games and booths:

- cakes for the cake walk (replaces the "Anything but cake walk")
- extra wood to build games (We would gladly accept any games you want to build and donate)
- hardware to build games (nails, screws, hinges, sandpaper, paint)
- stock tank
- bean bags
- balloons
- candy
- Cotton Candy machine (ours doesn't work well anymore)
- kettle to make kettle corn
- face paint
- nail polish
- Volunteers

Over the last two years we have raised over \$48,000 just from the carnival and these are some of the things that have been purchased with those funds:

- \* Orchestra Shells
- \* Standing tables for the Kindergarten classes
- \* Field trip Buses for every grade
- \* An Elder Grove T-shirt for every student at the beginning of the year
- \* Open House BBQ at the beginning of the school year.
- \* Playground equipment
- \* Pastries for Parents
- \* Tech Ed I and II materials
- \* Technology for classrooms

Thank you for your dedication and support that better our school for our kids! We also wanted to say how appreciative we are to the past PTO leadership. With their guidance they have been instrumental in helping us through this transition.

We are so grateful for each and every one of you and look forward to working together with you to make this a success!

If you have any questions please contact

Jenn Hoffman - [jhoffmanpto@yahoo.com](mailto:jhoffmanpto@yahoo.com)  
Shawna Bonini - [shawnabonini@yahoo.com](mailto:shawnabonini@yahoo.com)

