



PTA[®]

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2016-2017 HANDBOOK

(Please save this booklet for reference throughout the school year.)

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WELCOME TO THE BREA COUNTRY HILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PTA!

The purpose of this guide is to introduce our PTA board and committee members to the Country Hills community and to inform families of all the major programs and events that take place at our school and are provided by the PTA. The information included here coincides with the volunteer opportunities available on the PTA volunteer form that you will find in your student's first day of school folder. **These events do not run themselves; volunteers are needed for each event.** Please consider taking the time to volunteer at one or more of the events or committees listed. Your children benefit from seeing you on campus participating in their school life, and your time is a valuable resource that you can offer.

Also, we encourage you to join the PTA—information about our membership drive will be coming home soon. **Joining the PTA in no way obligates you** to be active or requires anything from you; your membership fee is a tax-deductible donation and directly supports the programs our PTA offers. And **anyone** can be a PTA member—parents, grandparents, students, or teachers, so we encourage the entire family to get involved!

PTA MEETINGS

All members are invited to our monthly PTA meetings, which take place on the **first Tuesday of each month** in the MPR (multi-purpose room), unless otherwise noted. Each meeting lasts about one hour and includes a budget review, status of PTA events, program chairperson reports, and updates from the teachers and principal. This is a great way to stay informed about what is happening at our school.

Information in this booklet is accurate at the time of printing and subject to change.

2016–2017 PTA BOARD MEMBERS

Deana Miller, *PTA President*

Email: chillspta@gmail.com

Phone: (562) 884-1450



I am excited for my second half of my 2 year term as PTA President at Country Hills. My husband, Justin and I have two boys Cole (3rd grade) and Cade (1st grade). We are a busy sports family on the soccer, flag football and baseball fields as well as the basketball court. I wouldn't change a thing! This is my third year staying home with the boys since leaving my 20 year career in sales. I am really proud of the difference the PTA makes at Country Hills. I welcome you to join us in making Country Hills a great experience for the entire family.

John Tergina, *1st VP Membership*

Email: johntergina@sbcglobal.net

Phone: (714) 883-4082



I am a proud father of two Country Hills students. My family and I have lived in Brea for more than 10 years and love our community's spirit. I enjoy volunteering in my sons' classrooms and during Country Hills' functions. This is my sixth year on the PTA executive board. I am also the owner of a local business, Shear Excellence. We provide quality shears and service to hair stylists.

Jenna Zavala, *2nd VP Ways & Means*

Email: jenna@burkegroup.net

Phone: (714) 357-1170



I am excited to serve my 2nd year on the board as 2nd VP. I love our school and our PTA! I'm looking forward to bringing the color run back for the 2nd year as our school fundraiser. Being a part of our school PTA for 6 consecutive years has been such a pleasure. It's given me the opportunity to be a part of my children's school and to meet some amazing parents along the way! My husband Jason and I have 2 children: Jeremy (5th grade) and Julianne (2nd grade). We both absolutely love being a part of our community and our children's school. I work full time as an accounting manager for a property management and commercial real estate company in Costa Mesa. I am blessed to have a flexible work schedule which enables me to volunteer. I love working alongside such talented and amazing Country Hills parents. Together, we will make this another amazing year!

Anna Huemoller, *3rd VP Programs*

Email: annahuemoller@yahoo.com

Phone: (714) 308-0123



This is my second year serving on the board of the Country Hills PTA. My husband and I have 2 children, Kiley (1st grade) and Camden (age 3). I have loved being part of the Country Hills community, and have met so many wonderful people. I grew up in Brea and attended Country Hills myself! I work part time outside the home, and I enjoy volunteering at the school whenever I can. I'm looking forward to another great year at Country Hills!

Cara Holmvik, *4th VP Ways & Means Treasurer*

Email: cdp1578@yahoo.com

Phone: (714) 742-5123



I am honored to hold a position with the Country Hills PTA. This will be my first year volunteering and being actively involved in several great events put on by the PTA, which contributes to making Country Hills a great elementary school. I work at the Albertsons Irvine Distribution Center in the Human Resources department and have been with the company for 19 years. I have a wonderful supportive husband and three children. Our daughter is a 7th grader, our oldest son is a 1st grader, and our youngest son is 1 year old. We have lived in Brea for over 3 years and are very involved with the community, to include: softball, soccer, tennis, swimming, basketball, football, and Brea 8K. I have met so many great families and I look forward to working with those parents and students, while committing my time to the Country Hills PTA.

Jenny Kovach, *Recording Secretary*

Email: jennyk319@aol.com

Phone: (714) 658-4214



I am excited to take over the role of secretary and serve my first year on the board. I've been actively helping out the past two years with the Reading Program, Red Ribbon Week, and the Variety Show. I also hold the role of Recording Secretary on our School Site Council. I enjoy every minute I spend volunteering at Country Hills and adding to the enrichment of our children, especially doing so alongside such amazing families and staff. My husband, Jeff, and I have two boys, both of whom will be attending CH this year, Caiden in third grade and Parker in TK. Yay for easy mornings! When I'm not at CH, I'm either chauffeuring the boys to and from sports, camping with Cub Scouts, or occasionally working my full-time job at OXiGEN water! I can't wait to see what great changes are in store for is this year! Go Cougars!

Letty Vargas, Historian

Email: letty.vargas@landsberg.com

Phone: (714) 287-3011



Looking forward to serving on the PTA again, my last year at Country Hills! I grew up in Southern California and this is my third year living in the beautiful city of Brea. I have one son, Adan, attending Country Hills and he will be entering the 6th grade. I work full-time in Corporate Procurement for an organization based out of Buena Park, Calif. I also enjoy baking and putting together dessert and candy tables as a side hobby. I'm looking forward to another year at Country Hills.

Melinda Gutierrez, Treasurer

Email: chptatreasurer@gmail.com

Phone: (626) 487-8151



I am looking forward to another great year as the Country Hills PTA Treasurer, helping to ensure that the money earned through our variety of fundraisers is used wisely to benefit all the children at this great school. Over the past several years, I have been involved in Red Ribbon Week, the Nominating Committee, and as Room Parent, along with helping out at all our amazing school events. My husband, Charlie, and I have one daughter, Harmony, who will be in 4th grade this year.

I work full-time as an Executive Assistant at Acosta Inc. Fortunately, I have a flexible schedule that allows me to help out at school as much as possible. Our family feels very blessed to be part of such an amazing school family.

Kendee Gardner, Auditor

Email: kgardner@aecorp.net

Phone: (714) 307-6765



I am looking forward to a great year serving on the Country Hills PTA Board as Auditor, Red Ribbon Week Chair & Talent Show Chair. I grew up in Brea and attended Country Hills from K-6th grade and moved back 3 years ago to raise my children here. I am a single mom of 2 boys, Andrew who is in 3rd grade and Liam who is in Kinder. When I am not chasing after my two boys, I am the Office Manager at our

family business Advanced Equipment Corporation in Fullerton. I have also served past terms as President, VP Membership and CHOC Walk Liaison of the CHOC Glass Slipper Guild and am now excited to turn my attention and time to the PTA of our great school.

Tracie Bretz, *Parliamentarian*

Email: bretzfamily@roadrunner.com

Phone: (562) 673-7711



It is my pleasure to once again be volunteering for the Country Hills PTA. I am an elementary school teacher at California Virtual Academies and I have three children, two daughters, 9th grade and 7th grade, and a 4-year-old son in transitional kindergarten. I love to spend as much time as possible helping out at our school. I have previously held the position of Auditor, 2nd VP Ways and Means, Hospitality Chairperson, and I have been a Room Parent for several years. I have also been involved with the Cougar Carnival, Jog-a-Thon, Room Parent Coordination, Red Ribbon Week, Art Masters, School Site Council, and 6th grade fundraising. I also serve as the president of Brea Girls Softball.

PTA PROGRAMS & COMMITTEE CONTACT INFORMATION

ART FAIR

The Art Fair, a PTA-sponsored fundraiser held each year in late spring, is a fun night for the students and their families. Parent volunteers decorate the school with artwork by every Country Hills student. Teachers choose one student from each class to have his or her artwork matted and framed and sold in a live auction to the highest bidder. All other students' artwork is sold by silent auction. Proceeds directly support the PTA's arts educational programs.

Art Fair Committee Chairs

Deana Miller

Sharon Choi

Lisa Lee

deanamiller@gmail.com

sharonspchoi@gmail.com

lisahblee@gmail.com

(562) 884-1450

(714) 906-3295

(714) 595-5641

Types of volunteers needed: *Parents to help mount and hang artwork schoolwide.*

ASSEMBLIES

Assemblies are planned by the 3rd VP of Programs each year for all students. The programs focus on entertaining while educating the students on such things as the arts (theater, music, dance), science, creative writing and other interesting topics that the students might not be exposed to in daily life at school or home.

3rd VP of Programs (Assemblies)

Anna Huemoller

annahuemoller@yahoo.com

(714) 308-0123

BIRTHDAY BOOK CLUB

To make a donation to our school library, students bring a new book or book store gift card to the school librarian and fills out a donation slip. The librarian will place a nameplate on the inside cover of the book. The student is then recognized for his or her donation at the next month's school-wide flag ceremony.

Birthday Book Club Committee Chair

Rena Pandit

rpandit27@yahoo.co.uk

(714) 269-9756

BOOK EXCHANGE

The Book Exchange was started a few years ago, and is a great way to get new books to read over the summer. On June 12 in the MPR, students may exchange books with other students for summer reading. Students drop off their donated books in the morning and then get to “shop” for books after school.

Book Exchange Committee Chairs

DeEttra Mulay
deettra@gmail.com
(909) 952-5409

BOOK FAIR

The Book Fair, held for one week each fall and spring, is a wonderful way of promoting readership at Country Hills School. The school library profits by purchasing books at cost and selling them to students, faculty and families. The Book Fair is open to all students during specific times during the school day, and parents and families are welcome to make purchases after school and on the special Family night. Teachers put out a “wish list” of books that the students and parents can purchase to donate to their particular class.

Book Fair Committee Chair

Christine Denbo
christinedenbo@gmail.com
(714) 319-3994

Types of volunteers needed: *Parents to assist with set-up and tear-down of Book Fair, or shifts before or after school.*

COLOR RUN FUNDRAISER (Ways & Means—formerly Jogathon)

Our biggest fund raiser of the school year is undergoing a colorful change! Prepare for this year’s COUGAR COLOR RUN, which will raise the funds needed to run a majority of the programs we provide during each school year.

Color Run Committee Chairs

Jenna Zavala	Claudia Swindle
jenna@burkegroup.net	claud5837@yahoo.com
(714) 357-1170	(714) 720-5837

Types of volunteers needed: *Parents to assist with all aspects of the color run, including throwing color and assisting with set up and cleanup.*

COMMUNITY PROMOTIONS

This PTA position is responsible for the collections of promotional items, such as Box Tops, and printer/ink cartridges. Families collect these items and put them in collection boxes located in the school office or classrooms. Companies who have these recycling programs make monetary donations to our PTA, which uses the donations to supplement the PTA budget.

Community Promotions Committee Co-Chairs

Nina Valencia

valenciajnma@yahoo.com

(714) 348-5104

Rachelle Teh

Shawnan2@gmail.com

(562) 652-3536

COUGAR CARNIVAL

The Cougar Carnival is held on one day near the end of the school year for all students in lieu of individual class parties. The Room Parents in each classroom prepare a booth or activity for the carnival and arrange for parent volunteers to work the booth in shifts during the day of the event. Past booths have included a cake walk, estimation jar, water play, ice block sledding, Just Dance, photo booth, prize wheel and more.

Cougar Carnival Committee Co-Chairs

Amy Livingston

amyjlivingston@gmail.com

(714) 743-7864

Jen Siglin

jensiglin@gmail.com

(714) 865-4036

Types of volunteers needed: *Parents to assist with working shifts in their child's class booth on the day of the event.*

COUGAR SPIRIT WEAR

In September, students have the opportunity to purchase T-shirts, hats and hooded sweatshirts imprinted with the school mascot. Students wear these shirts every Friday to show their school spirit and are encouraged to wear them on field trips for easy identification.

Cougar Spirit Wear Committee Chairs

Stacey Hoogeboom

stacer203@yahoo.com

(714) 267-4011

DONUTS FOR DADS

This event, held this year in late March, is designed to bring dads to the Country Hills campus one morning a year from 8-8:30 a.m. Country Hills moms volunteer to work this event. After enjoying donuts, coffee and juice and spending time with their children, dads are encouraged to stay for that month's Flag Ceremony.

Donuts for Dads Committee Chair

Jessica Mikulas

jessica_mikulas@sbcglobal.net

(714) 606-5097

Types of volunteers needed: *Moms to assist with serving coffee, juice and donuts at the event; donations of juice, pastries etc. as needed.*

HONORARY SERVICE AWARD

The Honorary Service Award is given to an individual in the PTA, school or community in special recognition of outstanding service to children at our school. The award is given to recipients who go above and beyond their routine, assigned responsibilities including those who work behind the scenes quietly and efficiently serving youth. Nomination forms are distributed in May and the award is presented at the annual Volunteer Tea on June 2.

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

The Hospitality Committee is in charge of obtaining (either through donations or purchasing) items such as cookies, cupcakes, juice, water and other snack items for such events as the Morning Mingle (first day of school), Back to School Night, Teacher Appreciation Luncheon, and others.

Hospitality Committee Co-Chairs

Lindy Hunhoff

bbb1326@gmail.com

(562) 743-1875

Jessie Stricker

jbstricker@hotmail.com

(714) 715-4203

MEET THE MASTERS ART PROGRAM

All students will participate in Meet the Masters art education program and will “meet” famous artists at fun, engaging assembly presentations. The students then receive exciting art lessons in their classrooms, using the same materials and techniques used by the artists themselves. Seven of these presentations are scheduled during the school year.

Meet the Masters Committee Co-Chairs:

Marcela Crandall

marcela.crandall1@gmail.com

(714) 865-7762

Chong Hee Min

min.sandrock@gmail.com

(714) 345-7092

Types of volunteers needed: *Parents to attend the teaching workshops on Oct. 13, Nov. 10, Dec. 8, Jan. 12, Feb. 9, Mar. 9, and April 20 and then schedule time to go to classrooms and teach the lesson to students. Parents are also needed to assist with supplies during the lessons.*

MUFFINS FOR MOMS

This event, held this year on February 24, is designed to bring moms to the Country Hills campus one morning a year from 8–8:30 a.m. Country Hills dads volunteer to work this event. After enjoying muffins, coffee and juice and spending time with their children, moms are encouraged to stay for that month's Flag Ceremony.

Muffins for Moms Committee Chair

Joe Felix

joe.felix@gmail.com

(949) 274-9641

Types of volunteers needed: *Dads to assist with serving coffee, juice and baked goods at the event; donations of juice, pastries as needed.*

PAW PRINTS

Paw Prints is the monthly PTA newsletter emailed home the Monday following a PTA meeting. It gives a recap of the PTA meeting along with upcoming school events.

Paw Prints Coordinator

Jen Siglin

jensiglin@gmail.com

(714) 865-4036

PTA DINES OUT

Throughout the year, the PTA schedules fun "dine out" nights at local restaurants, who generously donate a portion of the evening's proceeds back to our school.

PTA Dines Out Committee Chair

DeEttra Mulay

deettra@gmail.com

(909) 952-5409

RED RIBBON WEEK

Red Ribbon Week is a national anti-drug awareness campaign celebrated the week of October 17–21, which promotes the idea of healthy and positive lifestyles. During Red Ribbon Week, special activities are planned each day of the entire week. These activities are meant to be meaningful, educational and fun for students. We encourage the entire family and community to participate in these events.

Red Ribbon Week Committee Co-Chairs

Jenny Kovach

jennyk319@aol.com

(714) 658-4214

Kendee Gardner

kgardner@aecorp.net

(714) 307-6765

Types of volunteers needed: *Parents to help with the myriad of events that happen throughout Red Ribbon Week.*

REFLECTIONS ART CONTEST

Held each year in October, this national PTA program provides an opportunity for students to use their creative talents by expressing themselves through their own original works. Each year a new theme is selected, allowing students to explore their thoughts and feelings through creativity and interpretation in the areas of literature, musical composition, photography, visual arts and video production.

Reflections Co-Coordinator

Jill Ball

jillpball@gmail.com

(714) 350-2818

Laura Morrison

loramora210@gmail.com

(714) 833-4543

ROOM PARENTS

Room parents act as coordinators for classroom party planning, secure parent volunteers for events including the Color Run, Cougar Carnival and other schoolwide activities, and play a major role during Teacher Appreciation Week. Room Parents work under the teacher's direction for classroom parties.

Room Parent Coordinators

DeEttra Mulay (TK-3rd)

deettra@gmail.com

(909) 952-5409

Melinda Gutierrez (4th-6th)

harmonykgutierrez@gmail.com

(626) 487-8151

Types of volunteers needed: *Moms or dads willing to be room parents for their child's classroom.*

SCHOOL SAFETY SUPPORT

PTA purchases and replenishes classroom safety kits for the entire school. This chair updates class lists and refills anything needed in the kits throughout the year.

School Safety Support Committee Chair

Nina Valencia

valenciajnma@yahoo.com

(714) 348-5104

TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

Held one week each May, this is a special time when we make a point of appreciating and honoring the teachers and staff who work so hard for our children. Activities are organized by Room Parents and parent volunteers and usually include activities, gifts, and a teacher luncheon.

VARIETY SHOW

Come enjoy an evening watching the talented students of Country Hills perform anything from singing, dancing, magic and more. Auditions are open to all grade levels.

Variety Show Co-Chairs

Jennie Riddle

jeneyth@yahoo.com

(714) 350-9329

Kendee Gardner

kgardner@aecorp.net

(714) 307-6765

Stacey Hoogeboom

stacer203@yahoo.com

(714) 319-3994

Types of volunteers needed: *Parents to help with auditions and dress rehearsals and the night of the show collecting tickets and backstage work.*

YEARBOOK

The yearbook is a memory book featuring every student and staff member, plus most events from throughout the year captured in photos. Parents are encouraged to take photos of their child's classroom activities and events and forward them to the Yearbook Chairs. It takes many hours to put the yearbook together, and the result is a memory book your child will cherish forever.

Yearbook Committee Chair

Christine Denbo

christindenbo@gmail.com

(714) 319-3994

Types of volunteers needed: *Parents to submit photographs of class activities or who wish to assist in any other aspect of developing the yearbook.*

2016-17 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The following is a *general guideline* for when key PTA and school events happen at our school (some dates are still TBA). **Dates are subject to change.**

AUGUST 2016

29: First Day of School/Morning Mingle

SEPTEMBER 2016

5: No school/Labor Day
6-16: PTA Membership Drive
6: PTA Meeting 7 p.m. (MPR)
12-18: Spirit Wear Sales
13: Back to School Night
14: Teachers Luncheon
20,27: Chess Masters After School (*optional*)
22: School Picture Day
30: Flag Ceremony
Angels Baseball Night

OCTOBER 2016

4: PTA Meeting 7 p.m. (MPR)
4,11,18,25: Chess Masters After School (*optional*)
6: *Makeup Picture Day #1*
13: Meet the Masters Assembly 1
17-21: Red Ribbon Week
24-28: School Conferences (*min. days*)
Fall Book Fair
28: Flag Ceremony
Color Run
31: Halloween Parade
TBA: Reflections Art Contest

NOVEMBER 2016

1: Chess Masters After School (*optional*)
PTA Meeting 7 p.m. (MPR)
3,10,17: Lego After School Program (*optional*)
9: *Makeup Picture Day #2*
10: Meet the Masters Assembly 2
11: Veteran's Day (no school)
18: Flag Ceremony
21-25: Thanksgiving Recess (no school)

DECEMBER 2016

1,8,15: Lego After School Program (*optional*)
6: PTA Meeting 7 p.m. (MPR)
2: Teacher Prep Day (no school)
8: Meet the Masters Assembly 3
16: Flag Ceremony/Holiday Sing-Along

December 19 - January 2, 2017: Winter Recess

JANUARY 2017

3: PTA Meeting 7 p.m. (MPR)
12: Meet the Masters Assembly 4
16: Martin Luther King Day (no school)
20: Flag Ceremony
Mother/Son event TBA
27: No School

FEBRUARY 2017

7,14,21: Spotlight Theatre After School (*optional*)
7: PTA Meeting 7 p.m. (MPR)
9: Meet the Masters Assembly 5
13: Lincoln's Birthday (no school)
20: President's Day (no school)
24: Muffins for Moms 8-8:30 am
Flag Ceremony
Father/Daughter Dance

MARCH 2017

7: Spotlight Theatre After School (*optional*)
PTA Meeting 7 p.m. (MPR)
9: Meet the Masters Assembly 6
17: Teacher Prep Day (no school)
28: Comic Creators After School (*optional*)
31: Donuts for Dads 8-8:30 a.m.
Flag Ceremony
Mother/Daughter Tea

APRIL 2017

3-7: Spring Book Fair
4: PTA Meeting 5:30 p.m. (MPR)
Open House 6:30-8 p.m. (*minimum day*)
4, 18, 25: Comic Creators After School (*optional*)
10-14: Spring Break
20: Meet the Masters Assembly 7
25: Spring School Pictures and
6th Grade Promotion Pictures
28: Flag Ceremony

MAY 2017

1-5: Teacher Appreciation Week
2: PTA Meeting 7 p.m. (MPR)
2, 9: Comic Creators After School (*optional*)
11: Art Fair (*evening event*)
26: Flag Ceremony
29: Memorial Day (no school)

JUNE 2017

1: Variety Show
2: Volunteer Tea
6: PTA Meeting & Installation Dinner (MPR)
9: Cougar Carnival
12: Summer Book Exchange
16: Flag Ceremony/6th Grade
Promotion; Last Day of School

**Updated 8/1/16*

Visit the school website: <http://countryhills.bousd.us>
for updated PTA events



Find us on
Facebook

Our PTA has a private Facebook group page visible only to members (not the general public). Parents of current students may request to be added to the group page (**Brea Country Hills PTA**) by sending a message to the page administrators with your child's name and teacher. It's a great way to stay up-to-date on current school happenings and network with other parents and families!