

2023-2024

THE RIVER SCHOOL

Parent Teacher Association

So, what's it all about?



*An informal
FAQ guide for
new and
curious families*

How to navigate this slide deck

1. Read about the PTA 2023-2024 GOALS
2. [Learn more about what the PTA does and what families financial contributions support](#)
3. Learn all the ways to volunteer your time!
4. [Find out how to stay connected & informed -no commitment necessary !](#)
5. FAQs - Questions you think you should know the answer to, but you don't

Our 2023 Goals

- ★ Build community from Pre K families through 5th grade families
- ★ Have accessible events for all
- ★ Show up for the larger Murray Hill/River School Community
- ★ Support all our families
- ★ Increase continued financial support for school wide initiatives and programs*



*click through for further details on what we fund

So, what does the PTA do?

Short Version:

- The PTA brings together the school community, typically through fundraising events.
- Those fundraising events support a variety of school needs:
 - Largest expense from PTA:
 - Kindergarten Teaching Assistants (aka Kindergarten TAs)
 - Second Largest:
 - Staff Professional Development - Curriculum Training: Literacy, DEI Training, Ed Tech Training, etc
 - Third Largest:
 - In School Enrichment Programs - Coding, Ballet Tales, Art Farm

So, what does the PTA do?

Long Version:

The PTA works with the River School administration to best support our school. Our main objective is to fundraise, and through those funds we are able to support Kindergarten TAs, in school enrichment programs for all grades to supplement the academic curriculum, to community building efforts such as providing lunch for staff on professional development days, supporting the costs of trial initiatives such as recess coaches; we also earmark funds to bridge equity gaps ensuring that all students are able to participate in field trips, have the supplies they need for school .

During our events we aim to engage as many parents as possible, giving everyone an avenue and option to contribute to our collective success.

How can I be involved? Do I have to quit my real job?

★ No! We've got room for everyone, below are four ways to be involved



Just Do Stuff!

Make Your Own Commitment: Volunteer for events when the mood strikes!

- ★ Oversee the Bake Sale table for 30 min at the Halloween party? We'll take it!
- ★ Party set up/Decorating your thing? Awesome!
- ★ Do you own a small business and want to help with the auction? Perfect!
- ★ Do you know venues that work with non-profits? Tell us more!
- ★ Have other ideas? Share 'em!




Class Parent

Make Your Own to low Commitment: Each Class has 1-3 Class Parents based on interest. You're asked to attend General PTA meetings, as well as coordinate class gifts, teacher appreciation, and things of that nature. You can do as deep as you want, conveying additional school, local, community info and/or coordinate grade wide initiatives.

*There's
more*



★ More Ways to be involved!



Attend PTA
Mtg Regularly

Moderate Commitment: All our PTA meetings are open, so you can really come and go, but the more you attend the more you might become involved with events happening on behalf of the PTA. This doesn't just mean time, but also an opportunity to have your ideas heard!

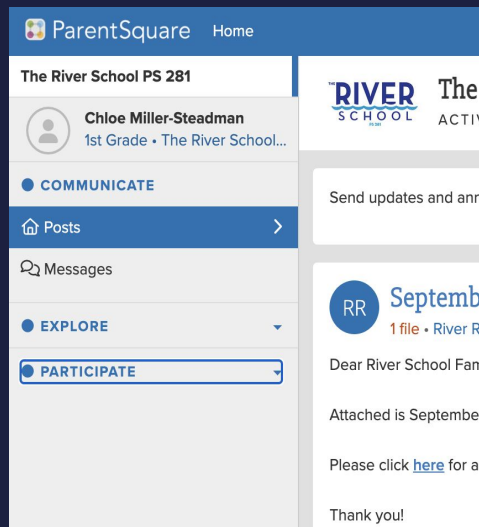


Join the board

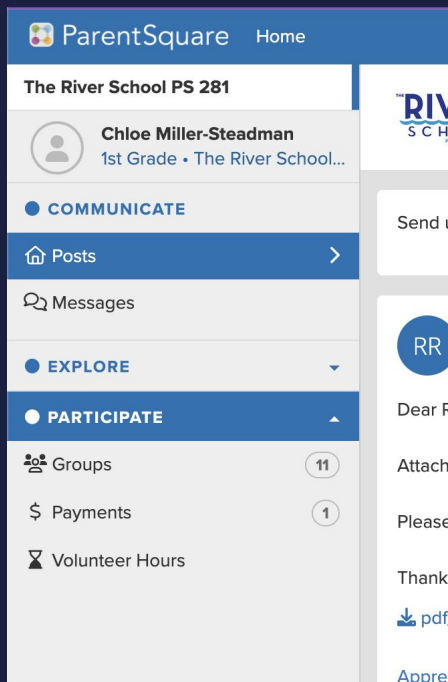
Most Commitment: Joining the board means you'll be elected. As a board member you'll be asked to attend regular General Meetings, Executive Board Meetings, possibly SLT, you'll be in the first wave to be asked to volunteer at events, help out with the Spring Benefit, weigh in on the budget, vote in elections.

How to stay connected & informed: 3 ways!

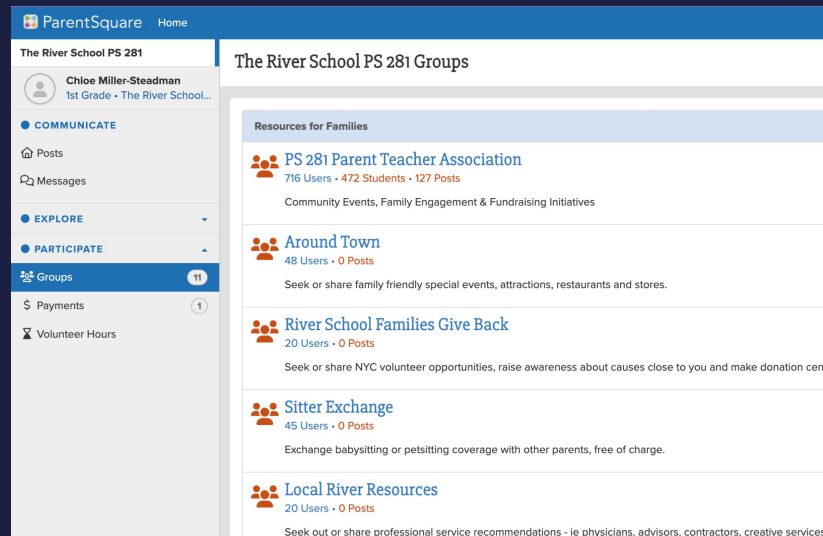
1. Join the Parent Square PTA Group



Step 1: Open Parent Square on the left you'll see a menu like this one



Step 2: Click on Participate



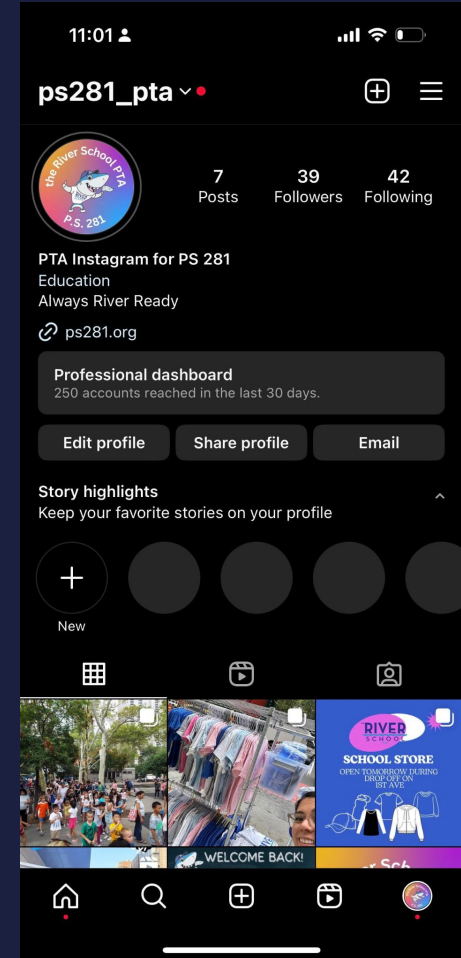
Step 3: Click on “Groups” and join PS281 Parent Teacher Association through the “Join” button on the right

How to stay connected & informed: 3 ways!

2. Follow the PTA instagram account

@ps281_pta

Content, follow, engagement, ideas always welcome!



How to stay connected & informed: 3 ways!

3. Join us for PTA meetings the third week of the month
& check out the website

ps281.org



FAQs - Frequently Asked Questions

[Link to viewable budget](#)

Program	Details
Kindergarten TAs	

FAQs -What Do you Fund

If you're new to River, or have spent 3 years wondering what the Pajama Challenge is, this guide is for you!
So basically, it's for everyone!

Question	Answer
Is there any commitment if attend PTA meetings?	Nope! Come, listen, learn, share your ideas
What is the Pajama Challenge?	It's a race, another fundraising ask that starts on Giving Tuesday and lasts a set number of days
What is the Family Fund?	

Thank you!

- ★ Reach out to pta@ps281.org
- ★ [Share your contact](#) info with us!

(Use the QR code or [click here.](#))

