



Blanchard PTF Program and Fundraising Overview

The Blanchard PTF actively supports our school in a variety of ways, including the school enrichment programs, social events, and service activities described below. Money is raised for our programs through fundraisers and family donations. The PTF invites all parents to attend PTF meetings and to volunteer in whatever capacity their time allows. Volunteer participation ensures the continued success and vitality of this organization. For more info go to our web site: <http://www.blanchardptf.org>

SCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS

- **PTF Grants** – PTF grants fund educational initiatives at Blanchard including enrichment activities, equipment purchases not funded by the school budget, or professional development. Teachers, parents, and the Blanchard administration are invited to submit proposals. The committee is composed of PTF Board members, teachers, and parent representatives.
- **Arts Enrichment** – This committee plans and schedules special performance events and visual artists. Volunteers assist by previewing performances and coordinating these programs.
- **Science Enrichment** – This committee works with teachers to coordinate special science activities for classrooms.
- **Destination Imagination** – This after-school activity emphasizes creativity, critical thinking, teamwork, and problem solving through innovative group projects. Open to all grade levels. Parent volunteers assist student teams.
- **Drama Program** – This after-school program for 5th and 6th graders provides an opportunity for all those students interested to participate in the production of a play as an actor, stage crew, etc.. Past performances include *Annie*, *Willy Wonka*, and *There's a Monster in My Closet*. Parent volunteers produce and coordinate this program.
- **Parent Involvement Program (PIP)** – The PTF joins the Acton Schools in this program that promotes science, math, and technology enrichment.
- **Mother's Day Table** – The PTF sponsors a shopping day for all students before Mother's Day. Each student brings \$1 to school to purchase one present. Families donate items in advance. PTF volunteers run this special event for Blanchard's students.

FAMILY EVENTS & SOCIAL SERVICE ACTIVITIES

- **Family Social Events** – The PTF sponsors social and service events for families to create an opportunity for community. This year's events include: *Bingo Night*, *Pumpkin Walk*, *Movie Night*, *Willows Book Shopping and Entertainment*, and a *Community Service project*. New ideas are welcome. Volunteers coordinate and run these events.
- **Luncheons** – Each year the PTF hosts a luncheon for the senior citizens of Boxborough and a Teacher and Staff Appreciation Luncheon. Volunteers coordinate the luncheons, prepare food, serve & clean up. The PTF Hospitality Committee also provides refreshments at several annual school events.

COMMUNICATION

- **Blanchard Bits Newsletter** – Our online newsletter and email alerts provide the Blanchard community with information about school, PTF activities, and community events.
- **Blanchard PTF Web Site** – Our web site provides on-going updates, contact information for board members, and online donation capabilities.
- **School Directory** – The PTF publishes a school directory to help families connect with one another. It is compiled by PTF volunteers and offered to Blanchard parents for a minimal fee to cover printing.

FUNDRAISING

Based on your feedback, the PTF continues to offer a small number of high-return fundraisers this year including more emphasis on family donations. The result: more time for enrichment, family, and community events.

- **Product Fundraiser** – The PTF's annual product (e.g., gift wrap) fundraiser is held every September. Families purchase merchandise with up to 50% of the proceeds going to the PTF's enrichment and community programs.
- **Boxtops for Education** – Participation in Boxtops for Education allows families to contribute to the school's enrichment programs when purchasing everyday grocery and household items.
- **Online Shopping** – OneCause provides easy access to many popular retailers such as Amazon.com and a percentage of every purchase is donated to the PTF.
- **KidsArt** – Blanchard students create cards or other items with their own personalized art work.
- **Special Fundraising Events** – The PTF organizes special fundraising events, such as auctions. The PTF Board of Directors reviews possible events/ideas in the late spring and summer and presents ideas in the fall.
- **Family Donations** – Family donations are accepted at any time, reduce the need for additional fundraisers, and are always appreciated. Checks should be made payable to "*Blanchard PTF*". The PTF is a non-profit organization; all donations are tax deductible and will directly support the programs of the PTF.

