



**From PTA's Mission:** To make every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children.

Dear Joslin Jaguar Families,

On behalf of the Joslin PTA (Parent Teacher Association), welcome to the 2018-19 school year! I am Julie Barschow, PTA president, Joslin alum and parent to 3rd generation Joslin Jaguar and 2nd grader, Jude. The PTA is a powerful voice for all children, a relevant resource for families and communities, and a strong advocate for the education and well-being of every child. Here at Joslin, we are fortunate to have an active PTA. If you haven't already become a member, I encourage you to join! Don't worry if you don't have time to volunteer. Whether you volunteer regularly, once, or not at all, as a PTA member, you will still be supporting Joslin and you will have a voice about PTA-related activities. Bonus: You will also receive membership rewards and discounts offered by [TX PTA](#) and [National PTA](#).

The start of school brings lots of information — from AISD, Joslin, teachers and the PTA. Take a deep breath, it will be okay! If you're feeling confused or lost, you are not alone. Never hesitate to ask a teacher, Principal Aziz or Asst. Principal O'Neal, me, a PTA Board member, or our awesome office team Angel and Alex if you have questions. We are always here to help! Connect with fellow parents by joining your grade's Facebook Parent Group. To find your group, you must first visit and "like" [Joslin's Facebook page](#) (remember to hover over "notifications" and choose "Show all posts"), click on "Groups" near the bottom the left-side menu, find your grade level and click "Join." Please read the group guidelines carefully. Groups are parent-led and not managed by Joslin or AISD. Communications should be for parent to parent communication only. Please use an alternate communication channel for parent to teacher communication.

In order to save paper, reduce expenses and streamline communications, we send most PTA-related items via "the JAG," our PTA-sponsored campus weekly e-newsletter. If you are new to Joslin, please subscribe and add [joslinpta@gmail.com](mailto:joslinpta@gmail.com) to your safe senders list. If you have not yet completed the Parent Contact/Dismissal Information paper or [Google form](#), please stop by the office to do so. Returning families, please update your contact information if anything changed since last year.

The Joslin PTA sponsors many events throughout the year. Please refer to the "At-A-Glance" style calendar for details. Mark your calendar for our first school-wide event, "Joslin PTA Spooktacular" to be held on Friday, October 26th from 6pm-8pm. If you would like to help plan the event, please attend the planning meeting on Wednesday, August 29th at 6:00 p.m. in the library. Event-day volunteer opportunities will be posted closer to the event.

Lastly, please bookmark [the Joslin website](#), as it has lots of helpful information. If you have any questions about getting involved at school, I would love to talk to you about it!

Best wishes for a great school year at Joslin. Go, Jags!



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## FAQs

### How is the PTA organized?

The Joslin PTA has a Board of Directors, made up of 9 parents, 2 staff (also parents) and our Principal. The Board serve as fiduciaries for PTA funds, and are responsible for: organizing and executing PTA-sponsored programs; fundraising; hosting appreciation events; recruiting members; coordinating volunteers and more. These responsibilities are managed by committees and board officers. When you join PTA, you become a member of the association. Members get a voice and vote on PTA-related activities and Board elections. Joslin hosts three general PTA Member Meetings per year, with specialized programming at each one.

### Do PTA members have to volunteer?

No. Don't get us wrong, we need a lot of help, but you are not obligated to volunteer as a PTA member. There are one-time and ongoing opportunities to help. One-time opportunities include things like: day-of event help for fundraising, appreciation, or program-related events. Ongoing opportunities include being a Room Parent (helping teachers with behind-the-scenes classroom work, field trips and/or events and serving as a PTA-liaison) or serving on a committee. Whatever your availability and talents, we can find an opportunity for you to get involved.

### When are PTA meetings?

The Joslin PTA Board of Directors meets at 5:30 p.m. on the 2nd Wednesday of each month in the Library. PTA members are not obligated, but are welcome to attend.

Joslin PTA Member Meetings will be held during the months of November, February and April. All PTA members who have paid dues are welcome to attend. More details to come.

The PTA Board Election is held at the beginning of May. PTA members are encouraged to attend and vote on the Board Officers for the next school year.

**2018-2019 Board of Directors:** Julie Barschow, President (Jude, 2nd, Lucie, Future Jaguar); Julia de Moraes, Treasurer (Oliver 2nd, Arthur Kinder); Jen McGaffeny, Secretary (Osiris, 1st); Catherine Bacon, Membership Chair (Estelle, 1st); Navvab Taylor (Leo, 1st); Charlotte Blanch, Communications Chair (Antonio 1st, Stella, PK4, Olivia, Future Jag); Jenn Hodges, Volunteer/Hospitality Chair; (Jefferson, 1st); Jen Brewerton (Jack, 1st & Liam, PK4); Natasha Chapman, Teacher Representative (Evan, 4th); Stephanie Turner, Staff Representative (Ellen, 2nd); Patrick Aziz, Principal.