



SY25-26  
**ENEWSLETTER**

PTO DISTRIBUTED NEWSLETTER  
STAY UP TO DATE REGARDING PTO  
MEETINGS & EVENTS AS WELL AS  
OTHER COMMUNITY UPDATES.

This communication is developed and distributed by Friends of Ray Board Members. These communications are not reviewed and/or edited by the staff at William H. Ray Elementary School.

[www.friendsofrayschool.com](http://www.friendsofrayschool.com)



This communication is developed and distributed by Friends of Ray School Board of Directors. This newsletter is not edited and/or reviewed by the staff at Ray Elementary. Please visit the [Ray school website](#) for direct communication and updates from the school.

CPS Calendar



GENERAL  
**UPDATES**



**Welcome Back Ray Warrior Families!!**

We’re thrilled to kick off another amazing school year at Ray Elementary! As the Ray Warrior community comes together once again, the Friends of Ray School PTO is excited to support our students, teachers, and families for a year full of learning, growth, and connection.

**Join Us!**

The PTO plays a vital role in building school spirit, supporting classrooms, and organizing events that bring our community together. Whether you're new to Ray or a returning family, there's a place for everyone in the PTO. Your voice, time, and talents matter!

**Stay Connected & Spread the Word**

Help us grow our community by sharing PTO updates and events with your friends and family. The more we connect, the stronger we become!

Together, we can make this year unforgettable for our Ray Warriors. Let’s show our school pride and make a difference—one family, one voice, one school.

**Let’s make it a GREAT year to be a RAY WARRIOR!**



**School Orientation**  
**Thanks for stopping by our table!**

Last week’s orientation was amazing!! We had a blast meeting returning/new families and checking in with our returning friends from last year!

Be sure to stay up to date on upcoming events and information by following our social media pages and subscribing to our enews.

Interested in learning more about how you can get more involved as a parent? Visit our website today!!

All support is appreciated.



(Pictured left to right: Arielle T. - President, Jantelle J. - Fundraising Co-Chair, and Janasha E. - Vice President — Toshia B. - Volunteer Chair also pictured in the second photo)



# Best Practices for Drop-Off & Pick-Up



## 1 Be Patient

Wait in line. Avoid cutting other parents/families off.

## 2 Be Mindful of Pedestrians

Be sure to make sure you watch for students/families in the crosswalk.

## 3 Avoid Double Parking

Avoid blocking other cars in areas around the school. Be mindful of safety concerns in the event that other people need to move.

## 4 Make Sure Cars/People Are Able to Move

To ensure others safety leave room for others to effectively move through driving AND walking spaces.

## 5 Be Kind & Respectful



## UPCOMING PTO EVENTS



**UPCOMING EVENTS**  
FRIENDS OF RAY SCHOOL PTO  
2025-2026

**AUG 28**

**MEET & GREET GENERAL MEETING**  
4:00 PM RAY SCHOOL NORTH PLAYGROUND  
POPCORN & SNO CONES | BUDGET REVIEW

**SEPT 7**

**PRE K AND K FAMILY PLAY DATE**  
3:30 PM - 5:00 PM (BIXLER PARK)

**SEPT 14**

**1ST & 2ND GRADE FAMILY PLAY DATE**  
3:30 PM - 5:00 PM (BIXLER PARK)

**SEPT 25**

**GENERAL MEETING**  
8:00 PM (VIRTUAL) | BUDGET VOTE  
Google Meet

**OCT 23**

**GENERAL MEETING**  
8:00 PM (VIRTUAL)  
Google Meet

**NOV 6**

**CULTURAL HERITAGE & CULINARY COOKING NIGHT**  
4:00 PM | RAY LUNCHROOM | GENERAL MEETING  
TENTATIVE DATE MAY CHANGE

**DEC 11**

**CINEMA & HOT CHOCOLATE GENERAL MEETING**  
4:00 PM | RAY AUDITORIUM  
TENTATIVE DATE MAY CHANGE

INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING FOR EVENTS?  
SCAN HERE!



 **MORE INFO:**

[WWW.FRIENDSOFRAYSCHOOL.COM](http://WWW.FRIENDSOFRAYSCHOOL.COM)

FRIENDS OF RAY SCHOOL

**MEET & GREET**  
PTO GENERAL MEETING





THURSDAY, AUGUST 28TH | 04:00 - 5:30 PM  
WILLIAM H. RAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
NORTH PLAYGROUND



[www.friendsofrayschool.com](http://www.friendsofrayschool.com)  
Email: friendsofraypt@gmail.com



Join Us For Our First Engagement Event!

During this event we will kick off our PTO schedule for the new school year. Join us to meet the current board,

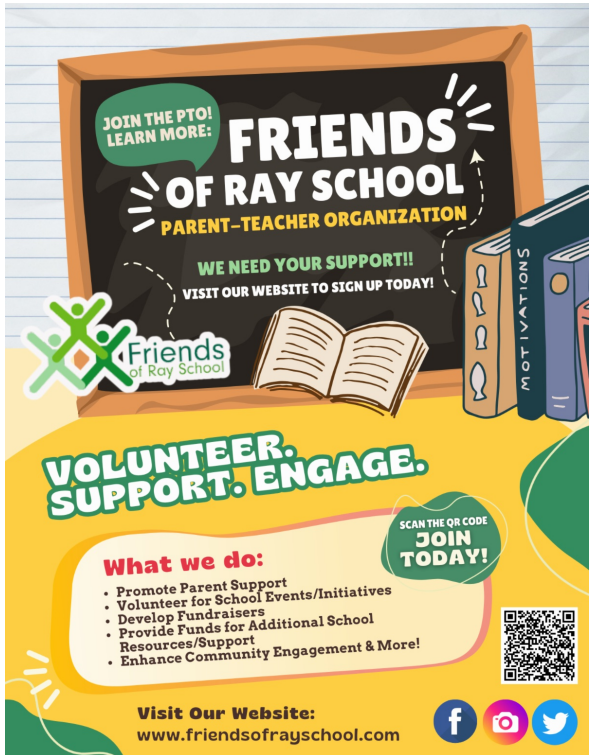


some of the school staff, partners, and other families! Learn more about how you can become a general member and/or renew your membership for the current year!

Popcorn and sno-cones will be available until exhausted.

We will also have ray gear/merchandise for purchase!

We hope to see you there!!



Join the Friends of Ray School Parent-Teacher Organization and make a meaningful impact in our school community!

As a member, you'll have the opportunity to connect with other parents, collaborate with teachers and staff, and support initiatives that directly benefit our students.

While there is a suggested membership donation of \$20, this contribution is not required to join as a general member. However, it is necessary for voting privileges and eligibility to serve on the board.

Your support—financial or otherwise—helps fund essential programs, events, and resources that enrich the educational experience at Ray School.

Get involved and help us make a difference!

[Membership Form Here](#)



Interested in volunteering for school-based and/or PTO school events? We would love to have you on our team! Please click the button below to complete the Friends of Ray School Volunteer Interest Form.

*Please note that you will also need to complete the CPS Volunteer Application. Once we receive your interest form we will contact you with additional details for the volunteer process.*

[Volunteer Interest Form](#)



Friends  
of Ray School

COMMUNITY  
EVENTS

FREE TO THE PUBLIC

LOOKINGGLASS THEATRE COMPANY  
PRESENTS

**ICE CREAM CIRCUS!**

IN ASSOCIATION WITH ACTORS GYMNASIUM

SUNDAY, AUG 17: GILL PARK AT 5:30 PM  
825 W. SHERIDAN RD.

TUESDAY, AUG 19 AT SENECA PARK AT 5 PM  
220 E. CHICAGO AVE.

THURSDAY, AUG 21 AT TRUMBULL PARK AT 6PM  
2400 E. 105<sup>TH</sup> ST

FRIDAY, AUG 22 AT KENNICOTT PARK AT 6PM  
4434 S. LAKE PARK AVE.

SUNDAY, AUG 24 AT TALLMADGE PARK AT 4PM  
927 NOYES ST.

LOOKINGGLASSTHEATRE.ORG

Free events for every season.

Ask our new texting service to get periodic texts about the Night Out in the Park program and schedule. Sign up is quick and easy, simply text **night out** to (312) 278-0707.

Learn more at [www.nightoutintheparks.com](http://www.nightoutintheparks.com)

For more information about your Chicago Park District, visit [www.chicagoparkdistrict.com](http://www.chicagoparkdistrict.com) or call 312.242.7329.

Visit the Website

**RAY WARRIOR  
PROUD**

LEARN MORE HERE:  
[www.ray.cps.edu](http://www.ray.cps.edu)  
[www.friendsofrayschool.com](http://www.friendsofrayschool.com)

**WILLIAM H. RAY  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

**2025 - 2026  
Board of Directors**

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Jantelle Jackson  
**Fundraising Co-Chair**

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**Website Co-Manager**

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**Principal**

Stacy Horgan  
**Teacher**

Heather Hall  
**Teacher**

Ciara Weaver  
**Teacher**

**FRIENDS OF RAY**  
501 (C)(3) PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION

**VOLUNTEER | SUPPORT | ENGAGE**  
HELP US BUILD THE RAY SCHOOL COMMUNITY!

**JOIN THE PTO TODAY!**

**WHAT WE DO:**

- Promote Parent Support
- Volunteer for School Events/Initiatives
- Develop Fundraisers
- Raise Funds to Provide Additional Resources/Support
- Enhance Community Engagement & More!

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE  
FOR MORE DETAILS ON HOW  
YOU CAN JOIN/SUPPORT!**

SCAN HERE

[www.friendsofrayschool.com](http://www.friendsofrayschool.com)

Interested in joining the Friends of Ray School Board of Directors? Email us today for more details! We need your support!

**STAY CONNECTED**

**FRIENDS OF RAY SCHOOL**

**FRIENDSOFRAYSCHOOLPTO**

**FRIENDSOFRAYPTO**

**LIKE. SHARE. FOLLOW.**

[www.friendofrayschool.com](http://www.friendofrayschool.com)

**Friends of Ray School**  
@FriendsOfRayPTO

501 (a) (3) Organization serving in the Hyde Park community to support William H. Ray Elementary of Ray School PTO

@ Chicago, IL Joined May 2018

73 Following 142 Followers

Tweets Tweets & replies Media

Friends of Ray School @Friends...  
Help us grow!! Join the PTO today!  
#Support #FriendsOfRaySchool

**FRIENDS OF RAY**  
JOIN THE PTO

[Our Website](#)

[School Website](#)

[Ray Gear](#)

Friends of Ray School PTO is a non-profit, 501 (c) (3) that supports the students, faculty, and administration of William H. Ray Elementary School through fundraising and organizing community-building events throughout the year. All Ray families and community members are welcome and encouraged to join the Ray PTO in

[Contact](#)

[GoCPS](#)

supporting our school. Our mission is to supplement the limited funding allotted to Ray through the Chicago Public School system. All funds raised are used to support recess, enrich the curriculum at each grade level, purchase classroom supplies, and sponsor community events and meetings.

*Interested in unsubscribing? Click the '[Unsubscribe](#)' link at the bottom of this email!*



Friends of Ray School | 5631 S. Kimbark Ave. | Chicago, IL 60637 US

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