

www.jbepto.org/donate

Dear JBE families and friends,

Thank you for considering a donation to the [JBE PTO](#).

Our PTO has worked hard over the years to support the students at James B Edwards Elementary. It's hard to imagine all the ways the PTO supports the school, but we invite you to check out our budget at [JBE PTO - Financials](#) to see exactly where your donations go. In years past, donations have allowed the PTO to purchase Chromebooks and iPads for every student, install clean water drinking stations, and even build a [Greenhouse](#)!

In addition to providing classroom and equipment supplies, the parent-led fundraising arm of JBE PTO, the [Tom Lee Endowment](#), funds teaching positions not included in the district school budget. Your money goes directly to support these teaching positions, giving our students the benefit of programs they would otherwise miss out on.

Our challenge now is to raise \$150,000 to fully fund the PTO operating budget and teaching positions for the 2018-2019 school year. In years past we have contracted with Boosterthon to raise these funds, but their 50% commission charge greatly reduces the amount of money that goes to our school. Of the \$74,000 raised through Boosterthon last year, only \$34,000 went to James B Edwards.

This year we have launched a [Capital Campaign](#) to make sure 100% of donations are directed to the school, maximizing the benefits we can give our students. With a school enrollment of approximately 650 students, we can reach our fundraising target of \$150,000 by raising an average of \$230 per student. While achieving this financial goal would be fantastic, we have additionally set a more meaningful goal of 100% participation. Incredible results can be achieved with the power in numbers! If every family at JBE supports our participatory goals, we can help the students of James B Edwards have an even broader and more rewarding school experience.

James B Edwards PTO

<https://www.jbepto.org/2018-2019-capital-campaign.html>

Dear JBE families and friends,

We trust that you had a safe and wonderful summer! The PTO has been hard at work over the summer vacation having installed the [Greenhouse](#), updated our [JBE PTO website](#) and organized our first annual [Capital Campaign](#), which will replace the Boosterthon fundraiser from years past.

JBE finished the 2017-2018 school year in a strong position under the leadership of Principal Robin Fountain, now in her second year, and Assistant Principal Christine Zamboki. Last year the PTO worked with JBE to meet several goals including:

Increased Enrollment - The Charleston County School District (CCSD) uses total enrollment as a unit of measure to calculate how much funding each school receives. Of course, district processes are rarely that straightforward and the actual formula is much more complicated, involving a mishmash of state and district funding. At times the formula seems like rocket science but not to worry,

Principal Fountain does a yearly review to make sure our target enrollment is correct. Our current enrollment is ~650 students and if we reach our target enrollment of **XXX** students, we will obtain our optimal enrolment and associated district funding.

Map Testing Growth - Test scores have shown improvement for two consecutive years since Principal Fountain has taken over at JBE.

Record Fundraising - Last year our fundraising arms [JBE PTO](#) and [Tom Lee Endowment \(TLE\)](#) both raised record amounts. With your wonderful support, we look forward to continuing our success and raising the bar with our new [Capital Campaign](#).

[Greenhouse](#) installation - After a fundraising mission that spanned multiple years, our [Greenhouse](#) is finally being installed! This fantastic facility will provide a unique opportunity for our children to experience hands-on gardening and farming with the health benefits that come from a connection with nature.

Language and Technology - The [JBE PTO](#) and [TLE](#) fundraising arms have enabled Principal Fountain to start a French language program this year at JBE. Grades **X-X** will have French class **X** times per week. *Comme c'est merveilleux!*

Due to the generosity of our parents, grandparents, friends and community businesses, last year we were able to build on previous success and gain even more momentum for the 2018-2019 school year. To meet our funding goals in years past, we have held a golf tournament hosted by the [Tom Lee Endowment](#). We have also contracted with Boosterthon, but the problem is that Boosterthon takes a 50% commission on all funds raised. Last year this meant that although our students raised a whopping \$74,000 through the Boosterthon fundraiser, only \$37,000 of this money came to JBE.

To maximize the amount of money we raise for the school, we have decided to change our approach to fundraising this year. In lieu of Boosterthon and the golf tournament, JBE PTO has decided to launch its inaugural [Capital Campaign](#). The 2018-2019 [Capital Campaign](#) will allow 100% of your valuable donations to go directly to the school. You can keep up-to-date with our campaign progress and make a donation at www.jbepto.org/donate. Please donate today and help JBE students have a first-rate school experience to help set them up for lifelong learning and fulfillment.

At JBE PTO, we value transparency and post all of our [financial data](#) to let you know exactly how your donated dollars are spent. We also regularly post fundraising news on the [JBE PTO website](#). Please take a look so you know how much we appreciate your support and how efficiently we use your dollars.

Our students need your help! JBE PTO needs to raise \$150,000 to fund the [PTO operating budget](#) and supplement school language and technology programs. With 650 students, an average donation of \$230 per student would achieve this target. Of course, we understand that not all families will be able to contribute to the same level, but it would be an incredible community effort to achieve 100% participation! We hope that you will all support the [Capital Campaign](#) at a level you are comfortable with.

Please consider a one-time or recurring donation today so JBE students can enjoy an extra-special school experience. Thank you!