

# Alpharetta Elementary PTA: Where Does the Money Go?

As a member of the PTA, you have a right to know where the money raised by PTA goes. You should also know where that money comes from.

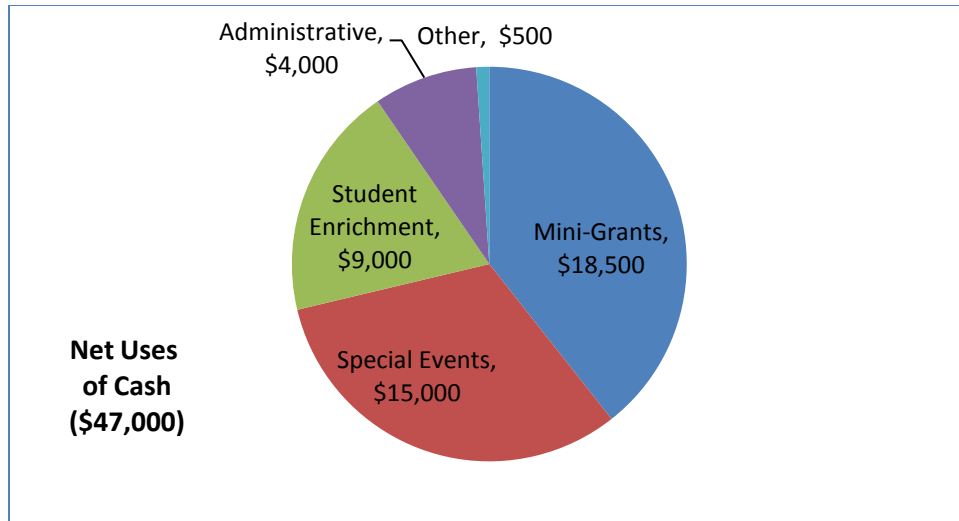
There are four basic "buckets" within PTA. They are:

- **Community Relations:** Publishes your PTA Directory and Yearbook and organizes Family Night; these efforts are largely break-even. Also manages our "Partners in Education" effort, which this year ran a net surplus of about \$5,000.
- **Special Events:** Runs 4<sup>th</sup>- and 5<sup>th</sup>-grade Projects, Rock Eagle, Teacher Appreciation, and Health & Safety events; spends about \$15,000 net.
- **Student Enrichment:** Runs Cultural Arts, Accelerated Reader, and Science Events; spends about \$9,000 net.
- **Ways & Means:** Although this segment is where we raise most of our money, it also runs our break-even events such as Movie Night and Bingo Night; runs a surplus of about \$42,000.

In addition, PTA makes donations directly to the school (called "Mini-Grants"), usually for whatever amount of money remains available. These mini-grants fund specific requests made by the school. For the current school year, PTA has given mini-grants totaling \$18,500 directly to AES; the school uses these funds to purchase resources, equipment, and tools that could otherwise not be purchased. By design, mini-grants are disbursed fairly and equitably across all grade levels.

As the saying goes, a picture is worth a thousand words, so here are quick snapshots of where the money comes from and where it goes:





Notes: We haven't had Carnival yet, so that number is just what's budgeted. "SOS" was the PTA's "check-writing campaign" where we asked members for additional contributions beyond their basic membership. "Soft Fundraising" includes things like Amazon Associates (where the PTA gets a small percentage of any purchases you make through Amazon) and Georgia Natural Gas (which will give the PTA \$60 per year for each household enrolled in its TrueBlue Schools program).

**As you can see, the PTA relies heavily on our two annual fundraising efforts to support its goals. Without them, we could not give nearly as much money back to school as we do.**

You can also see that 91.5 cents of every net dollar raised goes right back to the school and its students; only about 8.5% of the PTA's net budget is spent on administration (mostly dues, accounting, insurance, and banking fees).

So remember, whenever the PTA asks for your support, whether it's through SOS or a fundraiser or volunteering your time, the money raised is going right where it needs to go: our kids!

Along those lines, we sincerely thank you for your continued support and involvement.