



The Burlington Academy of Learning

Where Children and Families Are Celebrated!

PARENT COMMITTEE DESCRIPTIONS

At *The Burlington Academy of Learning* parents have the opportunity to get involved in a number of ways including our Parent Involvement Program, volunteering in the classrooms and joining committees that serve the children and school as a whole. As in *The Academy's* motto "Where Children and Families are Celebrated," involvement in committees allows parents to forge new friendships and camaraderie, all for the purpose of enhancing *The Academy's* programs for the students and for the community. Interestingly, several life-long friendships have been developed through committee involvement by parents just like you who simply wanted to get involved. Below is a list of the committees available for you to participate in.

Back-to-School Family Picnic

This committee organizes the Back-to-School Family Picnic in September. Stations are set up with teachers assigned to do face painting, tattooing, hair braiding, etc.... Families bring their own picnic dinner and blanket. The committee sends parents reminders and coordinates this simple event, which usually takes place from 5-7pm in mid September.

Baking

Committee members provide baked goods for various events throughout the school year.

Box Tops for Education

Committee members facilitate collection of box tops from parents for the Box Tops for Education Program. Box tops are saved towards selected items chosen to benefit the classrooms. More info on www.boxtops4education.com

Classroom Coordinators

These volunteers are invaluable to the classroom teachers. They assist teachers with classroom projects, social events, communications to other parents, putting up bulletin boards, changing wall décor to match monthly themes, and much more.

Computers

Any parents who have a bit of computer and/or networking knowledge are welcome to help Mike McDonnell with coordination of the school's technical and/or networking needs.

Family Resource Center (FRC)

These volunteers maintain the Family Resource Center bulletin board, organize the FRC's lending library, maintain the file cabinet of parent resource materials, etc. Committee members also make recommendations for overall improvement/usability of the FRC. Members obtain, organize and maintain parenting books for lending and articles for parents to take. Updated articles are always helpful. Emailing articles on pertinent current topics via email is always helpful and greatly appreciated by other parents.

Field Trips

Parent volunteers assist classroom teachers in organizing classroom field trips by coordinating transportation among parents, working with destination organizations, etc.

Food Allergy & Health Awareness Committee

The Burlington Academy is an allergy safe school and we are members of the Food Allergy and Anaphalaxis Network. Parents on the Food Allergy and Health Awareness Committee assist with keeping the school informed on all the latest information regarding food allergies in young children to insure the school's policies are up-to-date and we are operating at the highest standards possible to protect our children with food allergies. The committee also focuses on parent awareness of health related topics of concern to young children. Information such as safe recipes and ingredients for cooking/baking, safe foods to purchase in grocery stores is shared and posted to our website.

Giving

Committee members identify organizations or families who would benefit from some type of assistance from the school community. (Past examples included, donation of toiletries, phone cards, and more to soldiers in the Middle East and their families in the states; meals for local (or BAL) families who experienced hardships, coat, mitten, clothing and food drives, "Backpacks for Kids" fundraiser, Book Drive for New Haven Reads Program, etc.)

Graduations

This committee coordinates our Graduation ceremonies at the end of the school year. Organizing refreshments is the main responsibility.

Grounds/Beautification

Members of this committee, along with their children, have fun planting/decorating the window boxes for Spring/Summer and Fall/Winter, maintaining the mulched areas around the school, trimming shrubbery, and providing ideas to enhance the school's appearance. Creativity is encouraged and all ideas are welcome to keep the outside of the school inviting throughout the seasons.

Hammer and Nails

Handy men and women and their children provide a helping hand with various odd jobs throughout *The Academy*. Tasks may range from hanging a bulletin board, installing window blinds, painting a room, fixing/replacing a fence, minor electrical work, light carpentry...whatever your pleasure! No skills required!

Parent Education Programs

Committee members arrange speakers to come to *The Academy* to speak on certain topics of interest to parents. For a list of past workshops/seminars, contact the Main Office.

Playground

Members meet to install, maintain and upgrade the play equipment on the school's two playgrounds. Committee members recommend changes and/or additions to the overall layout and playground items.

Scholastic Book Orders & Fairs

This committee coordinates the September and October classroom Book Club flyers and the May Scholastic Book Fair. The fair is organized and provided by Scholastic so the committee coordinates the event with them, set the fair up during conference week at school in May and inform parents of the event.

Student Portraits

These volunteers help two times a year. First, in September for coordinating the Paul Cryan photography sessions and distributing the pictures, and second, in April doing the same for the Graduation pictures. Volunteers also assist in getting students from their classrooms to the photography area and ensure the students look their best for their pictures.

Student Safety

Members may organize a car seat safety clinic, children's bicycle safety clinic, "playing safe in and out of the house", fire safety, etc. This area is wide open depending on your interests and contacts.

Teacher Appreciation

This committee organizes expressions of appreciation for our wonderful teachers!