



# Welcome to Statham Elementary School

## SES 2015-2016 PTO WELCOME PACKET

[www.barrow.k12.ga.us/ses/](http://www.barrow.k12.ga.us/ses/)

[www.sespto.weebly.com](http://www.sespto.weebly.com)

### SES at a Glance

Front Office: 770-725-7112

1970 Broad Street  
Statham, GA 30666

This year SES teaches 960 students in grades pre-K through 5th. and includes 103 teachers/staff members.

SES is part of the Barrow County School District with students continuing to Bear Creek Middle School and then graduating from Winder/Barrow High School.

The school mascot is the Wild Cat and school colors are Red and Black.



### Welcome from the Principal

Welcome to Statham Elementary School! It will not take you long to learn, if you haven't already, that SES is a very special place. It is our hope that your student will enjoy life at SES. There is a community of caring families and committed professionals here to support both students and families as you acclimate and throughout the year.

We hope that you will take advantage of every opportunity to serve and every service that we provide. We greatly value your input and participation in the learning experience at Statham Elementary and hope that you will take an active role in the PTO. The Statham Elementary PTO provides our school with the resources and support we need to go beyond the basic, but that can only happen if everyone shares their talents, time and expertise. Please make time to visit the school and volunteer as your schedule allows. Simply put, our school community thrives when everybody is engaged and as such we encourage you to become an active participant.

I look forward to knowing each of you and your students. It is my hope you and your family will make a smooth transition and that you will enjoy your time as a part of this wonderful community. If there is anything that I can do to help you, please do not hesitate to call me at 770-725-7112 or send me an email at [swade.huff@barrow.k12.ga.us](mailto:swade.huff@barrow.k12.ga.us). Let's have another great year!

All Good Wishes,

Dr. Huff

## SES Online

We will keep you informed of all the latest SES Happenings with the bi-monthly PTO Online Newsletter – The Statham Slick! Make sure we have your email address to receive the newsletter.



## Hello from the PTO President

I want to extend a warm welcome to all SES students and families to what will be an amazing 2015-16 school year! As the president of the PTO, I want to encourage each of you to become enrolled as a member of the PTO--a dynamic group of parents, teachers and staff that are committed to enriching our children's elementary school experiences. We are all lucky to be able to send our kids to such a caring school and the PTO's efforts only enhance this school!

I hope you will look into what the PTO does and get involved. This welcome packet organizes all of our projects and events so you are aware of them and can participate at any level. We appreciate and depend on our volunteers whose time and talents are imperative to make our endeavors successful. Everyone's participation, great or small, helps tremendously!!

SES-PTO welcomes new ideas and new faces. Our meetings are organized and efficient. They offer a chance to meet new people, get detailed information regarding events and allow lots of volunteer opportunities. I guarantee there is a niche for everyone no matter how much or little time you have! This year we will also provide brief PTO updates at regularly scheduled SES events so you can hear an update when you are going to be at school without making a special trip! Of course, we always love to see people at our monthly meetings too and we encourage you to participate however you can.

So again, I welcome you all and look forward to working together to provide great opportunities, resources, and fun for all of our kids. Fall is close so start thinking red and black, look for the wild cat, and consider getting involved. Feel free to contact me with any questions.

*Angie Woods*

[SES\\_PTO@yahoo.com](mailto:SES_PTO@yahoo.com)

## SES PTO Overview

### What is the PTO?

The SES PTO (Parent-Teacher Organization) is a private, non-profit organization dedicated to supporting SES. The PTO includes all teachers and staff members and all parents.



## **CONTACT US:**

**[SES\\_PTO@yahoo.com](mailto:SES_PTO@yahoo.com)**

PTO Dues are \$5 per family per year. This year we will be giving benefits at PTO functions for PTO Members.

The PTO has three primary goals 1) Raise funds for teacher and student enrichment 2) Provide a volunteer support network 3) Promote open communication between parents, teachers and administrators.

We believe our goals create a supportive, caring atmosphere at SES where teachers and students do great work and have fun. We support this by giving the "extra" resources that make our school so great. Recent PTO purchases have included playground equipment and aesthetical updates, a Kiln for the art room, landscaping, teacher allowances, field trip fees, and many other much needed "icing on the cake" projects. While we do a good bit of fundraising, we also accomplish a lot of other things, like the Fall Festival, Enrichment classes, the Statham Stampede, Bingo Nights, and lots of other fun activities and events that help make SES such an amazing place. All money raised by the PTO goes directly to enhance your child's education at SES....the more we have, the more we can do for your child.

## **Who We Are**

We are...YOU! Studies show parents who are engaged in their child's education help make a huge difference in their child's achievement. The PTO hopes you will be involved and we have opportunities of all shapes and sizes to fit your talents, your budget, and your time. This year's PTO Executive Board is composed of:

**Angie Woods** (President)

**Ginger Danson** (Vice-President) [ghigh1@yahoo.com](mailto:ghigh1@yahoo.com)

**Candace Forsythe** (Treasurer)

**Amy Lefevre** (Secretary)

**Teresa Huggins** (Faculty Representative)

**Rita Krasner** (Social Secretary)

**Stephanie Sanders** (Board Member)

Feel free to contact any of us at any time--we can't wait to work with you this year! The PTO's email address is [SES\\_PTO@yahoo.com](mailto:SES_PTO@yahoo.com).

## **Our Accomplishments**

Last year, the PTO had an operating budget of about \$10,000. These funds came from fundraisers including the Fall Festival,



## **Free Money!!!**

**Link your  
Target, and/or Kroger  
card to SES.**

**Save Campbell's  
Soup Labels and Box Tops for  
Education.  
Last year we raised over \$1,500 from  
Box Tops alone!**

**Pass the links on to  
friends and family too!**

Boxtops, Bingo Night and the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Graders' dance. The money raised goes a long way to help make SES such a great school. Recently we also funded our exceptional Art Program with the big purchase of a Kiln. We want to expand our accomplishments by making each of these events/programs better each year. We are proud of our achievements and thank you for making them a reality. What can we accomplish in 2015-16? The sky is the limit....but we need your help!

## **FAQs**

### **How do I stay informed of what's going on at SES?**

Good communication is the key to success. SES has implemented a monthly SES PTO Online email newsletter – “THE STATHAM SLICK,” to alert you of all school news and events. To join SES PTO Online please visit [www.sespto.weebly.com](http://www.sespto.weebly.com). SES PTO Online is a one-stop source for all PTO info. The school's website is <http://www.barrow.k12.ga.us/ses/index.html>. You can always contact the school office, your child's teacher, or the PTO! Be sure to "Like" us on Facebook, too.

### **Why should I join the PTO?**

We are glad you asked! The PTO directly supports your child's educational experience at SES. Parent involvement is imperative and studies have shown that students whose parents are involved excel at a higher rate than those who have no parental support in school. The PTO gives you an opportunity to voice your great ideas or concerns in a forum that matters! Your involvement will make a difference in a rewarding, positive, and tangible way. There is always a lot to do and we count on your support and generosity, which is part of what makes SES such a great school for our children. While we work hard, it is also a really fun way to meet new people and feel good about your commitment to our school. Remember, to have all the “extras” of the PTO, you must pay your family's \$5 membership dues.

### **How can I support the PTO?**

One of the great things about SES is that there is room for everyone, no matter how much time you have to volunteer. A list of PTO events and committees follows and we work hard to help you find a job that you enjoy and can be successful whether you have an hour a year or 5 hours a day! Opportunities include volunteering for single events (whether manning a check-in table or baking goodies for a bake sale), supporting our fundraisers, heading a committee, attending PTO meetings and events, giving to a child in need, volunteering in your child's class, spending a day sprucing up the playground, or making a monetary donation from you or your company.



Bringing your child to events such as Bingo Night, donating Coke Points, or linking your Target or Kroger card to SES's account are all ways to make a big difference.

### **Why all the fundraisers? What does the PTO Money fund?**

The PTO exists to enhance your child's educational experience through the cooperation of teachers, parents, and the community. The funds raised go directly back into the school to impact all SES students. The PTO helps to pay for field trips, playground equipment, school improvements and landscaping, teacher appreciation events, computers, iPads, teacher monetary classroom allotments, and many other events, activities, and supplements. Activities such as the SES 5K, the Fall Festival, and Bingo Night not only raise much-needed funds but are also a great way to be part of our SES family!

### **How does the PTO raise money?**

The PTO raises 100% of the funds used to support our great programs. Fundraising is designed in a variety of ways so that ALL parents can participate. Large events have included auctions, and sales drives. Smaller events include Bingo Night and 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Graders' Dance. Additionally, the PTO relies on community support including grants, donations, and loyalties. You can link your grocery saving card numbers to SES, bring in Box Tops, Campbell Soup Labels, and Coke Points, or best of all give a monetary donation! We make a big difference at SES and can't do it without your help. All monetary donations give SES 100% profit and are tax deductible. A real win-win!!

### **How much per child does the PTO aim to raise?**

While we are lucky to be in a great school division, the budget is very tight and the PTO works hard to enrich the experience for each child and teacher at SES. The money spent is far-reaching with broad appeal. As you think about our fundraising efforts, think about the experience you want your child to have at SES and how PTO programs have impacted your family. Think about our role in providing field trips, teacher supplies, and assemblies. Think about the fun you and your child have at our picnics, movie nights, Fall Festival, pizza parties, ice cream parties and other events---and please consider your contribution accordingly. Additionally, think about how you can help another child who also benefits from these programs but cannot afford to make a monetary donation. We as a community must do what we can to enrich the lives of all SES students. Remember to also check with your employer to see if they offer matching donations. Remember that volunteer hours can be just as important a way of contributing! The more we raise, the more we can offer--

**Visit the**  
**PTO**  
**WEBSITE**

**@**

**<http://stathampto.weebly.com/>**



imagine if we were able to spend \$100 per child. Thank you for your generous support!

**When are PTO Meetings? How do I know what's happening?**

The PTO meets once a month, on the second Tuesday at 6:30pm at SES. Attend these 15-30 minute meetings for an update. Also check with your Room Parent to learn about what's happening and have your voice heard. Follow the monthly SES PTO Online or [www.SESpto.weebly.com](http://www.SESpto.weebly.com) to find out what programs are coming up and what volunteer positions need to be filled. We can't do it without you! An up-to-date activity calendar is available on the PTO website [www.SESpto.weebly.com](http://www.SESpto.weebly.com).

**I don't have much extra time, how can I help?**

We are glad you asked! The PTO has a spot for everyone--for any schedule and any budget. Let us know what your availability is and we will put you to work! We need volunteers at events, behind the scenes workers, and committee chairs. We need cookies baked, events attended, grants applied for and money raised. Join us--it's fun and rewarding to make such a difference in what our school can offer. We also ask that you participate in the yearly big fundraiser, donate your time and/or money, and support another child(ren) if you can.

**I have a great idea for a fundraiser. Will you listen?**

Yes! The PTO is your voice in the school. If you have a great idea, pitch it to us. We are always looking for fresh ideas and new ways of doing things. Have you lived in another place with a successful event? Do you have a talent or hobby that might fit right in with our goals? Come to a meeting or give us a call...we are ready to listen and happy to have your help! We have some great new ideas coming your way soon...

**How do I get involved with my child's classroom?**

A great way to support your child is to volunteer in the classroom. You can sign up to be a Room Parent or just help as needed. Many teachers welcome weekly volunteers to help with a variety of tasks. You can also make sure that there are enough snacks and school supplies in the room. If you have the time, SES will appreciate all you have to offer. Contact RITA for more info at [SES\\_PTO.com](http://SES_PTO.com).

**What is a Room Parent/PTO Liaison?**

The role of a room parent varies according to the specific teacher. Often the Room Parent helps the teacher plan small parties and helps keep all classroom parents informed of happenings within the classroom. Specifically, the PTO asks a parent or two in each class, often the Room Parent, to take on the responsibility of being a representative of the class for the PTO. These parents

## GET INTO THE SPIRIT!

The SES Online Store  
\*\*COMING SOON\*\*

Click on "Schools" and look for SES

Wear SES gear or colors to show your School Spirit every Friday!



## SUPPLIES and SNACK DONATIONS

Teachers are often short of school supplies (glue sticks, markers, tissues, playground balls, etc.) and ALWAYS extra snacks. Donations of these items are much needed and greatly appreciated. You can ask your teacher directly what the classroom needs.

can attend the PTO meetings and report back to all parents in the class, creating an ongoing dialogue between the PTO and each family at SES. The PTO Parent Coordinator will also relay pertinent info to all room parents to pass on to their classes.

### How can my child show School Spirit?

SES adopted a new school mascot of the Wild Cat this year and are school colors remain the same of red and black. Wear your colors, purchase logo items from the new school store including sweatshirts, t-shirts, cinch bags, or just help promote SES among your friends and neighbors. Participate in SCHOOL SPIRIT FRIDAYS--each Friday SES students, faculty and staff are encouraged to wear SES t-shirts and school colors to help promote a fun sense of community! The school store \*\*IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION\*\*

### What can I do to show appreciation for my child's teacher?

Just supporting your child in his/her educational pursuits is all most teachers dream of! However, it is nice to say thank you to a teacher or staff member that has positively impacted your child. While a simple "thank you" will certainly fill the bill, the Room Parent may have more specific information on your teacher's likes for a gift they are certain to love. Teachers often need supplies and other "wish list" items. You can ask a teacher directly what their classroom needs. Participation in fundraising events and/or the donation campaign also supports the entire SES community, including specific teacher wishes. In May, we sponsor Teacher Appreciation week and always need volunteers in many forms to pull it off so successfully.

## School Calendar 2015-2016 -- Save the Dates!

*Mark your calendars, but please realize that some dates may change. Be sure to check your email for the monthly SES PTO Online newsletter or [www.SESPTO.weebly.com](http://www.SESPTO.weebly.com) for up-to-date information.*



## PTO-Sponsored Events and Programs for 2015-2016

Take a peek at the exciting activities the PTO sponsors and think about where you can help!

We promise you will NOT have to do more than you can or want.

We are looking for new faces and ideas in any capacity or time commitment! Volunteer online at <http://stathampto.weebly.com/volunteer-information.html>.

**Open House** Welcome Back to School. Find your classroom, drop off your supplies, meet your teacher and join us at our PTO table to say hello!

**Box Tops/Labels for Education Program-** Box tops/Campbell's Soup/Labels for Education collection for cash fundraising program. Other programs should be explored. We also are looking for Helpers for EASY Online Rewards program implementations.

**Night at Washington Farms** – Meet on the farm and have fun with your friends! SES Will receive a portion of each ticket sold **if you mention you are with SES!** Invite your family and friends for this great event.

**Fall Festival** – Great fall time event. Outside games and gym games, food, entertainment, great prizes and grade basket raffles. Event to promote school spirit and sense of school community.

**Teacher /Staff Appreciation** – End of the year, week-long way to show the teachers and staff how much we appreciate them. Presents for the staff, refreshments, lunch and other great surprises for the staff and teachers that work so hard all year long!

**Art in the Community Program** – This program displays SES student's art all around the community in local businesses. A great way for kids to show off their talents all over town and be proud of what they accomplish!

**SES PTO Online** – Online Newsletter. An email means of communication and message posting for all SES events, as well as community events that apply to our students. You are automatically registered, but may opt out.

**Yearbook** – End of the year compilation of photos, and a great keepsake for students. Work ongoing throughout the year and compiled in the Spring.

**PTO Website** – Keeping our PTO website current with upcoming events and resources parents need throughout the year.

**School/PTO Calendar** – A school PTO calendar will updated at [www.SESpto.weebly.com](http://www.SESpto.weebly.com). Calendar includes all PTO events and fundraiser information as well as school events and dates.

**PTO Bulletin board display** – Updating the main bulletin boards at SES – posting of upcoming events, pictures of recent events and any pertinent information along the way.

**Spirit Fridays-** Each Friday is known as Spirit Friday to foster a sense of school pride and community. All students and faculty should wear our red and black school colors or any SES attire! Buy gear at **\*\*UNDER CONSTRUCTION\*\***

**Classroom Parent Coordinator-** Liaison between PTO and classroom parents.

**Grant Writer-** As a non-profit the PTO would like to seek grants available to schools to help our funding needs.

**Movie Under the Stars-** We hope to have another outdoor Family Movie Night this year.

**We also have a few other great new ideas up our sleeves this year, so keep a (Wild Cat) eye out!**

If you are interested in any of these events or programs or have any other great ideas please Contact the PTO at [SES\\_PTO@yahoo.com](mailto:SES_PTO@yahoo.com).



**MONEY,  
MONEY,  
MONEY!**

**Send your labels and box tops in to class. These small donations add up to a lot of EASY money for SES. Ask friends, neighbors, and your office to participate too!!**

**Prizes awarded!!!**



## **EASY FUNDRAISING PROGRAMS!!**

### **Sign up, save labels and SES WINS.**

A number of great rewards programs are available to earn free money for our school. This is an easy and effective way to fundraise that makes a huge difference.

**Kroger** Sign up via Labels for Education with your Bonus Card.



**Target** Link your REDcard to SES for rewards. Visit <http://www.target.com/redcard/main> and choose SES.



### **BOXTOPS:**

Simply save the **Box Tops** coupons found on various General Mills products. Clip them and bring them to school. Look for SES's promotions and contests to make it fun. Each box top is worth ten cents. In 2015-2016 we earned almost \$1,500!



Started as the Campbell's Soup label program, this has been expanded for 2,500 products and includes rewards cards for Kroger! Link your card and have friends and neighbors do the same. Visit [www.labelsforeducation.com](http://www.labelsforeducation.com) and choose SES. Products that are rewarded include Campbell's soup, Pepperidge Farm, Glad bags, Dannon kid's yogurts, SpaghettiOs, and many more.



# I WANT TO HELP!

Please check any events/activities you are interested in volunteering for.

There are openings for Committee Members, Chairs, and Day-of-Event Helpers for the following:



**Online Boxtop Program** \_\_\_ Committee Member

**Fall Festival**

\_\_\_ Committee Member \_\_\_ Day-of-Event Helper

**Teacher/Staff Appreciation**

\_\_\_ Committee Member \_\_\_ Day-of-Event Helper

**Art in Community Program**

\_\_\_ Committee Member \_\_\_ Day-of-Event Helper

**Yearbook** \_\_\_ Committee Member

**Spirit Fridays**

\_\_\_ Committee Member \_\_\_ Day-of-Event Helper

**Grant Writer**

\_\_\_ Chair \_\_\_ Committee Member

**Bake Sales**

\_\_\_ Committee Member \_\_\_ Day-of-Event Helper

**Movie Under the Stars**

\_\_\_ Committee Member \_\_\_ Day-of-Event Helper

**I am Happy to Help Wherever I am Needed, Please Call Me**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Student Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Class/Grade** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Best way to Contact** \_\_\_\_\_

**I have great idea that I would like to propose/Comments/Suggestions:**