

**YEARLY ACTIVITIES**  
**ALES Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)**

1. Family Fun Night - This is our first PTO event of the school year. It is usually held on a Friday in September. It is a great welcome back party! Music, games, food, bake sale, raffles and inflatable are the typical activities for the evening.
2. Fall Book Fair - This is our first book fair of the year. It is held during school hours for students, as well as, a time in the evening for families.
3. Holiday Shoppe - This is held before the holidays, usually in early December. Students have an opportunity to buy gifts for their family and friends. It is held during school hours. We set one price for every item, usually \$1.50. Our volunteers help in picking out gifts and wrapping them.
4. YMCA Family Fun Night - This is a fairly new event held at the Olean YMCA. The Y opens its doors to Y member and non-members of ALES for an evening to use the pool, gyms, climbing wall and inflatables. Admission is free. We sell food and raffles. It is a great community event.
5. Sweetheart Dance - This is our very popular Father Daughter Dance. Our elementary girls bring their father, uncle, grandfather, etc., to our semi-formal dance. Price includes snacks, crafts, dancing and a portrait with their lucky man. This is typically held on a Friday evening in February.
6. Boy's Night/Mother Son Jammin' Fun - This is night of fun for our ALES boys and their mothers, aunts, grandmas, etc. Price includes a portrait like the Sweetheart dance.
7. Teacher Appreciation Week - This is the one week a year that we show gratitude to our ALES teachers, staff and

administration. This also includes our cafeteria and transportation workers. Often, we provide a special lunch and/or breakfast and special gifts. This varies year to year, depending on our volunteer ideas. This is usually a week in May.

8. Spring Book Fair - This is our second and final book fair of the year. It is our buy one get one free sale. We have held this during our Education fair in the past. This may change in the future.

9. Fifth Grade Celebration - This is our last event of the year. This is full day event for celebrating our fifth graders moving up to the Middle School. The day will start with a Gator program followed by a light breakfast. Mrs. Moore will present diplomas to the students. They will also watch a video of school memories. Then the students will transfer to a chosen activity; swimming, kickball or skating. At noon, the students meet for lunch and cake, followed by field games for the rest of the afternoon. We have had a dunk tank in past years. The kids will receive a t-shirt to wear throughout the day. They have also received backpacks filled with prizes in past years. This is a day of making wonderful memories for the fifth grade students and teachers.

10. Our PTO also assists on Picture Days in the Fall and Spring. We help line up kids and assist in picture taking as needed.

11. Depending on the teacher activities for the year, the PTO will also help in organizing Parents as Reading Partners. This is a way to encourage reading among students and their families. Similar to this program, but on a much smaller scale, is the Darien Lake Read to Ride. Students log their hours of reading in order to receive a free Darien Lake ticket. This is organized by the PTO.

12. A new event this year was an adult PTO social at a local establishment. This took the place of our December meeting. It was a more relaxed way of getting to know members and their spouses.

13. We will often have a fall and/or spring fundraiser. In the past, we have sold items from various fundraising catalogs. We have sold Gator gear and participated in Schwan's cares program. We are also part of an ongoing fundraising program through Allegany Beverage and Recycling Center on Rt. 417, Olean. You may donate all or part of your funds to the ALES PTO. You are asked to remind them at the time of drop off that you are donating to the ALES PTO. A PTO representative collects any amounts on a periodic basis. Two other yearly fundraisers are the BJ's Membership Drive, BonTon Community Days and Campbell's/Box Tops collection. We are always thinking of new, fun ways to raise money.

14. Besides our yearly events and fundraising activities, the PTO helps as much as financially possible in the form of teacher reimbursements. We allocate \$5.00 a year for each child. We also consider further teacher requests on an individual basis. Items that we have supported in the past include classroom rugs, maps, multiplication incentive prizes, binders, calendars, etc. We also pay for class field trips such as those to the Regina A. Quick Center of the Arts and Crook's Farm. We have also helped in special situations, i.e... cupcakes for the Principal's Birthday Surprise, Anti-Bullying program, donation to an ALES family in need, gift cards for needy students, and we also have made signs to cheer on our students during our Halloween parade organized by Team 120 Proud.