



# NORTH HI MOUNT ELEMENTARY PTA

## COMMUNICATIONS GROUPME RULES & GUIDELINES NORTH HI MOUNT ELEMENTARY PTA

### INTRODUCTION:

Thank you for your involvement at North Hi Mount Elementary, we appreciate all you do for the students and staff at school.

The PTA uses multiple online free communication tools, including website, social media and the free phone app: GroupMe. This tool allows 2-way communication between all PTA leaders and NHM faculty. GroupMe is a quick and easy way to communicate to a large audience. The free app also allows users to join specific chats that are relevant to their communication needs.

In order for us to successfully use GroupMe, the PTA and NHM staff have developed an acceptable use policy. In order for the app to be productive, there is etiquette that will be required for members of NHM GroupMe chats.

### North Hi Mount PTA GroupMe Rules & Guidelines

*Please note that all North Hi Mount Elementary GroupMe members must be guardians/primary caregivers of a CURRENT North Hi Mount Elementary student OR a North Hi Mount teacher/staff member.*

Here are our rules of engagement for participation in North Hi Mount Elementary's GroupMe chats.

1. **No** profanity or vulgar comments.
  2. **No** accusations or accusatory language toward an individual or group of individuals.
  3. **No** negative comments about teachers, staff or students.
  4. **No** comments not related to school events or functions.
- We encourage your participation in our GroupMe chats. We ask that you exercise civility and goodwill in your communication. Any user that posts comments that are intentionally rude or deride the opinions of others will be removed from the chat.
  - Feel free to ask questions about school events or functions, or information distributed to inform parents.
  - GroupMe chat members with a question not school related should contact NHM PTA Board Members, faculty or administrators in person, phone, or by email.

### WHAT IS GROUPME?

- GroupMe is a free group messaging app
- NHM PTA uses GroupMe to communicate school news and events with parents
- There are multiple GroupMe chats under the NHM PTA umbrella:
  - NHM Room Parents
    - Also: Room Parent Leaders
  - NHM Grade Levels (7 total: PK- 5)
  - NHM Moms
  - NHM Auction
  - NHM Garden Club
  - NHM Beautification
  - NHM en Espanol
  - NHM PTA Board
  - NHM PTA Executive Board

- People wanting to join an account can be added by a current GroupMe member
  - GroupMe has direct message features – a member can direct message another member in the same group
  - Phone numbers are hidden in the GroupMe app
  - Comments cannot be deleted once posted on GroupMe.

**HOW TO USE GROUPME** Below are a few examples of how you can use GroupMe to ask questions about upcoming school events, as well as some messages of what is better for a private direct message, private text, email or phone call.

**Examples of questions/comments for your grade-level GroupMe**

“If it rains tomorrow, what will we do about the Walkathon?”

“What time does Field Day start?”

“Do we need any more volunteers for the party on Friday?”

**Examples of questions/comments better for a PRIVATE message. Please keep these types of comments between you and the teacher, staff member, parent, etc.** “Bobby is going to be sick today”

“Hey Sally, I’m in the portables. Are you here?”

“Jack can’t remember his SmartyAnts login. Can you resend it?”

“Jane lost her sweater on the playground. Has anyone seen it?”

Keep in mind the more posts on GroupMe the longer the thread (the more chatter, the more clutter).

***If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to your  
North Hi Mount PTA at [info@northhimountpta.org](mailto:info@northhimountpta.org)***