

# Parents, teachers raise money through gridiron rivalry

[Craig Shoup, Reporter](#) Published 2:14 p.m. ET Nov. 17, 2017



*(Photo: Molly Corfman/The News-Messenger)*  
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FREMONT - For the past 15 years, the Parent Teacher Organization has been raising money while having fun with the Ohio State and Michigan college football rivalry.

The annual event held at Atkinson Elementary raises money to help assist teachers in the classroom and provide activities like playground equipment.

The elementary school, located at 1100 Delaware Ave. is host to students in the Fremont School District in kindergarten through fifth grade.

"The PTO rarely says no when teachers are in need," Atkinson Elementary Principal Chris Ward said. "We raise between \$1,500 and \$3,000."

The event began has a traditional spaghetti dinner fundraiser and morphed into a tailgate-like party for fans of Ohio State and Michigan, featuring pizza, shredded chicken and side dishes for the meal.

Ward said more than 70 prizes were raffled as part of the fundraiser that featured a special guest connected to the Ohio State and Michigan rivalry.

Jon "Big Nut" Peters, the Ohio State super fan who works in the community offering scholarships to Sandusky County Students also participates in the fundraiser selling items and donation portions of the proceeds back to the PTO.

"We've been doing this fundraiser for 15 years, and the PTO has given so much over the years, including a \$30,000 playground equipment at the school," Ward said.



OSU/Michigan party at Atkinson Elementary. (Photo: Molly Corfman/The News-Messenger)