

# CONTACT

Volume 93, Issue 6  
May 2012



# “Diversity Means . . .”

## Photography and Visual Arts 1<sup>st</sup> Place Winners



Primary Photography Winner  
Elizabeth Ralston, 1<sup>st</sup> Grade  
Chapel Lakes Elementary PTA  
Blue Springs/Three Trails Region



Intermediate Visual Arts Winner  
Adeline Aube, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Bridle Ridge Intermediate PTA  
Raymore/Three Trails



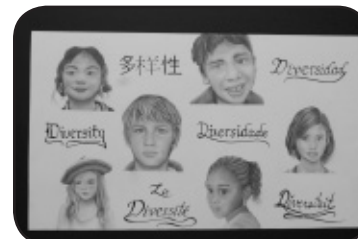
Middle/Jr. Photography Winner  
Andrew Reardon, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Liberty Middle School PTSA  
Liberty/Pony Express Region



Middle/Jr. Visual Arts Winner  
Fallon Connors, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Delta Woods Middle School PTSA  
Blue Springs/Three Trails



Senior Photography Winner  
Rebecca Stevick, 11<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Lee's Summit High School PTSA  
Lee's Summit/Three Trails Region



Senior Visual Arts Winner  
Shannon Brouk, 10<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Park Hill South High School PTSA  
Park Hill/Pony Express



Primary Visual Arts Winner  
Addison Bramlage, K  
Eugene Field Elementary PTA  
St. Joseph/Pony Express

*Congratulations!*

## Cover photo:

Reflections 1<sup>st</sup> Place Intermediate (grade 3-5) Photography entry, by Bailey Brewer, Oakwood Manor Elementary PTA, North Kansas City district.

## Contents

- 1 President's Message
- 2 National Message
- 3 How Pizza Became a Veggie
- 4 Programs
- 5 State Reflections Winners
- 6 Membership
- 7 Membership Honor Roll
- 8 Legislative Conference
- 10 Membership
- 11 Unit and Council News
- 12 Calendar

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# President's Message By Donna Petiford, Missouri PTA President



## Passing the Gavel

One of the most difficult and stressful times of the year can occur during the transition of one PTA board to another as they change leadership. If you are an outgoing president, please make time to take the next president out for coffee or meet at the local library and share information that may not be included in your procedure books. Also, keep in mind that all procedure books and all mailings from National PTA and Missouri PTA are the property of the local PTA and you are obligated to give these to your successor. Be especially mindful of finishing your job before you move on. Make sure all outstanding bills are paid for your term. You or your secretary (at the time of the election) should have forwarded the names of the newly-elected officers to Missouri PTA. Also, make sure that your current treasurer completes the fiscal year-end report, has the books turned over to the auditor (or financial review committee) and the proper IRS forms are completed on time. Some of these things will occur after you leave office, but it is in your best interest to assure that these are taken care of.

If you are a new president, recognize that this can be a difficult and sometimes emotional time for the current president.

Everyone should make it their common goal to build a bridge from year to year.

One of the most frequently asked questions that I receive at this time of year is "How much money should remain in our account to be carried over to the next year?" While there is no hard and fast rule, you should at least keep a reserve balance that would carry your PTA through the beginning of the next school year until the next PTA fundraiser. This also helps in the event a fundraiser doesn't do as well as expected. Many times a "reserve" line is established in the budget and approved at the beginning of the year. According to the National PTA (Money Matters Quick Reference Guide 2011-2012), "as a rule, this reserve should not exceed one-half of a PTA's budget for an average year. If it does, the indication is that the PTA is not giving as much service to children and youth as it should."

As PTA leaders, I know you are thanked a million times by the students in the schools that you serve. I once received an unexpected hug from a boy who recognized me at a Springfield Cardinals ballgame. I consider this my "PTA paycheck"! I hope the return on your investment of time is just as sweet, but just in case you haven't heard it lately... **THANK YOU...** for all you are doing to help make every child's potential a reality.

Have a wonderful summer!

## Who We Are

### PTA Vision

Making every child's potential a reality

### PTA Mission - PTA is:

- A powerful voice for all children,
- A relevant resource for families and communities, and
- A strong advocate for the education and well-being of every child.

### PTA Purposes

- To promote the welfare of children and youth in home, school, community, and place of worship
- To raise the standards of home life
- To secure adequate laws for the care and protection of children and youth
- To bring into closer relation the home and the school, that parents and teacher may cooperate intelligently in the education of children and youth
- To develop between educators and general public such united efforts as will secure for all children and youth the highest advantages in physical, mental, social, and spiritual education

# Child Health and Nutrition

By Betsy Landers, PTA National President



One of PTA's founding principles is our dedication to engaging parents in the education of their children. Since our inception, PTA has championed every child, regardless of socioeconomic background, and worked to address societal ills such as child labor, childhood diseases, and the unfair and punitive treatment of children involved in the justice system. More than 115 years later, PTA continues to work with policymakers to bolster one of our founding principles — family engagement in education from birth through high school graduation. In 2012, PTA will continue to advocate for all children to have the opportunity to grow and achieve success through quality education and ensure that all children reach their highest potential.

As the oldest and largest volunteer child advocacy association in the United States, PTA's legacy of influencing federal policy

to protect the education, health, and overall well-being of children has made an indelible impact on the lives of millions of children and families. Within the federal public policy arena, PTA is fighting to ensure opportunity and equity for all children. We invite you to join with us in advocating on behalf of every child with one voice.

Each year, National PTA sets their Federal Public Policy Agenda to advocate for all children. The 2012 Public Policy Agenda covers general education, special education, early childhood education, education funding, child health and nutrition, and juvenile justice and delinquency prevention. This month, Missouri PTA highlights National PTA's recommendations for child health and nutrition. The entire Public Policy Agenda is available at [pta.org](http://pta.org) under the "Public Policy" tab.

## Child Health and Nutrition

### Federal Policy Recommendations

- Support the implementation of the USDA's proposed update of nutrition standards for the National School Lunch and Breakfast programs, as intended by the Healthy and Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010.
- Support language in the Healthy and Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 that requires the USDA to set nutrition standards for competitive foods.
- Ensure USDA competitive foods regulations protect school-based fundraisers that have historically played an integral

role in fundraising opportunities for student-based school organizations.

- Ensure the comprehensive implementation of updated Local Wellness Policy (LWP) requirements that improve schools' engagement and accountability to families in the development and execution of LWPs.

### Key Facts

- More than 31 million students participate in the National School Lunch Program each day.
- Nearly 60 percent of students participating in the National School Lunch Program receive a free or reduced-price lunch.
- More than 11 million students participate in the National School Breakfast Program daily.
- Nearly 10 million students receive a free or reduced-price breakfast.
- Childhood obesity rates in America have tripled over the last thirty years, with nearly one-third of children in America overweight or obese. In African American and Hispanic communities, this figure increases to nearly 40 percent.
- Nearly 70 percent of obese children suffer from either high blood pressure or high cholesterol.
- Approximately half of all students receiving free or reduced lunch through the School Lunch Program participate in the School Breakfast program.



## It's not too late to register!

**June 21-24, 2012**

Registration for the 116th Annual National PTA Convention and Exhibition in San Jose, California, is available at [pta.org](http://pta.org) until June 1st. Onsite registration will also be available.

Participants will be able to:

- Attend dozens of workshops led by dynamic presenters to enhance your confidence and leadership skills;
- Gain practical ideas and best-practices on how to run your state, regional or local unit PTA;
- Receive advocacy, education, and program updates about how you can make a difference in government and family engagement;
- Network with hundreds of peers and exhibitors from around the country, and
- Check out the great attractions and activities San Jose has to offer by visiting the San Jose Convention and Visitors Bureau website, [SanJose.org](http://SanJose.org).

More information about registration fees, hotels and travel arrangements is available at [pta.org](http://pta.org).

# How Pizza Became A Veggie

By Dorothy Gardner, VP & Director Legislation and Advocacy

On December 13<sup>th</sup> 2010 President Obama signed into law the Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act. Child advocates, including PTA whose members were instrumental in encouraging legislators to sign on to the Act, had long awaited this major revision in school meal standards. Currently approximately one-third of youth are overweight or obese and one-fourth are at risk of hunger. This Act was designed to address obesity concerns and provide greater access to a higher quality of nutritional foods. Therefore, many were baffled when the news came out just this past November that ketchup, pizza and fries would be considered vegetables with regard to the school nutritional standards. Wasn't the point of the Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act Reauthorization to limit such items as the mainstay of school lunches? How could this have happened?

Actually, this isn't the first time ketchup has been in the lime-light with regard to its status as a vegetable. Thirty years ago, the Reagan administration attempted to have both ketchup and relish classified as vegetables in order to cut costs and give states more latitude. This action was met with ridicule and outrage. Even the late Senator John Heinz, whose company owned Heinz ketchup, thought the proposal was absurd. He was quoted as saying "Ketchup is a condiment. This is one of the most ridiculous regulations I ever heard of, and I suppose I need not add that I know something about ketchup and relish . . .". The administration quickly withdrew the proposal.

Now fast forward to the passage of the Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010. Once the act was signed into law it became the responsibility of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to revamp the Child Nutritional Programs, one of which is the National School Lunch Program. And this is where things get interesting, or messy, depending on your point of view.

The USDA specifically updated the classifications and standards to limit the amount of sodium, starches and sugars allowed in school lunches. For instance, only non-fat or low fat milk (nothing higher than 1%) is allowed under the plan. Saturated fat must be no more than 10% of total calories. And, effective July 2013, no trans fats are allowed. This looked great to parents and nutritionists. However, food companies producing frozen pizzas, the salt industry and potato and tomato growers were unhappy and began lobbying Congress. These industries were requesting changes be made to the school lunch standards proposed by the USDA. However simply pressuring the USDA to rewrite the standards did not change the Act. Only an Act of congress could do that.

Into the picture steps the House Appropriations Committee. This Committee is responsible for allocating funding for various departments. The ability to outline funding is a powerful tool in Congress. Lobbyists and special interest groups are no strangers to this Committee and it was to them they pleaded their case. Charged with the responsibility to allocate funds, this Committee crafted a bill that would fund the operations of the USDA, and one of those operations happened to be the School Lunch Provisions. The Committee stated that their bill would prevent difficult and costly regulations while providing school districts



## PTA Healthy Lifestyles

with an increased flexibility with regard to improving nutritional quality. The bill passed both the House and Senate and was signed into law by President Obama on November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

So exactly what sort of flexibility did this Bill provide? Well, it removed the limit on starchy vegetables. French fries everywhere no longer lived in fear they would lose their place as a main staple on school lunch trays nationwide. Originally, the intent of this limitation was to do just that – cut down on the amount of French fries served daily in many schools. The Bill also allowed for two tablespoons of tomato paste to be considered a vegetable serving, thus allowing pizza and ketchup to take their place in the vegetable world alongside green beans, salads, peas and broccoli. Despite food industry lobbying and the Congressional revamp, this revision is still an immense improvement with regard to school nutrition. To view the Final Rule of Nutrition Standards in the National School Food program visit [www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/Governance/Legislation/dietaryspecs.pdf](http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/Governance/Legislation/dietaryspecs.pdf).

You can also view a full weekly lunch menu with comparisons before and after the Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act at [http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/Governance/Legislation/cnr\\_chart.pdf](http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/Governance/Legislation/cnr_chart.pdf)

### Before/After Elementary School Lunch Menu

#### Before

- Cheese Pizza (4.8 oz)
- Canned Pineapple (1/4 cup)
- Tater Tots (1/2 cup)
- With Ketchup (2 T)
- Low-fat (1%) Chocolate Milk

#### After

- Whole Wheat Cheese Pizza (1 slice)
- Baked Sweet Potato Fries (1/2 cup)
- Grape Tomatoes, raw (1/4 cup)
- Applesauce (1/2 cup)
- Low-fat (1%) Milk (8 oz)
- Low Fat Ranch Dip (1 oz)

# School Lunches

*By Meagan, Student Representative*

Every day you send your kids to school, expecting them to learn new information that will help them succeed later on in life, and assuming that while doing that, they will receive a good nutritional meal... but is that really what's happening? Are the meals at your school, which are being fed to your children as a source of fuel and energy, up to par? If you say yes, then you might want to think again. Being a student in eighth grade that receives these meals every day, I see firsthand just how bad they can be. Also being the child of an advocating mother who goes to and listens in on meetings and town halls regarding education, I very well understand that not a lot of school districts have much budget money to just go around spending it on whatever they want. This though is not in any way an excuse for the food they try and feed us.

When I walk into my cafeteria on any given school day my choices are usually limited to the pizza and chicken nugget section, the Mexican food section, the pasta section, and the salad bar. Now just hearing these options, most people would think, "Well that's not bad. I mean they are given a nice variety." In taking a closer look though you'll see just how appalling these choices start to seem.

The pizza has been left out so long the cheese is hard and cold. Also the whole thing is coated in grease. Then don't get me started on chicken nuggets. I mean leftover parts from a chicken, cleansed in ammonia and filled with artificial colors and flavors, battered and fried, is in no way nutritional. In all of the Mexican food the meat has a weird orange look to it and doesn't taste right, by any stretch of imagination. The pasta had been left out so long the noodles are hard and the sauces are either Alfredo, with probably no actual cheese in it, or meat that I don't even want to try and imagine what is in it. The salad bar though is not that bad. You have your lettuce, toppings, and dressing.

The meals, though sadly, are not the worst part of our school

lunches. The A La Cart options are what really put the icing on the cake for how bad it is. The drinks I must say are a nice, and not a bad way to give students a break from having milk every day, offering water, tea, juice, and sport drinks. All of the extra snacks that are offered are what makes A La Cart so unhealthy for students. They can buy cookies, potato chips, candy, Cheetos, and 500-calorie Otis Spunkmeyer muffins.

Now going back to the whole money thing. First off I understand that schools make quite a bit of money off of all the A La Cart items, but really, in what world do 13 and 14 year olds need to be offered a 500-calorie muffin with their lunch! I mean yes, money is money but childhood obesity is on the rise, and offering so much junk food in schools is no way even the slightest bit close to being a solution to that. Second, do you really think saving the school some money is a good exchange for giving your child a good healthy meal?

With all of this talk about how bad school lunches can be, you might be starting to freak out a little. Well it's okay because there are ways that you can help keep this unhealthy food from being eaten by your kid. First off is just getting yourself educated. Learn what the lunches are like in your school. Talk to your children. What do they think about the school lunches? If your child is in the elementary level, see if eating lunch with them is an option. Just make sure you understand everything before you go diving in. Next you need to take action. See if your district gives you the option to restrict the foods your child gets at lunch. Talk to your kid about making healthy choices when it comes to eating. Also, there's always the choice to send your kid to school with a sack lunch. It's not enough to just know what the lunches are like if you're not willing to do something about it. Then last but not least, spread the word. Tell everyone you know about all of the things you learned. Alone we can do so little, but together we can accomplish the impossible.

## 2011-2012 Reflections Program

*Michele Reed, VP and Director of Programs*

Missouri PTA would like to thank all students and PTA units for participating in this year's Reflections program entitled, "Diversity Means . . .". In the forty-second year of one of National PTA's largest sponsored programs, Reflections allows students in preschool through twelfth grade to express their creativity in six art categories: dance choreography, film video production, literature, musical composition, photography and visual arts.

Students from across our state submitted 6,171 entries, representing 177 units. These local units forwarded a total of 1,324 entries to the state level for judging, which included: 30

Dance Choreography entries, 60 Film Video Production entries, 296 Literature entries, 69 Musical Composition entries, 281 Photography entries, and 588 Visual Arts entries. The top winners are listed on the following page and the complete list of winners can be found at [mopta.org](http://mopta.org). Congratulations to all students who participated in this year's program and to our state winners. Missouri PTA is allowed to send a total of 24 entries to National PTA and the first place winning entries from each category and age division have been sent to National PTA for judging at that level. The National PTA winners will be announced in May.

# Missouri PTA Reflections Program

## “Diversity Means . . .” 2011-2012 Winners

### DANCE CHOREOGRAPHY

#### PRIMARY (Preschool – Grade 2)

Rank	Name	Grade	Local PTA Unit	School District/Region
1st	Jace Easley	2nd	Ozark North Elementary PTA	Ozark R-VI / Ozark
2nd	Kiara Jacobs	1st	Laura Ingalls Wilder Elementary	Springfield R-12 / Ozark

#### INTERMEDIATE (Grade 3 – Grade 5)

Rank	Name	Grade	Local PTA Unit	School District/Region
1st	Emily Downie	5th	Greenwood Laboratory PTA	Springfield R-12 / Ozark
2nd	Hallie Comer	4th	Paxton Keeley Elementary PTA	Columbia / Heritage
3rd	Ava Renzulli	4th	Voy Spears Jr. Elementary PTA	Blue Springs / Three Trails

#### MIDDLE / JR. (Grade 6 – Grade 8)

Rank	Name	Grade	Local PTA Unit	School District/Region
1st	Kirsten Pryde	8th	Delta Woods Middle School PTSA	Blue Springs / Three Trails
2nd	Lindsay Nelson	6th	Plaza Middle School PTSA	Park Hill / Pony Express
3rd	Kayla Windes	8th	Hickory Hills Middle School PTSA	Springfield R-12 / Ozark

### FILM – VIDEO PRODUCTION

#### PRIMARY (Preschool – Grade 2)

Rank	Name	Grade	Local PTA Unit	School District/Region
1st	Darby Allen	2nd	Espy PTA of Nixa	Nixa R-II / Ozark
2nd	Macy Kopp	2nd	High Pointe PTA of Nixa	Nixa R-II / Ozark
3rd	Dallin Attwoll	2nd	Century PTA of Nixa	Nixa R-II / Ozark

#### INTERMEDIATE (Grade 3 – Grade 5)

Rank	Name	Grade	Local PTA Unit	School District/Region
1st	Brooklyn Hannan	5th	Bell Prairie PTA North	Kansas City / Pony Express
2nd	Tenille Long	3rd	Coleman Elementary PTA	St. Joseph / Pony Express
3rd	Daniel Barbosa	3rd	Voy Spears Jr. Elementary PTA	Blue Springs / Three Trails

#### MIDDLE / JR. (Grade 6 – Grade 8)

Rank	Name	Grade	Local PTA Unit	School District/Region
1st	Booker von Fischbach	6th	Coleman Middle School PTSA	St. Joseph / Pony Express
2nd	Jaylen Bledsoe	8th	Hazelwood West Middle School PTSA	Hazelwood / Gateway
3rd	Marissa Wood	8th	Moreland Ridge Middle School PTSA	Blue Springs / Three Trails

#### SENIOR (Grade 9 – Grade 12)

Rank	Name	Grade	Local PTA Unit	School District/Region
1st	McKenzie Danzer	12th	Kickapoo High School PTSA	Springfield R-12 / Ozark
2nd	Brady Brock	11th	Belton High School PTSA	Belton / Three Trails
3rd	Simone Cook	11th	Kickapoo High School PTSA	Springfield R-12 / Ozark

### LITERATURE

#### PRIMARY (Preschool – Grade 2)

Rank	Name	Grade	Local PTA Unit	School District/Region
1st	Vani Patel	2nd	Voy Spears Jr. Elementary PTA	Blue Springs / Three Trails
2nd	Krishan Ghosh	2nd	Greenwood Laboratory School PTA	Springfield R-12 / Ozark
3rd	Amy Surface	2nd	Ozark North Elementary PTA	Ozark R-VI / Ozark

#### INTERMEDIATE (Grade 3 – Grade 5)

Rank	Name	Grade	Local PTA Unit	School District/Region
1st	Tyler Redford	5th	Lewis & Clark Elementary PTA	Liberty / Pony Express
2nd	Natalie Temple	5th	Hazel Grove Elementary PTA	Lee's Summit / Three Trails
3rd	Emily LeBlanc	4th	Mill Creek Elementary PTA	Columbia / Heritage

#### MIDDLE / JR. (Grade 6 – Grade 8)

Rank	Name	Grade	Local PTA Unit	School District/Region
1st	Halena Hadi	7th	Central High School PTSA	Springfield R-12 / Ozark
2nd	Harrison Meers	8th	Bode Middle School PTSA	St. Joseph / Pony Express
3rd	Lauren Wagner	6th	Smithton Middle School PTSA	Columbia / Heritage

#### SENIOR (Grade 9 – Grade 12)

Rank	Name	Grade	Local PTA Unit	School District/Region
1st	Daniel Chen	11th	Park Hill High School PTSA	Park Hill / Pony Express
2nd	Elizabeth Williams	12th	Park Hill South High School PTSA	Park Hill / Pony Express
3rd	Madelyn Stroder	9th	Greenwood Laboratory School PTA	Springfield R-12 / Ozark

### MUSICAL COMPOSITION

#### PRIMARY (Preschool – Grade 2)

Rank	Name	Grade	Local PTA Unit	School District/Region
1st	Sam Garvin	2nd	Rountree Elementary PTA	Springfield R-12 / Ozark
2nd	Abigail Schwisberger	2nd	Clardy / Gashland Elementary PTA	North Kansas City / Pony Express
3rd	Lola Eiserman	2nd	Eugene Field PTA	Springfield R-12 / Ozark

#### INTERMEDIATE (Grade 3 – Grade 5)

Rank	Name	Grade	Local PTA Unit	School District/Region
1st	Gabe Roulier	5th	Mill Creek Elementary PTA	Columbia / Heritage
2nd	Tristan Handy	5th	Daniel Young Elementary PTA	Blue Springs / Three Trails
3rd	Noah Zahn	5th	Rountree Elementary PTA	Springfield R-12 / Ozark

#### MIDDLE / JR. (Grade 6 – Grade 8)

Rank	Name	Grade	Local PTA Unit	School District/Region
1st	Lauren Weber	6th	Cedar Creek Elementary PTA	Lee's Summit / Three Trails
2nd	Megan Bishop	7th	Delta Woods Middle School PTSA	Blue Springs / Three Trails
3rd	Aki Anand	6th	Greenwood Laboratory School PTA	Springfield R-12 / Ozark

#### SENIOR (Grade 9-Grade 12)

Rank	Name	Grade	Local PTA Unit	School District/Region
1st	Daphne Yu	11th	Rock Bridge High School PTSA	Columbia / Heritage
2nd	Dylan Pope	11th	Blue Springs South High School PTSA	Blue Springs / Three Trails
3rd	Julia Schaller	11th	Rock Bridge High School PTSA	Columbia / Heritage

### PHOTOGRAPHY

#### PRIMARY (Preschool – Grade 2)

Rank	Name	Grade	Local PTA Unit	School District/Region
1st	Elizabeth Ralston	1st	Chapel Lakes Elementary PTA	Blue Springs / Three Trails
2nd	Alexis Jones	2nd	Highland Park Elementary PTA	Blue Springs / Three Trails
3rd	Griffin Burroughs	2nd	Laura Ingalls Wilder Elementary	PTA Springfield R-12 / Ozark

#### INTERMEDIATE (Grade 3 – Grade 5)

Rank	Name	Grade	Local PTA Unit	School District/Region
1st	Bailey Brewer	5th	Oakwood Manor Elementary PTA	North Kansas City / Pony Express
2nd	Dylan Reiter	5th	Cordill Mason Elementary PTA	Blue Springs / Three Trails
3rd	Gianna Durante	3rd	Mill Creek Elementary PTA	Columbia / Heritage

#### MIDDLE / JR. (Grade 6 – Grade 8)

Rank	Name	Grade	Local PTA Unit	School District/Region
1st	Andrew Reardon	7th	Liberty Middle School PTSA	Liberty / Pony Express
2nd	Carter Sifferman	8th	Cherokee Middle PTSA	Springfield R-12 / Ozark
3rd	Gina Zair	6th	Greenwood Laboratory PTA	Springfield R-12 / Ozark

#### SENIOR (Grade 9 – Grade 12)

Rank	Name	Grade	Local PTA Unit	School District/Region
1st	Rebecca Stevick	11th	Lee's Summit High School PTSA	Lee's Summit / Three Trails
2nd	Mason Howell	12th	Truman Patriots Club PTSA	Independence / Three Trails
3rd	Samantha Olive	12th	Glendale High School PTSA	Springfield R-12 / Ozark

### VISUAL ARTS

#### PRIMARY (Preschool – Grade 2)

Rank	Name	Grade	Local PTA Unit	School District/Region
1st	Addison Bramlage	K	Eugene Field PTA	St. Joseph / Pony Express
2nd	Jonas McAnelly	1st	William Bryant Elementary PTA	Blue Springs / Three Trails
3rd	Nathaniel Bottarel	2nd	Ozark West Elementary PTA	Ozark R-VI / Ozark

#### INTERMEDIATE (Grade 3 – Grade 5)

Rank	Name	Grade	Local PTA Unit	School District/Region
1st	Adeline Aube	5th	Bridle Ridge Intermediate PTA	Raymore / Three Trails
2nd	Madison Keene	3rd	James Lewis Elementary PTA	Blue Springs / Three Trails
3rd	Aashree Gandhi	5th	Lewis & Clark Elementary PTA	Liberty / Pony Express

#### MIDDLE / JR. (Grade 6 – Grade 8)

Rank	Name	Grade	Local PTA Unit	School District/Region
1st	Fallon Connors	8th	Delta Woods Middle School PTSA	Blue Springs / Three Trails
2nd	Madison Harper	7th	Central High School PTSA	Springfield R-12 / Ozark
3rd	Julie Sharpe	6th	Greenwood Laboratory PTA	Springfield R-12 / Ozark

#### SENIOR (Grade 9 – Grade 12)

Rank	Name	Grade	Local PTA Unit	School District/Region
1st	Shannon Brouk	10th	Park Hill South High School PTSA	Park Hill / Pony Express
2nd	Sarah Carney	12th	Osceola Grade and High School PTA	Osceola / Three Trails
3rd	Laura Caraway	11th	Southern Boone County PTA	Southern Boone / Heritage



# 10 Ways To Blast Off . . . Another 100 Years of Student Success

## INCREASE NEXT YEAR'S PTA MEMBERSHIP

1. **DEVELOP** a month-by-month membership plan. Use your school's calendar to get you started.
2. **PROMOTION:** Make sure your budget includes money for the promotion of membership.
3. **HOLD** a poster or slogan theme contest for students with a PTSA membership. Plan the contest with
4. **CONTACT** local businesses to establish good working relationships and pave the way for them to be members and/or donate incentives.
5. **FORM** your committee now & start planning your membership campaign so you are ready before the first day of school.
6. **SEND** home a "See You in the Fall" flyer the last week of school recapping achievements, thanking volunteers and business members' support.
7. **ASK** local realtors to include welcome from PTA to new buyers with children.
8. **ATTEND** or hold a school of information.
9. **VISIT** Chamber of Commerce, Rotary, Optimist Club or other groups' meetings to share the good work of your PTA and to invite them to join.
10. **COUNCILS:** Plan a Council membership contest. Base awards on a criterion established at the planning meeting.

## NPTA Member Benefits

- **HERTZ** - The world's largest airport general use car rental brand, operating from approximately 8,500 locations in 146 countries worldwide is proud to offer PTA members benefits that include up to 20% off rentals and special promotions in addition to your discount. Members get the Hertz #1 Club Gold® enrollment fee waived—a \$60 savings! Earn free rental days and receive expedited service on all your rentals.
- **METLIFE** - MetLife Auto & Home® has special group discounts now available to PTA members.
- **SHARP ELECTRONICS** - The PTA/Sharp Electronics member store offers valuable discounts to PTA members.
- **T-MOBILE** - 14% discount off your monthly service charges for new and existing T-Mobile subscribers, plus additional savings for new subscribers.
- **OfficeMax®** - Save on supply essentials and more! Find everything from notebooks, binders and pens to paper, art supplies and furniture. Make copies and print flyers and student presentations—all in store at the OfficeMax ImPress® Print Center. Get the current deal now and check back often for exclusive savings throughout the year.

Make sure the details on benefit access are provided only to your PTA members.

Check out the National PTA, [www.pta.org](http://www.pta.org) website for further information on how your members access these benefits. Click the "Member Benefits" tab and then the "Exclusive Member Benefits" section.



# Missouri PTA Honor Roll

## CONGRATULATIONS

to the following units who have qualified for the Honor Roll by meeting or increasing their previous year's membership total by March 1, 2012.

Alexander Doniphan PTA	Hazelwood Central Middle School PTSA	Pipkin Middle School PTSA
Alfred L. Renner PTA	Hazelwood East Senior High PTSA	Platte County R-III High School PTSA
Ann Hawkins Gentry PTSA	Hickory Hills Elementary PTA	Pleasant Lea Elementary PTA
Armstrong Elementary PTA	Hillcrest High School PTSA	Portland Elementary PTA
Belair Elementary PTA	Holman Middle School PTA	Potosi Elementary PTA
Bell Prairie PTA	Humboldt Elementary PTA	Prairie View Elementary PTA
Bernard C. Campbell Middle School PTSA	Hyde Elementary PTA	Raymore Elementary PTA
Bissett Elementary PTA	John J. Pershing Elementary PTA (St. Joseph)	Raymore Peculiar East Middle School PTA
Blackburn Elementary PTA	John J. Pershing Middle School PTSA (Springfield)	Raytown South Middle School PTSA
Blue Hills Elementary PTA	John J. Pershing PTA (Springfield)	Reed Academy School PTSA
Blue Ridge Elementary PTA (Columbia)	John Nowlin Elementary PTA	Ridgeway Elementary PTA
Blue Ridge Elementary PTA (Raytown)	Jury Elementary PTA	Robberson PTA
Blue Springs Early Childhood Preschool PTA	Kellybrook PTA	Robidoux Middle School PTSA
Bode Middle School PTSA	Lake Contrary Elementary PTA	Rountree PTA
Boone Trail Elementary PTA	Laurel Hills Elementary PTA	Russell Elementary PTA
Briarcliff Elementary PTA	Lee Expressive Arts Elementary PTA	School of the Osage Upper Elem PTA
Bridle Ridge Intermediate PTA	Lee's Summit North High PTSA	Scott Elementary PTA
Brittany Hill Middle School PTSA	Lewis & Clark Elementary PTA	Shoal Creek Elementary PTA
Bryant (Geo.S) Elementary PTA	Liberty Junior High School PTSA	Show Me State PTA
Buckner PTA	Liberty North HS Eagle Club PTSA	Skyline Elementary PTA
Butcher-Greene Elementary School PTA	Liberty Oaks Elementary PTA	Smith-Hale Middle School PTA
Cambridge Elementary PTA	Lindbergh Accelerated Elementary School PTA	Sni A Bar Elementary PTA
Cameron PTSA	Linden West Elementary PTA	South Valley Jr. High PTSA
Carver Middle School PTSA	Lone Jack PTA	Southwood Elementary PTA
Cedar Creek Elementary PTA	Lower Elementary School of the Osage PTA	Spring Branch PTA
Center Senior High School PTA	Lusher Elementary PTA	Spring Garden Middle School PTSA
Century PTA of Nixa	Manor Hill Elementary PTA	Stonegate Elementary PTA
Cold Water Elementary PTA	Maple Park Middle School PTA	Strafford PTA K-12
Coleman Elementary PTA	Mark Twain Elementary PTA (St. Joseph)	Strafford R-VI Preschool PTA
Conn-West Elementary PTA	Mathews PTA	Study Middle School PTSA
Creekmoor Elementary PTA	McNair Elementary PTA	Sunny Vale Middle School PTSA
Crestview Elementary PTA	Meadow Lane Elementary PTA	Sunshine Elementary PTA
Crossroads Elementary PTA	Mill Creek Upper Elementary PTA (Belton)	Thomas B. Chinn PTA
David Harrison Elementary PTA	New Mark Middle School PTA	Thomas Hart Benton PTA (Independence)
Diamond R-4 PTSA	Nixa Early Learning Center PTA	Topping Elementary PTA
Eagle Glen Intermediate PTA	Northview Elementary PTA	Twillman Elementary PTA
Eastgate Middle School PTSA	Noyes Elementary PTA	Underwood Elementary PTA
Edison Elementary PTA	Oak Park High School PTSA/ Booster Club	Wanda Gray Elementary PTA
Eugene Field Elementary PTA	Osceola Grade & High School PTA	Warford Elementary PTA
Fairview Elementary PTA	Ozark High School PTA	Washington Elementary PTA
Fleetridge Elementary PTA	Ozark Junior High PTSA	Wentzville Middle PTSA
Franklin Elementary PTA	Ozark North Elementary (O.N.E.) PTA	Westport Elementary PTA
Hall Elementary PTA	Ozark South Elementary PTA	Westridge Elementary PTA
Harold L. Holliday, Sr. Montessori School PTA	Park Hill Early Childhood Ed. Center PTA	Westview Elementary PTA
Harry S Truman Elementary PTA	Parkview High School PTSA	William Chrisman High School PTSA
Harry S Truman Middle School PTSA	Parkway PTA	William Yates Elementary PTA
Hawthorn Hill Elementary PTA	Parkwood PTA	Winnwood Elementary PTA
Hazel F. Dobbs PTA	Pickett Elementary School PTA	

# National Legislative Conference – The Ask

*Dorothy Gardner – VP Legislation & Advocacy*

The Elementary and Secondary Schools Act (ESEA) has been due for reauthorization since 2008. During the last reauthorization process, sweeping changes were put into play that many agree have resulted in unintended negative consequences. What were these changes? They can pretty much be summed up with one phrase 'No Child Left Behind'. The notion behind No Child Left Behind (NCLB) was ambitious, but in practice unattainable. For several years now, PTA has gone to Capitol Hill and lobbied members of congress to reauthorize ESEA. Reauthorization allows members of Congress to revisit an Act and make changes.

Needed changes, with regard to ESEA, and the lack of action by Congress, recently resulted in the Waiver program. With the 2013-2014 school-year deadline of 100% proficiency quickly approaching, the Department of Education knew something needed to be done or states would lose federal funding. The Waiver program allowed states to submit their own accountability program and goals. An accepted program will grant the state a waiver when the effects of the deadline will come into play. This sort of localized control at the state level, formulating individual accountability standards and goals, is one of the changes PTA would like to see with reauthorization.

But to really fix the problems brought on by NCLB congress needs to come together in a bipartisan fashion and re-vamp the Act. However, it now looks like another year will go by and nothing will have been accomplished. Currently, there exists a stalemate between the House and the Senate over reauthorization of ESEA.

So after years of lobbying for Congress to act, what does one do when you know they won't, at least not this year? You lay the groundwork so when Congress does act your positions will be part of the process. Specifically, we focused on one very key aspect of reauthorization, family engagement. Both data and studies confirm effective family engagement accelerates student learning. When we talk about effective family engagement we are specifically referring to best practices –

ideas and programs that have the highest impact. Sure potlucks, student programs and even the traditional parent-teacher conference do successfully connect the family to the school but the end result is not one of a high impact outcome. For effective engagement parents need to form a collaborate relationship with their school and teacher. When best practices such as positive phone calls home, home visits, weekly data sharing folders, and providing models of support learning strategies are utilized, parents of all socio-economic and cultural backgrounds actively become part of the their child's education.

The Family Engagement in Education Act of 2011 (HR1821/S941) focuses on four main factors: ESEA Title 1 sections 1111 and 1118, the family engagement and responsibility fund, state-based technical assistance and capacity building infrastructures, and teacher preparation. This Act would result in no new spending. Inclusion of this act into the reauthorization process would assist in making sure family engagement is included as part of the final voted upon law. At the time of the conference none of Missouri's congressmen had signed onto the Family Engagement in Education Act. One way to make sure an Act has wide support for passage is to amplify the number of Congressmen signed onto the Act.

PTA's hope is to focus on this Act so when Congress finally starts making real progress toward reauthorization, family



engagement will already be in place. This was the main focus of our 'Ask' when Missouri delegates went to the Hill. We attended meetings with both of our Senators and Congressmen Long, Luetkemeyer, Graves and Cleaver. During each meeting we outlined the importance of family engagement and the difference between low impact and high impact practices. We answered their questions about funding and the waiver program.

Our work with regard to ESEA reauthorization and the Family Engagement in Education Act does not, and should not, end with one trip to the Hill. As advocates for children's welfare, it is our duty to continue to speak out and let our representatives know education is an important part of our community. Not only do all children deserve a quality education, but also society as a whole deserves a community comprised of educated independent people. "If you think education is expensive, try ignorance" – Derek Bok, former President of Harvard University.



Missouri PTA's President Elect Kim Weber, State Legislative Chair Lou Hibdon, President Donna Petiford, Senator Claire McCaskill, Department of Legislation and Advocacy VP & Director Dorothy Gardner, and former MO PTA President and current National PTA Board member Kathy Nevans.

# Sequestration

By Dorothy Gardner, VP Legislation and Advocacy

If you haven't heard the term sequestration yet, you can bet this term will soon start popping up everywhere. Remember the Congressional Super Committee? They were charged with the task of finding a bipartisan way to reduce our Nation's debt when Congress refused to raise the debt ceiling. This Super Committee failed miserably at their task. Congress now has until January 2<sup>nd</sup> 2013 to come to some sort of agreement on the Budget Control Act. If Congress again fails to act and fix the budget program, immediate sequestration triggers, slashing 9.1% from all discretionary spending. In a nutshell, basically all programs, with the exception of Social Security and Medicare/Medicaid, fall within the

realm of discretionary spending. This is an across the board cut with no exceptions. For Missouri schools, this would mean a loss of \$69.18 million, affecting 89,938 students and resulting in a loss of 1,542 jobs. These estimates are based on the Center of Budget and Policy Priorities.

Schools across the nation are looking at the very real possibility they will incur a sudden reduction by 9.1% in their budget mid school year. Our schools have already tightened their belts year after year due to decreased funding at state and local levels. Now our children could face cuts in funding to education simply because Congress failed to do their job.

# Resolutions Travel to National Convention

By Dorothy Gardner, VP Legislation and Advocacy

This past March, MOPTA received exciting news. Both resolutions submitted to NPTA were approved by the National Board of Directors to be brought before the membership next month at convention for adoption. Interested in knowing just how these two resolutions – Improved Infrastructure Around Schools and Distracted Driving – originated? Each resolution's path was unique but both started with an issue someone felt should be addressed.

Rewind back to St. Patrick's Day 2010. The then superintendent of the Kansas City School District had just recently announced his 'right size' plan. Numerous schools would be closed as part of the district's plan to consolidate services and reduce budget costs. Reaction was considerable. NBC Action news contacted MOPTA regarding a Town Hall they were planning and asked if we would sit in on the discussion. So I traveled down to the news station on St. Patrick's Day's and took part in the broadcast. At the conclusion of the Town Hall I was approached by the then Mayor of Kansas City, Mark Funkhouser. He simply said, "I want to meet with you". I went away thinking he wanted to meet about the issues taking place in the KCMO School District. I was wrong.

During our meeting a couple of weeks later, Mayor Funkhouser explained to me that in his capacity as mayor there was nothing he could do regarding how the schools are run. However, he could do something about the neighborhoods surrounding the schools. Children and their parents should feel the areas around their schools are safe. With more kids walking to school, making sure the path to school was a safe one should be a priority in the community. The Mayor explained that he visualized a plan where parents and school districts worked with their local government to address areas that were in need of improvements. The local government would then prioritize those areas when allocating funds for projects. The money to pay for these improvements would come from a mix of general revenue and grant money available at both the state and federal level. Turned out there were already several grants dedicated to improving safe routes to schools available for local governments – they just needed to apply.

While this seemed like a no brainer - PTAs both advocating to improved infrastructure around schools and encouraging local governments to make safe routes to school a priority – at the time neither MOPTA or NPTA had either a resolution or position on this issue.

A position statement was drafted and adopted during June of 2010 by the MOPTA Board of Managers. This solved the immediate issue but according to MOPTA's standing rules, position statements have a one-year life span. If an issue is one of more than just an immediate concern then it should be passed by the general membership as a resolution. During the 2010-2011 school year, members of Sunny Vale Middle School PTSA in Blue Springs decided this was a position that should be a permanent fixture

within MOPTA's positions. This resolution, Improved Infrastructures Around Schools, was adopted by members during the general membership meeting at the 2011 state convention.

Kids, in general, don't vote. However, each year, both elected officials and the public make decisions that directly affect their lives. But not being able to vote doesn't mean student's voices shouldn't be heard. This was the topic of one of the student workshops at the 2010 MOPTA convention. Students can and should be part of the legislative process.

To bring this concept closer to home, the presenter brought up for discussion current MOPTA resolutions that have direct impact on their lives. One specific resolution, Teen Drivers and Cell Phones, resulted in lively debate. The presenter first asked them what they thought about the resolution. They all agreed it was dangerous for teens to use a cell phone while driving. But then they were asked if they thought it was fair the resolution was only restricted to teen drivers. Did it really matter if the driver was an adult or a teen if they were driving distracted? Weren't their actions just as dangerous? This resolution, the then Student Involvement chair, informed the students was heatedly debated before it was adopted on whether or not it should only be restricted to teens.

When it comes to PTA, units can include students as part of their membership. One of the perks of being a PTA member is the ability to exercise the right to vote on motions, position, elections and resolutions. The presenter brought this to the student delegate's attention. This resolution had been voted upon and passed by the membership. Where were the student's voices when debate occurred and the vote was taken? It might have made a huge difference.

It was during the discussion that took place between the students, presenter and Student Involvement Chair that everyone came to the realization that this current resolution should not only apply to all drivers but to all forms of distracted driving. The students collectively felt this issue should be addressed. "Then write a resolution," they were told. They did just that.

Remember the blizzard of 2011? While students across the state were homebound due to what seemed like a never-ending onslaught of snow, three students, Amanda W., Amanda R., and Meagan G., under the direction of the then Student Involvement Chair, Mark Kempt, conducted research on distracted driving. They came together in early spring to draft the actual wording of the resolution that they then presented to other student delegates during the 2011 Leadership Conference. This resolution, Distracted Driving, was also adopted by the membership during the general membership meeting at the 2011 state convention.

All resolutions begin with someone recognizing an issue needs to be addressed. But it takes someone or a group of individuals to take that realization to the next level and actually do something.

## A Superintendent's Perspective

Below is a short article that Mike Brewer, Superintendent of Liberty Public Schools, wrote on the importance of membership in PTA. He joined, and encouraged the district's assistant superintendents and board of education members to join EVERY PTA in the Liberty School District. What a terrific idea and show of support for PTA!

When it comes to preparing our students for life, schools cannot do it alone—it takes a team effort. A big part of the team in public education is most certainly PTA. As a former teacher and principal, and now as the superintendent of a growing district, I have been privileged to witness many inspiring and life-changing acts of service that have been made possible by PTA. Whether it is finding ways to encourage and support staff, organizing volunteers to help make a field trip possible, or communicating a special need to a caring community of adults, the PTA makes good things happen for kids.

It is important for us to remember that any organization is strongest when all members are actively supporting its mission. This is one reason I gladly choose to join every PTA in our district. I consider it an honor to be allowed to join this excellent group of individuals as they serve kids. It is through our collective best that students will be provided the best chance of succeeding in a rapidly changing world. We must never forget that PTA is not just a place where parents can “find their voice”...it is also a great way for staff members to join in a mission that fits seamlessly with their moral purpose. PTA is an organization that deserves to be supported and appreciated as it helps care for our nation's most precious resource... our children!

## Build a Legacy for America's Families with National PTA

Without the millions of PTA volunteers our children would not have the same legal rights, protection and opportunities as they do today.

To honor that legacy and ensure that future generations of children are equally supported, we are inviting each member of our PTA family to help lead the fight for our children in the century ahead and become part of PTA's permanent history via the “Our Home-Our Legacy-Our Future” campaign.

Just as every family needs a home, National PTA needs a home where volunteers and staff come together to develop the programs and services that enable PTAs around the country and around the world to meet our mission.

The new national headquarters makes it possible for PTA to:

- Have a permanent home in the Washington DC Metro area in close proximity to the US Dept. of Education, Congress, and other like-minded organizations to strengthen our strategic alliance partnerships and advocacy efforts.
- Consolidate all PTA operations in one facility to provide better communication, resources and service to PTAs and members.
- Host PTA leadership events, meetings and training opportunities for PTA volunteers.
- Develop a Learning and Research Center enabling PTA to research best practices to provide PTAs and families with new and cutting-edge programs and resources
- Provide gallery space to exhibit PTA's amazing Reflections art work.



OUR HOME  
OUR LEGACY  
OUR FUTURE

- Display the history of PTA through photos, documents and artifacts.
- Provide more stability and long-term fiscal health by owning rather than renting office space.

Thanks to the Missouri PTA units and councils that have already contributed. For more information on how your PTA can contribute, please see the National PTA website: <http://www.pta.org/5013.htm>

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## PTA Member selected for Mom Congress

Rose Acres Elementary School PTA member Angela Vos McCormick of Maryland Heights was selected by Parenting magazine to represent Missouri at the third-annual Mom Congress on Education and Learning conference in Washington, D.C. on April 29th through May 1st. Angela was chosen for her outstanding contributions and dedication to improving local schools.

A total of fifty-one delegates, representing each state and the District of Columbia, were selected by Parenting from a record-setting number of applications submitted through [Parenting.com](http://Parenting.com). Each delegate received an all-expense-paid trip to the event, where they had the opportunity to connect with national leaders in education, Parenting editors, and past Mom Congress delegates to exchange ideas on how to improve our nation's schools.

"I am both honored and humbled," says Angela of her excitement to be a part of Mom Congress. "As a parent, I have one opportunity to influence my children; I hope to be an example to them serving as a volunteer during their education. This opportunity will enhance my continued volunteerism; I look forward to all that I will learn at the conference and what changes I can make for our schools. United we are one voice for our children."

The theme of the 2012 Mom Congress conference, "Teach Me Something New," is dedicated to fostering the crucially important relationship between parents and their children's teachers. For the third consecutive year, U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan headlined the roster of education and advocacy leaders scheduled to address the delegates at the conference. Others scheduled to appear include representatives from NBC News' Education Nation, First Lady Michelle Obama's Let's Move!, Save the Children, National PTA, National Education Association, Teach for America, and more.

In her work as an education advocate, Angela has restructured, designed and implemented streamlined processes for organizing volunteer parents with the goal of making volunteering easier and the overall process of managing volunteer-run activities more efficient. Her most notable contribution to her community followed the Good Friday Tornado of 2011. Within 48 hours of the devastating tornado, she organized a donation center for families within the school district. Utilizing several outlets, she secured donations of clothing, food, toys, household and personal care items. Currently, she is working with Pattonville School District administrators in the development of a parent-run legislation advocacy committee and she hopes to promote and increase bully prevention programs within our schools.

Empowered and inspired by attending the conference, past delegates have returned to their states to create significant change in their school systems, affecting the lives of thousands of children nationwide. In 2010, delegates worked with Parenting editors at the conference to create the "Lesson Plan for Change", a blueprint to empower parents to get more involved in their children's education that appeared in Parenting School Years magazine and the bestselling companion guide to the documentary *Waiting for Superman*.

The 2011 class of delegates' accomplishments include the creation of a nationwide book drive in support of early literacy, Books Make it Better; recognition through The White House "Champions of Change" program; the improvement of several school lunch programs across the country; and the development of new educational resources and programs in nearly every state, from early science education workshops in Florida to a new parental advocacy program, Camp Educate, in California.

Faculty members from Georgetown University's School of Continuing Studies—the Mom Congress educational provider—led informative sessions at the conference offering advocacy training workshops to help delegates take what they've learned and put it to work in their own communities.

Driven by the ever-increasing role that parents play in advocating for positive change in the education system, Parenting magazine launched the Mom Congress initiative in 2009 to celebrate and connect parents working to improve our nation's schools. Each month, Parenting and Parenting.com give readers and the 25,000+ Mom Congress members updated educational news and resources to help them make a difference and bring about positive changes for students. *Parenting* is the National Media Sponsor of PTA Reflections Program<sup>SM</sup>.



# Short Takes

## NEED OFFICIAL PTA PINS FOR YOUR OUTGOING OFFICERS?

Missouri PTA has Official PTA Pins! See the Winter Toolkit for ordering information.

## PTA RADIO

National PTA has online broadcasts focusing on issues affecting families and child advocates and will provide real-life answers to everyday problems. Every episode is full of the latest headline news, issues and features that affect the lives of children. Check-in bi-weekly at [ptanewsroom.org/pta\\_radio.html](http://ptanewsroom.org/pta_radio.html) for updates and featured programming.

## QUICK TIP FOR YOUR PTA'S BUDGET

Your PTA is not an ATM. Develop relationships and partnerships with teachers and administrators. Work together to achieve goals, not buy items. PTAs can do more than just raise funds. Create powerful partnerships to support student success.

## Founder's Day Donations

Nixa Council PTA  
 Gracemor PTA  
 Yeokum Middle School PTSA  
 Underwood Elementary PTA  
 Woodland Elementary PTA  
 Columbia Council PTA  
 Lee's Summit West H.S. PTSA  
 Prairie View Elementary PTA

## Building Fund Donations

Nixa Council PTA  
 Underwood Elementary PTA  
 Woodland Elementary PTA  
 Mark Twain Elementary PTA  
 Lee's Summit West H.S. PTSA  
 St. Joseph Council PTA  
 Prairie View Elementary PTA

## Scholarship Fund Donations

Harold L. Holliday, Sr. Montessori School PTA  
 Hickman Mills Council PTA  
 Sherwood Elementary PTA  
 Nixa Council PTA

# Mark Your Calendar

## May

*Asthma and Allergy Awareness Month*  
*Healthy Vision Month*  
*Hepatitis Awareness Month*  
*Mental Health Month*  
*National Bike Month*  
*National Physical Fitness and Sports Month*  
*National Teen Pregnancy Awareness Month*

- 1 Dues to State Office  
Resolutions Deadline
- 4-5 **Missouri PTA Leadership Conference and 2012 Student Leadership Conference – Stoney Creek Inn, Columbia, MO**
- 5 Cinco De Mayo
- 6-11 NPTA Teacher Appreciation Week
- 7-13 Children's Book Week
- 8 National Teacher Day
- 9 School Nurses Day
- 13 Mother's Day
- 13-19 Food Allergy Awareness Week  
National Women's Health Week
- 19 Armed Forces Day
- 25 National Missing Children's Day
- 28 Memorial Day - MO PTA Office Closed

## June

- Fireworks Safety Month*  
*National Safety Month*
- 21-24 **116th National PTA Annual Convention & EML Conference – San Jose, CA**
  - 11-17 National Men's Health Week
  - 14 Flag Day
  - 17 Father's Day

## July

- National Parks and Recreation Month*
- 4 Independence Day - MO PTA Office Closed

Missouri PTA extends its sincere sympathy to the family and friends of Jan Harp Domene, of Anaheim, CA, who passed away on February 27<sup>th</sup>. Jan served as National PTA's President from 2007-2009. In honor of her service, National PTA has established the Jan Harp Domene Diversity and Inclusion Award to honor her commitment to reaching out to the many diverse families that call the United States home and bringing them into the PTA family.

Missouri Congress of Parents & Teachers  
Missouri PTA  
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Columbia, MO 65202

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## ~ Save the Date ~

### And Make Plans to Honor 100 Years of Service



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Kansas City, MO 64153

*Learning, networking and celebrations will be everywhere!*

Don't miss this opportunity to gain new ideas and a fresh  
perspective for your unit!

All PTA members are encouraged to attend!