



MoPTA officers
are transitioning
into their new role
at Convention.

We're excited to see
what can happen in
this new term.

Installation of Officers

It's Transition Time



Dorothy Gardner | Missouri PTA President | dorothyg@mopta.org

May is a time of transition. In fact so much is transitioning during May it can sometimes be hard to keep up with. Our calendars are filled with those final dates of the school year – concerts, recitals, field days, yearbook signings, and graduations. In a flash the month will be over. Just in my household we are celebrating several very big transitions. My son graduates from Mizzou and transitions to becoming a teacher in the Park Hill school district. My daughter graduates from Liberty High School and transitions to becoming a pre-med student at the University of Iowa. Myself, I have finally transitioned from president-elect to president of Missouri PTA.

For the typical PTA unit or council, this time of year has always marked the transition from one term to the next. Perhaps for some, those individuals in officers' positions will stay the same. Other units or councils might see all new faces for the next term. Either way, now is the time to wrap up the current year and thereby lay the groundwork for a successful upcoming year.

For those of you who will be handing off your PTA reigns, finish the year strong. Wrap up all the final details and tasks, even the small ones. No one knows better than you what was and wasn't accomplished, make sure the officer following after you knows exactly where everything leaves off and where to begin.

If you are new to your role, I remember taking over the very first time as president of Alexander Doniphan Elementary PTA. I was excited and a bit overwhelmed. My advice, take a deep breath and don't panic. One of the best attributes of PTA are the resources and networking avenues. Use those resources to help guide your work. If you're like me you don't have time to reinvent the wheel. There are a lot of tried and true PTA wheels out there that only need a few modifications or adjustments to fit the needs of your unit. Finally ask, ask, and ask away. PTA is made up of a wealth of people with knowledge that they are always willing to share. Tap into that wealth by asking other leaders at the local, council and state level for help or assistance when you have question and are unsure of the answer.

Finally, before you close out this month of transition, don't forget to thank those who have given of their time and expertise this past year. A thank you goes a long way especially when it comes to volunteers.

Missouri PTA

PTA Vision: Making Each Child's Potential A Reality

PTA Mission: PTA is a powerful voice for all children, a relevant resource for all families and communities, and a strong advocate for the education and well-being of every child.

The **Purpose of PTA** is to promote the welfare of children and youth in home, school, places of worship, and throughout the community; to raise the standards of home life; to advocate for laws that further the education, physical and mental health, welfare and safety of children and youth; to promote the collaboration and engagement of families and educators in the education of children and youth; to engage the public in united efforts to secure the physical, mental, emotional, spiritual, and social well-being of all children and youth; and to advocate for fiscal responsibility regarding public tax dollars in public education funding.

Board of Managers

Contact us! office@mopta.org

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2016-2018 Missouri PTA Board of Managers

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Administrative Assistant - Amanda Weber
Parliamentarian - Dr. Leonard Young



Missouri PTA is excited to announce that Will Wiese will be returning to the Board of Managers to serve a second term as Student Representative for 2016-2017. Will is currently a junior in the Wentzville School District and has been a valuable member to the board this last year.

Sarah Bai of Columbia, Missouri will be joining the Board of Managers for her first term as a Student Representative for 2016-2017. Sarah is a junior at Rock Bridge High School.

They both recently helped with the annual Missouri PTA Convention student workshops and service project. Hundreds of new and gently used books were collected by PTAs and brought to the 100th State Convention held in Columbia on April 23rd & 24th. The books will be donated to Rainbow House, University of Missouri Women and Children's Hospital, and Columbia Public Schools Title 1 Preschools.

Their responsibilities include serving as liaison for student members and promoting student involvement in local school communities at the secondary level. They will be involved in the planning of the 2017 State Convention and presenting workshops to student delegates representing PTSAs from across Missouri.

Closing out the PTA year

May is a busy time of year for PTA units and quite frankly everyone is looking forward to a well-deserved break. There are a few house keeping items that your unit can wrap up now that will make for a smooth transition to the next year.

Make sure your unit's 2016-2017 officers have been turned into the state office. This information is crucial in making sure your unit receives resources and communications from both National and Missouri PTA.

Set up that summer meeting now! Make sure you plan that date before anyone heads off to summer vacations and adventures.

Finish compiling your fiscal year-end report. This is the final treasurer's report of the year with all the complete income and expenses recorded. It is needed for the annual review and will be helpful for future event and fundraising planning.

Have an annual review committee in place and ready to go as soon as the fiscal year ends. It's always best to have the books reviewed as soon as possible while events are still fresh in everyone's minds.

Ask committee chairs to turn in a year-end committee report. This report should summarize what the committee accomplished. Encourage your committee members to include any great contacts or resources they used in their endeavors. Also it's a good idea to report on both successes and failures. Sometimes knowing what didn't work and why can be more important than what went well.

Have a preplanning meeting with your school principal. It's very helpful for both your PTA and the Principal to know what dates are available for events. School calendars fill up quickly; knowing what dates are available will make your planning for events go much smoother. This is also a good time to find out what ways the PTA and school can partner together in the upcoming year. Bottom line - everyone is on the same page.

From the Missouri PTA President

Contact me! dorothyg@mopta.org

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Why have the PTA Purposes changed?

During the 2015 National PTA Convention the membership body voted to amend the PTA's Articles of Incorporation.

An organization's Articles of Incorporation define not only the official name of the organization but the purposes, voting rights of members, and distribution of assets in the event of the dissolution of the organization.

By amending the purposes in the Articles of Incorporation the PTA purposes outlined in the bylaws were also amended. Each state PTA is bound by our Standards of Affiliation to subsequently adopt those changes. The transition from a fall to a spring convention for Missouri PTA resulted in the absence of a convention during 2015.

An annual meeting was held but since our bylaws specifically state amendments can only be adopted during a convention we were obligated to wait until the 2016 Missouri PTA convention to bring the amended purposes before our state membership for formal adoption.

This change, formally adopted on April 23rd, 2016, at our state convention has automatically changed Article II section 1 of all local unit and council's bylaws. **Please make note of this for your own bylaws.**

School of Excellence

What you can do to recognize your PTA

The School of Excellence is a PTA-exclusive recognition program that both supports and celebrates partnerships between the local unit PTA and the school. Based on feedback your unit gathers through a school community survey, National PTA will develop a customized "Roadmap to Excellence" with recommendations to help you reach your school partner goals. This program has shown itself to be a proven platform to not only increase engagement but also increase your membership. Parents and teachers will have a better idea of what PTA is really all about. Enrollment is open now until October 1st.



Ask Dorothy!

Sure she knows a ton about PTA and is an excellent resource for you - but it's also nice to really get to know her. Send in your questions to contact@mopta.org for the details!

Meet the new State President



Dorothy Gardner | Missouri PTA President | dorothyg@mopta.org

When you've done something long enough you just start to assume everyone knows who you are.

I've been involved with PTA one way or another since my son, Nick, started Kindergarten. The year was 1999 when I walked Nick to his first day of school. Since loitering in the halls or hiding in the bushes to keep a watchful eye on Nick was frowned upon, I opted to take the more acceptable approach by volunteering in the classroom and helping out with the local PTA.

See, I didn't grow up with PTA. I came into PTA with absolutely no real knowledge of what PTA was aside from stereotypical references made on popular TV shows. Boy did the real mission and purposes of PTA blow me away. I knew PTA was a value to not only my kids but also kids everywhere. With this I identified and knew it was a place I could help make real change in the world. So after 17 years of volunteering at the local, council, and state level I suppose I sometimes think everyone has seen, heard, or read my PTA story. But then again maybe you haven't.

For the next two years I've committed to leading our PTA at the state level. It's a volunteer role I'm both excited about and honored to perform. As your state president you deserve to know who I am and what makes me tick. So **ask me your questions and get to know me better.** I swear

I'm just like you. Sometimes I leave the house with my shirt on inside out and backwards, and I too have gotten a cat stuck on top of my car at the Starbucks drive thru. Okay that last might have only happened to me, but I think you know what I mean.

Send in your questions to our Contact editor at contact@mopta.org and so I can't just pick my favorites or the easiest to answer, I'll let her decide which ones make the cut each month. The questions can be about me biographically or anything PTA related. I think it will be fun. In the end you'll learn about me, and most likely I'll even learn more about myself.

So I'll kick it off with an easy one but one people are often asked in icebreaker seminars - what is my favorite quote.

Since I was little I was a big fan of Winnie the Pooh. My grandmother, an artist, even painted a mural of Pooh and his friends having a picnic on a wall in my childhood bedroom. This is a quote I tell myself often because I find it helpful and encouraging in a wide array of situations.

"Promise me you'll always remember: You're braver than you believe, and stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think." A.A. Milne

From the Missouri PTA President

Contact me! dorothyg@mopta.org

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Now is the time, we can't wait

Dorothy Gardner | Missouri PTA President | dorothyg@mopta.org

We are looking at the future of PTA. And I'm not just talking about our newly installed state leaders but also our local unit and council leaders, our teachers, parents, students, and representatives from other organizations – our membership. Because that's really what gives PTA the unique power to do what it does – speak up for every child.

It takes our membership – every single member – from our National president to the parent at a local unit who volunteered to cover just one shift during the school carnival. PTA needs all of us. We need to be willing to stand up and say, "I am PTA." Now let me tell you a little story about myself. I run and have run for many years. But for a long time I didn't call myself a runner. My husband was a runner – he ran Ultra marathons. My son was a runner – he was a varsity runner in High School. They were runners. They talked about big races, knew the names of race directors and big time runners, read articles and blogs on running, discussed technique. They were runners. Me I just ran. Then one-day Nick and I ran the Disney Marathon. Notice I didn't say ran it together. Oh no. Nick finished far before me – like hours. He had time to go back to the hotel room, clean up and come back to Epcot to find a spot along the last mile to cheer me on when I finally came by. So I finished my first marathon – it wasn't pretty, I'll admit there were tears – but I did it. Do you know what Nick asked me when I finished? "So do you still think you're not a runner?"

The moment I laced up my shoes and attempted that first run around the neighborhood I was a runner. I just didn't know it – didn't claim it – didn't own it.

There are a lot of individuals doing the work of PTA – embodying the PTA mission – but they don't consider themselves to be PTA. For whatever reason they just haven't claimed – taken ownership of being a PTA member.

For some, they simply don't realize what our mission actually entails. They might receive fundraiser flyers or requests to help with a specific event at their school, but we haven't really communicated with them the scope of PTA. We haven't impressed upon them the impact PTA strives to make every day from the local to the state to the national level to support children.

I've heard the excuse that PTA is too political. My response – yes we are political because decisions, policy and legislation are passed and put into place at the local, state and national level that both directly and indirectly affect our kids. Decisions, policies and legislation that are often shaped by special interest groups and lobbyists for corporations and industries who do not always have children's best interest in mind. PTA's founders began their journey not because they thought it would be fun to organize class parties or raise oodles of money, but because it wasn't right – it wasn't in the best interest of our kids – the best interest of our country's future for children to be working in factories rather than learning in classrooms. They knew no

matter how unpopular how uncomfortable, it was necessary for someone to be the voice of children in the political atmosphere. And not just any voice, but a voice determined and defined by the individual members. That doesn't mean we all agree on every single issue. Shoot, my husband and myself don't agree on a wide array of issues ranging from politics to what constitutes the best dinner choice. For him it would be tacos, for me not tacos. But as a group – as a membership we decide democratically what issues to tackle and how to approach those issues.

There is the argument that the dues are too costly. At an average of \$7 a membership at the local level I simply can't see how that could be a valid argument. We live in a world today when a daily latte and a cellphone data plan are considered essentials. How much was spent on online monthly subscriptions to listen to music or stream television and movies last year? How many people decided yep I'll pay the 99 cents this month for an in-app purchase because, you know, it's only 99 cents. Those dues support the work of our organization. Because running an organization has costs, even an organization made up of volunteers. Laura Bay, the President of National PTA, has made the choice to take a sabbatical from her job as a teacher in the state of Washington to give of her time and talents. Those dues help support the work being done by volunteers at the local, state, and national level. It's the very least we can do as a membership.

And I think some are distracted by singular stories that flood social media or receive the highlight in the local news. They feel compassion and a connection and want to help and get involved. So they readily hit the go fund me button, speak out with their opinion, become engaged by taking part in a community event all aimed at affecting that singular situation or story. PTA knows that real change isn't accomplished by tackling a singular story. That for every heart wrenching story of a child suffering or being treated unfairly there are a dozen more, hundreds and thousands more across our communities, state and nation whose stories never reach the limelight. That is why it is so important to come together as a membership and use our collective powerful voice to make sure that the welfare of all children – Every Child – is a priority.

Our membership makes PTA unique. It makes us colorful, bright, thoughtful, and has the ability to speak powerfully. Every member is important. I can't think of any reason to not take ownership of supporting our children – the very infrastructure that will define the future of our local communities, our state, our nation. So when you head back to your local units, council, respective organizations remember membership is important. It is the very first step in understanding, claiming, taking ownership of the PTA mission. PTA needs us all. PTA needs every one of us to stand up and say, "I am PTA." It can't wait – our kids can't wait. Now is the time.

Mark Your Calendar

Contact us! contact@mopta.org

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School of Excellence Enrollment
April 1 – Oct 1, 2016

Childhood Mental Illness - A Growing Epidemic In Our Schools
May 11, 6:00-6:45 p.m.

[A Google Hangout](#)

Learn about childhood mental illness including instructional and classroom strategies to help the 1 in 5 children diagnosed with mental illness learn. All school staff, parents and community members are invited to join this FREE event.

The No. 1 Crisis Facing Our Children Today- Mental Illness & Its Alarming Effects
May 17, 5-6 p.m.

This online event covers topics such as mental health, suicide prevention, and the effects of bullying on mental health. Learn strategies for improving children's mental health. Learn what solutions are offered by schools, and obtain resources including mental health screenings and the Medicaid free care rule. All educators, ESP, school staff, parents, mental health workers and community members are welcome to join.

[Register now](#) for this free event.
[Join us](#) for the event.

Deadline to submit Resolutions to Missouri PTA
Oct 21, 2016

Unit in Good Standing fiscal year-end report, annual financial review, and copy of IRS filing due to state office
Dec 1, 2016

Reflection Entries due to Missouri PTA
December 17, 2016

National PTA Legislative Conference
March 7-9, 2017

Missouri PTA State Convention
April 28-30, 2017
Stoney Creek in Columbia, Missouri.
Add this important investment to your annual budget now so you know you have the funding for this important training opportunity.



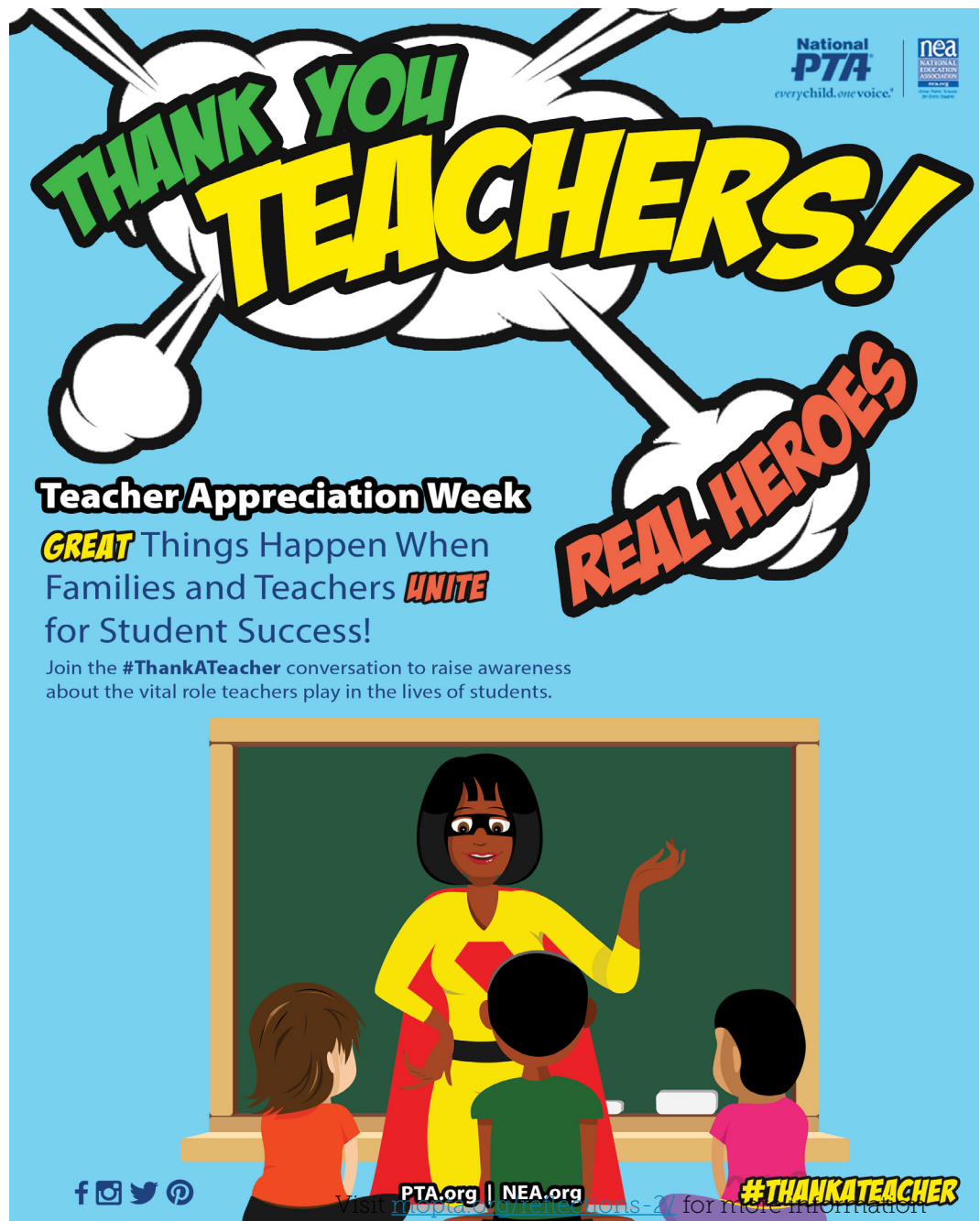
THINK BIG  THINK PTA

2016 NATIONAL PTA®

CONVENTION & EXHIBITION

JUNE 30 - JULY 3, 2016 | ORLANDO, FL.

[Register Now!](#)




THANK YOU TEACHERS!

Teacher Appreciation Week

GREAT Things Happen When Families and Teachers **UNITE** for Student Success!

Join the **#ThankATeacher** conversation to raise awareness about the vital role teachers play in the lives of students.

REAL HEROES



[f](#) [i](#) [t](#) [p](#)

PTA.org | NEA.org **#THANKATEACHER**

Visit mopta.org/reflections-2/ for more information

Nancy Bowles

DESE Communications Specialist
communications@desemo.gov

Your kids are probably already talking about what they're going to do over the summer. Their plans could involve a slide: the slide at the water park, sliding into second base or flying along a Slip 'N Slide® hooked up to a garden hose in the back yard. There's one slide, though, that isn't so much fun. It's "summer slide."

You can
help
prevent
summer
slide

Summer slide is the loss of learning that can occur when children are away from school. It can rob kids of a month or more of grade-level learning during their break. Missouri has a couple of ways to help you put the brakes on summer slide.

"Read MOre, Missouri!" is our summer reading challenge. It's easy and fun to help your children choose books to read during break. By visiting [our website](#), you and your child can determine which books they'd want to read to keep up or increase their reading skills so that they're ready for school to start again in August. You might find a few books to enjoy yourself, so you can read along with your child.

Missouri Math Challenge is a way for kids to keep their math skills sharp all summer long. Parents can help their children [sign up](#) for fun math activities and resources. Summer Math Challenge is intended for kids who have just completed 1st through 7th grades. The problems are based on the Missouri Learning Standards, so you know they are appropriate for Missouri students.

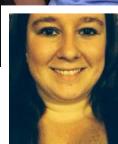
No one expects – or wants – your children to spend their summer doing school work. But along with playing ball, riding bikes, swimming and other fun summer activities, encourage your kids to spend a few minutes each day keeping up their reading and math skills. That will help get them ready for a new year of learning when they head back to school in the fall.



Feature your unit/council here!
Our field service page is the perfect spot for you to share your success and brag on your talented volunteers!

Stephanie Wade

Missouri PTA Information/
Technology Chair
stephaniew@mopta.org



The Independence School District believes in the power of PTA. Because of this belief, they have supported our Independence PTA delegates while they attend state convention each year. They host a hospitality suite during various breaks in convention schedule to help our delegates feel comfortable during their time away from home.

This year our hospitality suite was hosted by ISD Deputy Superintendent Dr. Dred Scott. Friday evening Dr. Scott provided snacks before the evening events started so those coming in could have something to eat before starting the evening.

He also provided padfolios for all of our delegates to use in their workshops and meetings throughout the weekend. Saturday Dr. Scott hosted us again during our break in the afternoon, providing desserts to snack on, drinks and snacks to take with us.

He also did some giveaways of some Chick-Fil-A gift cards! We had Dr. Scott join us at dinner Saturday night as a thank you for hosting the hospitality suite again this year.

We greatly appreciate our partnership with the ISD and all the ways they support PTA in Independence.

Believe in the
POWER
of PTA

Missouri PTA Department of Legislation & Advocacy

Contact us! legislation@mopta.org

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New Study

PERSPECTIVES OF THE
2016 PUBLIC SCHOOL
PARENT: REVEALS WHAT
KEEPS TODAY'S PARENTS
UP AT NIGHT

Parents are Nearly Unanimous on Dreams of College for their Child, Yet Poll Reveals Concerns about Readiness and Disconnect Between Perception of Performance and National Data

Learning Heroes, National PTA and Univision Communications Inc. Released "Readiness Roadmap" to Deliver Resources Parents Say Would Be Most Helpful

Read the full story here — "Parents 2016:
[Hearts and Minds of Public School Parents in an Uncertain World](#)"



Amy Blouin

Executive Director,
Missouri Budget Project
ablouin@mobudget.org

The Streamlined Bill, Senate Bill 795, is now on the Senate Calendar and could come up for debate any time! The placement on the Senate Calendar is a good indication of growing support in the Senate for the measure.

We need your help to let Senators know this has the support of Missourians and should be a priority for the last two weeks of the legislative session. Passage of the Streamlined Bill in Missouri is the first step to helping Missouri capture an estimated \$358 million in state and local sales tax revenue each year that is due but uncollected. Please consider the following actions:

Sending action alerts to your constituents/networks to garner contacts with lawmakers. A link to MBP's action alert is below – feel free to share this link with your networks. If you prefer to set up your own action alert, you can simply click on ours to view the language we used.

You can embed this as a hyperlink in your social media posts and emails: <http://bit.ly/1NQLFBm>

Sharing action alerts on Social Media, links to MBP's social media outlets are included, below. However, we've attached to this email several draft Facebook posts with images that you can use to create your own posts. These posts cover an array of benefits that would occur under streamlined including for child care assistance, K-12 education, health and mental health, and leveling the playing field for businesses.

Please link all social media posts with a request that people contact lawmakers in support of the SB 795.

Missouri Budget Project's Facebook page and Twitter feed:

<https://www.facebook.com/MOBudget/>

<https://twitter.com/MissouriBudget>

And let us know if you are willing to submit letters to the editor in support – we are happy to help draft them.

Want more?

Join the JC/DC Network by visiting www.mopta.org to sign up. You'll get regular updates of exactly what you need to know.

Legislation & Advocacy Update

National Nutrition Awareness Month

Recently, Governor Nixon announced the [No Kid Hungry Missouri](#) campaign. Nearly 1 in 5 children live in a household that lacks the ability to provide enough nutritious food on a regular basis. Access to nutritious food has a direct affect on a child's ability to perform well both in and out of the classroom. Just by children having access to breakfast can have a dramatic impact. Students who eat breakfast are 20% more likely to graduate, average 17.5% higher on test scores, and attend 1.5 more days annually. There are innovative ways schools have instituted programs to provide children access to a healthy breakfast such as Breakfast in the Classroom and "Grab and Go" meals. Check out the [No Kid Hungry website](#) to learn more about this growing problem and ways you can be involved. Another great resources to combat hunger is Share Our Strength's [Cooking Matters](#). This website resource helps families shop for and cook healthy meals on a budget. Hunger is happening everywhere. The first step to conquering hunger is raising awareness.

Child Trafficking

[HB 1562](#) would enhance the current law by expanding the definition to include advertising. This bill has passed both the House and the Senate. The bill was reported by the to House from the Senate with amendments. The bill is now in the conference stage, which works out differing language between the House and Senate version of the passed bill.

Suicide Awareness

[SB 646](#) would establish policies and training for suicide awareness and prevention in schools. This bill passed the Senate and is on the House Calendar for it's Third Reading. If adopted the bill would move to conference to adjust any altering language between the Senate and House bills.

Powdered Alcohol

[HB 1786](#) would ban the powdered alcohol. This bill has passed the House and received a do pass from the Senate Transportation, Infrastructure, and Public Safety committee. We are hopeful this bill will come before the Senate floor soon.

[SB 618](#) keeps children accused of crimes but not yet convicted out of adult prisons. This bill passed the Senate and received a do pass from the House Select committee on Judiciary. This bill could come up for debate in the House very soon.

A complete list of bills currently being followed by Missouri PTA can be found on mopta.org under Advocacy - [Capitol Chatter](#).

How to be an Advocate

- Plan now for next year's voter registration drive
- View [PTA resources for families on ESSA](#)
- Encourage members to share healthy meals and snacks that are kid tested and approved.
- Join the JC/DC Network - You can also join online under the 'Sign up for the JC/DC Network' link at the bottom of the homepage on the Missouri PTA website for Missouri alerts and 'PTA take action network' for National alerts.
- Check out the PTA [One Voice Blog](#)
- Follow @MissouriPTA and @NationalPTA on twitter.

Jennifer Daughtery
Missouri PTA
Membership Emphasis Chair
jenniferd@mopta.org



Choose your theme

It's the end of the school year & parents everywhere are busy! Planning graduation parties, summer vacations, camp, maybe just figuring how you will fill your children's days all Summer, longing to avoid that dreaded phrase "I'm bored." And here I am about to add to your full plate!

It's time to choose your Membership Campaign theme for next year. I know, I know, it feels months and months away, so why is this a must do in your busy life?

Here's the thing, a successful membership campaign can make all the difference in your membership numbers next year. And more members give PTA a larger voice for our children and it gives you a larger pool of volunteers, more engaged parent involvement and of course the funds to help you do all those things your PTA does for your local school & children.

Be creative, the sky's the limit! Consider things like school mascot, your schools learning theme for next year or even Missouri PTAs membership campaign theme "Connect to the Power of PTA!" Think outside the box, how can you use your theme to get family, staff, and students excited to be part of PTA? **Look at it this way, your Campaign theme is the vehicle which you use to advertise your PTA.** The advertising genius behind "Got Milk?" created that campaign well in advance of its launch. So it's time to get busy planning yours!

Don't forget MOPTA has an award for outstanding membership campaign. Check out the award application while you're planning and get recognized at next year's MOPTA Convention!



Outstanding Membership Campaign Award

We encourage you to apply! Download the application here:
<http://mopta.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/Missouri-PTA-Outstanding-Membership-Campaign-Award-2016-2017.docx>



In this month's episode of [PTA in One Minute](#), learn about how hundreds of PTA leaders from across the country came together for the 2016 National PTA Legislative Conference in Arlington, Va. The conference took place on March 9 and 10 and featured workshops, networking and speakers like Cecilia Munoz, assistant to the president and director of the Domestic Policy Council.

Missouri PTA Department of Programs

Contact us! programs@mopta.org



MissouriPTA



MissouriPTA



@MissouriPTA

Congratulations National PTA Reflections Honorees

HS Film Production

Award of Merit
Amaya Askew
Tangled
Kickapoo High
School PTSA

HS Literature

Award of Merit
Jesse Paxton
**Reminiscing
in Red Velvet**
Greenwood Laboratory
School PTA

MS Literature

Award of Merit
Alyah Craig
A Vivid Dream
Discovery Middle
School PTSA

MS Music Composition

Award of Merit
John (HyunJun) Yoo
I, Clown
West Middle School
PTSA

Primary Music Composition

Award of Merit
Thomas Klepper
**Thousands of
Birds Flying**
Rountree Elementary
PTA

HS Visual Arts

Award of Merit
Tinley Eden Howes
Inside
Kickapoo High
School PTSA



What Parents Need to Know

Marilyn Aikins | Previous Missouri PTA Reflections Chair

PTA 100th Annual Convention Reports "What Parents Need to Know", a workshop by Ann Starlin-Horner, Gail Stewart, and Roberta Carson.

The workshop concerned guiding students toward career paths that involve what they enjoy, and like and what they are good at. Concern was that students are generally steered toward College and University after high school, when many times this is not the best, most productive/lucrative pathway.

These speakers reiterated that the job areas of the future use the 10%:20%:70% future demand ratio, where the 10% level is a job that might require a Master's or Doctorate, the 20% level requires a Bachelor Degree, and the 70% level requires a technical skill certificate. These 70% ratio level jobs often will require only a specific 1-2 year certificate, and will also often pay more in salary than the other higher degreed areas. A bar graph of the areas of need for the future (2020) solidly backed this information. Most jobs at the 70% level ratio future fall into only 3 main overlapping Venn Diagram Circles: Information Technology, Health Careers, and Advanced Manufacturing.

These speakers also offered an amazing website nicknamed: "MERIC" or missouri.economy.org. It contains real-time information, updated regularly. The website is similar to the older hard copy version of the "Occupational Outlook Handbook" that included skills needed, average salary for the position, and the future demand for these jobs. Missouri Students also have access to the "Missouri Connections" website that offers occupational interest inventories and lots of valuable information. Students are able to log on to this website, via a log on ID given to them by the High School Counselor, and take interest inventories and find out what they REALLY want to do as a job of the future.

Post-Secondary training does not always mean college/University. 43% of workers with licenses and certificates earn more than students with Associate's degrees. 27% earn more than those with Bachelor's Degrees. 31% with Associate's Degrees earn more than those with a Bachelor's Degree. Meaningful and profitable credentials can be earned in lots of ways, and many of these students are able to use A+ money for their entire educational experience and be quite

successful in their lives. Parents need to be aware that to receive A+ money, however, a student absolutely has to have a 95% attendance rate throughout the 4 years of high school.

Ann Starlin-Horner, Gail Stewart, and Roberta Carson often visit various businesses and industries inquiring what character traits are needed by future employees. The following 9 items were found to be in high demand:

1. Critical thinkers/Creative Problem Solvers
2. Solve problems on their own
3. Effective communicators
4. Strong work ethic
5. Technical competency/digital ability
6. Data/Information driven
7. Collaborative with others
8. Able to work in a multi-generational setting
9. Attendance and punctuality

What does this mean to Missouri parents who may or may not have been able to save up money for college expenses? It means that college/University education might not be the greatest/best fit for all of the students. Only 30% of the overall jobs of the future fall into this educational need area. These parents need to be sure that their student has taken multiple interest inventories (through the High School Counselor, and Missouri Connections Program) and determine where their actual interests are. Their students need to focus on a career that they love, and are good at. These parents need to follow through by requiring that their students attend high school all 4 years at a 95% attendance level, and qualify for A+ money to pay for almost all of their training.

Many of the High Demand career area Programs are now available at Junior/Community Colleges. These program designers have their ears to the ground, and change their curriculum according to the various needs of businesses and industries. Often times a person in that business or industry will be brought in to that program and actually teach to the specific need of the job. When your students finishes that program they become certified and often have a job offer BEFORE they finish the program. Such a diamond that many parents are not aware of!

Missouri PTA Scholarships

Contact me! scholarships@mopta.org

[f MissouriPTA](#) [p MissouriPTA](#) [t @MissouriPTA](#)



Donna Pettiford | Previous Immediate Past President and Scholarship Chair

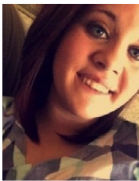
Congratulations to this year's Scholarship Recipients

The Missouri PTA Scholarship Committee selected three outstanding students to receive Missouri PTA Teacher Education Scholarships for the fall 2016 school year.



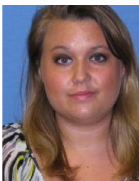
Helen B Maupin Foundation: Janelle D., Raytown South High School, Raytown, MO, plans to major in Secondary Education (Spanish/ESL). She has excelled in a variety of subjects and extracurricular activities including Missouri Girls State, Fashion Design, Forensics, Cross Country, Track, Soccer, FCCLA, NHS,

Student Council and Art Club and has a number of tutoring experiences. She is inspired to become a teacher because of the impact teachers have had on her life. Janelle looks forward to inspiring and mentoring others and plans to "pour love, encouragement and kindness into the lives" of her students.



Caroline B Ullman Scholarship: Kaylan B., Potosi High School, Potosi, MO, plans to major in Elementary Education (Music; 3rd Grade). She has participated in National Honor Society, Future Teachers, All-District Choir, All-District and All-Conference Band, cadet teaching and is known

to be a leader in both her school and her community. She believes that teachers are the shapers of the next generation and she looks forward to creating the "next generation of doctors, scientists, and great thinkers" who will change the world.



Caroline B Ullman Scholarship: Marissa S., Winnetonka High School, North Kansas City Schools, Kansas City, MO, plans to major in Elementary Education (Early Childhood-Kindergarten). She has been active in Student Council, Key Club, Softball, Choir, volunteering and informal tutoring of friends

and family. She is known to excel academically while keeping up with 30 hours per week of working outside of school. Education has always been important to Marissa, and she wants to teach kids that "they can be anything they want if they stay in school and do their best."



Phoebe Apperson Hearst Memorial Award:

Each fall, the Phoebe Apperson Hearst Memorial Award (PAH Award) is awarded to an outstanding senior, one with a record of exceptional academics, outstanding character, community service and a commitment to teaching. Income from the PAH Fund is used to finance these awards.

In August 2015, the Scholarship Committee selected Shannon C. of Independence, MO to receive this award. Shannon will graduate with honors from William Jewell College. In addition to her academic honors, she has been a dance instructor and is captain of the William Jewell dance team. Shannon states that she decided to become a teacher in part because of classroom experiences that she contributes to PTA's impact: "PTA has had a large impact on my decision to become a teacher. PTA provides students with so many learning experiences and opportunities that coincide with what is being taught in the classroom and that make teaching worthwhile. All throughout elementary school, PTA funded and sponsored many things that contributed to my growth as a learner. They helped foster my love for school and learning, and that love is one of the reasons I decided to become a teacher."

In addition to the PAH Award, seventeen (17) students have renewed their annual scholarship disbursements of \$500.00; totaling \$8,700.00 awarded by Missouri PTA in scholarships last fall. Historically, scholarships have been funded by income from endowment funds, individual donations and local PTA Council and Unit gifts. In addition to individual, unit and council contributions, half of the proceeds of the Distinguished Service Award is designated for scholarships.

Congratulations to these outstanding students, and thank you to everyone who contributes to Missouri PTA scholarships.



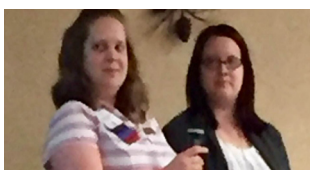
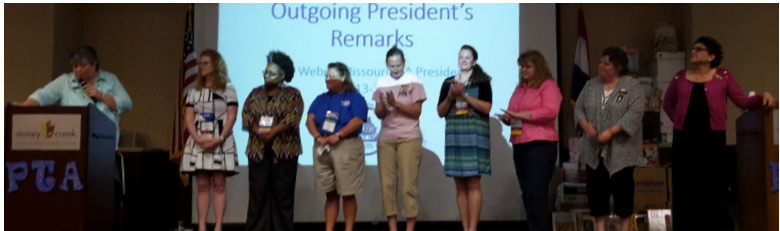
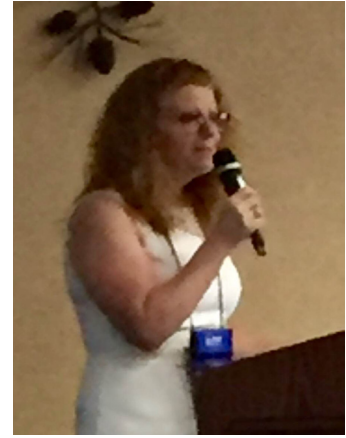
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Special Thanks!

Missouri PTA thanks Spark West from Jamestown Elementary for serving as the Volunteer Convention Photographer Extraordinaire!



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