

Contact



MARCH 2021

In This Issue...

2 - 3

*PTA Values
and Mission*

4

*Missouri PTA
Historical
Highlight*

5

*Tips to Keep
Your Family
Active*

6 - 7

*The PTA
Difference*

8

*PTA
Community*

9

*Articles for
Parents*

10

Election Time!

11

*Contributions
for Contact
Needed!*

12 - 16

*Reflections
Winners
Announced*

PTA VALUES

COLLABORATION

We will work in partnership with a wide array of individuals and organizations to broaden and enhance our ability to serve and advocate for all children and families.

COMMITMENT

We are dedicated to children's educational success, health, and well-being through strong family and community engagement, while remaining accountable to the principles upon which our association was founded.

DIVERSITY

We acknowledge the potential of everyone without regard, including but not limited to: age, culture, economic status, educational background, ethnicity, gender, geographic location, legal status, marital status, mental ability, national origin, organizational position, parental status, physical ability, political philosophy, race, religion, sexual orientation, and work experience.

RESPECT

We value the individual contributions of members, employees, volunteers, and partners as we work collaboratively to achieve our association's goals.

ACCOUNTABILITY

All members, employees, volunteers, and partners have a shared responsibility to align their efforts toward the achievement of our association's strategic initiatives.

These values and much more can be found on the National PTA's website by going to <https://www.pta.org/home/About-National-Parent-Teacher-Association/Mission-Values>

MISSION STATEMENT

PTA's mission is to make every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children.

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

PTA offers the unique benefit of being part of a larger system of support. When a PTA is present, there's stability and common good for the entire school community.

- Sherry Griffith, Executive Director, California State PTA

Together we can do so much.



MOPTA HISTORICAL SPOTLIGHT

Mary Harmon Weeks

One of the early leaders of the Missouri Congress of Parents and Teachers was Mary Harmon Weeks. Weeks was a part of the kindergarten movement and worked toward incorporating kindergartens into the school system, succeeding in 1894. Mrs. Week's effectiveness became known nationally and she was asked by Mrs. Alice McLellan Birney, founder of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers, to help organize the National Congress of Mothers. Weeks became the first corresponding secretary of the organization in 1899. Mrs. Weeks later created an eight-volume work on parent education. "Parents and Their Problems," was considered by education experts as "the germ of the whole modern child study and the parent education movement." In her parent-teacher work, she trained many leaders and helped launch numerous Missouri parent-teacher associations.

In March of 1912, St. Louis, Missouri, officially became a branch of the National Congress. This in turn culminated in a state convention held in Louisiana, Missouri. At the time of this convention, the active membership in the Missouri Congress had risen from 500 to 2,201.

Missouri Congress considered as its field of work everything that concerned children, their homes, schools, and community environment, and their mental and physical health. Child health was uppermost on its improvement agenda and committees were also appointed in 1912 to study juvenile court conditions, literature for children, homes, and schools, and the general area of marriage and family living. Soon it became apparent that in order to create a closer home-school relationship, it would be advisable to open public school buildings as social centers and a petition was formulated. This was the groundwork for many improvements in the lives of children, their parents and teachers, their communities, the state of Missouri, and beyond, which continues to the present day.

*This description is from the collection on file at The State Historical Society of Missouri. on 12 June 1985 (Accession No. 2565).
Photo from John Dawson on findagrave.com*



TIPS TO KEEP YOUR FAMILY ACTIVE

Heart.org has a list of 26 tips to help you and your family be more active. Here are just a few; click this page to see the full list!

- **Wear what you've got.** You don't need special clothing to simply get out and walk. A comfortable, supportive pair of shoes and a few basics will keep you ready to go.
- **Add some healthy activity to your workday.** Take walking breaks, do some yoga during downtime.
- **Schedule it.** Having trouble making time for physical activity? Set an alarm on your phone or schedule it on your calendar – and treat it like any other important appointment.
- **Go mobile.** Catching up on phone calls? Walk your talk – in your neighborhood. If you use a headset or earbuds make sure you can still hear traffic.
- **Buddy up.** Find a physical activity accountability partner and ask a friend to virtually hold you to your deadlines can also help you reach your fitness goals.
- **Shake up your family's routine.** Join your kids for a bike ride or jump rope before starting on homework and chores. You'll all feel better and think better!
- **Just dance.** Clear some space, put on some music, and take a dance break! It can re-energize a work meeting, study session, lazy Sunday or game night.
- **Put the screens on hold.** Instead of heading right for the TV or game console after dinner, make that family activity time. Take a walk, practice a sport, or play a game of tag or hide-and-seek.
- **Be an active parent.** Experts say that what kids want more than anything else is time with their parents. To give them that, don't just send them out to play – go play with them!
- **Tune into fitness during TV time.** Walk or jog in place or on a treadmill, lift weights, or do yoga while you watch your favorite shows. Break up a TV binge with a bit of activity between episodes.
- **Make active chore cards.** Let each family member draw a card each day with a different active task that needs to be done. Cleaning up after dinner, walking the dog, taking the trash out, folding laundry and unloading the dishwasher are all good ways to get your family up off the couch – and get the chores done.
- **Change up date night.** An evening out with your spouse or bestie doesn't have to mean dinner and a movie. Keep a list of activities that would be fun to do together, like walking, bowling, miniature golf, dancing, indoor rock climbing, or hula hooping!

WHAT MAKES THE PTA DIFFERENCE SO MUCH BETTER FOR SCHOOLS?

The Power of PTA: PTA Makes a Difference

Over 120 years, PTA has helped solve some of the biggest issues facing America's children. Many of the structures all children benefit from today—child labor laws, universal kindergarten, the National School Lunch Program and the juvenile justice system—were accomplished as a result of PTA members' advocacy.

And it's not just at the national level. Our state and local PTAs change lives too. Missouri PTA worked to ensure the passage of a bill that would keep all juvenile youth out of adult prisons (unless certified as an adult) and made Missouri the first state in the nation to guarantee every juvenile will be seen before a juvenile court judge. Washington State PTA worked to secure the passage of several major state education reforms, improving the day-to-day lives of children across the state. The impact of PTA is felt far and wide across our country

Valuable Resources

Administrative factors also set PTA apart from other parent groups. PTA offers a national and state infrastructure, with staff and trained volunteer leaders available to assist PTAs in securing nonprofit status, filing government paperwork, creating bylaws, purchasing low-cost insurance and training leaders. These support services are included in PTA membership at no additional cost.

PTA schools have access to experts, resources, trainings and dozens of programs and initiatives to encourage arts education, healthy lifestyles and family reading. Over the years we've had a PTA in Georgia sponsor vision clinics for low-income students. And in Detroit, Mich., a PTA runs after-school programs that keep kids off the streets. In California, a PTA created a buddy system between families with limited English proficiency and other bilingual families.

When a school has a PTA, parents are better informed and more engaged, and the learning environment is more supportive for students—plus, the school has a better reputation in its community.

THE PTA DIFFERENCE

PTA—Founded in 1897, Parent Teacher Association (PTA) is a nationwide network of nearly 4 million families, students, educators and community leaders working at the school building, district, state and national levels to improve education, health and safety conditions for our children. National PTA’s mission is to make every child’s potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children.

An unaffiliated parent group is at one school and it only cares about those kids, period. From the beginning, PTA was for all children. I joined PTA because I believe that when I am helping somebody else’s kids, I’m helping my kids too.

– Maria Kenner, PTA member, Demossville, Ky.

Unaffiliated Parent Groups

These groups are comprised of families focused exclusively on issues at their school and are not part of a larger organized network, so have no way to impact decisions beyond their own schoolyard.

We commend all of the caring adults who join a parent group to support student learning and develop positive partnerships with their school’s officials. PTA believes, however, that the issues that affect our children today extend beyond their individual schools.

As parents, we have a universal desire to make sure our children are healthy and safe. We want to give them the tools and resources they need to grow, learn and thrive. We want them to reach their full potential. That common desire is what gives the Parent Teacher Association its power.

We have been an ardent advocate for bettering the lives of every child because we know we cannot only focus on our own children. We must care for other people’s kids, because the lives of our own children—or grandchildren—will be affected by contact with those other kids. If someday your son needs a critical operation, someone else’s child will be the surgeon. If someday your daughter is the victim of a violent crime, someone else’s child will be the judge.

This is why we work to advocate for every child. When you help one child, you are helping all children in the school community and potentially the nation.

COMMUNITY

Three key benefits of being part of the PTA community



Information

PTA offers email newsletters that keep members up-to-date on the latest grant offers, program updates and advocacy alerts. PTA members know and are prepared for what's happening in education around the country.



Guidance to Run Your PTA

Running any parent group can be challenging and sometimes overwhelming. Only PTA offers a Back-to-School Kit and an e-learning webinar library to help PTA leaders become trained and prepared to serve their communities and manage local PTA units. Unaffiliated parent groups do not have this vast set of guides, sample templates and tips to use in their school.



Networking

Need help figuring out a problem at your child's school or want to spread a great idea around? You'll be able to interact with like-minded parents at district, state and national PTA functions.

We cannot always build
the future for our youth,
but we can build our youth
for the future.

~ Franklin D. Roosevelt



“At the end of the
day, the most
overwhelming key to
a child's success is
the positive
involvement of
parents.”
- Jane D. Hull

ARTICLES FOR PARENTS



What is scaffold parenting? It could be the key to help kids adjust to post-pandemic life

The coronavirus vaccine hopes to “normalize” life for kids. But we can’t underestimate how destabilizing reentry will be.

 USA TODAY / Dr. Harold S. Koplewicz / Feb 18

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IT'S NOT TOO LATE

#MOPTALLOUD



HAVE YOU
PLANNED YOUR
UNIT/COUNCIL
ELECTION YET?

IF NOT, NOW'S THE TIME
AND MOPTA.ORG HAS
THE TOOLS YOU NEED!

Local Leaders, Thank you for your hard work and all that you do for our Missouri students!

I Matter Because...

2020-2021



congratulations!

National
PTA
every child, one voice.™

dance choreography

PRIMARY

- First Place - Madeleine Bentley, Tiffany Ridge Elementary PTA
- Second Place - Ella Jambrosic, Timber Creek Elementary PTA
- Third Place - Zoie Kemmerer, Voy Spears, Jr. Elementary PTA
- Fourth Place - Mary Gall, George S. Bryant PTA
- Honorable Mention - Grace Gallowa, Tiffany Ridge Elementary PTA
- Honorable Mention - La'isa Salanoa, Bell Prairie PTA

INTERMEDIATE

- First Place - Laila Fuiamono, James Lewis Elementary PTA
- Second Place - Ainsley Ash, Voy Spears, Jr. Elementary PTA
- Third Place - Eleanor Steffen, Longview Farm Elementary PTA
- Fourth Place - Maddie Jelinek, Bell Prairie PTA

MIDDLE SCHOOL

- First Place - Adrianna Eicholz, Moreland Ridge Middle School PTSA
- Second Place - Brooke Crotts, Bernard C. Campbell Middle School PTSA
- Third Place - Charlie Roedeske, Walden Middle School PTA

HIGH SCHOOL

- First Place - Amelia McCoy, Oak Park High School PTSA

film production

PRIMARY

Second Place - Winston Hystead, George S. Bryant PTA

Honorable Mention - Pierce Martin, Bell Prairie Elementary PTA

INTERMEDIATE

First Place - Kate Finucane, Chapel Lakes PTA

Honorable Mention - Abriella Stark, Tiffany Ridge Elementary PTA

Honorable Mention - Hannah Howell, Lucy Franklin Elementary PTA

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Honorable Mention - Brooke Crotts, Bernard C. Campbell MS PTSA

HIGH SCHOOL

Honorable Mention - Mareina Harris, Liberty North HS PTSA

literature

PRIMARY

First Place - Brooke Hertzog, Voy Spears, Jr. Elementary PTA

Second Place - Rachel Brawley, Wanda Gray PTA

Third Place - William Pierce, George S. Bryant PTA

Fourth Place - Harper Sinnard, Lucy Franklin Elementary PTA

Fifth Place - Elizabeth Wells, Chapel Lakes PTA

INTERMEDIATE

First Place - Levi Swanson, Chapel Lakes PTA

Second Place - Collins Bushell, Chapel Lakes PTA

Third Place - Sawyer Sinnard, Lucy Franklin Elementary PTA

Fourth Place - Chloe Falkenhain, Hopewell Elementary PTA

Fifth Place - Kaitlyn DeMeyer, Voy Spears, Jr. Elementary PTA

MIDDLE SCHOOL

First Place - Paige Stuart, Brittany Hill MS PTSA

Second Place - Hadasah Trotter, Brittany Hill MS PTSA

Third Place - Kylie Harris, Brittany Hill MS PTSA

Fourth Place - Keren Ding, Central HS PTSA (Springfield, MO)

Fifth Place - Ariana Yonker, Delta Woods MS PTSA

HIGH SCHOOL

First Place - Vari Patel, Blue Springs South HS PTSA

Second Place - Kylie McLane, Oak Park HS PTSA

Third Place - Elana Hadi, Central HS PTSA (Springfield, MO)

Fourth Place - Destiny Weber, Oak Park HS PTSA

Fifth Place - Nina Musiyenko, Central HS PTSA (Springfield, MO)

music composition

PRIMARY

First Place - Previn Deshpande, Chapel Lakes PTA

Second Place - Zoë Bella, George S. Bryant PTA

Third Place - Faith Gallawa, Tiffany Ridge Elementary PTA

INTERMEDIATE

First Place - Kollin Jacobs, Cordill-Mason Elementary PTA

Second Place - Garrett Fry, Chapel Lakes PTA

Third Place - Callahan Prunte, George S. Bryant PTA

Honorable Mention - Eden Powis, Longview Farm Elementary PTA

MIDDLE SCHOOL

First Place - Lily Lagergren, Walden MS PTSA

Second Place - Brooke Crotts, Bernard C. Campbell MS PTSA

Third Place - Hailey Wray, Bernard C. Campbell MS PTSA

Honorable Mention - Marissa Fosbert, Park Hill Plaza MS PTA

HIGH SCHOOL

First Place - Vincent Spriggs, Hickman HS PTSA

Second Place - Mareina Harris, Liberty North HS PTSA

Third Place - Augustus Lookingbill, Hickman HS PTSA

Honorable Mention - Femi Odemuyiwa, Hickman HS PTSA

photography

PRIMARY

- First Place - Carson Withers, Mason Elementary PTA
- Second Place - Dillon Wall, Bell Prairie PTA
- Third Place - Clare Finucane, Chapel Lakes PTA
- Fourth Place - Dillon Wall, Bell Prairie PTA
- Fifth Place - Jason Harris, Sunny Pointe Elementary PTA
- Honorable Mention - Audrey Fouts, Mason Elementary PTA
- Honorable Mention - Meeka Ciolek, Voy Spears, Jr. Elementary PTA

INTERMEDIATE

- First Place - Ilyaan Khan, Greenwood Laboratory School PTA
- Second Place - Dylan Heavilin, Tiffany Ridge Elementary PTA
- Third Place - Josephine Lawless, Mason Elementary PTA
- Fourth Place - Lily Tolnai, Thomas B. Chinn PTA
- Fifth Place - Ryley Lutjen, James Lewis Elementary PTA
- Honorable Mention - Ensley Fisher, Chapel Lakes PTA

MIDDLE SCHOOL

- First Place - Azaria Knox, Brittany Hill MS PTSA
- Second Place - Jaidyn Smith, Brittany Hill MS PTSA
- Third Place - Ben Gum, New Mark MS PTSA
- Fourth Place - Sophy Wickham-Zhou, Central HS PTSA (Springfield, MO)
- Fifth Place - Logan Wall, New Mark MS PTSA
- Honorable Mention - Connor Sinks, Longview Farm Elementary PTA

HIGH SCHOOL

- First Place - Makenna Dawson, Blue Springs HS PTSA
- Second Place - Hailey Youngblood, Central HS PTSA (Springfield, MO)
- Third Place - Madison Dolato, Liberty HS PTSA
- Fourth Place - Rhiannon Schaefer, Blue Springs South HS PTSA
- Fifth Place - Gianna Dietrich, Blue Springs South HS PTSA

PRIMARY

First Place - Claire Gagnon, Lucy Franklin Elementary PTA
Second Place - Carson Withers, Mason Elementary PTA
Third Place - Francesca Hemeyer, Chapel Lakes PTA
Fourth Place - Leni Crawford, Lucy Franklin Elementary PTA
Fifth Place - Blayke McDaniel, Hopewell Elementary PTA
Honorable Mention - Adrianna Lansangan, Bell Prairie PTA
Honorable Mention - Charlotte Fitch, Bell Prairie PTA
Honorable Mention - Lydia Snyder, Voy Spears, Jr. Elementary PTA

INTERMEDIATE

First Place - Armani Sloan, Mason Elementary PTA
Second Place - Chloe Gagnon, Lucy Franklin Elementary PTA
Third Place - Harper Moore, Sunny Pointe Elementary PTA
Fourth Place - Ellie Ciolek, Voy Spears, Jr. Elementary PTA
Fifth Place - Eden Mitchell, Wanda Gray PTA
Honorable Mention - Coby Stewart, Mason Elementary PTA
Honorable Mention - Delaney Holmes, Voy Spears, Jr. Elementary PTA
Honorable Mention - Maielle White, Longview Farm Elementary PTA

MIDDLE SCHOOL

First Place - Erik Mason, Park Hill Plaza MS PTA
Second Place - Gracee Peugh, Discovery MS PTSA
Third Place - Grace Meyer, Central HS PTSA (Springfield, MO)
Fourth Place - Keren Ding, Central HS PTSA (Springfield, MO)
Fifth Place - Minal Khan, Greenwood Laboratory School PTA

HIGH SCHOOL

First Place - Kayla Hurley, Blue Springs South HS PTSA
Second Place - Madison Dimmick, Central HS PTSA (Springfield, MO)
Third Place - Nina Musiyenko, Central HS PTSA (Springfield, MO)
Fourth Place - Karson Feuerbacher, Greenwood Laboratory School PTA
Fifth Place - Mareina Harris, Liberty North HS PTSA