## President's Huddle

Christine Kent, MISSOURI PTA PRESIDENT

#### Workshop Agenda

- > What to know
- > Who we serve
- President' Monthly Checklist
- > P.T.A.
- Having a Great Year
- ➤ When PTAing Goes Sideways
- > Building Relationships
- ➤ What is your "PTA Why?"

## PTA Mission

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

#### PTA Values

#### DRACC

#### Diversity, Respect, Accountability, Collaboration, Commitment

- 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.
- **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.

#### Know ...

- ✓ Bylaws
- ✔ Budget
- ✔ Definition of "Good Standing" aka "UIGS"
- ✓ If there is a Council or How do we get one
- ✓ Who is your Missouri PTA Regional Director

#### Remember who we serve .....

- PTA is for ALL children from preschool to college, in and out of your school
- As an officer sole duty is to children, members and unit
- A PTA unit is a separate entity (501c3) completely separate from the school, partnership and collaboration
- Teachers are members and partners, NOT a recipient. Unit funds should apply towards the children, check everything that is done to reflect this - budgets, activities, programs and events

#### Here's to a great year

- ★ Build a Calendar
- ★ Build a membership plan
- ★ Create Agendas
- ★ Delegate/Volunteers
- ★ Insist on a quorum at meetings
- ★ Do at least one National PTA Program
- ★ Events/Activities (3 free for every 1 paying)
- ★ Track Budget/Financials

#### P.T.A. - Programs, Training and Advocacy

- > Programs
  - Health, Safety and Education
- > Training
  - THRIVE and E-Learning
  - Workshops, Conferences, Convention and more
  - Networking, Virtual and In Person meetings
  - Multiple Tool Kits
- > Advocacy
  - Know the issues
  - As a PTA member you cannot endorse any candidate.
     Look out for ways you can be perceived as endorsing.
  - The PTA unit can support bond and tax levies for your district.

## Why Advocacy?

Did you know PTA is the largest parent led child advocacy organization in the country?

- PTA is for ALL children from preschool to college. Summer EBT
- Siddens Benings Hands Free Bill 18 in 18

- Kindergarten
  Free and Reduced Lunches in School
  Child Labor Laws
  School of Choice
  School Board Elections

# None of this works unless you are present, in one way or another.

Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's Not!

- The Lorax, Dr. Suess

#### When PTAing Goes Sideways

- The worst thing you can do is ignore conflict.
- Be proactive but never be alone.
- Bring all parties together, do not discuss separately.
- Your goal is to the business, not the relationships.
- Avoid feelings words instead keep to the fact.
- Do not fall in the gossip trap.
- If you are talking about it at the bus stop you are part of the problem.
- Sometimes as president you have to make hard decisions.

#### **Build Relationships**

- ★ Always be looking for the next great PTA leader
- ★ Work the room
- ★ Develop an attitude of gratitude
- ★ Say "Thank you"
- ★ Does your community know about PTA?

#### What is your PTA Why?

- ★ What do you feel passionate about?
- ★ What keeps you awake at night?
- ★ What do you always seem to talk about when it comes to your kiddos future?
- ★ Do you have a wish list that you would love to talk to a teacher or school or representative about?

# Thank you!



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## Contact Info:

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