



Newsletter

15th District Office • 319 South 15th Street • Louisville, KY 40203 • (502) 485-3535

every child. one voice.®

February 2012

President's Letter

As parents, we want what is best for our children. We try to provide what they need to succeed in school, such as supplies, calculators, and even tutoring if they need it. But one of the most important things children need is their health. Helping our children eat right, get enough sleep, and stay physically fit helps ensure that they will be alert and ready to learn. Research has shown that the physical activity and eating behaviors children adopt are shaped by parental health behaviors. It is important for us to be role models for our children and the students with whom we interact at school and during Parent Teacher Association (PTA) activities. We can set children up for success by limiting the sugar-sweetened beverages that are available in our homes and in the school cafeteria. Let's help them appreciate the sweet taste of carrots, apples, and other healthy foods. Physical activity is important for maintaining a healthy weight and reducing stress. We need to turn off the television, put away our computers and cell phones, go out, and be active!

There are many activities this month that

you can participate in. How will your PTA celebrate Founders Day (**February 17**) to honor the significant role that the PTA has played in supporting parent involvement and working on behalf of all children and families? Take Your Family to School Week (**February 12-18**) is celebrated to pay tribute to the PTA's legacy of building family-school partnerships. Check out the information in this newsletter about how to apply for scholarships and other awards. Mark your calendars to attend the 15th District PTA Programs and Fundraising Vendors Fair on **March 15** from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Atherton High School in the small gym. Keep up the great work!

If your PTA/PTSA has done or is currently doing an interesting project/program, please let us know so we can include it in our monthly newsletter. We want to share the exciting things you are doing with everyone. Keep up the great work!

Cherie Dimar

15th District PTA President

Membership in February

February is the time of the year when you want to evaluate your hard work for the school year. **March 15** is the final deadline for reporting and paying your school's PTA's/Parent Teacher Student Association's (PTSA's) membership in order to receive membership awards. Immediately after the **March 15** deadline, membership awards are determined at district and state levels. Your PTA/PTSA could qualify for more than ten awards at both levels. **Now** is the time to take a look at each award's description and calculate how many more members you will need to receive that award. Speaking from experience, you don't want to be sitting at the 15th District PTA and Kentucky PTA Awards Banquet and find out your school was only a **few** members from receiving another award. Listed below are the 15th District PTA's Membership Awards; visit www.15thdistrictpta.org/membership for more information. Look at the *Kentucky PTA's Leaders' Notebook* or go to www.kypta.org for Kentucky PTA Membership Awards.

15th District PTA Membership Awards

- Ten Percent Increase Over Previous Year
- 200 Members Over Previous Year
- District Membership Equaled Previous Year's Membership
- District's Largest PTAs Based on Number of Members
- President's Award (100 Over Last Year)
- District's Largest Percentage Increase Based on Last Year's Membership
- Top Membership Based on Percent of Current Year Enrollment
- Two Hundred Percent Membership (Based on Enrollment)
- One Hundred Percent Membership (Based on Enrollment)
- District's Top 20 PTAs/PTSAs Based on Number of Members

- Squires' Membership Challenge—37 More Members Than 2010-11
- Outstanding Membership Campaign Award

I challenge you to do your homework, calculate your numbers, and enroll a few more members to reach your **goals**. For all PTAs/PTSAs that receive eight or more membership awards, your group will receive a special treat, which will be announced in the March newsletter.

February is the month of love. Love PTA; join PTA!

Eddie Squires
Second Vice President,
Membership Chairman



Programs and Fundraising Vendors Fair

Make plans now to attend the Programs and Fundraising Vendors Fair on **March 15**. It will be held at Atherton High in the small gym. It is an all-day event; come and go as you please. We will be open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. All individuals and groups—bands, orchestras, PTA members, Family Resource and Youth Services Centers (FRYSCs), athletic clubs—are invited to attend. It is even open to the public. There will be various fundraising possibilities and programs your group can consider having for your school/students. We hope to have many new participants this year. Look for more information in the mail and on the 15th District PTA's Web site and Facebook page.

Richard Gardner
Vendors Fair and Recycling Chairman

State and District PTA Award Entries

State Awards

The following state PTA award entries are due by **February 15, 2012**:

- \$1,000 Harold E. Steele Student Scholarship—This award is given every two years (\$500 a year) to a student who shows academic achievement and financial need.
- \$500 Student Scholarship—This award is given to deserving high school seniors who plan to attend a Kentucky university or college and pursue a degree in education.
- \$500 Teacher-Member Scholarship—This award is given to Kentucky teachers who are working toward their master's degree or Rank I.
- \$500 Parent-Member Scholarship—This award is given to a PTA or PTSA parent member who is working toward a degree in education or health field at an accredited Kentucky public college or university.
- Christa McAuliffe Rising Star Award—This is given to students who have successfully worked to improve their grades, attendance, attitude, character, and/or self-esteem.

These award applications can be found in the *Kentucky PTA Leaders' Notebook* or online at www.kypta.org.

District Awards

Self Esteem Award applications are due to Cherie Dimar, 15th District president, by **February 15, 2012**. This award application can be found in the *Kentucky PTA Leaders' Notebook*.

This year, the following district awards will be presented at our awards banquet:

- Hall of Fame Award
- Outstanding Male Involvement/Participation
- Outstanding Membership Campaign
- Outstanding Local Unit Newsletter
- Outstanding School Nurse
- Outstanding Local Unit Web Site
- Volunteer Participation
- Special Projects/Programs Award

The deadline for district awards is March 1, 2012. Completing state award applications does not make you eligible for district awards; you must complete a separate District Awards Application to be considered for district awards. Feel free to e-mail me at heather.mcgovern@jefferson.kyschools.us for any additional information or questions regarding the 2011-12 PTA Awards.

Heather McGovern, Awards Chairperson

Is Your PTA Looking Diverse?

The school year is well under way, and most of our PTAs have held numerous events and activities. However, have you looked around and attempted to observe whether or not these events and activities represent a diverse group? Have you, as a PTA leader or representative, evaluated the members you have participating in your PTA functions to establish whether you are reaching **all** students and their families? If your answer to any of these questions is no, take the time to find out why and make strides to encourage the underrepresented groups to attend and/or participate in these activities and events. Your PTA might even consider doing a poll to find out what **all** members and prospective members need from you, as their PTA, to encourage their participation. It's just that easy! But first you must observe and evaluate the status of your current PTA, its membership, and the PTA's activities to get your preliminary questions answered. Once you evaluate these factors, rest assured you can begin making modifications that will only increase diversity in your PTA.

Aneeka Ferrell, Diversity Consultant

Diversity is counting all; inclusiveness is making sure that all are counted.

—National PTA

Notice: Destruction of Records of Students Previously Enrolled in Special Education at Jefferson County Public Schools

Please accept this as an official notification of our intent to destroy personally identifiable information, relative to any student that is no longer needed to provide educational services to the student previously enrolled in a special education program. This applies to students whose date of birth is between January 1, 1966, and December 31, 1986, and whose last date of service in the special education program was more than three years ago. These records will be destroyed after **June 1, 2012**.

Prior to this, eligible former students or their guardians may obtain a copy of any data that has been obtained or previously used in the special education program. After **June 1, 2012**, the data will be destroyed by shredding.

A permanent record card (transcript) consisting of the student's name, school address, and last grade level may be obtained without time limitations. For information about acquiring a copy of these records or any other questions, please contact Mary Margaret Bell, coordinator, Archives and Retrieval Systems, at **485-3098**.

Kentucky Core Academic Standards

We would like to congratulate the following PTAs and community leaders who have had a Kentucky Core Academic Standards (KCAS) workshop to educate parents about the new common core standards that are being used to educate students in Kentucky.

- Kammerer Middle
- Coleridge-Taylor Elementary

We would love to come to your school or even present a brown bag lunch at your business to talk to parents about KCAS and how they can work with schools to help their children.

For more information, call Sharon Whitworth, KCAS project lead, at **485-7450**.

Clothing Assistance Program

In Steven Pressfield's *Gates of Fire—An Epic Novel of the Battle of Thermopylae*, he tells how Spartan warriors would carve their name twice on opposite ends of a twig before a battle. The soldier would break the twig so that both halves contained his name, tied one to his wrist, and placed the other in a basket with all the other soldiers' twigs. The one on his wrist was to identify his corpse on the battlefield. If he survived, he would retrieve the other half from the basket. The Spartan commander would then read the names of the soldiers whose twigs were still in the basket and were missing in action. Some PTA's twigs are in the basket at the Clothing Assistance Program (CAP); therefore, they are missing in action. These PTAs have missed their scheduled date at CAP. In January, twigs (actually tickets) will go up on the entrance wall at CAP with the names of all the PTAs scheduled to work the second half of the year. When you come in to volunteer at CAP, you will be able to retrieve/move your PTA's ticket and match it with the other half. The reason for this is to remind PTAs just how important your participation is at CAP. We cannot do this without you. The program

February CAP Volunteer Schedule

Volunteer hours are 12 noon to 3 p.m.

2/7 . . . Coral Ridge Elementary PTA
2/8 . . . Tully Elementary PTA
2/8 . . . Johnson Traditional Middle PTSA
2/9 . . . Sanders Elementary PTA
2/9 . . . Audubon Trad. Elementary PTA
2/10 . . Central High PTSA
2/10 . . Norton Elementary PTA
2/15 . . McFerran Elementary PTA
2/15 . . Medora Elementary PTA
2/15 . . Middletown Elementary PTA
2/15 . . Jefferson Co. Trad. Middle PTSA
2/16 . . Eastern High PTSA
2/16 . . Chenoweth Elementary PTA
2/17 . . Bates Elementary PTA
2/17 . . Waggener High PTSA
2/21 . . Dupont Manual High PTSA
2/21 . . Fairdale Elementary PTA
2/22 . . Noe Middle PTSA
2/22 . . Stopher Elementary PTA
2/23 . . Minors Lane Elementary PTA
2/23 . . Crosby Middle School PTSA
2/24 . . Fern Creek High PTSA
2/24 . . Blake Elementary PTA
2/28 . . Lowe Elementary PTA

continues to grow because the need continues to grow. Last year, we served 7,000 students and their families. Between July and the end of December, we served more than 5,800.

Along with volunteers, we are also in need of gently used uniforms and nonuniform clothes for boys and girls from elementary school through high school. The majority of our schools are now wearing uniforms, and we would love for families to be able to take home a couple of used uniforms in addition to the new one they receive. We also need individuals or teams to sign up for a set day every month to be the daily coordinator at CAP. Training will be offered in late February, so call or e-mail if

you are interested. You don't need anything but a desire to help students and their families. Being at CAP on a daily basis, I get to meet some of the most wonderful people who wish they didn't need our help but are very grateful for it. Some of the parents have even brought clothes back that their children have outgrown, and several have volunteered for a day or two just to give back. Thank you to all of those PTA volunteers who have been to CAP and those who are coming to collect their ticket. Come see what you've been missing!

Paula Wolf, CAP Director
485-7062
jcpscap@jefferson.kyschools.us

Thepresidentproject.com

The students at Manual have developed an impressive grassroots campaign to bring President Obama to deliver the commencement speech for 2012. Please take a moment to go to the Web site, and you will be amazed. They not only have tapped the Manual students and parents and are working with the alumni, but they are also connecting with business, political, and academic partners. They have a support page in which you can e-mail your name and be added to the list. They hope to have thousands listed showing support. The students have approached this in a very unique way. While

they have developed the required video and are completing the application form, their extension into the community at large demonstrates the depth and determination of these students. If they are successful, not only will duPont Manual be featured but also the city of Louisville, the state of Kentucky, and the school district will benefit. What the students need now is to get the word out, ask for support, and make sure the voice that Washington receives is loud and frequent. Thank you.

Manual High School PTA

15th District PTA Awards Banquet

The 15th District PTA Awards Banquet will be held on **Tuesday, May 8**, at 6:30 p.m., at the Fern Valley Hotel and Conference Center. We are looking forward to a fantastic banquet. Join us, and celebrate all of your PTA/PTSA accomplishments for the year. Mark your calendar now, and start planning to attend. Each table seats ten people. Reservations and payment are required. Look in next month's newsletter for your reservation form.

Heather Wampler
First Vice President—Programs

FYI: Recycling

For years, we have been recycling clothes for CAP (as well as new clothes and money). But we also have been recycling ink jet and toner cartridges as well as cell phones. The money raised helps the funding of CAP. If your school or central office does not have an existing program, please help us out and send your used cartridges and cell phones to the following address (you can use the Pony):

Attn: Richard Gardner
15th District PTA
Central Stadium

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me!

Richard Gardner
Recycling Chairperson



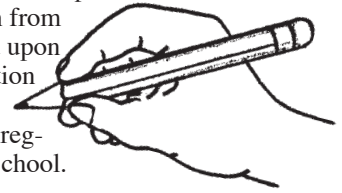
15th District PTA Sansome Scholarship Deadline

The 15th District PTA Evangeline J. Sansome Scholarship deadline is **March 25, 2012**. Below are the eligibility requirements and terms of our scholarship awards. We ask all high schools to get this information to your students. We want to see applications from all high schools this year; several high schools have never had a student apply. We want to see all high schools represented. These are need-based

scholarships and for tuition only. Students who apply must be a member of your PTA.

The 15th District PTA feels that all graduating seniors, regardless of scholastic standing, should be allowed to apply for this and all scholarships offered by the 15th District PTA. **Need** and desire to further their education will be considered along with their academic standing. It is also felt that students should be able to apply this scholarship to any type of training or schooling necessary to prepare them for their chosen careers. This scholarship is for **tuition only**.

check shall be sent to the registrar of said school by the treasurer of the 15th District PTA following the recipient's graduation from high school and upon written verification of the student's acceptance and registration at the school.



The student shall be given a letter verifying him or her as the recipient of the scholarship following the award presentation. This letter is to be presented to the school of his or her choice when he or she is enrolled.

Payment of Scholarship—Written verification of enrollment is the responsibility of the student, and such information shall be submitted to the secretary of the 15th District PTA Scholarship Committee no later than **July 1** for the fall semester. All scholarships should be requested by **December 15** of the same calendar year. Checks are made payable to both the student and the college and mailed directly to the college for tuition purposes only.

If the recipient of the scholarship award withdraws from the school, the school shall refund the unused portion of the scholarship to the 15th District PTA Scholarship Fund.

The scholarship application is available online at www.15thdistrictpta.org/scholarships.

Barbara Fischer, Scholarship Chairperson

Calendar of Events

February

- 9 15th District PTA Spelling Bee
- 12–18 . . . Take Your Family to School Week
- 13 No School—Parent-Teacher Conference Day
- 15 Submit membership dues to Kentucky PTA.
Submission deadline for the following scholarships:
 - Self Esteem Award
 - Christa McAuliffe Rising Star Award
 - \$1,000 Harold E. Steele Student Scholarship
 - \$500 Student Scholarship
 - \$500 Teacher-Member Scholarship
 - \$500 Parent-Member ScholarshipChildren's Advocacy Day at the Capitol Rally
- 17 Founders Day

March

- 15 15th District PTA Vendors Fair
Submit membership dues to Kentucky PTA.
- 25 15th District PTA Evangeline J. Sansome Scholarship Deadline

April

- 15 Submit membership dues to Kentucky PTA.

May

- 8 15th District PTA Awards Banquet
- 15 Submit membership dues to Kentucky PTA.

June

- 21–24 . . . 116th Annual National PTA Convention and Exhibition in San Jose, California

July

- 19–21 . . . Kentucky PTA State Convention in Louisville

Eligibility

- The applicant must be a graduating senior, attending a high school whose PTSA is a unit of the Kentucky Congress of Parents and Teachers and whose PTSA is in good standing with the 15th District PTA and the Kentucky PTA.
- **The applicant must be a member of the local school PTSA.**
- A statement of why he or she is seeking this scholarship award should be included with the application.
- The applicant must submit a total of three references. One must be endorsed in writing by the school principal or the senior class counselor. Two other references must be submitted by adults who may provide information as to the applicant's character and desire to further his or her education (a total of three references).
- The applicant must be in need of financial assistance.
- The application must be postmarked and/or received by the scholarship selection chairman by the deadline.
- Applications must be completed with all material attached in order to be reviewed.
- **Applications must be postmarked by March 25, 2012.**

Terms of Scholarship Award

The 15th District PTA Scholarship Committee shall determine the number and amount of the scholarship awards. (Last year, we awarded 16 scholarships in the amount of \$1,700 each.)

A check for up to the full amount of the scholarship award shall be payable to the school of the student's choice. This

IdeaFestival Manual: Set for April 27 and 28

DuPont Manual High School students are planning the IdeaFestival Manual. They plan to open this to parents as well as other schools. The specifics of the event are under planning. Students intend to have external speakers and to showcase their own talent. The two-day event will be structured much like the Louisville IdeaFestival, and the founder, Kris Kimel, is assisting the students with this project. So, at this point, we would like to get the word out there to hold these two days open to attend the first IdeaFestival Manual.

2011-12 15th District PTA

Reflections

Student Art Awards and Exhibition Awardees

Visual Arts Primary Preschool-Grade 2

Creative Interpretation
Bailee Soeder
*Smyrna Traditional
Elementary*

Award of Excellence
Firaol Zeman
*Wilkerson Traditional
Elementary*

Dayton Kidd
Camp Taylor Elementary
Elijah Schuyler
Roosevelt-Perry Elementary

Award of Merit
Hayley Reed
Field Elementary

Gloria Gbeblewoul
*Smyrna Traditional
Elementary*

Visual Arts Primary Special Needs Preschool-Grade 2

Creative Interpretation
Ralph Abadia
Camp Taylor Elementary

Award of Excellence
Treyquan Churn
Camp Taylor Elementary

Award of Merit
Richard Lucey
Camp Taylor Elementary

Visual Arts Intermediate Grades 3-5

Creative Interpretation
Hannah Stanchfield
Chenoweth Elementary

Award of Excellence
Ju Hee Kim
Zachary Taylor Elementary
Mary Dye
Mill Creek Elementary

Lea Clark
*Coleridge-Taylor Montessori
Elementary*

Award of Merit
Chad Ashton
*Wilkerson Traditional
Elementary*

Jazmyn Carroll
*Smyrna Traditional
Elementary*

Visual Arts Intermediate Special Needs Grades 3-5

Creative Interpretation
Blayke Dawson
*Wilkerson Traditional
Elementary*

Award of Excellence
Zalbay Zalbay
Camp Taylor Elementary

Anthony Valentine
*Waller-Williams
Environmental School*

Visual Arts Middle Grades 6-8

Creative Interpretation
Sripranavi Bhamidipati
Mezzeek Middle

Award of Excellence
Darius Howlett
Mezzeek Middle
Jordan Estes
Noe Middle
Moria Magre
Highland Middle

Award of Merit
Isabel Sleczkowski
Highland Middle
Sunny Podbelsek
Highland Middle

Visual Arts High Grades 9-12

Creative Interpretation
Diana Pickett
Pleasure Ridge Park High

Award of Excellence
Shelby Willock
Pleasure Ridge Park High

Shylin Natividad
Atherton High

Megan Schrader
Atherton High

Award of Merit
Nely Sepulveda
Alaine Russell
Pleasure Ridge Park High

Visual Arts High Special Needs Grades 9-12

Creative Interpretation
Khilih Boah
Pleasure Ridge Park High

Award of Excellence
Antondra Shirley
Binet School
Andre Murphy
Churchill Park School
Charles Purvis
Binet School

Award of Merit
Sean Smith
Binet School
Charmane Johnson
Churchill Park School

Jeremy Burke
Binet School
Quincy Botton
Binet School

Photography Primary Grades K-2

Creative Interpretation
Mary Hanna Griffith
Chenoweth Elementary

Award of Excellence
Thomas Merideth
Jeffersontown Elementary

Elisabeth Kraimer
Norton Elementary

Continued on page six

2011-12 15th District PTA

Reflections

Student Art Awards and Exhibition Awardees

Continued from page five

Ava Beams
Greathouse/Shryock
Traditional Elementary

Award of Merit
Benjamin Beams
Greathouse/Shryock
Traditional Elementary

Ava Dzan
Jeffersontown Elementary

**Photography
Intermediate
Grades 3-5**

Creative Interpretation
Natalie Spowles
Bowen Elementary

Award of Excellence
Kendra Smith
Camp Taylor Elementary

Alexandra Matson
Bowen Elementary

Sofia DeVenuto
Brandeis Elementary

Award of Merit
Emma Merideth
Jeffersontown Elementary

Jack Heil
Field Elementary

**Photography
Intermediate
Special Needs
Grades 3-5**

Creative Interpretation
Aaron Lewis
Roosevelt-Perry Elementary

**Photography
Middle
Grades 6-8**

Creative Interpretation
Claire Dzan
Crosby Middle

Award of Excellence
Elizabeth Markert
Noe Middle

Madeline Williams
Crosby Middle

Moria Magre
Highland Middle

Award of Merit
Yue Zhang
Meyzeek Middle

Jake Foster
Meyzeek Middle

**Photography
Middle
Special Needs
Grades 6-8**

Creative Interpretation
Noah Wampler
Westport Middle

**Photography
High
Grades 9-12**

Creative Interpretation
Ana Cervera
DuPont Manual High

Award of Excellence
Lauren Leonard
Eastern High

Jordan Shuman
Eastern High

Jasmine Williams
Atherton High

Award of Merit
Aaron Markert
Atherton High

Sunni Wiggington
Eastern High

**Photography
High
Special Needs
Grades 9-12**

Creative Interpretation
Payton Mayfield
Binet School

**Literature
Primary
Preschool-Grade 2**

Creative Interpretation
Sasha Anhouse
St. Matthews Elementary

Award of Excellence
Arora Karishma
Brandeis Elementary

Amelia Williams
Hite Elementary

Jocelyn Williams
Hite Elementary

**Literature
Intermediate
Grades 3-5**

Creative Interpretation
Melanie Ramsey
Tully Elementary

Award of Excellence
Elizabeth Merrill
Stopher Elementary

Tori Vestal
Mill Creek Elementary

Halee Oliver
Wilkerson Traditional
Elementary

Award of Merit
Dylan Heil
Field Elementary

Ashley Strange
Bowen Elementary

**Literature
Middle
Grades 6-8**

Creative Interpretation
Anisha Narain
Meyzeek Middle

Award of Excellence
Chris Mura
Crosby Middle

Mackenzie Berry
Highland Middle

Melina Xia
Highland Middle

Award of Merit
Catherine Ho
Noe Middle

Uma Subrayan
Meyzeek Middle

Continued on page seven

2011-12 15th District PTA

Reflections

Student Art Awards and Exhibition Awardees

Continued from page six

Literature High Grades 9-12

Creative Interpretation
Quincy Swaine
Pleasure Ridge Park High

Award of Excellence
Isabelle Martin
DuPont Manual High

Abigail Atteberry
Pleasure Ridge Park High

Aaron Markert
Atherton High

Music Primary Grades K-2

Creative Interpretation
Nicholas Childs
*Smyrna Traditional
Elementary*

Music Intermediate Grades 3-5

Creative Interpretation
Mandala Gupta Verwiebe
Field Elementary

Award of Excellence
MaKenzie Childs
*Smyrna Traditional
Elementary*

Charles Hargrove
Chancey Elementary

Music Middle Grades 6-8

Creative Interpretation
Christopher Mikos
Meyzeek Middle

Award of Excellence
Avery Grant
Meyzeek Middle

Music High Grades 9-12

Creative Interpretation
Christopher Pavey
Eastern High

Dance Choreography Primary Grades K-2

Creative Interpretation
Trinity Edison
*Lincoln Elementary
Performing Arts School*

Award of Excellence
TaNiya Rucker
*Lincoln Elementary
Performing Arts School*

Dance Choreography Intermediate Grades 3-5

Creative Interpretation
Chace Bland
*Lincoln Elementary
Performing Arts School*

Award of Excellence
Aaron McKinney
*Lincoln Elementary
Performing Arts School*

Claire Duck
Stopher Elementary

Madison Ralston
Medora Elementary

Award of Merit
Alexis Wright
*Lincoln Elementary
Performing Arts School*

MaKenzie Childs
*Smyrna Traditional
Elementary*

Tori Vestal
Mill Creek Elementary

Dance Choreography Middle Grades 6-8

Creative Interpretation
Nikki D'Ambrosio
Noe Middle

Award of Excellence
Diya Mathur
Meyzeek Middle

Kennedy Thompson
Noe Middle

Dance Choreography High Grades 9-12

Creative Interpretation
Charles Buckner
DuPont Manual High

Award of Excellence
Abigail Atteberry
Pleasure Ridge Park High

Film Production Primary Grades K-2

Creative Interpretation
Michael Ramsey
Tully Elementary

Film Production Intermediate Grades 3-5

Creative Interpretation
Laila Hogue
Bowen Elementary

Film Production Middle Grades 6-8

Creative Interpretation
Andrew Ramsey
Crosby Middle

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Phone: 485-3535

Kentucky PTA
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