



Newsletter

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

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September 2011

President's Letter

Many members of the community think that September is the month that Parent Teacher Associations (PTAs) are gearing up because they hear about membership drives and fundraisers, but we know better. Most of you have been working hard since July and had the entire year planned before school started. After meeting many of you at the State Leadership Convention, I realized how lucky your students and faculty are to have such wonderful PTA leaders.

Although I've been involved with the PTA for many years, this summer was my first time to attend the National PTA Convention in Orlando, Florida. It was exciting to be with people from other states that share the same passion of advocating for all children. We can be very proud of the PTA's long history of achievement on behalf of children and education. I feel better equipped to collaborate with others, in both the schools and community, who are working toward helping children reach their full potential. One of our goals this

year is to help parents become better advocates for their children.

We are very happy to have Mayor Greg Fischer and his wife, Dr. Alexandra Gerassimides, serving as the 15th District PTA's honorary membership chairs. Our new membership campaign theme is **one community. all families. every child.** Recruiting members and increasing parent involvement are important keys to student success. Included in this newsletter is an article about how the national and state membership dues increase will affect your PTA.

We would love to be invited to any events at your school and to any community events in which your PTA is participating. We want to hear about your programs so that we can support your efforts. Two programs that are highlighted in this issue are the Reflections Program, which is a National PTA Arts in Education Program, and Kentucky Kids' Day. For more program

ideas, talk with your school personnel about the needs and interests of your students and their families. Many programs can be creative and fun but cost little or nothing.

Now it is time for us to get to work, but let's remember to have fun along the way.

Remember, the whole district board is here to assist your PTA!

Cherie Dimar

15th District PTA President

Kentucky PTA Kids' Day

Kentucky PTA Kids' Day was established in 1985 to set aside one day just for students. The goal is to send the message to each student that he or she is a special and unique individual who is respected and loved. Kentucky PTA Kids' Day also makes the public aware of the educational and personal needs of children and the role they play as our most important resource.

Celebrate Kentucky PTA Kids' Day on Tuesday, September 27, 2011, and tell us about what you did to make the students at your school feel special. If you can't celebrate on the official day, hold a Kentucky PTA Kids' Day event when it fits in your calendar.

For ideas on how to celebrate Kentucky PTA Kids' Day, go to the following Web sites:

- www.15thdistrictpta.org
- www.kypta.org
- www.pta.org

You may also contact me, the 15th District PTA Office, or the Kentucky PTA Office. Have fun and be creative as you plan ways to make your school's students feel special!

Heather Wampler, First Vice President

Membership Matters

The national and state portions of membership dues have increased to \$2.25 for national and \$1.25 for state. Please note some specific suggestions from Teri Gale, Kentucky PTA president, and Rose Babiak, Kentucky PTA vice president of Organizational Services, regarding the process your PTA should follow if your current membership dues are \$3.50 or below.

Please note that the dues increase is automatic in local PTA/Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA) bylaws (in Article V: Membership and Dues, Section 5 for the National PTA portion and Section 6 for the Kentucky PTA portion).

However, Section 7 says that each member of this PTA/PTSA shall pay annual dues of \$_____ to the PTA/PTSA. The amount of such dues shall include the portion payable to the Kentucky PTA, the portion payable to the National PTA, and the por-

tion payable to the 15th District PTA. This pertains to **your** PTA.

Therefore, if your PTA/PTSA is only charging \$3 or \$3.50, you will need to amend Section 7 before you can charge more for dues. Changing your local PTA/PTSA dues requires 30 days' notice to your general membership, or you can call an emergency meeting. According to Article XI: General Membership Meetings, Section 1c, seven days' notice shall be given for a change of date.

If you charge \$4, you will have enough to pay the National, Kentucky, and 15th District portions. What is left should go back for incentives for students. If you collect \$5, there would be no need to raise your dues.

Eddie Squires, Second Vice President

Board Trainings

As of September 1, the following PTAs/PTSAs have completed their board training for the 2011-12 school year:

Anchorage
Blue Lick Elementary
Cochran Elementary
Fairdale Elementary
Medora Elementary

If you would like to schedule your board training and add your name to this growing list, call Rose Babiak at **648-3698**.

Shout-Out

Thanks to the Hardee's in Jeffersontown for providing the ice for the Clothing Assistance Program (CAP) Blitz Week. The volunteers appreciated having cold water during this heat wave!

Calendar of Events

September

Remember the Reflections Program.
National Hispanic-American Heritage Month

- 5 No School—Labor Day
- 15 Early Bird Membership Dues Payment to State
- 27 Kentucky Kids' Day

October

Arts Week: Celebrate the Reflections Program in your school.

- 10-14 National School Lunch Week
- 11 Parent-Teacher Conference Day
- 15 Membership Dues Payment Required
- 20 Deadline: Reflections Program Entries to the 15th District Office
- 23-31 Red Ribbon Week
- 28 Deadline: Registration for Speaking Up for Children/Advocacy Training for PTA/PTSA Members

November

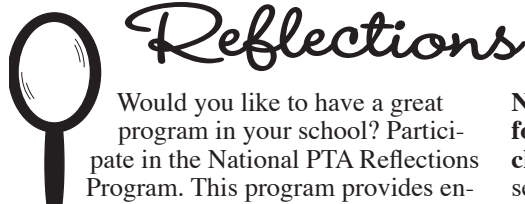
- 3 and 4 Speaking Up for Children/Advocacy Training (Frankfort)
- 15 990 Filing or Forms Due to Internal Revenue Service (IRS)
Warren H. Proudfoot School Board Member Award Nominations Due to the Kentucky PTA

Speaking Up for Children: An Advocacy Training for PTA/PTSA Members

Please join Kentucky PTA Board members for a two-day advocacy training session in Frankfort on **Thursday, November 3**, from 6 to 10 p.m. and on **Friday, November 4**, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Attendees will meet at the Kentucky PTA Office at 148 Consumers Lane, and a special visit to the Capitol has been arranged for Friday at 2 p.m. (optional). This valuable training session will cover how to follow and track a bill in both the House and Senate; review Kentucky PTA legislative priorities; and explain how important parent and family voices are to the discussions that happen at

local, state, and national levels. This special training session is a legitimate board expense and will cost \$50 (which includes materials, dinner on Thursday, lunch on Friday, and one night's lodging/two to a room). There is a 25-person limit for this session, and registration is due to the Kentucky PTA Offices no later than **Friday, October 28**.

For a registration form please go to www.kypta.org or contact Sharon Whitworth at **485-7450**.



Reflections

Would you like to have a great program in your school? Participate in the National PTA Reflections Program. This program provides enrichment in the areas of visual art, music, photography, literature, film/video production, and dance choreography.

The theme for this year is "Diversity means"

Each student may enter in any of the following six art areas. Challenged students can enter in each area in the Challenged category:

- Literature
- Musical Composition
- Photography
- Visual Arts
- Dance Choreography
- Film/Video Production

Each student enters in one age category:

- Primary—Preschool Through Grade Two
- Intermediate—Grades Three Through Five
- Middle/Junior—Grades Six Through Eight
- Grades Nine Through Twelve
- Special Needs—Ungraded

Local PTAs should submit entries to the 15th District by October 20, 2011.

- One entry per grade in each category (i.e., music, photography, visual arts, literature, dance choreography, and film/video production)

Example: A PTA can have one entry in third grade, fourth grade, and fifth grade (which is the Intermediate category) in the category of Music. It can also have one entry in preschool, kindergarten, first grade, and second grade (which is the Primary category) in Music and so forth.

Note: Every entry must have a consent form signed by all parents who have a child involved. Example: If an entry has several students in a photograph, dance, and/or film, each student's parent must sign a consent form. No entry can be sent on to state without these consent forms.

Also, please carefully read the instructions about the student entry form, the electronic copy of the artist statement on a CD, and packing information.

Packets of information and forms were sent to all PTAs, principals, art teachers, Reflections chairs, Family Resource and Youth Services Center (FRYSC) coordinators, music teachers, English teachers, technology teachers, and dance/physical education (PE) teachers during August.

Make the Reflections Program a part of your PTA programs.

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

Reflections Theme Contest

National PTA is looking for a theme for the 2013-14 Reflections Program. Student entries may be sent by an individual student or by the local PTA/PTSA. The student who submits the winning entry will receive \$100, and his or her theme will be presented at the June 2012 National PTA Convention. Please review the past themes listed on the Kentucky PTA Web site. Repeat themes will not be considered. Submit entries to the Kentucky PTA Office by **October 15, 2011**. **Only signed, original forms will be considered. Faxed or e-mailed theme ideas are not acceptable.** For an entry form, go to www.kypta.org.

Clothing Assistance Program (CAP) Flashback

On October 27, 1971, a letter was sent from district PTA President June Key to all organizations involved with public assistance. The letter announced the start of the 5th District (now 15th District) PTA CAP. Priority for appointments was given to “students out of school for lack of clothing.” This mission remains at the heart of what we continue to do at CAP. No student should miss school because he or she lacks uniforms or proper school clothing. The PTA had this belief in 1971 and still has it today. Throughout this, our fortieth year, I will be digging through the archives to bring you more of our history at CAP.

CAP Today

As of August 1, we have served about 1,700 students and have many more signed up for appointments.

CAP is currently in need of gently used uniforms, children’s clothing, and volunteers. Our clothing racks are almost completely bare, so much help is needed to replenish our stock. Please check the schedule in this newsletter for September and October dates. PTA presidents will get a written and phone call reminder about their upcoming day to work at CAP. If you would like to volunteer with a group, please contact me to set up a special day for you.

Thank you again for your support of this program. It is a program you can be proud to support as a PTA.

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

Did Your PTA Receive an IRS Letter?

Did your PTA/PTSA receive a letter from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS)? Did your PTA/PTSA lose its tax-exempt status? Don’t stress; there is help! There is a light at the end of the tunnel!

The IRS recently issued letters revoking the tax-exempt status of numerous organizations, including many local PTAs/PTSAs, for failure to file information returns for three consecutive years. In particular, the revocations resulted from a failure to file required annual electronic notices known as the Form 990-N e-Postcard for tax years 2007, 2008, and 2009. **If your local PTA/PTSA received a letter from the IRS stating that your tax-exempt status has been revoked, please**

CAP Volunteer Schedule September/October

9/1	Byck Elementary PTA	9/8	Gutermuth Elementary PTA	9/16	Pleasure Ridge Park High PTSA
9/1	Brown School PTSA	9/8	Shacklette Elementary PTA	9/16	Shelby Traditional Academy PTA
9/1	Portland Elementary PTA	9/9	Iroquois High PTSA	9/20	Maupin Elementary PTA
9/2	Wilkerson Traditional Elementary PTA	9/9	Bloom Elementary PTA	9/20	Hite Elementary PTA
9/2	Slaughter Elementary PTA	9/9	Field Elementary PTA	9/20	Southern High PTSA
9/2	Jeffersontown Elementary PTA	9/13	Blue Lick Elementary PTA	9/21	Breckinridge-Franklin Elementary PTA
9/6	Rangeland Elementary PTA	9/13	Farmer Elementary PTA	9/21	Chancey Elementary PTA
9/6	St. Matthews Elementary PTA	9/13	Carrithers Middle PTSA	9/21	Thomas Jefferson Middle PTSA
9/6	Atherton High PTSA	9/14	Hawthorne Elementary PTA	9/21	Wheatley Elementary PTA
9/7	Wellington Elementary PTA	9/14	Schaffner Traditional Elementary PTA	9/22	Olmsted Academy South PTSA
9/7	Meyzeek Middle PTSA	9/14	Carter Traditional Elementary PTA	9/22	Engelhard Elementary PTA
9/7	Kennedy Montessori Elementary PTA	9/15	Gilmore Lane Elementary PTA		
9/8	Smyrna Traditional Elementary PTA	9/15	Wilder Elementary PTA		
		9/15	Lassiter Middle PTSA		
		9/16	Okolona Elementary PTA		

Continued on page four

Have You Filed Your IRS 990 Yet?

Once your Financial Review has been completed, you need to file the IRS 990. There is no need to wait until November—you should complete this as soon as your Financial Review is completed.

Every PTA unit must file its 990 Form with the IRS by November 15 of each year. What must be filed this year depends on the organization’s financial activity. All PTAs are required to submit Form 990s, regardless of annual income.

To find out what form of the 990 you need

to file, check out the *Money Matters* quick reference guide. This quick reference guide is in your PTA Official Kit, which each local unit receives, or you can access the information on the National PTA’s Web site at www.pta.org/local_leader/1443.htm.

I am here to assist you so if you need help with this or any other financial/treasurer matters; please don’t hesitate to contact me!

Theresa Mayfield, Treasurer

Common Core State Standards, Kentucky, and You!

The Common Core State Standards (CCSS) are a statement of the knowledge and skills a student needs in order to be college- and/or career-ready. They provide a consistent and clear understanding

of what students are expected to learn and are robust and relevant to the real world. Throughout Kentucky, the implementation of these standards will be taking place during this next school year. The Jefferson County Public School (JCPS) District has been working since October to create a new curriculum roadmap for teachers to help students acquire and master these important skills. A PTA/PTSA can play a pivotal role in how the standards are now to be put in place. Through a grant from the National PTA, our district PTA will be helping parents and community members better understand these standards as well as the changes to curricula. CCSS team members will be attending an intense, two-day training session this month, and when we return, we will continue to present important information to parents at workshops and through our Web site. Our goal is to create stronger parent-to-school partnerships and increase our effective advocacy efforts on behalf of district students. To schedule a workshop with your PTA/PTSA, contact Myrdin Thompson at ptapeep@gmail.com or call **295-1315**.

15th District PTA
319 South 15th Street
Louisville, KY 40203

www.jcpsky.net/Programs/PTA/index.html



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CAP Volunteer Schedule Sept./Oct.

Continued from page three

9/27 Greenwood Elementary
PTA
9/27 Foster Traditional
Academy PTA
9/27 Frost Middle PTSA
9/28 Valley Traditional High
PTSA
9/28 Wheeler Elementary PTA
9/28 Fairdale High PTSA
10/4 Stonestreet Elementary
PTA
10/4 Barret Traditional Middle
PTSA
10/5 Zachary Taylor
Elementary PTA
10/5 Conway Middle PTSA
10/6 Johnstontown Road
Elementary PTA
10/6 Farnsley Middle PTSA
10/12 Cochrane Elementary
PTA
10/12 Myers Middle PTSA
10/13 Dunn Elementary PTA
10/13 Newburg Middle PTSA
10/18 Doss High PTSA
10/18 Fern Creek Elementary
PTA
10/20 Highland Middle PTSA
10/20 Kerrick Elementary PTA
10/25 Butler Traditional High
PTSA
10/25 Auburndale Elementary
PTA
10/26 Watson Lane Elementary
PTA
10/26 Moore Traditional PTSA
10/26 Semple Elementary PTA
10/27 Dixie Elementary PTA
10/27 King Elementary PTA

15th District PTA Board of Managers

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