ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS:

President’s Message
Setting Resolutions for Prevention
Page 2

Silent Auction
Region Meetings
Passport to Leadership
Page 3

2015-2017 Slate of Nominees
Page 4

Legislative Platform
Page 6

Legislative Priorities for Education
Page 7

What You Need to Know
Page 9

Kansas PTA Arts in Education Awards Ceremony
Page 10

Kansas PTA Board Roster
Page 11

April 24-26, 2015
Topeka Capitol Plaza Hotel
Topeka, Kansas
Spring is just around the corner! This means wrapping up all the events of this year with your unit and starting the planning process for next year. Nominating committees will be presenting their reports in accordance to your unit’s standing rules and elections are being held. This is an extremely exciting time of year for PTA as we start looking to transitioning to the new term. You will find examples in the summer packet of the language your current PTA President should use when conducting the election of new officers. If you have any questions, please contact me, your Council President, or your Field Service Representative.

Convention is almost upon us! Have you made plans to attend yet? Units should encourage their members to attend as it is a wonderful learning opportunity. It is a legitimate training expense for units and should be included in your budget. The convention committee has a great convention planned with educational workshops, networking opportunities and a lot of fun! A Kansas PTA Honorary Life Membership or a nomination to the Marjorie Holwick Wall of Fame are both meaningful ways to recognize special volunteers, teachers, parents and community members. Consider nominating someone today!

Please plan to join us in Topeka.
Tammy Bartels, Kansas PTA President

Setting Resolutions for Prevention

As we ring in the New Year, we often take a moment to look back at the year behind us and make resolutions to improve the year ahead. This year, Kansas Family Partnership is encouraging everyone to make a resolution for youth safety. Did you know that among Kansas 6th, 8th, 10th and 12th graders, one out of 10 report using non-prescribed prescription drugs at least once? More than half of all prescription pain relievers used by youth 12 or older were abused for non-medical purposes and were obtained from friends and family, not physicians. Youth are finding these prescription drugs in cabinets, countertops, purses and other places around the home.

This year, help keep your youth safe by locking up your prescription drugs or disposing prescription drugs you no longer use. As we celebrate, National Drug Facts Week, January 26 – February 1, we want to shatter the myths about drug use, especially prescription drug use, for our youth. Join us by sharing the messages we post on our Facebook page, Kansas Family Partnership, Inc., and on our Twitter feed, @KsFamilyPartner, or by visiting our website at www.kansasfamily.com. For information about safely disposing your prescription drugs, including disposal sites near you, visit www.kdheks.gov/waste/about_medwaste.html.
Kansas PTA Silent Auction

The Silent Auction is a great opportunity to donate to a worthy cause and have fun at the same time!

The Kansas PTA Silent Auction takes place every year at the annual Kansas PTA Convention. All proceeds from the Silent Auction go toward scholarships for future teacher educators within the state of Kansas. As the 2015 State Convention approaches, we want to encourage all Regions, Councils and Units to participate in this important event. Through the years many individuals, agencies and companies have put together various packages ranging from sports and entertainment baskets, crafts, handmade quilts and other wonderful items for our delegates to bid on.

Help us support future teachers in Kansas by allowing us to provide scholarships. If you would like to make a donation you can bring it to convention or contact the state office to be put in touch with someone who can receive the item in advance.

Region Meetings

Region meetings will be held on Saturday night, April 25 at the Kansas PTA Convention in Topeka. The nominating committees from each region should be meeting to come up with a nominee for their Field Service Representative to present at the meeting. If you are interested in serving as a Field Service Representative, contact a member of the nominating committee. Your current Field Service Representative can direct you to the right people if you don’t know who is on your nominating committee. If you have any concerns or questions, please bring them to the region meeting. It is a great time to get to know others from your region and hear what local units are doing.

Hope to see all of you at the region meetings.

Do not forget to send in your Passport to Leadership information to the state office by March 27, 2015 to receive your recognition at Convention!
2015—2017 Kansas PTA Slate of Nominees

President Elect- Monica Crowe

Monica is the current Vice President of Extension Services, helping new PTA units form and mentoring their leaders. Monica is a former Field Service Representative originally representing all of Kansas City, KS schools which originally included Turner and KCK districts and after the two school districts were split into separate PTA regions, she also served as Field Service Representative for the KCK school district. Monica is the current treasurer for Schlagle High School where her daughter, Melissa, is a sophomore. Monica started her PTA service at Hazel Grove Elementary serving in almost all of the officer and chair positions at one point in time. She also served at Eisenhower Middle School and was Kansas City Kansas Council President. Monica and her husband Jeff are parents not only to Melissa but also to their older daughter, Kayla and to their fur babies, Gizmo, Sage, and Catty. Both Kayla and Melissa are long time PTA members and have also served as local and state leaders.

Monica works at Cabela's at the Legends. Monica believes that as parents it is our job to help make a difference in our children's lives. She is proud to volunteer for an organization that has been in existence for 118 years and is still growing and changing to continue to work for "Our Kids".

Vice President of Member Services - Sheila Bunnell

Sheila is currently serving as Kansas PTA Treasurer and as Region 7 Field Service Representative. She has served on the KSPTA Board of Managers as Membership Chair, PTA Store Meeting Assistant, and has also served on the Audit and Scholarship Committees. She has served as Turner Council President, 1st & 2nd VP's, and as Treasurer. She served in multiple positions at her daughter's schools; Turner Elem., Morris Elem., and at Turner Middle and High Schools. Sheila and her husband coached softball and she was involved with Girl Scouts and neighborhood watch groups. Sheila and her late husband, Greg, have daughters Krystina and Raychel, and one stepdaughter, Heather, and 3 step grandchildren. Sheila’s family includes many furry children. Sheila has worked for Shawnee Mission Medical Center for 27 years.

Vice President of Extension Services - Josie Guiterrez

Josie is the current Kansas PTA VP of Member Services. Previously she was the Inclusiveness/Diversity Chair and has represented Kansas at the NPTA Emerging Minority Leaders Conference. Josie serves on several KSPTA committees including Early Childhood, Legislative, Family Engagement, and YAC. She is the Turner PTA Council Treasurer and has served as their President and Recording Secretary. Josie started her PTA service as President and then as Treasurer at Turner ELC. She has served in multiple officer roles at Junction Elementary PTA and is currently serving as 2nd Vice President at the Turner Sixth Grade Academy and also at Turner Middle School. Josie and her husband, Jose, are the proud parents of Jose, Martha, Esmeralda, and Steven. Josie has a degree in Business Administration and has her own business as a daycare provider and has recently opened her second location. Josie also translates for the Turner School District.
Vice President of Advocacy - Josh Halprin

Josh has lived in Johnson County, Kansas since 1995 and currently resides in Lenexa. Josh is the current PTA President at Sunflower Elementary in the Shawnee Mission School District and has been on their board for three years. Josh has attended the NPTA Male Engagement Conference and has attended several Kansas PTA conventions. He is a Realtor by profession with 30 years of business experience. He has volunteered his time serving the community in a number of ways over the years and brings that volunteerism to his local PTA. Josh and his lovely wife, Jessica, have three children and are fostering their 14 year old niece. Josh has a passion for learning, community, and family and brings his passion for children and the community to the Kansas PTA Board of Managers.

Secretary - Rachel Henderson

Rachel Henderson currently serves as the Kansas PTA Membership Chair and has represented KSPTA as our delegate to the NPTA Emerging Minority Leadership Conference. Rachel has been PTA President at Frances Willard Elementary PTSA in the KCK School District for two years and has lead her PTA to being recipients of NPTA's School of Excellence Designation for family engagement. Rachel also serves as Membership Chair for Kansas City Kansas PTA Council. Rachel and her husband Joshua have two school aged children, Kaiya and Halle. Rachel is currently pursuing a degree in education from Emporia State University. She is serving as an AmeriCorps VISTA for the Corporation for National and Community Service and is also currently serving at LiteracyKC in Kansas City, Mo. In her free time she enjoys quality time with her family, shopping, and traveling.

Treasurer - Dawn Lalumondier

Dawn has been a member of the Kansas PTA Board of Managers for five years and has served as Kansas PTA Treasurer and Membership Chair, and is currently the Region 8 Field Service Representative and the 2015 Convention Workshop Chair. She is working to assist units who have lost their not-for-profit status and has also served on the Audit Committee, the Scholarship Committee, and the Bylaws Committee. Dawn is currently Treasurer at Westridge Middle School and has served as President and Treasurer at Comanche Elementary both in the Shawnee Mission School District. Dawn is married to her incredibly supportive husband, John, and has two very active and enthusiastic boys, Andrew and Cole. Dawn is currently pursuing a degree in accounting. Dawn is committed to ensuring that the finances of Kansas PTA are well cared for and that our local PTA's receive the help and guidance that they need to thrive.

Nominating and Leadership Development Committee - NLDC

Tammy Bartels, Jill Molina, and Nicci Stark

Per Kansas PTA bylaws an individual wishing to run from the floor for any position must announce their intent in writing to the Kansas PTA President and Chairman of NLDC no later than 30 days prior to the start of convention. Any notice may be mailed to the Kansas PTA office to the attention of both individuals or emailed to Tammy Bartels at tammybartels@gmail.com and Jackie Waters at jwaters@usd261.com. Notice of intent to run must be received no later than 5pm on March 24.
Where Kansas PTA Stands:

**EDUCATION**

**BASIC POLICY:** The Kansas PTA will recommend, initiate and support legislation and appropriation for public schools that will ensure all children and youth in Kansas a high quality, adequately funded education. Recognizing that quality education for children is directly related to the effectiveness and efficiency of school personnel, the Kansas PTA will recommend, initiate and support legislation and appropriations to encourage, recognize and provide incentives for school personnel that will improve and benefit the education of children and youth in Kansas. The Kansas PTA recognizes no educational system can be of the highest quality without the support, involvement and cooperation of parents, legislators, and the community.

**HEALTH, WELFARE AND SAFETY**

**BASIC POLICY:** The Kansas PTA will support legislation and appropriations that safeguard and/or relate to the health and safety of children and youth.

**EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION**

**BASIC POLICY:** Kansas PTA will support high-quality early childhood education programs that are affordable and accessible, characterized by high standards for teaching, training, health and safety and incorporate strong family engagement components.

*Adopted by the 2014 Kansas PTA Convention delegates.*
In alignment with the 2013 Kansas PTA Legislative Platform passed at the Kansas PTA state convention, April 2010, the Kansas PTA Legislative Priorities for the 2015 Kansas legislative session are the following:

E D U C A T I O N  P L A T F O R M — C L A S S R O O M I N S T R U C T I O N. The Kansas PTA will recommend, initiate and support legislation and appropriation for public schools that will ensure all children and youth in Kansas a high quality, adequately funded education.

L E G I S L A T I V E  P R I O R I T I E S
1. Kansas PTA will support efforts to strengthen and improve the Kansas public school finance system, which includes legislation and policies that:
   a. uphold Kansas Constitutional obligations to make suitable provision for the finance of the Kansas public schools that is equitable for every child.
   b. restore state cuts to base state aid per pupil, back to levels comparable to those deemed suitable by the legislature - actual costs identified in research studies requested and authorized by the Kansas legislature (e.g., Legislative Post Audit 2006 Cost Study).
   c. pursue solutions to fully fund state and federal educational mandates, including the new uniform financial accounting and reporting act, without disproportionately shifting the burden to local communities.
2. Kansas PTA will support efforts to restore an equitable and balanced tax policy to maintain a reliable revenue stream for public education. A policy which draws upon a combination of income, property and sales taxes has been proven by history to be a secure and sustainable approach. Kansas PTA opposes provisions limiting the growth of government before public education is fully funded to the statutory levels.
3. Kansas PTA will support efforts to preserve the Kansas Constitutional infrastructure for education, including nonpartisan elections of Kansas school board members and their appointment of our Education Commissioner, as well as, retaining the primary responsibility of defining the phrase intellectual, educational, vocational and scientific improvement with the education governance structure (Kansas School Board, Kansas Department of Education, education scholars and practitioners).
4. Kansas PTA supports the State Board of Education’s adoption of new education standards including the College and Career Ready Standards (derived from the Common Core States Standards Initiative) and the Next Generation Science Standards. Kansas PTA opposes legislation that would defund efforts to implement curriculum related to Common Core and/or the Next Generation Science Standards.
5. Kansas PTA opposes the use of vouchers, scholarships or tax credits toward the tuition of non-public schools that can discriminate in admissions, provide sectarian religious instruction or “compete” under different rules than public schools; we affirm Governor Brownback’s position that vouchers would not be effective in the state of Kansas.
6. Kansas PTA will advocate for evidence-based prevention and early intervention programs, including early childhood programs (e.g., Parent as Teachers and Pre-K Pilot), allocating state funds for all-day kindergarten, Head Start, and student engagement programs that reduce dropout rates and increase school completion.
7. While Kansas PTA supports the current state charter legislation, passed in 1994, that allows for the creation of charter schools under the supervision of local boards of education, Kansas PTA opposes any charter related legislation that: allows for nonLicensed teachers or allows for authorizing entities that are forprofit, private or noneducation.

**EDUCATION PLATFORM—TEACHER SUPPORT.** Recognizing that quality education for children is directly related to the effectiveness and efficiency of school personnel, the Kansas PTA will recommend, initiate and support legislation and appropriations to encourage, recognize and provide incentives for school personnel that will improve and benefit the education of children and youth in Kansas.

**LEGISLATIVE PRIORITY**

8. Kansas PTA supports restoration and allocation of state funding for teacher mentoring, staff development and other evidencedbased programs that promote a professional teaching community, teacher retention and recruitment of quality teachers.

**EDUCATION PLATFORM—PARENT ENGAGEMENT.** The Kansas PTA recognizes no educational system can be of the highest quality without the support, involvement and cooperation of parents, legislators, and the community.

**LEGISLATIVE PRIORITY**

9. Kansas PTA will encourage the adoption of PTA parent engagement standards into relevant legislation and policy.

**EDUCATION PLATFORM—CHILD SAFETY AND PROTECTION.** The Kansas PTA advocates for the safety of children and youth, advocating on issues related to personal safety, violence prevention, and a fair juvenile justice system.

**LEGISLATIVE PRIORITY**

10. Kansas PTA supports programming and policies related to safe routes to school, bully prevention, and the protection of children from gun violence.

www.kansas-pta-legislative.org
Publication of the Kansas PTA Advocacy Leadership (2014).
Mary Sinclair, PhD  mfoxsinclair@gmail.com
Brian Hogsett, bhogsett12@gmail.com
Debbie Lawson, VP of Advocacy, lawsondebbie910@gmail.com
CONVENTION PACKET – Have you received yours yet? Make sure to check out the Workshops being offered and sign up! Be sure to fill out your workshop choices when you return your registration form.

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKERS – You don’t want to miss the exciting and excellent speakers scheduled to attend! Come and enjoy the fun!

REGIONAL MEETINGS! Don’t forget to attend your Regional Meeting Saturday evening. Region Field Service Representatives for the 2015-2017 term will be elected during this meeting!

ELECTION OF NEW KANSAS PTA OFFICERS! This is an election year, nominees are listed in this issue and any individual wishing to run from the floor must notify the President in writing no later than March 2nd. A reception for nominees will be held Saturday evening with music and refreshments.

SILENT AUCTION! Have you thought about bringing an item for the Silent Auction this year? It’s easy – your item (or items) can be collectibles, crafts, gift items, household items, something you bought or that you had donated by a business. Just bring them to the Silent Auction room on Friday (or as soon as you arrive at Convention) and she will take care of them. The items will be displayed on tables for open bidding. All monies benefit our Dollars to Scholars program.

HONOR THAT SPECIAL VOLUNTEER OR EDUCATOR! Don’t forget to honor them with a $10 donation at the Marjorie Holwick Kansas PTA Wall of Fame. The money will be donated to the Kansas PTA Scholarship Fund. The honored individuals will receive a letter from Kansas PTA announcing they were part of the Wall of Fame and who submitted their name. There will be a display at convention honoring them.

We hope to see you in Topeka!
Remember to bring your donation, your checkbook and your enthusiasm!

Come join all your PTA Friends from across the State of Kansas for this wonderful Convention!

Robert DeNooy, 2015 Convention Chairman
Awards Ceremony Announcement

Our students in Kansas participate in two educational programs throughout the year – the Kansas PTA Citizenship Program and National PTA’s Reflections Program.

Citizenship started in the early 70’s to encourage students in grades 5-9 to write either an essay or poetry piece on an issue or topic that is inspiring.

The National PTA Reflections Program has been around for nearly 40 years and is going as strong if not stronger than when first started. The Reflections Program encourages students to express their artistic ability in Film Production, Photography, Dance Choreography, Literature, Musical Composition, Visual Arts or Special Artist.

Come join us on March 28, 2015 at Turner High School in Kansas City, KS as we recognize students for their entries to the Citizenship and Reflections Program. The Kansas PTA Board of Managers looks forward to a great day of meeting our students, parents and district officials in honoring our students’ achievements.

Kansas PTA Awards Ceremony
Saturday, March 28, 2015 at 2:00 PM
Turner High School
2211 S. 55th Street
Kansas City, KS 66106

On March 8, Daylight Saving Begins!

Don’t forget to set the clocks ahead one hour!

Check/replace the batteries in smoke detectors!
Kansas PTA Board Roster

**State Officers**

- **President**: Tammy Bartels  
  105 N Gould St., Tonganoxie, KS 66086  
  913-416-3302
- **President-Elect**: Denise Sultz  
  9311 W 812st Terr., Overland Park, KS 66204  
  913-709-3916
- **VP Advocacy**: Debbie Lawson  
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- **VP Extension Services**: Monica Crowe  
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  913-961-5026
- **VP Member Services**: Josefina Gutierrez  
  3803 Gibbs Rd. Kansas City, KS 66106  
  913-787-6367
- **Secretary**: Diana Fabac  
  5607 Crest Dr, Kansas City, KS 66103  
  913-475-7789
- **Treasurer**: Sheila Bunnell  
  7028 Berry Rd., Kansas City, KS 66106  
  913-544-9072

**Field Service Representative**

- **Region 1 Field Service Rep.**: Allen Bradley  
  1516 N 85th Place, Kansas City, KS 66112  
  913-208-8762
- **Region 2 Field Service Rep.**: Lauri DeNooy  
  6615 W 73rd St, Overland Park, KS 66204  
  913-548-7277
- **Region 3 Field Service Rep.**: Patty Jurich  
  3314 N 128th Cl., Kansas City, KS 66109  
  913-334-6051
- **Region 4 Field Service Rep.**: Patty Jurich  
  3314 N 128th Cl., Kansas City, KS 66109  
  913-334-6051
- **Region 5 Field Service Rep.**: Patty Jurich  
  3314 N 128th Cl., Kansas City, KS 66109  
  913-334-6051
- **Region 6 Field Service Rep.**: Lauri DeNooy  
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- **Region 7 Field Service Rep.**: Sheila Bunnell  
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  913-544-9072
- **Region 8 Field Service Rep.**: Dawn Lalumondier  
  8907 W 82nd St., Overland Park, KS 66204  
  913-660-4763

**State Chairman**

- **2015 Convention Chair**: Robert DeNooy  
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  913-271-6892
- **Arts in Education & Awards Chair**: Robert DeNooy  
  9242 Newton St., Apt 2B, Overland Park, KS 66212  
  913-271-6892
- **Budget Committee Chair**: Sheila Bunnell  
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- **Family Engagement Chair**: Laura Kaiser  
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- **Inclusiveness/Diversity Chair**: Jose Gutierrez  
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  913-384-3823
- **Male Involvement Chair**: Rod Shriwise  
  9700 Walmer, Overland Park, KS 66212  
  913-271-8424
- **Membership Chair**: Rachel Henderson  
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  913-674-7117
- **PTA Store/Meeting Assistance**: Julie Howard  
  134 N 71st Cl., Kansas City, KS 66106  
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- **Military Engagement Chair**: Allen Hopkins  
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  913-240-9046
- **Resolutions Committee Chair**: Lauri DeNooy  
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  913-548-7277
- **Resource Development Chair**: Debbie Lawson  
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- **Special Education Chair**: Dawn Kindred  
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- **State Bylaws Chair**: Lauri DeNooy  
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- *Bulletin Editor*: Robert DeNooy  
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  913-271-6892

**Council Presidents**

- **Kansas City**: Patty Jurich  
  3314 N 128th Cl., Kansas City, KS 66109  
  913-334-6051
- **Shawnee Mission**: Linda Braly  
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- **Turner**: Jody Morris  
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**Office Support**

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This issue of the Bulletin is available on the Kansas PTA website @ www.kansas-pta.org
If you are no longer a PTA president, please notify the Kansas PTA State Office.
Forward this and all mailings immediately to your successor.