Greetings from Kansas State PTA President Denise Sultz

Every time we hear legislative news from Topeka, it is easy to be discouraged about education in Kansas. But if you are lucky enough to have the opportunity to sit down and visit with education professionals in Kansas, you may get a different picture. Early in May, I traveled to Emporia to participate in discussions on education in Kansas at the invitation of Kansas Education Commissioner, Randy Watson. Sitting in rooms listening to teachers talk about what is happening in the classroom was amazing. There are multiple challenges....school finances, large class sizes, poverty, languages....but their caring and compassion for their profession and their students shone through every word.

Several weeks later, I was discussing the state of testing in Kansas with a Superintendent of one of our Kansas districts. Again, the dedication to finding positive outcomes for all students was evident in the room. It is very difficult to be discouraged when you have the opportunity to meet with these outstanding people who have dedicated their working lives to making sure that every child has the opportunity to succeed through education.

Any time that you have the chance to do so, thank an education professional for their service to the youth of Kansas.

It is hard to believe that the 2015-2016 school year is behind us and we are already looking ahead to what we can expect in 2016-2017. I wanted to take a few minutes to thank all of the outstanding PTA officers that lead their respective units this past year. Stepping up to lead is not always easy. There is much to overcome. Sometimes you find yourself with a lack of volunteers or lack of budget dollars. Sometimes your own thoughts that you might not be perfect creep in to bother you. But standing and looking in the rear view mirror, I hope all that you see are the accomplishments: events that you held, speakers that you brought in, the communications that were sent out, the students that you spoke up for. I hope that you see that you and your team made a difference. If you feel like no one noticed, please know that I did. I know you gave it your all, worked your tail off, and spent more hours then you probably want to think about invested in your school and the children that attend each day.

I want to say a public thank you to each and every school and council officer and chair. Your investment in children will pay off. Your reward is in children's smiles, teachers appreciation of your efforts, and your own sense of a job well done.

Thank you from your grateful State President.

Sincerely,
Denise
KS PTA Communications Chair—Mia Wooldridge

Last week I had the pleasure of presenting a social media workshop at the SMAC (Shawnee Mission Area Council) PTA's annual School of Instruction. In the presentation I covered National PTAs expectations around the use of social media, what PTAs should be saying online and lots of social media best practices. If you missed the workshop and would like to receive a copy of the PowerPoint presentation please email me at mia@everestkc.net and I'll be happy to email it to you.

Health and Wellness Chair—Marley Sugar, RD, LD

With three times as many prescriptions filled in the U.S. than in 1980 and five times as many dollars spent on over-the-counter medicine, there are more medicines in the home today than ever before. Medicines play a vital role in treating diseases, relieving symptoms and extending lives, but they can cause serious harm to kids who accidentally ingest them, take a medication prescribed for someone else, or do not follow dosing guidelines by drug manufacturers. Learn how to keep your children and teens safe from medication poisoning: http://bit.ly/1S2pSpe

Healthy regards, Marley

Exempt Organizations Update

The EO Update is a periodic newsletter with information for tax-exempt organizations and tax practitioners who represent them, from Exempt Organizations (Tax-Exempt and Government Entities Division) at the IRS. Subscribe to future editions. Browse the archive.

Recent edition – May 17, 2016

Some Form 990-N Electronic Filing System (e-Postcard) users may see error messages

The Form 990-N online filing system moved from Urban Institute to IRS.gov in February. While the new system has been successful, a very small percentage of users see site errors while registering or submitting the form. The IRS offers this advice:

Review the steps listed on How to File Form 990-N. Pay particular attention to the “text character” restrictions. The Form 990-N (e-Postcard) User Guide will explain each step in the filing process.

If site errors are unresolved, call TE/GE Customer Account Services at 877-829-5500. A representative will gather your Form 990-N information for filing on your organization's behalf.

- Organizations will not be penalized for filing late if it was caused by website issues. Organizations should continue efforts to file, even if they are late.
For more on filing Form 990-N, see the Form 990-N page on IRS.gov.
102nd Annual Kansas PTA Convention
April 22-24, 2016—Topeka KS

PTA members, Parents, and Educators met in Topeka, KS for the annual Kansas PTA Convention. Delegates attended general meetings, 20 workshops to choose from, visited with exhibitors, participated in the Silent Auction, enjoyed food and relaxation in the Hospitality Suite and purchased items in the PTA Store. All delegates learned about issues relevant to PTA and to our children, which can be taken back to their local units and shared. Bylaws were also updated and approved.

Friday evening we had several of our Kansas PTA Past Presidents come and speak with all the delegates, and the delegates got a chance to pick their brains and ask questions about things that happened while they were President.

Friday night was also the Membership Awards Ceremony, where all the PTA units received their awards based on their membership totals. (see Awards lists on pages 5 and 6 of this edition).

Saturday we had a couple of awesome speakers, Carey Casey, Ambassador for Fathers at the National Center for Fathering, and Major General Barrye L. Price, Ph. D., National PTA Board of Directors.

Nancy Lusk, Kansas House of Representatives, was awarded the Virginia Peak Outstanding Leadership Award.

Shaton Berry, National PTA NLDC Member, offering NLDC remarks.
I have enjoyed being your Kansas PTA Convention Chair for the 2016 Kansas PTA Convention. I appreciate all the hard work and support that goes into preparing for a big even like this. I would like to thank the 2016 Convention Committee for all of their hard work in putting on a great Convention for our delegates and guests. The Committee included: Exhibitors- Lauri Denooy & Diana Fabac: Workshops- Josie Gutierrez: Local Committee/Hospitality- Region 8: Silent Auction—Julie Howard: PTA Store—Jill Molina: General Meeting Coordinator—Neileen Nelson: Credentials—Rachel Henderson: Registration—Natalie Schweda & Kansas PTA Past Presidents: Finances—Dawn Lalumonde: Bylaws—Debbie Lawson: Wall of Fame—Scholarship Committee: Leadership Awards—NLDC: Membership Awards—Jose Gutierrez: Student/Educator/Arts Awards—Vikki Mullins: Virginia Peak Award—Monica Crowe: Inspirations—Kansas PTA Past Presidents.

I would also like to thank the Past State Presidents for giving inspirations at the General Meetings and for the awesome Meet and Greet on Friday night. Delegates really enjoyed all your wisdom.

Thank you to all that supported and helped with this Convention. Thank you to Natalie Schweda for all the corrections that you made to get the Convention Program and binders ready in time. Thank you to YAC (Youth Advisory Committee) for helping put the Convention binders together and everything else they did to help. Thank you to Vikki Mullins for the awesome Arts Ceremony. Many thanks to the entire Kansas Board of Managers for all the countless hours of getting ready for convention, presenting workshops, presiding at workshops, donating to the Silent Auction and performing so many other convention duties. The Convention was a success due to your hard work and dedication.

As our Convention Theme states, “Building a Better Community Together” we couldn’t do it without all of you!

Sheila Bunnell
Kansas PTA 2016 Convention Chair

Youth Advisory Council leading the Cyberbulling workshop. Guest speakers, Carey Casey, Ambassador for Fathers at the National Center for Fathering, and Major General Barrye L. Price, Ph. D., National PTA Board of Directors.
# 2015-2016 Kansas PTA Membership Awards

## General Membership Awards

### Region 1:
- Bethel PTA - Challenge, Making a Difference
- New Stanley PTA - Challenge, Making a Difference
- Schlagle PTSA – Challenge, Making a Difference
- Stony Point South PTA – Early Bird, Golden Apple, Challenge Award, Community Outreach
- Stony Point North PTA – Early Bird
- Wyandotte High School PTSA - Challenge, Making a Difference
- Welborn PTA- Early Bird

### Region 3:
- Allen Magnet (Hutchinson) – Early Bird, Challenge
- Freeman Elementary PTA – Early Bird, Challenge, Making a Difference, Community Outreach
- Nelson Elementary PTA – Early Bird, Challenge, Making a Difference

### Region 4:
- Grace E. Stewart PTA - Challenge, Making a Difference
- Heusner Elementary PTA – Early Bird
- Schilling Elementary PTA—Early Bird, Challenge, Making a Difference, Community Outreach
- Sunset Elementary PTA-Early Bird, Challenge, Making a Difference

### Region 6:
- Black Bob PTA - Challenge, Making a Difference
- Clear Creek Elementary PTA – Early Bird
- Cottonwood Point Elementary PTA – Early Bird
- Forest View PTA - Challenge, Making a Difference
- Green Springs PTA—Early Bird, Meadowlark
- Moonlight Elementary PTA— Early Bird
- Starside PTA - Challenge, Making a Difference

### Region 7:
- Lansing Elementary PTA – Meadowlark
- Leavenworth HS PTA – Challenge, Making a Difference
- Midland Trail Elementary PTA – Early Bird, Golden Apple, Community Outreach
- Oak Grove Elementary PTA – Golden Apple, Community Outreach
- Piper Elementary PTA – Challenge, Making a Difference
- Turner Elementary PTA – Early Bird, Meadowlark, Challenge, Making a Difference
- THS PTSA – Early Bird, Golden Apple, Challenge, Making a Difference, Community Outreach
- Turner MS PTSA – Golden Apple

### Region 8:
- Apache Elementary PTA – Early Bird
- Belinder PTA - Early Bird, Golden Apple
- Bluejacket-Flint PTA - Challenge, Making a Difference
- Bluebird Elementary PTA – Early Bird
- Broken Arrow Elementary PTA – Early Bird, Meadowlark
- Brookridge Elementary PTA- Early Bird, Meadowlark
- Brookwood Elementary PTA – Early Bird, Golden Apple, Challenge,
- Comanche Elementary PTA– Early Bird, Meadowlark, Golden Apple, Challenge, Making a Difference
- Crestview Elementary PTA – Early Bird, Challenge, Making a Difference
- Highlands Elementary PTA– Early Bird, Meadowlark, Golden Apple, One Voice for Every Child, Kansas Honor Roll
- Hocker Grove PTA – Early Bird
- Indian Hills PTA – Early Bird, Meadowlark
- John Diemer Elementary PTA – Early Bird, Meadowlark, Golden Apple
- Merriam Park PTA – Early Bird, Golden Apple
- Niemen Elementary PTA – Golden Apple, Challenge, Golden Apple, Making a Difference, Community Outreach
- Oak Park Carpenter PTA – Early Bird, Meadowlark, Kansas Honor Roll, Kansas Honor Roll
- Overland Park Elementary PTA – Early Bird, Challenge, Community Outreach, Making a Difference
- Pawnee Elementary PTA – Meadowlark, Golden Apple, Community Outreach
- Prairie PTA - Challenge, Making a Difference
- Ray Marsh Elementary PTA – Early Bird, Meadowlark
- Roesland Elementary PTA– Early Bird, Golden Apple
- Rushton Elementary PTA – Early Bird
- Shawanoe Elementary PTA-- Early Bird, Challenge
- Shawnee Mission East HS PTA – Early Bird, Meadowlark
- Shawnee Mission Northwest HS PTA – Meadowlark,
- Shawnee Mission Parents as Teachers– Early Bird, Challenge, Making a Difference, Community Outreach
- Shawnee Mission South HS PTSA – Meadowlark
- Sunflower PTA - Challenge, Making a Difference
- Westridge MS PTA – Early Bird
## 2015-2016 Kansas PTA Membership Awards

### Thriving Units Awards

**Masters in PTA Award:**
- Region 1—Stony Point North Elementary PTA
- Region 7—Turner MS PTSA, Turner Sixth Grade Academy, Turner High School PTSA
- Region 8—Brookridge Elementary PTA, Comanche Elementary PTA, Crestview Elementary PTA, Nieman Elementary PTA, Overland Park Elementary PTA

**PhD in PTA Award:**
- Region 1—Stony Point North Elementary PTA
- Region 7—Turner MS PTSA, Turner Sixth Grade Academy PTA, Turner High School PTSA,
- Region 8—Comanche Elementary PTA, Overland Park Elementary PTA

### Special Membership Awards

**Tomorrow’s Leaders Today Award**
- Region 8—Shawnee Mission East High PTSA

**Leaders of the Future Award**
- Region 8—Shawnee Mission East High PTSA

**Male Involvement Award**
- Region 8—Christa McAuliffe PTA

**Male Engagement Award**
- Region 8—Christa McAuliffe PTA

**Gold Award**
- Region 8—Comanche Elementary PTA

**Silver Award**
- Region 8—Shawnee Mission Parents as Teachers PTA

**President’s Challenge Award**
- Region 1
  - Bethel Elementary PTA
  - New Stanley Elementary PTA
  - Schlagle High School PTSA
  - Wyandotte High School PTSA

- Region 3
  - Freeman Elementary PTA
  - Nelson Elementary PTA

- Region 4
  - Grace E Stewart Elementary PTA
  - Schilling Elementary PTA
  - Sunset Elementary PTA

- Region 6
  - Black Bob Elementary PTA
  - Forest View Elementary PTA
  - Star Side Elementary PTA

- Region 7
  - Leavenworth High School PTA
  - Piper Elementary PTA
  - Turner Elementary PTA
  - THS PTSA

- Region 8
  - Bluejacket-Flint Elementary PTA
  - Comanche Elementary PTA
  - Crestview Elementary PTA
  - Overland Park Elementary PTA
  - Prairie Elementary PTA
  - Shawnee Mission Parents As Teachers
  - Sunflower Elementary PTA

### New Units

A great deal of hard work goes into organizing a new unit, by both the potential unit and the state board members who work with them. The Kansas Congress of Parents and Teachers is an incorporated body, and the granting of charters entitles those receiving a charter the use of the PTA name which identifies them as part of the National Association of PTA’s all working on behalf of children and youth. The following new units have chartered between April 1, 2015 and March 31, 2016.

**Central Heights Middle PTA**
**Green Springs PTA**

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**KANSAS PTA BULLETIN**

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Kansas PTA Board Roster

Kansas PTA Bulletin
This issue of the Bulletin is available on the Kansas PTA website at www.kansas-pta.org

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May-Jun 2016

If you are no longer a PTA president, please notify the Kansas PTA State Office. Forward this and all mailings immediately to your successor.