2009 Kansas PTA Advocacy Training Conference
Saturday, September 26, 2009
KNEA BUILDING
715 SW 10th ST
TOPEKA, KS

We are proud of the excellent speakers and workshop presenters we have lined up for our 2009 Kansas PTA Advocacy Training Conference. Attendees will gain from valuable information presented on vital issues affecting children. Speakers include:

**Advocacy – You can do it! / How to Lobby Effectively**
Gary Brunk, Kansas Action for Children; President and Chief Executive Officer
Come and learn from the master. Gary Brunk, who, with more than three decades of experience working in child welfare and community-building, has over the past 12 years developed KAC into the leading voice for Kansas children.

**Kansas School Finance & Funding Overview**
Mark Tallman, Kansas Association of School Boards; Assistant Executive Director/Advocacy
Mark Tallman, policy wonk extraordinaire, presents the clearest, most concise, and easiest to understand explanations of the often confusing issue of state school finance and funding.

Come and you will find the volume and quality of information well worth the time invested. With the advocacy methods and issue background training received attendees will be empowered to make a difference for kids in Kansas.

More workshop and registration information inside.
Welcome back to school!

Debbie Lawson, Kansas PTA President

As the new school year kicks off PTA is here to get you off to a great start. PTA provides many resources for your unit and school to assist you in making the year a success. One such resource is the summer packet which contains a wealth of information and was distributed through your region vice president or mailed directly to you. National PTA provided the Official Back to School Kit to those who registered online. You can still register to receive the kit by visiting www.pta.org. Also on the National PTA website there is a variety of information on issues like male involvement, back to school activities, financial guidelines, membership ideas, PTA programs and many e-learning courses to guide and train you on specific topics. The Kansas PTA Board of Managers is ready and willing to assist you in your endeavors and our website has contact information for the board so your questions can easily be answered. The Kansas PTA website (www.kansaspta.org) is updated continuously with information and programs for Kansas PTA units. The Kansas PTA Bulletin is published six times a year and sent to each PTA President, the Our Children magazine published by National PTA is sent to each PTA President five times a year.

As you plan your school year let the mission and purposes of the PTA guide your efforts. What are the needs of your community? How can your PTA unit help with those needs? Invite more male involvement, ask your principal and staff to join your PTA, ask grandparents and parents whose children have graduated from your school to become a part of your PTA. Diversify your membership and the benefits to our students will be tremendous.

On behalf of the Kansas PTA Board of Managers thank you for all you do for the children of Kansas. Know that you do make a difference every day in the lives of students. Thank you for giving your time and talents to ALL children.

Debbie Lawson
Kansas PTA President

Facebook

Kansas PTA is now on Facebook! Please check the Kansas PTA page for updates and information on important issues. We will be sending emails to members who are signed up.

Charles Saylors, PTA National President

America’s PTA

If you were unable to join me at the national convention in Fort Lauderdale this past June, let me say once again how incredibly grateful I am that you have entrusted me to be the first ever male National President of PTA. But I owe you even more thanks for your decision to be involved in this association at this time in our history.

We have reached a defining moment, and members committed to our mission have work to do. When faced with the question of whether you, personally, were committed to helping PTA reach out to all communities, you have stood up and said, “Yes!” When given a choice between supporting your child and supporting all children—even knowing the challenges involved—the decision was clear. Because it’s not really one or the other: by working on behalf of America’s students, you truly are helping your student, your family, and your school.

These can’t just be words, however. We are asking you to follow through in action as well. There is no question that PTA must work harder on its growth and its diversity. The only question is: what will you do to help PTA expand into the communities where it is most needed? We need more men to be involved in PTA, and in children’s lives. Will you help PTA raise its male membership from 10% to 20% over the next two years? We need better representation in PTA from the very youth we have chosen to serve. Will you help PTSAs get more students to join us? We need to improve our service to the families who have members serving in our military. Will you help the families in your community when their loved one gets deployed overseas?

Now is the time for serious people to get engaged. At a time when we need to ask everyone in our schools and communities—especially those who have never been asked before—to become part of the PTA family, we need serious people. Serious people who will embrace new ideas, new methods, and a new look. Serious people who will make PTA the family experience it needs to be: a place where all families are welcome. Please join me as we make our PTA, America’s PTA.

Charles J. “Chuck” Saylors
PTA National President
PTA.org/chucksaylors
Advocacy Training Conference fees will be $15.00 per adult attendee and $10.00 per student attendee (student = anyone currently enrolled in elementary, middle or high school).

Each PTA unit sending 5 or more participants will receive a price break of $5.00 for each additional participant after the 5th registered participant. Registration fee at the door will be $20.00. Registration fees are non-refundable. Please contact the Kansas PTA State office by phone at 785-234-5782 or email kansaspta@gmail.com with any questions.

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<tr>
<th>PTA Unit / Council Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Delegate’s Name</td>
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<td>Daytime Phone</td>
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<td>Workshops: Be sure to mark your workshop choices. Please note your 1st choice and 2nd choice for each workshop time.</td>
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Total number of PTA delegates: @ $15.00 each =
Total number of student delegates: @ $10.00 each =
Total enclosed $

Make checks payable to: Kansas PTA, Attn: Advocacy Training Conference, 715 S.W. Tenth, Topeka, KS 66612-1686.

Registration forms must be postmarked by September 21, 2009 to receive discounted rates. No refunds after September 23, 2009.
2009 Kansas PTA Advocacy Training Conference Agenda

9:30 a.m.  Registration
10:00 a.m.  Opening remarks
10:15 a.m.  Advocacy – You can do it! / How to Lobby Effectively
            Gary Brunk, Kansas Action for Children / President and CEO
11:00 a.m.  How to Talk to Legislators / Role Playing Demonstration
            Cynthia Jarrold, Kansas PTA President-Elect.
11:15 a.m.  KS School Finance & Funding Overview
            Mark Tallman, Kansas Association of School Boards / Asst. Executive
            Director/Advocacy
11:45 a.m.  Speak Up for Our Schools Panel Discussion
            Mark Desetti, Kansas National Education Association
            Mark Tallman Kansas Association of School Boards
12:30 p.m.  LUNCH
1:15 p.m. – 2:10 p.m. Workshop Session 1
2:10 p.m. – 2:20 p.m. Break
2:20 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. Workshop Session 2
3:15 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Closing remarks

DIRECTIONS:
715 S.W. Tenth Street
(the KNEA Building is located on the left side of the street)

From Kansas City: I-70 to Exit 362C, 10th St./Madison St. exit. Turn LEFT onto S.E. 10th St.

From Salina/Manhattan: I-70 to Exit 362B, 8th St/Madison St exit. Turn Right onto S.E. 10th St.

From Wichita: Take 35 (toll) to south Topeka. Merge onto I-470 W via exit 177 toward US-75. Take the Topeka Blvd, exit 6. Turn left onto S.W. Topeka Blvd., then turn left onto S.W. 10TH Street.
2009 KANSAS PTA ADVOCACY TRAINING CONFERENCE

Workshops / Session 1

A. Health Affects Learning! / Nutrition & Physical Activity Issues
   Jodi Mackey, Director of Child Nutrition & Wellness, Kansas State Department of Education. Recognizing and addressing the close relationship between health and learning is vital to the goal of helping students do their best. KSDE Director Mackey is very well versed on the issues of good nutrition and physical activity, and programs in Kansas related to child wellness.

B. National PTA 2009 Federal Policy Agenda
   Jackie Waters, Kansas PTA Secretary and immediate past Kansas PTA Federal Legislative Chair & Vice President of Advocacy. Gain the information your PTA needs about the 3 main goals of National PTA’s Public Policy agenda: Parent Engagement (NCLB and ESEA); Equity & Opportunity for all children (NCLB, JJDP A and Budget appropriations; and Child Health & Wellness). Mrs. Waters will share the National PTA training she has received on federal issues.

C. KPIRC – Kansas PTA’s Partner in Promoting Parent Involvement
   Jane Groff, Kansas Parent Information Resource Center / Director. Find out about the significant role of PTAs in increasing meaningful parent involvement, and our partnership with KPIRC to reach this NCLB goal. KPIRC is federally funded under Title V of No Child Left Behind and is the official Parent Information Technical Assistance Center for Kansas.

Workshops / Session 2

D. Children’s Mental Health Issues
   Susan Crain Lewis, Mental Health America of the Heartland / President / CEO. Children and adolescents, like adults, can have mental health disorders that interfere with how well they cope with daily life and its challenges. Through advocacy, education, and support, MHAH has an established record of effective national and grassroots actions, dedicated to the cause of promoting mentally healthier lives.

E. Teenage Drinking/Drug Abuse
   Keri Renner, Kansas Family Partnership / Director of Communications. Learn about prevention and intervention tools, and how to raise awareness about underage drinking. KFP serves as a statewide advocate of policies that will reduce the use of alcohol and other drugs by youth and promote healthy communities.

F. Compelling Message – How to Frame Your Issue
   Cynthia Jarrold, Kansas PTA President-Elect. Mrs. Jarrold will teach the most effective ways to frame your issue into a compelling message that will influence decision makers.
Your child has had a “good breakfast”, the best health care possible and is ready for school. Your child is ready to learn. There is nothing that can hinder him or her now, right?

Not quite….. Your child attends school with hundreds of other children who have not had a “good breakfast” and no health care. Learning in the classroom is profoundly affected.

Our nation is very close to a socialized health care program estimated to cost 3 Trillion Dollars. We need a coordinated effort to help kids learn in our classrooms and help manage health care costs.

The Kansas Coordinated School Health Program has put together an outline with compelling information to help understand the health care issues we face and how to manage them.

**Eye opening statistics:**
- 1 in 7 students has been in a physical fight on school property
- Every 60 seconds a child is born to a teen mother
- Obesity affects 1 in 5 children in the U.S.
- Each day, 3,000 children start smoking -1 every 30 seconds
- 1 in 3 high school students reports having consumed 5 or more drinks in a row
- Every 4 hours, a child in America commits suicide

**The Need:**
Many of today’s problems with students are health related. Kids can’t learn if they are:
- Hungry
- Tired
- Hung-over from alcohol and drugs
- Worried about violence

**The Solution:**
Coordinated School Health (CSH) is about:
- Involving parents and students
- Keeping kids healthy over time
- Supporting a student’s capacity to learn
- Imparting skills, knowledge, and judgment to help kids make smart choices for life
- Reinforcing positive behaviors throughout the school day
- Making it clear good health and learning go hand in hand

**Great Areas to Coordinate School Health:**
This is a list of health care areas where your school/school district can initiate and coordinate school health programs. All areas are important so suggest your school/school district start with 2 or 3.

- School Environment
- Health Education
- School Meals and Nutrition
- Physical Education
- Health Services
- Counseling, Psychological, and Mental Health Services
- Staff Wellness
- Parent/Community Partnerships

Find out what your schools and/or districts are doing to help coordinate school health and thus reduce health care costs. Ask if your school/district has any programs that can positively affect School Environment, Health Education, School Meals and Nutrition, Physical Education, Health Services, Counseling, Psychological, and Mental Health Services and Staff Wellness. Request these programs include Parent and Community Partnerships.

**Get yourself and your children involved!**

Health and Wellness is now more than ever, Everyone’s Responsibility.

Sharon Rakos
Kansas PTA Health and Wellness Chairperson

Kansas PTA
Keys to Leadership

**Passport**

Reminder: Send your Keys to Leadership Passports into the Kansas State PTA office by March 15, 2010 so you can receive your award and pin at Convention.

Challenge all your local, council & state officers to participate.

Please contact the Kansas PTA State office at 1-888-311-5782 for your Keys to Leadership Passport.

Toni Miller
Kansas PTA Leadership Chairperson
PTA Great Idea Bank FAQs

Q: What is the new PTA Great Idea Bank?
A: The PTA Great Idea Bank that existed as an online-accessible database of ideas on key PTA topics has been replaced with a more vibrant, user-friendly and interactive social network. This network, found at www.ptagreatideabank.org, is built on the Ning.com platform. Ning is a well-financed, five-year-old company that provides people a free tool for creating social networks. Ning has more than 29 million users on more than one million networks. It has become a popular option for many non-profit associations’ social networking needs.

Q: What has happened to the old PTA Great Idea Bank?
A: The old database still exists and ideas from it will be used to occasionally seed discussion in the PTA Great Idea Bank social network. You can see an example of that here: http://www.ptagreatideabank.org/forum/topics/student-book-exchange

Q: Why was this transition made?
A: This social networking platform is more user-friendly than the online database. The new PTA Great Idea Bank is a truly interactive experience and users can more easily add ideas, comment on other people’s ideas, ask questions, and interact with one another. For years now, the trend in online communication has been toward building community, which is what the new PTA Great Idea Bank does. The transition was guided by a committee that met earlier this year.

Q: What about the bulletin boards? Aren’t they the same thing?
A: Not exactly. The social network is also more user friendly, versatile, and expandable than the bulletin boards. The system hampered participation and some topics had not seen posts since last summer. On a technical note, the boards were constantly inundated with bogus applications for membership, generated by spammers seeking to post content on the boards. This was not only dangerous but time-consuming to handle.

The boards will officially shut down August 31, 2009. Notices have been posted and new, valid applicants to the bulletin boards have been informed.

Q: Are the Great Idea Bank discussions moderated?
A: The social networking environment is moderated to a degree. GIB administrators will monitor conversations and posts, but will only delete content that is deemed inappropriate or considered advertising. Ning.com has a strong privacy and terms of service policy (found here: http://www.ptagreatideabank.org/main/authorization/termsOfService?previousUrl=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.ptagreatideabank.org%2F). This policy is augmented by the PTA Great Idea Bank user policy, posted in a box at the bottom of the home page.

Q: Is there a user guide available?
A: Yes, it can be downloaded from the link found in the upper left corner of the home page or at PTA.org/GIB/PTA Great Idea Bank User Guide.doc

Q: How can I use the Great Idea Bank?
A: (Internal) You can form groups around specific topics or projects (examples: Healthy Lifestyles or the Miami National Standards Pilot Program). You can reply to discussions relevant to your content area or expertise. You can start discussions centered on specific areas. You can refer people to PTA resources but don’t make it a hard sell. This is not the venue for this kind of marketing and promotion. The community will react against it.

Explore the Great Idea Bank and see how conversations evolve to determine how you might best interact with our members and potential members.

Q: What is the objective of the PTA Great Idea Bank?
A: The most important goal of the Great Idea Bank is to create a vibrant interactive community, fueled mostly by the participants, not PTA. PTA benefits by hosting this community and starting conversations. People will find value in the conversations and even camaraderie fostered by this social network and will associate that value with PTA. This platform will provide a way for PTA to answer questions, provide resources and promote programs, but that is all secondary to building the community. Users come first here.

Questions can be directed to Randy Craig, ext. 322, rcraig@pta.org.
Let’s Fight Flu Together!
Each year over 200,000 people are hospitalized due to flu-related complications. PTA’s can help reduce that number by hosting the single best way to prevent influenza: vaccination clinics!

PTA’s across the nation will be hosting Let’s Fight Flu Together! influenza vaccination clinics this fall. These clinics are open to the public and can take place at your school or other community facility. Read below for more details on this initiative.

- Clinics can take place late September–January and at any time during the day or evening – you choose what works best for your school and community.
- All you need is a table, 2 chairs, and a wastebasket. Clinics can take place in a classroom, gym, nurse’s office, or even at a community location.
- Insurance liability is covered under Flu Busters insurance policy.
- You can register now for your clinic at www.pta.org/flushotclinics. Registration is recommended at least 30 days in advance of your clinic date.
- Once you have registered, it is up to the PTA to spread the word about the clinic!
- On the day of the event, you’re the host! Flu Busters provides the nurse, paperwork, and the vaccines.
- Your school nurse or a community RN can volunteer their time to administer the shots.
- Pre-registered vaccines are $25 and on-site are $27. Flu Mist vaccines (preservative-free nasal spray) are $30 and must be pre-registered.
- For every injectable vaccine administered, the host PTA receives $1 to be used for future health and wellness programming.
- Medicare Part B is accepted. Those with private insurance can submit their consent form to his or her insurance company.
- Join the fight against the flu and help keep your school and community healthy this fall! Go to www.pta.org/flushotclinics and www.flu.gov for more information on this initiative and how you can get involved.

You can also contact Annie Krysl, Outreach Manager, at akrysl@pta.org, or 800-307-4782 ext. 329 for more information.

Kansas PTA 2009-2010 Membership Theme!
“Around the World with PTA”
Parents, Teachers & Staff, Students, Community
We ALL hold a key to success, use your key and JOIN PTA!

Shelly Pennington
Kansas PTA Membership Chairperson

September will be proclaimed PTA Membership Enrollment Month when Governor Parkinson signs our proclamation. A copy will be posted on the Kansas PTA website.
The Official PTA Kit

Registration Required - Remember, this year your unit must register to receive its kit. Don't worry: The kit is still free. We're just trying to make sure it gets to the right leaders for the 2009–2010 school year. To learn more about how to register (and for the few exceptions to the rule), go to PTA.org/OfficialKit.

Whether new PTA leadership or more practiced, the Official PTA Kit and PTA Quick-Reference Guides have the information you need to run your PTA.

- PTA President’s Quick-Reference Guide, equipping presidents to be effective leaders and manage the diverse roles of their PTAs.
- PTA Membership Quick-Reference Guide, helping units increase and sustain membership, with links to additional resources.
- PTA Money Matters Quick-Reference Guide, educating PTA treasurers on the proper handling of unit finances, with a section on theft, fraud, and embezzlement.
- PTA Programs Quick-Reference Guide, helping units implement relevant projects, events, and activities to serve their communities.

Condensed versions of all four guides are included in the Official PTA Kit; expanded versions are online at PTA.org/OfficialKit. Make sure the printed guides—and the accompanying membership and programs folders from the kit—are handed off to the appropriate PTA leaders.

Encourage your unit leadership teams to register to receive the Official PTA Kit and to familiarize themselves with these primers to be ready for the coming year.

Back-to-School Central for Parents

School may just be getting out, but PTA already has resources to help parents prepare their kids for a new school year. Check out Back-to-School Central for articles on:

- Back-to-school preparation
- Nutrition
- Homework help and study skills
- Parent involvement and communication

Go to PTA.org/BTSCentral, and keep checking back. More articles will be added throughout the summer.

Have you ordered your unit’s free Official PTA Kit? Shipment is based on unit orders. Use your unit’s PURL (sent via e-mail to the PTA president earlier this month) to register for the 2009–2010 kit today. To learn more about how to order (and for the few exceptions to the rule), go to PTA.org/OfficialKit.

Don't know what all the fuss is about? Preview the online version of the kit.

GoodSearch.com

How would you like to help the Kansas PTA provide more programs and resources to the local level? One way you can do this is by using GoodSearch.com as your search engine. Each search you do on the internet raises $0.01 for Kansas PTA. If we just had 100 people do 2 searches a day for one year, that would raise about $730 to use on existing and/or new programs for you as a member of PTA.

It is very simple to do. Direct your internet browser to www.goodsearch.com, enter in “Kansas PTA” in the “Who do you goodsearch for” field, click verify, then search for whatever you are wanting to. This search engine is powered by Yahoo!

Try it today! Help Kansas PTA!

Robert DeNooy
Kansas PTA Webmaster
OMDRplus Frequently Asked Questions:

What is “OMDRplus powered by Just Between Friends”?  
A suite of services for parents combined with a system to operate PTA units. Thousands of PTAs have been using the Online Membership Data Reporting (OMDR) system to help manage their membership information. OMDRplus powered by Just Between Friends is a new system that combines a superior system to operate PTAs (OMDRplus) with a web-based suite of services for parents. Based on the private, secure Just Between Friends technology platform, it includes a total rewrite of the OMDR member management system previously offered to PTAs.

Who can participate?  
Any parent or child in a school with a participating PTA unit. Any parent of a child in your school can participate, even if they are not currently PTA members, as long as your local PTA participates in the system. You can also invite local school and community-based groups to participate – such as leagues, churches & synagogues, after school activities and other local groups. Each local group that participates in your community brings additional value to the parents and children participating in those groups. There is no charge to local PTAs or parents to use this system.

What are the benefits to local PTAs?  
More service to members, better membership management
- Sophisticated electronic communications as easy to use as email
- A group calendar that your parents can customize to meet their needs that lists all the PTA and school events pertaining to them
- A directory creation system that removes 90% of the work and reduces errors. It produces printed directories and a secure, private online directory accessible only to members of your group
- Various ways to service members of your entire community (not just PTA members), and provides incentives to become PTA members
- Membership management
- Coming soon: A volunteer recruitment and management module

What are the benefits to parents and students?  
Quick communication, better organization
- One place to find all the information related to PTA, school, and other important groups in their lives
- A customized interface that makes it easy to find just the information you want, without having to sift through information that is not relevant – including school, grade, class, and activity information.
- An easy way to update contact information is a cinch because when you update it for one PTA, school or group, you’re concurrently updating it for all your groups.
- A private directory (in some schools) that allows parents to keep better touch with each other.
- A reminder service that you can control – so you won’t get incessant reminders for inappropriate events; but you’ll get the right reminders according to the right schedule for those events and deadlines that are important to you.
- A direct line to group leaders that lets you get information to the people you need when you need it.
- A great way to make yourself available by email without putting your email address at risk.

Is it secure?  
Industry standard security measures, no-spam policy protect privacy. Yes. Just Between Friends is protected by industry standard security measures to prevent the loss, misuse and alteration of the information under our control. For example, we utilize encrypted user names and passwords, and encrypt data as it moves between systems. We use data protection techniques to guard against break-ins, and our servers are placed in secure, locked environments that are not available to the public in order to protect the integrity and security of our network and systems.

Your information is not rented or sold to companies. The only people who get to see it are the leaders of your group (and when needed, JBF support personnel). If your group uses the system to create a directory or roster, either on paper or online, you’ll have the ability to choose which information, if any, is shown in that directory or roster.

To ensure that only the right people have access to the right information, neither you nor other members are allowed to access group data without express approval of your group leader (in the case of PTA groups, your PTA leader); and the PTA is not allowed to include you in directories without your express consent, thereby providing a system of checks and balances to ensure privacy.

Just Between Friends maintains a strict no spam policy and by default hides your email address so it cannot be harvested and used elsewhere. So the mail you get from the system is relevant to you and your group, and not sent by irrelevant third parties.

In addition, when your group uses Just Between Friends for its communications and directories, it means fewer copies of your email addresses are accessible, making them less susceptible to theft, scams and spam.

To learn more, review the Just Between Friends privacy pledge and policy and PTA privacy policy.

Who pays for the system?  
This system is brought to you by National PTA and proud sponsors. The national PTA organization and proud sponsors pay for the system. However you’ll never get spam emails from our sponsors; and all messages are family friendly. Part of the revenue from sponsorships is shared with participating state and local PTAs, like yours, to help fund programs and activities in your local community.

Adapted from National PTA Website

Tammy Bartels  
Kansas PTA OMDR Chairperson
Kansas PTA provides the opportunity for the local units of Kansas to participate in 7 (seven) award programs: Citizenship Program, Reflections Program, Membership Awards, Phoebe Apperson Hearst Family School Partnership Award, Virginia Peak Outstanding Leadership Award, Outstanding Educator Award, and Outstanding Student Award.

All deadlines refer to the postmark date for entries to be received. Please note in the right column is whom the entries are to be addressed to.

**Citizenship Program – “The Historic Inauguration on January 20, 2009 means to me….”**

(Guidelines and forms are available on the Summer Packet and at www.kansas-pta.org)

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<th>Officer</th>
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<td>Local Unit Chairman</td>
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<td>Friday, November 6, 2009</td>
<td><strong>Council President</strong></td>
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<td>Friday, November 20, 2009</td>
<td>*<strong>Regional Vice President</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, December 11, 2009</td>
<td>KS PTA Arts in Education Chairman</td>
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**If your unit is not part of a council, submit your entries to the Regional Vice President**

**If the Regional Vice President position is vacant for your area, submit your entries to the KS PTA Arts in Education Chairman.**

**Reflections Program – “Beauty is….”**

(Guidelines and forms are available on the Summer Packet and at www.kansas-pta.org)

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<td>Friday, January 15, 2010</td>
<td><strong>Council President</strong></td>
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<td>Friday, January 22, 2010</td>
<td>*<strong>Regional Vice President</strong></td>
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<td>Friday, February 5, 2010</td>
<td>KS PTA Arts in Education Chairman</td>
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**If your unit is not part of a council, submit your entries to the Regional Vice President**

**If the Regional Vice President position is vacant for your area, submit your entries to the KS PTA Arts in Education Chairman.**

**2010 Kansas PTA Arts in Education Awards Ceremony**

Saturday, March 27, 2010  Mill Creek Middle School, Shawnee, KS

**Membership Awards**

All dues sent to the Kansas PTA State Office must be postmarked by Monday, March 1, 2010 to be eligible for awards.

**Phoebe Apperson Hearst Family-School Partnership Awards**

(Guidelines and forms are available on the Summer Packet and at www.kansas-pta.org)

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<td>Friday, February 12, 2010</td>
<td>KS PTA Parent Involvement Chairman</td>
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**Virginia Peak Outstanding Leadership Award**

(Guidelines and forms are available on the Summer Packet and at www.kansas-pta.org)

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<td>Friday, March 5, 2010</td>
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**Outstanding Educator Award**

(Guidelines and forms are available on the Summer Packet and at www.kansas-pta.org)

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**Outstanding Student Award**

(Guidelines and forms are available on the Summer Packet and at www.kansas-pta.org)

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Lauri DeNooy  
Kansas PTA Arts in Education Chairperson
2009-2010 Kansas PTA Citizenship Program

Calling all units, the time has come once again!! This year’s Kansas PTA Citizenship Program theme is:

“The Historic Inauguration on January 20, 2009 Means to me . . .”

As we think about what that day meant to us, let’s see how many of our 5th – 9th grade students will participate in submitting an essay or a poem. Kansas PTA looks forward to hearing about what that day meant to our students and the creative way they express their ideas.

All guidelines and forms are available on the 2009 Summer Packet CD. If your unit did not receive the CD, be sure to contact the Kansas PTA state office.

Due Date:  
Friday, October 23, 2009  
Friday, November 6, 2009  
Friday, November 20, 2009  
Friday, December 11, 2009

Entries Due To:  
Local Unit Chairman  
Council President**  
Regional Vice President***  
Kansas PTA Arts in Education Chairman

**If your unit is not part of a council, submit your entries to the Regional Vice President.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Lauri DeNooy  
Kansas PTA Arts in Education Chairperson

New Year’s Now?

For millions of parents of school-aged children, January is not the real “new year.” It’s in August and early September—the time of year when mothers, fathers and children across the country are putting away the pool toys, updating their wardrobes, shopping for school supplies, planning carpools and setting up schedules for caretaking, classes, sporting activities and more.

To celebrate the return to the school year, PTA® and Cookie Magazine created a brand new holiday to mark the occasion: School Year’s Eve™.

Schoolyearseve.com is the go-to resource for families, students, and communities, and offers new ways to prepare for the school year ahead. The site is loaded with fun and educational resources, activities, healthy recipes, parenting tips, special discounts and more. Participants also have the opportunity to enter a sweepstakes for a chance to win cash prizes.

A promotional poster on School Year’s Eve is included in the Official PTA Kit with all the resources your PTAs need to prepare for the upcoming school year. Additionally, use the promotional web banners created to put on your websites and in your electronic communications.

To get information and register for the sweepstakes, visit PTA.org or Schoolyearseve.com and remember to check back often for updates and more great offers and resources during the Back-to-school season. Starting in August, you can post pictures online from your School Year’s Eve™ party for a chance to win $1,500 for your PTA unit.

Don’t miss the party of the year!

The School Year’s Eve banners can be found at www.pta.org/syebanners, as well as http://www.pta.org/3104.asp.
Money Matters: Getting The Year Started

Who is responsible for the unit’s funds?
All PTA board members have been entrusted by the organization to oversee the management of the funds. The treasurer is the elected official who is the authorized custodian of the funds. The president, who ultimately bears the responsibility of all the affairs of the PTA unit, must work closely with the treasurer and have a thorough understanding of the financial matters of the PTA. Both of these officers must be committed to keeping the unit on a sound financial basis.

What help is there for Treasurers, Presidents and other members concerning the unit’s financial matters?
• The Official PTA Kit – PTA’s Big Box of Possibilities is a kit of helpful resources from the National PTA. At the latter part of April or early May, Unit Presidents should have received a postcard in the mail to register online to receive this valuable Kit. The Kit started shipping to Units beginning June 19 through the end of October. The book, Money Matters, provides information for the unit treasurer, president, others handling money, and your board. Presidents, please give this book to the Treasurer. He/she will need this material to perform the treasurer’s duties correctly.
• Unit presidents should have received the Summer Packet CD from their Region VP or it was mailed to them. It included the treasurer’s general information and remittance forms. Presidents, please make copies of this material for yourself and pass the material on to your treasurer. Materials are not mailed to the treasurer—all information is mailed only to the unit president.
• The Kansas PTA Bulletin is published six times a year. Each issue contains information pertaining to the financial management of the PTA unit. The president, treasurer, ways and means chairman, and your board should know and understand the information. Presidents, if your treasurer does not subscribe to the Bulletin, please copy and share the financial information with them. Each unit president receives a complimentary copy of The Bulletin from KS PTA. Additional subscriptions are available for $10.
• Please use your Kansas PTA Treasurer and other Kansas PTA Board members as resources. We are here to assist you and to help you understand your responsibilities. Our names and information on how to contact us are in each issue of The Bulletin.

Should there be a Treasurer’s Report and how often?
YES! The Unit Bylaws states that the treasurer should make a report regularly (usually at each meeting) to the PTA Unit. The report should indicate what period of the fiscal year the report covers, the date it was prepared and by whom.

• Start with the balance on hand as of the beginning of the year, month or last meeting.
• List all receipts in detail and total; itemize all disbursements and total.
• End with the balance on hand as of the date of the report. The report, when read at a regular meeting, should not be adopted but filed. The presiding officer says, “You have heard the report of the treasurer. Are there any questions on the report? If there are no questions, the report will be filed.”

How do I submit Kansas PTA and National PTA dues to the State Office?
The Treasurer Remittance Forms are included in the Summer Packet CD and are available on the Kansas PTA web site (www.kansas-pta.org). There is a tab on the home page. The treasurer should send $3.00 per member ($1.75 National dues and $1.25 State dues) to the State Office using the Remittance form. Dues should be remitted monthly. Members should be entered into the OMDR Plus Data System. Please work with your unit’s membership chairman to make sure that the membership information on the back of the form is completed correctly, also.

REMININDERS FOR TREASURERS AND UNITS:
• Be sure the books have been audited and found to be correct before you accept them. Your unit bylaws should tell you who audits your unit’s books.
• Budgets should be approved by the general membership at the first general meeting of your association.
• Units should require two signatures on each check written for the check to be valid.
• Two people should always count the money, and they should both sign the receipt verifying the amount.
• Never give out a blank check.
• Never presign checks for any amount.
• Deposit all funds in the PTA account promptly.
• Check your school mail box to see if you received a Form 990 from the Internal Revenue Service during the summer.
• Contracts:
  • The President is the only person authorized to sign a contract and signs the contract only after the membership and/or executive committee has authorized the contract.
  • The contract should be received in writing and all terms and conditions of the contract understood (reviewed by legal council if needed). If there is any question about the terms or conditions of the contract, the proper time to seek advice is before the contract is signed.
  • The length of the contract must be limited to the term of the participating officers and not encumber future boards.
• Sales Tax reminder:
  • PTAs in Kansas are exempt from paying Kansas sales tax on items bought for resale or use by the PTA. PTAs must use a PTA Exemption Certificate and must pay with a PTA check.
  • The law exempting PTAs from sales tax does not exempt PTAs from paying the tax on events or items considered to be “tangible personal property”. Car washes, admission tickets to dances and carnivals and other such events are not considered tangible personal property and if your PTA sponsors such events, you are responsible for paying the sales tax. If you have questions about sales tax contact the Kansas Department of Revenue.

Marie Thomas
Kansas PTA Treasurer
Kansas Learning First Alliance (KLFA) and KTWU TV11 present
“Reading, Writing and a Worthwhile Education for Kansas Kids”

Airing statewide on all Kansas PBS stations
September 23rd at 7 p.m.

Educational priorities for Kansas schools is a topic that is hotly and frequently debated – on the floor of the Kansas legislature, in meetings from the Kansas Board of Education to meetings of every local school board in the state, among Kansas companies as they look for their future employees and future C.E.O.’s and in informal settings from the downtown diner to the 4-H Club meeting.

Our world is changing, and Kansas students need to be prepared to meet that change. But, the conversation about how that should be accomplished within our public school system is a very large and multifaceted topic that will require a great deal of discussion among educational leaders, policymakers, business representatives, parents, educators and taxpayers. “Reading, Writing and a Worthwhile Education for Kansas Kids” is the beginning of that conversation in a statewide project with two parts.

Part One/The Program: This one-hour program will be divided into three different panels (educators, parents and business representatives) all of whom will be discussing what they believe should be the educational priorities in Kansas in order for students to be prepared as productive citizens of the 21st century. Community “watch and talk parties” are being organized statewide by the thirty member organizations that make up the Kansas Learning First Alliance (Kansas PTA is one of those members). In communities where a “watch and talk party” cannot be organized for the night of the broadcast, viewers can utilize DVD copies of the program (available through KLFA) so that it can be seen in a delayed fashion.

Part Two/The Discussion: To initiate conversations about educational priorities, “watch and talk parties” will be held after the program is viewed. These events can be hosted by libraries, site councils, PTAs, Rotary Clubs, Chambers of Commerce, other civic organizations or YOU!

What can you do?
1. Go to www.klfa.org for resources and more information about this important broadcast and conversation.
2. Spread the word! School administrators will be receiving information about this event at their regional meetings the latter part of this summer.
3. Host a “Watch and Talk Party” and/or encourage others to host such an event. It can be as simple as inviting your neighbors to view and discuss the broadcast. “Watch and Talk Parties” can be held the night of the broadcast or later using a recorded version of the broadcast.
4. Register your “Watch and Talk Party” on the KLFA website and obtain excellent resources for your event.
5. Keep the conversation going – encourage “Watch and Talk Party” attendees to hold their own “Watch and Talk Parties.”

Laura Kaiser
Kansas PTA Past President
Kansas PTA Board Roster

State Officers

President .......................................................... Debbie Lawson ................................. 15719 West 86th St., Lenexa, KS  66219 .............................................. 913-541-0806
President Advocacy ........................................... Cynthia Janzen ................................ 15719 West 86th St., Lenexa, KS 66219 913-381-1543
VP Advocacy ...................................................... Nancy Niles Luk ................................ 15719 West 86th St., Lenexa, KS 66219 913-648-2616
VP Extension Services ........................................ Denise Sultz ........................................ 15719 West 86th St., Lenexa, KS 66219 913-381-7824
VP Membership Services ................................... Shelly Pennington ........................... 15719 West 86th St., Lenexa, KS 66219 913-785-820-0200
Secretary .......................................................... Jackie Waters ....................................... 15719 West 86th St., Lenexa, KS 66219 316-522-0706
Treasurer ............................................................ Marie Thomas ..................................... 15719 West 86th St., Lenexa, KS 66219 913-422-7841

Region Vice Presidents

Region 1 Vice President ...................................... Eve May ........................................... 8708 Walker Avenue, Kansas City, KS  66112 .............................................. 913-328-1219
Region 2 Vice President ...................................... Sheryl Peak ........................................ 2901 27th Street, Great Bend, KS  67530 .............................................. 620-702-6427
Region 3 Vice President ...................................... Nicol Waters ....................................... 220 Alice, Haysville, KS  66226 .............................................. 316-554-8011
Region 4 Vice President ...................................... Janet Wood ......................................... 148 Florida Avenue, Salina, KS  67401 .............................................. 785-827-8635
Region 5 Vice President ...................................... Vacant .................................................. 15719 West 86th St., Lenexa, KS  66212 .............................................. 913-441-0110
Region 6 Vice President ...................................... Vicky Needham ..................................... 20918 West 71st Street, Shawnee, KS  66218 .............................................. 913-299-4877
Region 7 Vice President ...................................... Julie Howard ......................................... 14139 West 84th Terrace, Lenexa, KS  66215 .............................................. 913-599-0656
Region 8 Vice President ...................................... Lauren Meyer ..................................... 14139 West 84th Terrace, Lenexa, KS 66215 .................................. 913-736-0311

State Chairman

2010 Convention Chair ...................................... Jackie Waters ..................................... 1417 Loring, Hayseville, KS  66212 .............................................. 316-522-0706
Arts in Education & Awards ................................ Lauri DeNooy .................................. 12216 West 93rd Street, Overland Park, KS  66215 .............................................. 913-548-7277
Budget Committee ............................................ Marie Thomas ..................................... 22833 West 44th Street, Shawnee, KS  66226 .............................................. 913-422-7841
Unit Bylaws Review ........................................... Diana Fabac ......................................... 5607 Crest Drive, Kansas City, KS  66108 .............................................. 913-375-1644
Bulletin Editor ................................................... Cynthia Pennington .......................... 310 East Minneapolis Avenue, Salina, KS  66104 .............................................. 913-334-6051
Federal Legislative ............................................ Nancy Niles Luk .................................. 7700 West 83rd Street, Overland Park, KS  66226 .............................................. 913-648-2616
Health & Wellness ............................................. Sharon Rakos ...................................... 10902 West 144th Terrace, Overland Park, KS  66221 .............................................. 913-736-0311
Inclusiveness / Diversity Leadership ........................ Michelle Sienant ................................ 10157 49th Street, Kansas City, KS  66106 .............................................. 913-287-3313
Leadership ....................................................... Toni Miller ........................................... 813 Mertly Drive, Salina, KS  66401 .............................................. 785-819-4684
Member Outreach/Parent Involvement .................... Patty Jurich ........................................ 6125 Kimball Ave, Kansas City, KS  66104 .............................................. 913-334-6051
Membership ..................................................... Shelly Pennington .................................. 310 East Minneapolis Avenue, Salina, KS  66104 .............................................. 913-820-0200
OMDR ........................................................... Tammy Bartels .................................... 310 East Minneapolis Avenue, Salina, KS  66104 .............................................. 913-820-0200
PTA Store / Meeting Assistant .............................. Sheila Bunnell ..................................... 7028 Berry Road, Kansas City, KS 66106 .............................................. 913-957-1652
Publicity / Marketing ......................................... Vicki Whisenant .................................. 8437 Creekside, Kansas City, KS  66109 .............................................. 913-334-9075
Representative of Council Presidents ...................... Tammy Wake ........................................ 5417 Oliver Street, Kansas City, KS  66106 .............................................. 913-831-3868
Resolutions Committee ..................................... Tammy Bartels .................................... 504 South Delaware, P.O. Box 393, Tonganoxie, KS  66086 .............................................. 913-417-7031
Resource Development ...................................... Jackie Waters ..................................... 1417 Loring, Hayseville, KS  66212 .............................................. 316-522-0706
State Bylaws ..................................................... Cynthia Jarrold ................................... 9170 Reid Drive, Shawnee Mission, KS  66207 .............................................. 913-351-1543
State Legislative ................................................ Rae Ann Kobylinski .............................. 8530 Barkley, Overland Park, KS  66212 .............................................. 913-341-9124
State Extension ................................................ Robert DeNooy .................................. 12216 West 93rd Street, Overland Park, KS  66215 .............................................. 913-548-2254
Website ............................................................ 12216 West 93rd Street, Overland Park, KS  66215 .............................................. 913-341-9075

Consultants / Committee Appointments

*Nomination & Leadership Dev. .......................... Denise Sultz ....................................... 9311 West 81st Street, Overland Park, KS  66204 .............................................. 913-381-7824
*Parliamentarian .............................................. Laura Kaiser ........................................ 5222 West 98th Terrace, Overland Park, KS  66207 .............................................. 913-341-3078

Council Presidents

*DeSoto ............................................................ Chris Akin .......................................... 4820 Millridge, Shawnee, KS  66226 .............................................. 913-422-3756
*Kansas City ..................................................... Monica Crowe ...................................... 3047 North 65th Terrace, Kansas City, KS  66104 .............................................. 913-299-3583
*Salina ............................................................. Belinda Rock .......................................... 927 Vassar Drive, Salina, KS  67401 .............................................. 785-827-3565
*Shawnee Mission ............................................. Lauren Meyer ........................................ 14139 West 84th Terrace, Shawnee Missions, KS  66215 .............................................. 913-599-0656
*Turner ............................................................. Tammy Wake ........................................ 5417 Oliver Street, Kansas City, KS  66106 .............................................. 913-831-3868

Office Support

*Office Secretary .............................................. Sharon Julius ........................................ 715 S.W. Tenth, Topeka, KS  66612 .............................................. 785-234-5782

*Not a board position.

This issue of the Bulletin is available on our website. Emails are available on the website.
Kansas Congress of Parents and Teachers
715 S.W. Tenth
Topeka, KS 66612-1686
Telephone: 785-234-5782
Toll Free: 888-311-5782
Office hours: 8-12:30 M-F
Fax: 785-234-4170
Email: kansaspta@gmail.com
Website: www.kansas-pta.org

September-October 2009

Return Service Requested

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Debbie Lawson  President
Cynthia Jarrold  President-Elect
Nancy Liles Lusk  Vice President of Advocacy
Denise Sultz  Vice President of Extension Services
Shelly Pennington  Vice President of Member Services
Jackie Waters  Secretary
Marie Thomas  Treasurer

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

**SEPTEMBER**

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1  Three for Me Program kickoff
7  Labor Day — PTA OFFICES CLOSED
11  Patriot Day
13  National Grandparent’s Day
22  Autumn Begins
26  Family Health and Fitness Day

**OCTOBER**

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1  Hearst Award applications available
2  World Smile Day
4  National Fire Prevention Week
12  Columbus Day—PTA OFFICES CLOSED
19  National School Bus Safety Week
31  Halloween

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

**IMPORTANT DATES**

Legislation Training
Saturday, September 26, 2009
Topeka, Kansas

Kansas State PTA Convention
April 23—25, 2010
Lawrence, Kansas