August 2016 Bulletin of the Kentucky PTA

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Take Note

It is important that you complete the 2016-2017 Officer and Chairmen Information form and send it to the Kentucky PTA, so you can receive information throughout the year.

Financial News

Just a friendly reminder to submit your Financial Review to the principal of your school and to the Kentucky PTA at 148 Consumer Lane, Frankfort, KY 40601.

If you have questions contact Brian Wampler, bwampler68@gmail.com.

A Message from Kentucky PTA President

As summer winds down and school starts back this fall, keep in mind the importance of your PTA/PTSA being present at all school events. Although volunteer recruitment and membership sales take place year-round, this is a prime time to welcome both new and returning families.

Sometimes PTAs can appear to be cliques, so we always need to be aware of that. We need to step outside our comfort zones and talk with and invite all families to become involved in PTA. When family members sign up to volunteer, we must be sure to contact them in a timely manner and thank them for volunteering. We often hear that parents sign up to help out and then they are never contacted.

These are just a few helpful tips for the beginning of the school year. The Kentucky PTA Board is here to help, so please reach out to us if you have any questions or need anything.

2016 Kentucky PTA Convention

It was great to see so many of you at our annual convention in July. We were fortunate to have National PTA President Laura Bay join us this year.

Laura pitched in and helped set up for the convention, presented several workshops, then assisted with clean up.

We presented Laura with one of our Kentucky PTA Life Recognitions, which is the highest recognition that Kentucky PTA gives to our members.
Another Way to Support PTA

Kentucky PTA has reserved seats just for you. Our goal is to have at least 40 PTA leaders, family and friends attend each of four games - August 13, August 27, September 10 and September 24. Come have fun, watch a top notch soccer team and support PTA at one or more of these games.

**August 13, 2016**  
Louisville City vs. Rochester Rhinos  
7:30 pm @ Slugger Field

**August 27, 2016**  
Louisville City vs. Bethlehem Steel  
7:30 pm @ Slugger Field

**September 10, 2016**  
Louisville City vs. Richmond Kickers  
7:30 pm @ Slugger Field

**September 24, 2016**  
Louisville City vs. Charlotte Independence  
7:30 pm @ Slugger Field

To buy tickets with your group discount, use the password KYPTA16

A portion of the proceeds from these games will be donated to support the PTA. For group or season ticket inquiries, call Nikki Bernstein, 502.384.8799, x 106.

Kentucky Kids’ Day

Kentucky PTA Kids’ Day is a special day set aside by Kentucky PTA just for our students. All children are special in many ways, yet too often we forget to tell them.

Many children in our world do not have someone telling them they are special often enough to help them feel really good about themselves. Kentucky PTA Kids’ Day was
established to change that for as many Kentucky students as possible.

This year, Kentucky Kids' Day is September 27, 2016, but it can be celebrated anytime. So plan a special celebration for your students!

After you are finished with that, please do one more thing: MAKE EVERY DAY KENTUCKY PTA KIDS' DAY!

2016-2017 Back-to-School Kit

The 2016-2017 Back-to-School kit contains resources to help PTA leaders serve their communities and manage local units. It's completely digital and mobile-friendly. Bonus: Each PTA that registers will receive a new RECRUITMENT TOOL!

Register at PTAkit.org. For our Back-to-School Kit FAQ, go to PTA.org/BTSKit.

Reflections

All of the rules, regulations and forms for the Reflections Program can be found by going to our website at www.kypta.org.

For more information, please contact Jessica Merriman, 859.806.7325, reflectionskyppta@gmail.com.

Getting Ready for Opening Day

I liken the start of the school year with a great musical, "Kiss Me Kate." In the opening song, "Another Op'nin, Another Show," eager actors and stagehands warmly greet each other while rushing to get ready for the next big production. The singers lament how they practice for weeks and don't think they'll ever be ready, then all of a sudden, it's the opening night.

The excitement you feel watching that opening act is palpable and it's similar to the feelings I had as a science teacher. I remember the excitement I felt just before a new school year started, rushing to get the classroom ready, greeting colleagues, wondering if you'd ever be able to get everything ready in time. Then all of a sudden, it's opening day and the students are pouring into your classroom to kick off another school year. [Read more]

Members Are the Key

Members are the most important part of your PTA/PTSA. They are the key to success, to parent involvement, to advocacy and to empowerment. Without members there would be no PTA!

Your board should come up with a Membership Marketing Plan together, since membership is everyone's business.

- The membership chair should be in charge of the plan and the outcome.
- The plan should promote events for parents, students, and the general community, where you can showcase your school as well as encourage attendees to join PTA or renew their membership.
- It should also have desired outcomes, strategies, action plan, budget, measurement and evaluation.

Your membership cards that you have received are based on the number of members reported the immediate past school year. If you need more cards please contact the Kentucky PTA office.

The "Back to School" membership drawing is due by August 15. Send in at least 100 members to Kentucky PTA to participate in a cash drawing. Membership resources can be found at the national PTA website, pta.org, and our Kentucky PTA website, kypta.org.

Remember: membership recruitment is a year-round activity!

Download the State and National dues payment form here. Download the District dues payment form here. Download the list of 2015-2016 Membership winners here.
KY PTA Outstanding Award Winners for 2015-2016

Outstanding Educator Award
Jack & Ellen Steele - Longbranch Elementary PTA
Chris Stunson - Bristow Elementary PTA
Allison Fangman - Ft. Wright Elementary PTA
April Moore - Academy at Shawnee PTSA

Penguin Award For Outstanding Male Involvement
Burlington Elementary PTA

Outstanding Membership Campaign
duPont Manual High PTSA
Locust Grove Elementary PTA

Outstanding Local Unit Website
Longbranch Elementary PTA
Stopher Elementary PTA

Outstanding Local Unit Newsletter
Veterans Park Elementary PTA
Ruth Dunn Elementary PTA

Outstanding Programs and Projects
La Grange Elementary PTA
Burlington Elementary PTA

Outstanding Classified Personnel
Lena Ramler - Summit View Academy PTA
Sandra Linden - Thornwilde Elementary PTA

Outstanding Volunteer Participation
Longbranch Elementary PTA

Outstanding Volunteer
Elementary - Carrey Dewey - Stopher Elementary PTA
Middle School - Jenna Jennings - Tates Creek Middle PTSA
High School - Pinky Jackson - duPont Manual PTSA

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Try it free today