National PTA’s mission: to make every child’s potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children.

A Message from Kentucky PTA President

As leaders we sometimes need to find volunteers to complete projects or we need to recruit future leaders. Here are a few ideas to recruit and engage volunteers.

- People are more willing to volunteer if your board has set goals and communicated them to your school community.
- Ask people personally and be honest when describing the time commitment involved with the position/project.
- We will be more successful if we match a person’s interests and skills to the job/position.
- Even if someone said no, try asking again at a later date.
- Principals, teachers, and school personnel can often provide insight about potential volunteers.
- Your board and volunteers should be inclusive and reflect the diversity of your school community.
- If people express an interest in volunteering, be sure to contact them and offer them a job or way to be involved.
National PTA's mission is to make every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children. **Every Child in Focus** is a campaign to strengthen family engagement in schools by celebrating the achievements and reporting the disparities within diverse populations, and sharing resources and advocacy tools to help understand the needs of every child.

**November is Native American Heritage Month.** To learn more, including each month's focus, visit [PTA.org/everychild](http://PTA.org/everychild).

### Important Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November 15, 2016</td>
<td>Form 990 Filing Due to IRS (send a copy to Kentucky PTA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 21, 2016</td>
<td>Kentucky PTA Unity Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 13, 2017</td>
<td>Student Recognition Program, Lexington, KY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 22-25, 2017</td>
<td>National PTA Convention, Las Vegas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 14-15, 2017</td>
<td>KY PTA Convention, Louisville, KY</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Provide a convenient way for family members to know about the various volunteer opportunities and how to sign up to volunteer.
- **Not all members want to volunteer, but everyone should be asked to support their child and school by joining PTA.**
- Appreciate whatever level of support people are willing to give.

### Choosing to Be Great

Good schools and great districts don't happen by accident. For both teachers and districts, greatness comes through much of the same process as it does in the subject I used to teach, chemistry. In chemistry, you come up with a hypothesis based on the best data you have, run experiments and then evaluate the data to see if you're right.

In the classroom, teachers use the best proven education strategies they can find to help every one of their students be successful. Then several times a year, the teachers and leaders in the school district take a hard look at the data, evaluate what's working and what's not and make changes accordingly.

In late September, the Kentucky Department of Education released the latest round of scores from the Kentucky Performance Rating for Educational Progress (K-PREP) assessments. And overall, things are headed in the right direction in Kentucky. [Read more]

### Membership Corner

November is the month to be thankful so remember to say "thank you" to joining and returning members! This helps to remind them of PTA benefits and ways to stay engaged throughout the year.
URGENT - IRS Form 990 and Financial Review Form

PTAs fiscal year is July 1 to June 30. You are now able to file any of the 990 forms.

Please forward a copy of your receipt to the state office, 502.226.6607, or kyptapattyh@bellsouth.net. Follow these directions to obtain your receipt.

For more information, download our FAQ for Form 990. All filings must be done before November 15, 2016.

The Financial Review form was due to your principal and Kentucky PTA by July 15, 2016. You can download that form here.

Awards & Scholarships

For information about Kentucky PTA Awards & Scholarships go to the Kentucky PTA Leaders' Notebook.

Keeping Your Kids Safe Online

Keeping your kids safe in the age of continuous internet access and social media is tougher than ever these days. My wife and I work in information security, but even we struggle to keep up with evolving technology.

With new websites and apps coming out every day, it's easy to see how parents can feel a little overwhelmed. So what can you do to keep your kids safe? The biggest step is to start with a conversation. And the good news is, there's an online tool to help!

The Smart Talk is a fun and simple way to develop tech ground rules with your kids. Developed by LifeLock and the National PTA, the interactive website enables families to create personalized technology ground rules together by discussing key online safety topics. These include safety and privacy, screen time, apps and downloads, texting and calling and social media and respect. [Read more]

Celebrate Unity Day

The purpose of Unity Day is to celebrate the differences that make us unique and contribute to what unifies us. Unity Day is the Monday of Thanksgiving week and all PTAs/PTSAs are
Bonus: Each PTA that registers will receive a new RECRUITMENT TOOL!

Register at PTAkit.org or go to PTA.org/BTSKit.

Kentucky PTA and Class Act Federal Credit Union
Kentucky PTA is proud to announce that all Kentucky PTA members are now eligible to join Class Act Federal Credit Union.

Ideas for Unity Day:

Have a multicultural meal and invite each family to bring a tradition family food. Teach a game or dance unique to each culture represented.

Invite parents to discuss their own school experiences during a multicultural panel discussion. Create a venue for parents and teachers to share their views and expectations regarding education.

Create a "We Are One" poster. Have participants decorate the poster with photos of their friends or pictures of children of all races interacting together.

Have children outline their hands, cut them out and glue/tape them together to make a chain of linking hands (have each child do this multiple times to lengthen the chain). Let children decorate the hands with markers, stickers, etc., then display the chain in your school.

Invite students to write something unique about themselves on squares of paper, then decorate and connect the squares to make a Unity Quilt and hang it in your school's hallway with a banner, "Our School Has Unity Covered".

PTA Advocacy Quiz
Can you answer these 5 questions?

1. What is Advocacy?
2. What is PTA Advocacy?
3. Which of the following are a result of PTA Advocacy?
4. Name 5 groups of people who can be PTA advocates.
5. What are the recommended 7 steps to put advocacy into action?
For a limited time the credit union will make a free $25 deposit into the savings account for any Kentucky PTA member who simply joins the credit union, and will make an additional gift of $5 to Kentucky PTA for each Kentucky PTA member who joins the credit union (see coupon below). [Learn more]

The Kentucky PTA Leaders' Notebook is available on the KY PTA website, www.kypta.org.

KY PTA Executive Board
President
Cherie Dimar
President Elect
Janet Jones
VP Leadership & Outreach
Autumn Neagle
VP Organizational Services

If you struggled or didn't know an answer, we invite you to check out Effective Advocacy for Your Child from National PTA E-Learning! This quick e-learning course will answer all these questions and so much more.

Congratulations to the following members who completed a PTA E-Learning course in July, August, or September.

Lynn Cason
Kristy Compton
Misty Cotton
Amy Dennis
Danielle Deskins
Kayla English
Mary Erickson
Jeremiah Gritton
Debra Henry
Janice Jackson
Catherine Kaiser
Lorie Leitner
Krista Metwally
Christina Montague
Michelle Moser
Autumn Neagle
Michelle O'Gara
Lori Pace
Callie Slone
Tonya Underwood
Kathryn Wallingford
Eustacia Warren
Naloah Zeneski

How Fit is Your School?

The PTA at Bowen Elementary in Louisville, KY, is working hard to raise funds to remake a large soccer field into a fitness and exercise track. The soccer team will still use the center of the field to play, while the outer edge will be an 8-foot wide track, with ten exercise stations. During the day, this space belongs to the Bowen Bees, and at night it will be available for the community to use.
Bowen Elementary applied and received a grant from Lowe's for $5000 and a grant from the Lyndon City Council for $10,000 to use toward the project. Bowen's PTA hopes to raise more than $20,000.00 for their share of the project.

In September, the PTA put on a "Fit Fest" to raise these funds, including activities like a dunking booth, inflatable basketball court, and giant human hamster balls.

Each class also provided baskets for an auction and their silent auction offered the coveted prize of "King and Queen of the Carpool line!"

Is your school doing something special to be a fit or healthy school? Send your story to B1u3fisch@gmail.com.