January 2019 Bulletin of the Kentucky PTA

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A Message from Kentucky PTA President

Heather Wampler

Did you know that nearly 80% of New Year’s resolutions are forgotten come February? I was fortunate enough for a brief family getaway just before the New Years. Spent a lot of time reflecting on the goals as a family we set in 2018 and thinking about where we would like to see ourselves in 2019. This also included my PTA family, and the Kentucky State PTA.

MEMBERSHIP GROWTH- members are the key! This is true in so many ways. Just because it is January does not mean we are done growing our membership. Every member voice count.

MORE ADVOCACY WORK- with the legislative session being a short year here in Frankfort, we have to be diligent and make our voices heard and stay on top of key issues.

GROW THE NUMBER OF AWARDS SUBMITTED- At the Student Recognition Program on May 11th, 2019 we recognize many students and during the Summer Convention in Lexington, KY at Frederick Douglas High School we award and recognize our PTAs accomplishments. This year I hope to see an abundance of applicants.

CONVENTION- Speaking of Convention, I hope to see many people join us July 19-20, 2019 in Lexington, KY at Frederick Douglass High School. We are adding MORE workshops and NEW ones you have been asking for. Hopefully we have 100 more attendees this year in honor of this being or 100th Convention.
Scholarships and Awards

Scholarships

Scholarships due to Kentucky PTA by February 15, 2019

$500 Student Scholarship
Each year, the Kentucky PTA awards a number of $500 scholarships to deserving high school seniors from schools with PTAs/PTSAs, who plan to attend accredited colleges or universities in Kentucky and pursue a degree in educational field. Financial need, academic achievement, personal remarks, career plans and involvement in school and community service will be considered by the selection committee. Checks will be issued to the Kentucky college/university.

$500 Teacher-Member Scholarship
Teacher scholarships are granted to Kentucky certified teachers for the purpose of obtaining credit toward a master’s degree or Rank 1. Financial need, number of dependents, personal remarks and letters of recommendation will be considered by the selection committee. The teacher must be a member of the PTA/PTSA.

$500 Parent-Member Scholarship
The Kentucky PTA will award one scholarship to a PTA or PTSA parent-member planning to attend an accredited public college or university in Kentucky and pursue an undergraduate degree in education or in a health field. Financial need,

January Membership Drive

January Membership Drive is another important back-to-school period and a great time to recruit new members. Parents are resolved to be more involved and new families may have moved into the community for the start of the second semester. The PTA’s January Membership Campaign, with its theme of “New Year, New Opportunities,” ties in with people’s optimism and reminds parents that it’s not too late to join.

Many PTAs/PTSAs run only a fall campaign, But units that run more than one campaign a year have, on average, 20% more members. That’s because potential members have more opportunities to say “yes” to membership.

This month’s membership incentive is the “Strive for Five” drawing for PTAs/PTSAs with a 5% membership increase over last year’s number by January 15th. The winner will receive a certificate and a check from Kentucky PTA for $50 and the local unit

Legislative Information

Children’s Advocacy Day at the Capitol

Mark your calendars for Children’s Advocacy Day at the Capitol on February 13, 2019. Everyone is invited to attend this event and show their support for Kentucky’s children.

Legislative Tips

National PTA 2019 Legislative Conference
March 12-14, 2019 - Arlington, VA
Early Bird Registration is Open
You Will:
- Hear from experts and leaders about education policy
- Advocate on Capitol Hill for important policy priorities
- Network and build relationships with PTA leaders from across the country
Visit PTA.org/LegCon for more details and highlights from 2018.

Resolve to write one quick email per week thanking someone for something having to do with your PTA. You’ll be amazed how powerful this habit is. I offer more thoughts on the importance of showing thanks in “A Culture of Volunteer Appreciation.”

Thank you to each and every one of you for all you do.

Together we can make a difference,

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number of dependents, career plans, involvement in PTA/PTSA work, and letters of recommendation will be considered by the selection committee. The applicant must be a member of the PTA/PTSA.

Awards

Awards due to Kentucky PTA by February 15, 2019:

Christa McAuliffe Rising Star Award
Kentucky PTA’s “Christa McAuliffe” Rising Star Award recognizes students who have successfully worked through obstacles to improve performance in school, character, and self-esteem

The Kentucky PTA Scholarship/Award form can be found at: kypta.org/wp-content/uploads/LN-Part-1-Introductions-Awards-Scholarships-2018-2019-rev.pdf. If you have any questions about the Scholarship or Awards please contact Bobbi Jo Kingery @ bkingery07@gmail.com

Kentucky PTA Connected Grant Winners

Congratulations to our Kentucky winners!

PTA Connected with Facebook, Digital Families Community Event grant winners

* Garden Springs Elementary PTA
  Lexington KY
* LaGrange Elementary School
  LaGrange KY
* Lansdowne Elementary School PTA
  Lexington KY
* Bernheim Middle School PTSA
  Shepherdsville KY

PTA Connected with Google, Be Internet Awesome Family Workshop grant

* Crossroads Elementary PTA Mount Washington KY
* Hawthorne Elementary Louisville KY

E-Newsletter

This year National PTA is supporting our advocates to ‘Take Action for Kids’ at the 2019 Legislative Conference (LegCon), March 12-14, 2019, at the Crystal Gateway Marriott in Arlington, Va. As we get ready to help take action for students and families, we are asking all PTA members to help promote LegCon using this media toolkit, which contains sample graphics and messaging you can use to promote the event via social media and through newsletters. Don't forget to visit PTA.org/LegCon to register for LegCon and view this year's schedule!

This toolkit is designed to highlight Early Bird Registration for use before December 18, 2018. [Read More]

Parents 2018: Going Beyond Good Grades

A new research from Learning Heroes sheds light on why parents believe their children perform at-or above-grade level versus national data suggesting only about one-third of students actually do so. Read the report that examines how to ensure parents have access to more accurate, understandable and actionable information to better help their children succeed now and in the future. Learn More

For PTA Leaders

Principals and Parents Working Together

Developed by National PTA with the help of parents and principals, these tips are part of an overall strategy for building relationships with principals to improve student achievement. This effort to encourage the principal-parent connection has been made possible by a grant from the MetLife Foundation.

We know that the main reason people join PTA is to gain access to the organized, high quality parent involvement opportunities that will help their children achieve in school. This list is one National PTA resource you can keep and refer to as you bridge the gap between home and school, initiating conversations and implementing programs or events that will enrich the learning experiences of your school's children. Read More
Did You Know?

National PTA advocated for children not to be tried and incarcerated as adults, forming the basis of our juvenile justice system today...

On December 21st, President Trump signed into law the Juvenile Justice Reform Act of 2018, which will reauthorize the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDPA) and strengthen the nation's juvenile justice system. The JJDPA was originally signed into law in 1974 and had been due for reauthorization since 2007. More Information

KY PTA Executive Board

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Kentucky PTA Convention

We had such a great time last year, we're going to be in Frederick Douglass High School, Lexington Kentucky for our 100th annual state convention!

Convention will be July 19-20, 2019 so mark your calendars now!

KY PTA Board Application

Do you want to make a difference on a larger level? Are you interested on how PTA is just not part of your school but a part of the bigger picture in the state of Kentucky or Nationally? We invite you to join the KY State PTA board. We are now accepting applications for all positions. To apply - Please go https://goo.gl/forms/xM5KA19LWFGhL2n1

Call for Leaders to Speak at the National Convention

Showcase your leadership development strategies, mission successes, team-building practices, or advocacy wins in Columbus, OH at the 2019 National PTA Convention & Expo. This year's Call for Leaders focuses on three primary speaking roles:

1. Success Speakers - Share your best practice or lessons learned in a 20-minute presentation.
2. Workshop Presenters - Develop and present a full 75-minute workshop.
3. Meet-Up Facilitators - Convene a conversation with your PTA peers or like-minded PTA leaders.

For More Info

Become a National PTA Leader

National PTA elections are held at our annual convention. The next elections will be in Columbus, Ohio, June 20-23, 2019. Eight Board of Directors Member Representatives are elected each year, and either two or three members of the Nominating and Leadership Recruitment Committee (NLRC) are elected each year based on a cycle defined in the National PTA Bylaws. For More Information

"We live in a world in which we need to share responsibility. It's easy to say 'It's not my child, not my community, not my world, not my problem.' Then there are those who see the need and respond. I consider these people my heroes." - Fred Rogers

PTA Store

How do you let the world know you're part of the PTA? ShopPTA.com sells official PTA and PTSA logo merchandise, apparel, membership items, awards, gifts and more. All products are offered through each of the participating State PTA organizations. Check out ShopPTA.com today!
Honorary Life Recognition

Did you know your PTA/PTSA may present a Kentucky PTA Honorary "Life" Recognition to a worthy person in the school, community or state? Every PTA/PTSA has many deserving members among its volunteers, teachers and staff. The honoree need not be a member of a PTA/PTSA nor a person well known beyond their own area of service. Example: PTA/PTSA member, past or present; teacher; principal; cafeteria worker; mayor; police officer; school board member; legislator. There is no better way to honor these special people who contribute so much to our children and youth than in presenting them with Kentucky PTA Honorary "Life" Recognition. The price of each Recognition is $25.00 and includes a certificate. In additions, Life Recognition pins in the shape of Kentucky are also available for the adult award: Lady's pin with guard $20.00 or Men's lapel pin $20.00. Applications are in your Leaders' Notebook or online at kypta.org. Two weeks notice, or more, is needed before your event. Note: "Life" Recognitions are honorary. Recipients must join the PTA/PTSA each year to be a voting member.

Legislative Agenda
Prioritizes Student Success and Parent Empowerment
At its Dec. 5 meeting, the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) voted to approve a list of legislative priorities for the 2019 session of the General Assembly that places student success and preparedness and family empowerment at the center of our legislative efforts during the upcoming session. Admittedly, our agenda is ambitious, but I believe the legislative changes we are seeking are central to taking the next critical steps forward with improving education outcomes in Kentucky. While you can access all of our legislative priorities on the state board’s web portal, I want to spend some time here highlighting a few that might be of particular interest to you. Read More