

# PTA IN PENNSYLVANIA

Official Publication of the Pennsylvania PTA  
January/February 2014 Volume 89, Number 3

## CALL TO CONVENTION

105<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL PENNSYLVANIA PTA CONVENTION  
APRIL 4-6, 2014

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### *The Importance of Meaningful Two-Way Communication*

Issue Sponsor Portfoliyo  
Inside cover

### The Importance of Meaningful Two-Way Communication

When we think about communication, our first instinct can be to imagine a conversation between two people. In fact the more we think about it, the more we realize that communication happens in a multitude of ways. It can be physical, verbal, visual, sensory, even olfactory. It can happen between two or more people. It can happen in real time, or it can happen asynchronously, i.e. with a time lag as with an old-fashioned letter.

The other thing to realize is that communication can flow in different directions. So, the odor of chicken soup wafting from a kitchen window is a message to a passerby that soup is on the way or perhaps that someone in the home is sick. Yet no one in the home receives a message in return. So, we have one-way communication; a form of communication that is obviously limited in scope.

A 2012 Harvard study shows that 50% of families never hear from teachers. That's in spite of emails, phone calls, and websites that teachers might use.

That's a staggering, disheartening sort of statistic. When you read it, perhaps you will think "E.T. phone home." You might remember that E.T. is the story of a little alien that gets left behind by his alien folks - they all happen to be botanists by the way - and he isn't able to call them to get picked up because the technology that exists on Earth just isn't good enough. So he ends up befriendng a little boy and his family but he's still really lonely, isolated, and desperate for communication with his people. In the end, in order to get through to them, he has to build a new communication device.

In the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries, we have devoted vast resources to developing better and more effective means of communication. These means of communication have been adopted by teachers and parents to communicate with each other. In the 21<sup>st</sup> century, we have seen the widespread adoption of text messaging. It's a tool that allows quick, easy exchanges of information. Yet it remains largely unadopted as a communication device for parents and teachers. Why is that?

Well, there are valid reasons. Among them, a) privacy of cell phone numbers is important to both parents and teachers and b) it's time consuming for a teacher to send individual text messages to every student's parents every day. Often they need to be able to send group messages.

Teachers and parents need a new communication device that fixes these problems. The same Harvard study from above also shows that classroom behavior can improve by 25%, homework completion by 40%, and classroom participation by 15% with frequent, two-way communication. What this means is that websites, emails, phone calls, and blogs that dispense information to parents really aren't effective.

Texting is uniquely suited to asking a quick question and getting a quick answer. Isn't it time we tried a tool that delivers meaningful two-way communication for parents and teachers?

Peter Kuperman, Portfoliyo  
[peter@portfoliyo.org](mailto:peter@portfoliyo.org)  
212-625-1833



## Schedule at a Glance

### FRIDAY, APRIL 4, 2014

	Time
Diversity Leadership Conference Registration	8:30 am - 9:00 am
Diversity Leadership Conference	9:00 am - 12:00 pm
Convention Registration & Information Desk	10:00 am – 7:00 pm
Shop PTA Open	10:00 am – 5:00 pm
Healthy Lifestyles “Boxing”	10:15 am – 11:00 am
Voting for Awards	11:00 am – 7:00 pm
Reflections Gallery	11:00 am – 7:00 pm
First Timers Orientation	11:15 am – 12:00 pm
<i>Lunch on Your Own / Free Time</i>	12:00 pm – 1:30 pm
Workshop Session 1	1:30 pm – 2:30 pm
Workshop Session 2	2:45 pm – 3:45 pm
Workshop Session 3	4:00 pm – 5:00 pm
<i>Dinner on Your Own / Free Time</i>	5:00 pm – 7:00 pm
General Meeting I	7:00 pm – 10:00 pm
Reception & The Brain Show	10:00 pm - Midnight

### SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2014

Healthy Lifestyles “Combat”	6:30 am – 7:15 am
Registration	7:30 am – 3:00 pm
Shop PTA - Store Open	7:30 am – 4:00 pm
Sponsor Appreciation Breakfast	8:00 am – 9:00 am
Voting for Awards	8:00 am – 4:00 pm
Reflections Gallery	8:00 am – 6:30 pm
General Meeting II	9:15 am – 11:45 am
Exhibit Hall	11:00 am – 4:00 pm
Speed Vending	12:00 pm – 1:30 pm
Keystone PTA Annual Meeting	12:30 pm – 1:00 pm
Town Hall Meeting	1:45 pm – 2:45 pm
Workshop Session 4	3:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Workshop Session 5	4:15 pm – 5:15 pm
Pre-Banquet Reception	6:00 pm – 6:30 pm
Banquet	6:30 pm – 10:00 pm

### SUNDAY, APRIL 6, 2014

Registration	8:00 am – 8:30 am
Reflections Gallery	8:00 am – 9:00 am
Reflections Awards Breakfast	8:30 am – 10:30 am
General Meeting III <i>(if needed)</i>	10:45 am – 12:00 pm

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### *A Good Investment in Your PTA*

Convention registration and travel costs are legitimate expenses that should be included in your PTA budget. While others charge hundreds of dollars for a two-day conference, we keep registration costs down to allow as many PTA leaders as possible to attend. Register today and discover one of the best investments you can make in yourself and your PTA this year!

## Message from our Convention Chair

Wanda Mendez, Convention Chair



### ***Oh . . .The Places You'll Go – Let PTA Take You There!***

The Convention Committee welcomes you to another exciting convention.

So much to see... So much to do... So many to meet...

You can start your travels with Pennsylvania PTA's very first DLC (Diversity Leadership Conference) in the morning, then **Go** to inspiring workshops. Don't stop there, **Go** be a part of the parliamentary system where you can and you do make a difference. Keep **Go-**ing you are doing great. Now **Go** and attend the Town Hall meeting where you get the chance to hear and meet the panelists discussing current issues. Don't give up yet, there is still more to see and do. **Go** meet PTA representatives from across Pennsylvania and nationally. Meet renown guest speakers. There are still more **Places to Go** like a great banquet and the nightly family friendly entertainment.

We are getting ready to **Go**, See You There!!!!



### ***Presidents... please share this publication with your PTA Members!***

Remember that all correspondence is sent to you as the president.  
It is your duty to ensure your members benefit from it as well.

Please share this publication and all information you receive from State and National PTA with your members so that they too can benefit from it.

Encourage members to visit [www.papta.org](http://www.papta.org). The *Members Only* section is full of resources that will make them more efficient PTA leaders.

To download a PDF version of this and all publications  
visit [www.papta.org](http://www.papta.org)

*(See PTA in Pennsylvania in the "Members Only" section)*

### **Still to Come....**

**Look for supplemental convention information  
that will be posted online at [www.papta.org](http://www.papta.org) and in the  
March/April issue of the *PTA in Pennsylvania*.**



### ***“From the President's Pen”***

*Deborah Dunstone, President*



***“Congratulations! Today is your day. You're off to Great Places! You're off and away!”***<sup>1</sup> at the 105<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the Pennsylvania PTA!

On behalf of the State Board of Managers, I invite and encourage you to join voices with PTA members from across the Commonwealth as we convene April 4-6, 2014 at the Radisson Valley Forge for this year's convention. ***“Oh, the Things You Can Think”***<sup>2</sup> and we hope that you do, when you come to Convention for a day or two!

Whether this will be your first convention, or you have attended before, convention will be rewarding and inspiring! ***“Oh, the People You'll Meet”***<sup>3</sup> - enthusiastic PTA members who share your passion for making a difference in the lives of Pennsylvania's children. Among them will be National PTA representatives, state board members, and PTA leaders from across the state! At Convention, you'll have the chance to network and share best practices with them, ***“Oh, the Places You'll Go – Let PTA take you there!”***

Your attendance at convention is vital to the future of the Pennsylvania PTA. YOU will set the tone and direction of the association by conducting the business of the association. You'll be voting on state bylaws amendments, including one to change the month when convention is held; and a new resolution on youth suicide awareness & prevention, among other “thinks”. Let your voice be heard!

In addition to the business portion of convention you will attend workshops on timely issues and important topics; browse exhibitor booths where you'll find fund-raising ideas, educational enrichment programs, arts in education programs, and more. ***“Oh the places you'll go! There is fun to be done!”***<sup>1</sup> and this year's fun includes a networking reception that will put you in the middle of a “game

-show” competition. During the reception, you will have the opportunity to be part of a team and join in the fun of the ever-popular *Brain Show*. You will also be able to take part in a “Shoe Show Off” where you can bling out a shoe or two to benefit a local charity.

***“Oh, the things you can do that are good for you!”***<sup>4</sup> You will gain valuable leadership skills and participate in healthy lifestyles activities. Always a highlight of convention, be sure to spend some time in the Reflections Art Gallery where the artistic talents of Pennsylvania's students will be on display; then join us Sunday morning for the Reflections Awards Breakfast!

Inside this issue, you will find the information needed to register for convention. Please share this information with your membership. The convention information is also available online at [www.papta.org](http://www.papta.org) under the “Events & Conventions” tab. Updates to this convention supplement will be posted online as they become available.

The theme of this year's convention, ***“Oh, the Places You'll Go – Let PTA take you there!”*** brings to mind some of the fantastic work PTA has accomplished on the state and national level over the years. As the largest volunteer child advocacy organization in the nation, PTA is the conscience of the country for children and youth issues. Through advocacy, as well as family and community education, PTA has established programs and called for legislation that improves our children's lives, such as:

- Creation of Kindergarten classes
- Child labor laws
- Public health service
- Hot and healthy lunch programs
- Juvenile justice system

## *Oh, the Places You'll Go! ...*

- Mandatory immunization
- Arts in Education
- School Safety

Join us as we continue keep the PTA mission alive: ***To make every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children.***

We look forward to welcoming you in Valley Forge where ***we'll go places together!***

<sup>1</sup> Seuss. *Oh, the Places You'll Go!* New York: Random House, 1990. Print.

<sup>2</sup> Seuss. *Oh, the Things You Can Think!* New York: Beginner, 1975. Print.

<sup>3</sup> *Wubbulous World Of Dr. Seuss Season 1, Ep. 11 Oh, The People You'll Meet* N.d. Television.

<sup>4</sup> Rabe, Tish, and Aristides Ruiz. *Oh the Things You Can Do That Are Good for You!* New York: Random House, 2001. Print.

### ***Pennsylvania PTA Presents... A Special Town Hall Meeting***

#### ***When is it?***

- ☆ During Convention, Saturday April 5 (1:45 pm - 2:45 pm)

#### ***Who will the panel members include?***

- ☆ Representative Frank Farina, 115<sup>th</sup> District
- ☆ Morgan Englehardt, MS, Counselor at Valley View High School
- ☆ Dr. Lynn Heard, DNP, CRNP, CSN, North Pocono High School
- ☆ Kathy Wallace, President of Northeast Suicide Prevention Initiative

#### ***What is the Topic for discussion?***

This year's panelists are great resources that will be available to better inform attendees of risk factors, warning signs, and where to go for help regarding Suicide Prevention.

#### ***How do I ask questions?***

- ☆ All questions are to be sent via email
- ☆ Send emails to [staff@papta.org](mailto:staff@papta.org) subject line ***Town Hall Meeting***
- ☆ Questions are to be emailed on or before March 18, 2014



***Be sure to visit the Exhibit Hall  
& Speed Vending on Saturday !!***

Sandra L. Zelno, Consultant to the Pennsylvania PTA

### **Chapter 3. Build It and They Will Come**

(Chapters 1 and 2 can be accessed at <http://papta.org/Legacy> or in previous issues of PTA in Pennsylvania.)

*The National Congress of Mothers was founded on February 17, 1897 in Washington, D.C. by Alice McLellan White Birney and Phoebe Apperson Hearst. It later became known as the National Congress of Parents and Teachers or the National PTA. With the help of the National PTA, Selena Sloan Butler founded the National Congress of Colored Parents and Teachers in 1926 which operated where individual state laws segregated schools.*

*In 1970, the two organizations merged, as did their identical mission to improve children's lives and the organization we know as today's National PTA.*

*All three women are credited with founding the National PTA.*

*This series of articles is intended to reflect on the rich history of the PTA and focus on its importance and relevance for today's leaders. All historical facts are documented in *The PTA Story: A Century of Commitment to Children*, published by the National PTA in 1997.*

*The author of this series is a Past President of the Pennsylvania PTA (1992-1994) and served in a variety of elected and appointed roles with the National PTA, including as a Region Director on the National Board of Directors during the National PTA's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.*



Many new products and initiatives were developed by entrepreneurs in the 1890's. It was full speed ahead - a time filled with great prospects for innovation. Many seized the opportunity to market ideas, but the concept of, "Build It and They Will Come," only worked when ideas were perceived to fill a critical need and were marketed properly. Inventions included such practical items as the rotary dial, the bottle cap, and the zipper. Baseball games, volleyball games (originally known as mintonette), and cycling clubs became popular leisure activities, but were they really difficult to market? Was cycling into the country on a Sunday morning a "hard sell" compared to implementing national policy for children being exploited and ignored? While many entrepreneurs filled certain needs for the country, others like Alice Birney and Phoebe Hearst stole their passion and their hearts. They were building a national organization dedicated solely to children.

The first meeting didn't happen overnight. It was careful planning, outreach, and smart public relations that made it a success. About a dozen organizers worked relentlessly for two years to meticulously market their idea and build a meeting addressing critical needs. It would take place at the Arlington Hotel on February 17, 1897. The foundation was laid in Mrs. Hearst's Washington, D.C. home. Consistent with her ongoing financial support, she provided envelopes, stationery, and the use of her personal secretary. Her financial backing for noted lecturers made for an exciting agenda. The May/June 1996 issue of *Our Children* estimates her generous financial contributions exceeded \$32,000 just for sponsoring the first Congress. Imagine what that amount of money would equal by today's standards!

Mrs. Hearst's personal friendship with the First Lady led to a White House reception for the delegates hosted by Mrs. Grover (Frances) Cleveland during the three day event. Handwritten minutes from an organizing meeting held eight (8) days prior to the event shows discussion on how "cards of admission" to the White House would be distributed to delegates. Given the high level security measures in place today, just imagine an organization now deciding how they would admit delegates to the White House.

Using Mrs. Birney's previous advertising experience to market the historic event, Mrs. Hearst tapped into her son's influence in journalism. William Randolph Hearst's early years as a media mogul plummeted the planned meeting to unprecedented levels. One unidentified newspaper clipping stated that women who wanted to attend were "anxious to

## Reflecting on the PTA Legacy

become leaders.” They made the front page of *The New York Times* and numerous papers around the United States. Children were finally making news!

Organizers wrote solicitation letters to prominent citizens around the country. Thousands of circulars were sent to all leading women’s clubs and societies including the General Federation of Women’s Clubs and the National Women’s Christian Temperance Union. Among the many agenda items being discussed would be day care centers for working mothers in urban areas, kindergarten for all children, sex education, and juvenile justice. Much to their surprise, they expected a few hundred delegates and over 2,000 appeared. Their meetings spilled over from the Arlington Hotel into the First Baptist Church and the Washington Armory. It was standing room only! The first convocation was a success, the mission had been adopted, parents had been trained, officers had been elected, and an organization was born that would finally put the needs of children in the national forefront. The National Congress of Mothers had been founded.

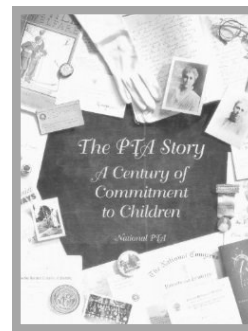
Officers who would drive the agenda of the new organization included: Alice Birney, President; Phoebe Hearst, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President; and Mrs. Adlai (Letitia) Stevenson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President (wife of the Vice-President of U.S.). Also listed among officers assuming leadership roles were: Mrs. John R. Lewis, Vice-President; Mrs. Mary E. Mumford, Vice-President; Miss Mary Louisa Butler, Corresponding Secretary; and Miss Emma Morton, Treasurer. After Mrs. Birney was elected, two curly-haired children appeared and ran onto the stage to greet their mother. Mrs. Birney left the stage to spend a few moments with her children whom she had not seen in some days, once again publicly reaffirming that children would always lead the way with Mrs. Birney at the helm. A few months after she assumed office, her husband passed away, leaving her widowed for the second time. Mrs. Birney raised her three children as a widow and continued to serve as President until 1902 when she resigned for health reasons.

They were up and running. As documented in the February, 1973 issue of *PTA Today*, the first National Office was one room rented in Washington, D.C. in

April 1897. Furniture and office supplies cost \$83.30. A report on expenditures shows that \$1.65 was spent for an oak screen, \$1.75 for a dozen towels, 75 cents for an oak water table, 95 cents for a clock, and “two bits for a cuspidor.” Obviously, men were also going to be recruited! The city would also be the site for the next few conventions. The second was held in 1898 and the business included the historical adoption of a Constitution and Bylaws. A third convention was almost cancelled in 1899 when a snowstorm blanketed the eastern coast, but instead only delayed the meeting one day. Building the organization from the ground floor was the beginning. But who would provide the national leadership to sustain it for years to come?

The primary lesson to be learned from this is that success only comes from a tremendous commitment to the cause, careful planning, collaboration, and the ability to reach out to those who have the power to make change. The founders were clear on their principles and made sure the media articulated them to the world. Are we as today’s leaders telling the “PTA Story” to make gains for the children placed in our care? As “custodians” of this organization, are we reaching out far enough to those who have the power and influence to make positive change for kids? Those are the questions that should guide us daily as we provide leadership for the PTA. Just because it was built doesn’t mean it will always be here. Sustaining and strengthening what was built is the challenge that has been given to each of us.

The March/April 2014 issue of *PTA in Pennsylvania* will address the next chapter on the progress of the National Congress of Mothers as we examine how Pennsylvania would contribute visionary leadership to this incredible story. Stay tuned for **Chapter 4. “Pennsylvania: A True Keystone for Kids.”**



**PTA**  
everychild.onevoice.®

Follow link <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IX34jVbms6w> to view the video PTA: Legacy of Advocacy



## Special Guests

### Ivelisse Castro - General Meeting I

*National Service Representative, National PTA*



When M. Ivelisse Castro became a volunteer in PTA in the early 1990s, she found once again the community service path her mother got her started on as a pre-teen in Santiago, Dominican Republic. After marrying her husband, Max Castro, a naturalized U.S. citizen of Cuban descent, in 1981, Ivelisse moved to Miami, FL. Upon completion of an English as a Second Language program at Miami-Dade College, Ivelisse went to work for Miami-Dade Water and Sewer. While there, she remained connected to education first by working with various groups in Florida that supported multicultural education and advocated for English Language Learners' issues, and later and more consistently, by becoming a volunteer in PTA.

In PTA, Ivelisse has been involved at the local, council, and state levels. As a board member of the Florida PTA, she was the coordinator of the National PTA Hispanic Outreach Initiative pilot program in Florida. During her two-year term as president (2006-2008) of the Miami-Dade County Council PTA/PTSA--then the largest county council in Florida, in the fourth largest school district in the nation--membership increased by almost twelve percent. Emphasis on connecting with local units, building capacity, and developing partnerships to strengthen PTA advocacy were the major priorities of her administration.

In January of 2009, Ivelisse joined the National PTA as a National Service Representative assisting various PTA congresses (noting she uses the word "congresses" as she services the two non-state PTAs: European PTA and Puerto Rico PTA in National PTA).

Ivelisse holds a BA in Education from the Pontificia Universidad Católica Madre y Maestra, Santiago, Dominican Republic; and a MS in International Development Education from Florida International University, Miami, FL. She graduated as valedictorian in high school and summa cum laude in college. Among various other honors and awards, Ivelisse was recognized in 2008 as one of South Florida's Hispanic Women of Distinction.

### Duane Wright - General Meeting I

*National PTA*

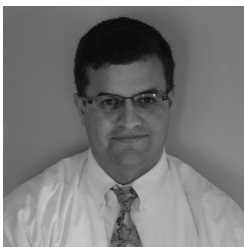


Duane is an At-Large Board Member of the National PTA; and serves as Chairman of the National PTA's Disaster Relief Taskforce, and also as a member of the Finance Committee. He is a graduate of Morehouse College in Atlanta, GA; and has received his CPA license. He currently serves as the Associate Vice President for Financial and Treasury Services at Southern University in Baton Rouge, LA. During his professional career he has worked in the field of accounting for the following organizations: Dow Jones, Inc.; Greater San Diego Chamber of Commerce; San Diego Padres Baseball Club; Novartis Pharmaceuticals; and Morehouse College.

He is married, and has been involved with the PTAs and schools of his three sons who are currently in the 7<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> grades. In addition to his sons, Duane has served as a mentor to many high school and college young men.

### Mauricio Velásquez - General Meeting I Keynote

*President of The Diversity Training Group (DTG) in Herndon, VA*



Mauricio serves as a Diversity and Inclusion trainer, sexual harassment prevention trainer, executive coach, mentoring trainer, expert witness, and assists organizations with multicultural marketing, selling, and customer service.

He is a former human resource generalist and also served as a demographic researcher for the Internal Revenue Service where he first anticipated the rise of diversity inside and outside of the workplace. He has had the good fortune to work with Dr. W. Edwards Deming, Peter F. Drucker, and Dr. Jerry Harvey. Mauricio credits much of his interest in human resource management and the earning of his MBA to their influences. He has trained over 750,000 employees, managers, and executives in the areas of diversity, gender equity, mentoring, and multicultural marketing and selling in every state but one.

## Special Guests

### **Eric Snow - General Meeting II Keynote**

*Executive Director of WATCH D.O.G.S. (Dads Of Great Students, a father engagement and educational initiative of the National Center for Fathering)*



In 1998, Eric and WATCH D.O.G.S. founder, Jim Moore, developed a program that was designed to encourage fathers and father figures to be more involved in the educational process at their kids' school. With the goals of enhancing school safety and providing positive male role models, the first WATCH D.O.G.S. program was born. Eric was instrumental in helping Jim realize his vision for WATCH D.O.G.S. and is credited with giving the program its name. Eric served on the Board of Directors for WATCH D.O.G.S. for more than 5 years.

Since joining the National Center for Fathering in 2008 Eric has traveled across the country, speaking at hundreds of educational conferences in order to train parents and educators how to implement the WATCH D.O.G.S. program in their schools.

In June 2012 Eric was appointed to a two year term on the Board of Directors for National PTA. Before joining the National Center for Fathering, Eric was the President and owner of New South Directory Company, Inc. Prior to that, Eric was the Vice President of Operations for K.W. Brock Directories, Inc. Eric attended the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, Arkansas where he majored in Political Science. He and his wife Valerie were married in 1982 and they have two children.

### **Master Chief (AW/AC) Jon Port - Banquet Keynote**

*United States Navy, Naval Education and Training Command*



Master Chief Port, born in West Chester, PA, enlisted in the Navy in 1986. After completing Basic Training he then spent 18 months as a non-rated Seaman prior to reporting to the Defense Language Institute (DLI), Monterey, CA for Russian language training. He was selected to remain for six months of extended intermediate Russian language training. Among his many years of technical trainings and duties, he accumulated more than 1,000 flight hours (600 of which were combat flight hours in support of Operation Desert Storm, Southern Watch, Provide Hope, and Continue Hope). He was awarded an Individual Action Air Medal for a mission flown over Mogadishu, Somalia.

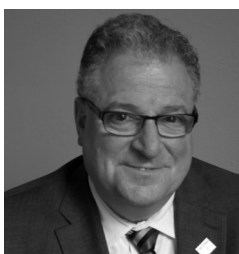
He returned to DLI for the Advanced Russian Interpreter course prior to duty with the On-Site Inspection Agency, now the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, in Washington, DC. He logged an additional 1,500 flight hours onboard the OC-135B Open Skies aircraft, the Navy Research Lab P-3C, ES-3 as well as 110

flight hours flown onboard a Russian IL-38 ASW aircraft, the first US-Navy Air Crewman to do so.

Master Chief Port holds a MS in Business Administration, a BS in Political Science and is a designated Master Linguist. His personal awards include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal, Navy Commendation Medal, and the Navy Achievement Medal.

### **Philip Horn - Reflections Breakfast Keynote**

*Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts.*



Philip is a trained facilitator with over twenty five years of experience. He is trained in the Technology of Participation developed by the Institute of Cultural Affairs in both facilitation and participatory strategic planning. Horn formerly served as Director of the Touring & Presenting Program and Arts in Education/Artists at the California Arts Council from 1982 to 1993. He was the first Managing Director of the East Lansing Arts Workshop.

In 2005 he received the Gary Young Award from the National Assembly of State Art Agencies. In 2011 he received the Excellence in Leadership from VSA, the International Organization for Art and Disability.

Philip was the recipient of the 2013 Annual Association of Performing Arts Presenters (APAP) award, The Sidney R. Yates Award for Outstanding Advocacy on Behalf of the Performing Arts. He is the first leader

of a state arts agency to receive this award.

Philip holds an honorary Doctorate from Juniata College in Huntingdon, PA, is the recipient of Pennsylvania PTA Honorary Lifetime Membership, and of the "Friend of Pennsylvania PTA" award. He served on the Board of Directors of the Mid-Atlantic Arts Foundation for 17 years and has also served on the National PTA board.

## Special Guests

### Representative Frank Farina - Town Hall Meeting

*115th Legislative District, Lackawanna and Wayne Counties*



Frank is an alumnus of Valley View High School in Archbald, PA. As the founder and president of Farina Landscaping, Inc., he has operated his own small business in the community since 2004. Frank and his wife Karla are the parents of three children: Antonio, Rocco, and Alexa. Frank has been active in his community. He is active in Christ the King Parish, the family of St. Anthony and the St. Ubaldo Society, as well as the Greater Scranton Area Chamber of Commerce and the National Rifle Association.

He is a member of a number of local civic and social organizations, including the Archbald/Eynon Lions Club and the Lone Pine Hunting Club. He is also a member/sponsor of the National Wild Turkey Federation.

His priorities include community and economic development, creating jobs with living wages, supporting small businesses, restoring cuts to school funding, protecting the environment, veterans, improvements to hunting and fishing and protecting our children.

### Morgan Owen Englehardt – Town Hall Meeting

*CACREP certified Secondary School Counselor, Valley View School District*



Morgan has a BS in Psychology, an MS in School Counselor Education Secondary from Marywood University. She has experience as a crisis worker, case manager, intake worker, and an outpatient therapist at local agencies in Lackawanna County for adolescents and adults.

She is a Past President of Chi Sigma Iota American Counselors Association, current member of North East Pennsylvania Counselors Association, and serves as a board member to the Lou Ruspi Jr. Foundation for suicide and mental health awareness.

### Dr. Lynn Heard - Town Hall Meeting

*DNP, CRNP, FNP-C, CSN, School Nurse, North Pocono School District*



Lynn has been the Certified School Nurse at North Pocono High School since 1996. Lynn also works as a Family Nurse Practitioner in a private family practice office. She completed her Doctorate of Nursing Practice degree from Wilkes University in January 2013. The focus of her doctoral study was on adolescent health with an emphasis on improving mental health outcomes.

She is active in suicide prevention efforts within the school and community and was instrumental in the implementation of a school based suicide screening program at North Pocono. Lynn received the Pennsylvania PTA Outstanding School Nurse Award for 2012-2013.

### Kathy Wallace - Town Hall Meeting

*President, Northeast Suicide Prevention Initiative*



Kathy is presently the President of the Northeast Suicide Prevention Initiative (NSPI), a new nonprofit organization dedicated to preventing suicides by advocacy, collaboration, and education. NSPI is located in Scranton and is run entirely by volunteers and is funded primarily by donations. NSPI provides survivor healing programs and trainings for the community, focusing on resources for clinician education. Kathy has a Master's Degree in Art Therapy from Marywood University.

In the recent past, Kathy had worked as the Director of Community Mental Health Services for 11 years at the Advocacy Alliance. Prior to that she worked as the Family Mental Health Advocate and the Site Coordinator of the Pennsylvania Garrett Lee Smith Grant Youth Suicide Prevention in Primary Care in Lackawanna and Luzerne Counties. Kathy's professional history started at the Scranton Counseling Center where she was an outpatient therapist in the children's department and had worked as a Base Unit Children's Coordinator of Services for 10 years prior to becoming an advocate.

## Special Ticketed Events

### FRIDAY – APRIL 4, 2014

#### Diversity Leadership Conference

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

*Note: Registration for this event is complimentary, but registration is required.*

##### **Diversity and Inclusion Today In Schools – Being More Inclusive Tomorrow**

*Presenter - Mauricio Velasquez, The Diversity Training Group*

Attendees will learn best practices skills and tools as they relate to: Diversity and Inclusion Today In Schools – Being More Inclusive Tomorrow; What is Diversity and Inclusion Today; How these issues can affect learning, morale, and engagement; and Building a D&I Tool Kit/Skill Kit.

##### **Diversity & Multiculturalism**

*Presenter - Ivelisse Castro, National PTA*

Participants will learn the National PTA's definition for diversity, the value of growing a more diverse PTA membership, and specific ways to engage diverse populations.

##### **Male Engagement**

*Presenter - Eric Snow, WATCH D.O.G.S.*

WATCH D.O.G.S. is an innovative program focusing on education and safety in schools by using the positive influence of fathers and father-figures to provide an extra set of eyes and ears to enhance school security and to provide positive and active male role-models for the students by spending at least one day working as a volunteer during the school year.

#### Healthy Lifestyles – “Boxing”

10:15 am – 11:00 am

*Presenter - Jen Heffentrager*

Learn the basics of boxing. This low intense workout is to have fun, learn, and burn a few calories.

*Cost: N/C Adults*

#### First Timers Orientation

11:15 am - 12:00 pm

*Presenters - Deborah Dunstone, Pennsylvania PTA President; Wanda Mendez, Convention Chair; Holly Feldman, Local Convention Coordinator; and Maryann Kolbeck, Parliamentarian*

If this is your first convention, you won't want to miss this! Members of the State Board of Managers will welcome you and answer your questions about what to expect. Also, learn how to participate in general meetings, review the parliamentary procedures, and more.

*Cost: N/C Adults*

#### Networking Reception: The Brain Show

10:00 pm - Midnight

Join us for a Networking Reception for convention attendees. This is the perfect opportunity for you to meet members of both the Pennsylvania PTA and National PTA boards, as well an opportunity to catch up with old friends and make a few new ones in a relaxed, social setting. Entertainment for the evening will be provided by The Brain Show. The Brain Show is as close as you can get to a real live TV game show. Over 1 million school children and thousands of educators across the country have applauded "The Brain Show's" curriculum and team work concepts. Join in the fun and experience a program that you can bring back to your school as an educational assembly or "Family Fun Night".

Light refreshments and a cash bar will be available.

*Note: Registration for this event is complimentary, but registration is required.*

## Special Ticketed Events

### SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2014

#### Healthy Lifestyles – “Combat”

6:30 am to 7:15 am

*Instructor - Kelly Clefish, ACE Certified Personal Trainer*

Combat is a mixed martial arts workout program! Get ready to punch, kick, block, and strike your way to an outrageously shredded body.

#### Sponsor Appreciation Breakfast

8:00 am - 9:00 am

Join your State Board of Managers and fellow convention attendees at the annual Sponsor Appreciation Breakfast. Together, we will recognize and thank our generous convention sponsors for lending their financial support to the Pennsylvania PTA and its mission of supporting and speaking on behalf of **every child with one voice**.

*Cost: \$20*

*Breakfast includes: Farm Fresh Eggs, Country Style Red Bliss Potatoes, Applewood Smoked Bacon, Oven Roasted Tomato, Freshly Brewed Coffee, Decaffeinated Coffee, Assorted Hot Teas, Juice, and Basket of Breakfast Pastries.*

#### Speed Vending Boxed Lunch

12:00 pm - 1:30 pm

Purchase a ticket for a delicious box lunch and let the vendors come to you! During this event, the exhibitors will sit with a table of delegates who will then have the opportunity to gather information regarding their services or products. As a bell tolls, the next set of exhibitors will arrive at your table. At the end of this fast-paced event, you will have a brief introduction to all vendors in attendance, and will be able to join them in the vendor hall for more in-depth information.

*Cost: \$17.00*

*Each box contains: Choice of Roast Beef, Turkey, or Vegetarian Deli Sandwich on a Kaiser Roll, Bag of Potato Chips, Cookie, and Soda or Bottled Water.*

*Note: Indicate sandwich selection on Registration Form*

#### Town Hall Meeting

1:45 pm - 2:45 pm

*Speakers include: Morgan Englehardt, MS, Counselor at Valley View High School; Representative Frank Farina, 115<sup>th</sup> District; Dr. Lynn Heard, DNP, CRNP, CSN, North Pocono High School; Kathy Wallace, President of Northeast Suicide Prevention Initiative.*

Pennsylvania PTA will be hosting a Suicide Prevention Town Hall Meeting as part of our annual convention. This year's panelists are great resources that will be available to better inform attendees of risk factors, warning signs, and where to go for help.

*Note: There is no fee for this event, however registration is required.*

#### Pre-Banquet Reception

6:00 pm - 6:30 pm

All delegates are invited to join the Pennsylvania PTA President and members of the state board of managers as well as National PTA Representatives for a pre-banquet reception. Mingle with fellow PTA members from across that state, enjoy live entertainment, and celebrate PTA.

*Cost: N/C Adults. A cash bar will be available. Advanced registration is required.*

#### Voter ID Cards

Remember to send your signed Voter ID Card with your Registration Form!

All cards must be signed by the local PTA President.

Council delegates must have signatures of both the local president and council president.

## Special Ticketed Events

### Banquet

6:30 pm - 10:00 pm

Celebrate PTA at the annual convention banquet. The festivities begin with an enjoyable sit down meal and entertainment. Pennsylvania PTA will gather at the banquet to honor the best PTA has to offer: our local unit and council presidents; past state PTA presidents; Award Winning PTAs; recipient of the Dr. Walt Kealey Leadership Award; Outstanding School Nurse Award; and the President's Choice Award: Champion for Children.

*Cost: \$35 Entrée choices are: Choice of Chicken Saltimbocca with Prosciutto, Sage, and Marsala; Herb Marinated Flat Iron Steak; Pasta Primavera (Fettuccini Pasta with Fresh Vegetables). Meal served with Garden Salad, Oven Roasted Potato, Chef's Choice of Vegetable, Rolls & Butter, Chef's Choice of Dessert, Freshly Brewed Coffee, Decaffeinated Coffee, Assorted Hot Teas.*

*Note: Indicate Entrée selection on Registration Form*

## SUNDAY, APRIL 6, 2014

### Reflections Awards Breakfast

8:30 am - 10:30 am

For nearly 50 years, the National PTA Reflections Program has encouraged students across the nation to explore their artistic talents. PTA believes that all children deserve a quality arts education and encourages students to pursue artistic expression through participation in the annual Reflections Program. Join us for the Annual Reflections Awards Breakfast as we honor and recognize our talented students. The students' artwork themed around "Believe, Dream, Inspire" will be on display throughout Convention weekend and the students will be our honored guests at this event. Join us as we celebrate their accomplishments.

This year's event is sure to be a "magical" experience! New for 2014, we have added a strolling magician who will stroll around performing thrilling, mind-boggling magic tricks right before your very eyes during the breakfast portion of the awards breakfast. The keynote speaker for this celebration will be Philip Horn, Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts.

*Cost: \$20 Adults; \$15 Children ages 4-10; No charge for children under age 4 (advance registration is still required). Buffet includes: Sliced Fresh Fruit, Scrambled Eggs, Pancakes w/ Warm Maple Syrup, Sausage, Home Fries, Muffins, Freshly Brewed Coffee, Decaffeinated Coffee, Assorted Hot Teas, Fruit Juices, Milk.*

### Notice of the Annual Meeting of the Keystone PTA\*

Saturday, April 5, 2014

12:30 pm - 1:00 pm

Radisson Hotel Valley Forge, 1160 First Avenue, King of Prussia, PA 19406

Please check in at the convention desk upon arrival for meeting room location.

\*The Keystone PTA, a state-wide PTA unit, was created for individuals who care about children, believe in the mission of the PTA and would like to become a member, but are not necessarily affiliated with a specific school or community based PTA. Go to [www.papta.org/keystone](http://www.papta.org/keystone) for more information.



*You folks better pack your membership cards!... I hear Mary won't give you your credentials without it!*

*She's right! Remember your card.*



## General Meetings

The primary purpose of Convention is to conduct the business of the association. This is an opportunity for delegates to influence the direction of the Pennsylvania PTA for the next year and term. In addition to business, meetings are filled with motivating and informative speakers, exciting student entertainment, award presentations, and much, much more.

Three general meetings are scheduled to carry out Pennsylvania PTA business. Delegates are responsible for attending these meetings, and are encouraged to take notes for reporting back to their local PTA units and councils.

**General Meeting I** will be held on Friday evening and the Keynote Speaker will be Mauricio A. Velasquez, President of The Diversity Training Group. Inspiration and greetings will also be offered by National PTA Service Representative, Ivelisse Castro. Also on the agenda will be the adoption of the convention rules, the independent audit report, and proposed amendments to the Pennsylvania PTA bylaws.

**General Meeting II** is scheduled for Saturday morning and the Keynote Speaker will be Eric Snow from Watch D.O.G.S. All unfinished business from General Meeting I will take place at this meeting. In addition, there will be recognition of the “First Timers” to convention, new local units in the state, and the recipients of National PTA Awards. Passport to Leadership pins and bars will be awarded. The agenda for this meeting will also include the reports of the President, the Legislation & Advocacy Committee, and the Reflections Committee.

**General Meeting III** (only if needed to complete unfinished business) will be held on Sunday morning following the Reflections Awards Breakfast.

## Workshop Descriptions

### KEY WORKSHOP AREAS

Each workshop has been assigned at least one key area to assist delegates in their workshop selection process. ‘Key Areas’ are noted with each of the workshop descriptions. Attendees are welcome to attend any workshop during each of the sessions

A = Legislation & Advocacy

F = Family Engagement

H = Health & Safety

L = Leadership

P = Programs / Partnerships

### SESSION 1 WORKSHOPS

**FRIDAY – APRIL 4, 2014**

**1:30 PM – 2:30 PM**

#### **101 Building Today’s PTA – Recruiting Today’s Families**

*Presenter - Duane Wright, National PTA*

Learn how building a relevant and modern PTA attracts new and diverse members, engages volunteers, and meets community needs. Discuss simple yet powerful membership recruitment ideas that have been proven to work when trying to recruit today’s families.

Key Areas - L, P

## Workshop Descriptions

### **102 Advocacy 101: Anyone can be an advocate for children. Learn how you can help change things in schools by working with your legislators.**

*Presenters - Pennsylvania PTA Legislation & Advocacy Committee: Wanda Mendez, Sharon Sitch-Brode, Mark Conner*

Advocacy was the cornerstone of PTA's founding in 1897. Nearly 117 years later, we continue to fight for our nation's children each and every day. Explore how PTA advocacy works at the federal, state, and local levels in this informative workshop designed for today's PTA advocate. Key Area - A

### **103 What is going on in the brains of children with ADHD?**

*Presenter - Dr. David Shapiro, Brain Balance Achievement Center of PA*

Learn the latest information on what is happening in the brains of children that have ADHD, Dyslexia, and Autism. Key Area - H

### **104 WATCH D.O.G.S**

*Presenter - Eric Snow, WATCH D.O.G.S.*

This program is a one-of-a-kind school-based initiative building on the personal capital already available - fathers and father-figures of students. Every attendee will walk away with the 7 Steps to Success for launching the WATCH D.O.G.S.® program in their school(s) to support education and school safety through positive male role models. Women and men should attend this workshop. Key Area - F, P

## **SESSION 2 WORKSHOPS**

**FRIDAY – APRIL 4, 2014**

**2:45 PM – 3:45 PM**

### **201 What's Your Backup Plan?**

*Presenter – AIM - TBD*

Attend this informative insurance workshop to find out how to protect yourself and your PTA. Key Area - L

### **202 Statewide Initiatives and Resources for Schools and Communities**

*Presenters - Pennsylvania Department of Education, Office for Safe Schools: Mary Dolan, Joe Loccisano, Pamela Emery*

The Office for Safe Schools will provide an overview of statewide initiatives which support safe and secure learning environments. Participants will receive information on bullying prevention, school climate surveys, and updates on the Student Assistance Program. Key Area - H

### **203 Management of Juvenile Diabetes**

*Presenters - Pennsylvania Athletic Trainers Society: Scott Deitrich, Amy Ruhf*

The objective of this session to highlight the tools necessary to identify, appropriately manage, and treat juvenile diabetes. Key Area - H

### **204 Understanding How Diversity & Inclusion Can Affect Schools**

*Presenter - Mauricio Velasquez, The Diversity Training Group*

Learn what it means to be a change agent. Attendees will gain the skills and tools needed, and will review best practices. Key Area - A



## Workshop Descriptions

### SESSION 3 WORKSHOPS

FRIDAY – APRIL 4, 2014

4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

#### 301 Retaining Today's PTA Members

*Presenter - Ivelisse Castro, National PTA*

This workshop will help PTAs understand the power of retention as a base for membership growth. Learn how to use proven association renewal process models, engage members, and stay connected throughout the year in order to increase retention rates. Keep your PTA units strong and viable by retaining the members you have worked hard to recruit.

Key Area - L

#### 302 State Education Budget Cuts: The Impact on Local Classrooms

*Presenters - Jim Buckheit, Pennsylvania Association of School Administrators; Jay Himes, Pennsylvania Association of School Business Officials*

For three consecutive years, the Pennsylvania Association of School Business Officials (PASBO) and the Pennsylvania School Administrators Association (PASA) have conducted an annual survey on Pennsylvania's school districts to discover the impact of state education budget cuts on local school districts. Learn first-hand about the elimination of programs, increases in class size, reduction of elective courses, delayed textbook purchases and the ultimate impact on student achievement.

Key Area - P

#### 303 Small Games of Chance

*Presenter - Sgt. McGuinness, Pennsylvania State Police*

This workshop will include an overview of the most recent legislative changes to the Small Games of Chance laws and an in-depth discussion on how it affects schools and community groups. Discussion will include the application and procedure for obtaining SMOC permits or licenses, permitted games, prize limits, and record keeping requirements.

Key Area - L

#### 304 How to Fund Your PTA

*Presenter - Duane Wright, National PTA*

Participants will gain practical skills and hear real-world insights that will help them understand how to increase their PTA's revenue, regardless of their past experience in fundraising or grant-writing.

Key Area - L

### SESSION 4 WORKSHOPS

SATURDAY – APRIL 5, 2014

3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

#### 401 Making Connections: Family Engagement in Afterschool and Out-of-School Time

*Presenter - Caroline Allen, Pennsylvania Statewide Afterschool Youth Development Network*

How can parents collaborate with Afterschool and OST providers?

Key Areas – F, P

#### 402 "Oh, The Places You'll Go. . .but How Did Good PTA Advocacy Get the PTA to 2014?"

*Presenter - Sandra Zelno, Past State President, Pennsylvania PTA*

Come on in and experience hands-on relationships with fellow advocates who will explain the decades of advocacy that made the PTA great. Learn why today is the time for the greatest advocacy of all!

Key Area - A

## Workshop Descriptions

### **403 Road Radio USA: Preventing Underage Drinking and Promoting Highway Safety**

*Presenter - Jim Mothersbaugh, Road Radio USA*

The Road Radio presentation incorporates lights, audio, video, and teacher involvement around theatrical settings based on radio station themes for an assembly setting that has proven successful for 20 years.

Key Area - P

### **404 Preventing Theft in Your PTA**

*Presenter - Duane Wright, National PTA*

Participants will learn information focused on preventing theft, fraud, and embezzlement in their PTA.

Key Area - L

## SESSION 5 WORKSHOPS

**SATURDAY – APRIL 5, 2014**

**4:15 PM – 5:15 PM**

### **501 Purpose-Driven Family Engagement**

*Presenter - Mark Conner, Pennsylvania PTA*

Family Engagement is the heartbeat of PTA. Discover how to make your PTA a true partner in education with your school by developing purposeful family engagement activities and events that empower families, support teachers, and lead to more successful outcomes for students. It's time to re-charge your PTA!

Key Area - F

### **502 How Can I Help You? Engaging Students and Parents in Your School's Library**

*Presenter - Michael Nailor, Pennsylvania School Librarians Association*

Quality school library programs are essential to the education of our students. Come hear the top 10 ways school libraries can help students and parents.

Key Area - P

### **503 Artist in Residence Programs**

*Presenter - Pearl Schaeffer, Pennsylvania Council on the Arts*

This workshop will provide participants with information about how to bring arts residencies taught by master teaching artists to schools with sponsorship by the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts Division of Arts in Education. Then, participants will engage in a sample art-making lesson led by a southeastern Pennsylvania teaching artist.

Key Area - P

### **504 The Meeting has been "Called to Order"... Now What?**

*Presenter - Maryann Kolbeck, Parliamentarian, Pennsylvania PTA*

This workshop will assist Local Unit/Council Presidents in preparing an agenda, in the correct order of business, according to Robert's Rule of Order, PTA's Parliamentary Authority. Know what to expect when attending a business meeting and the rights and privileges that come with being a member of a Local Unit/Council. Learn the "8 Simple Rules" to process a motion.

Key Area - L

## Awards

All awards will be presented at the Saturday evening Banquet.

The Awards Committee will select the winning entries for the following awards:

- ◆ Most Outstanding Published Article (\*\*)
- ◆ PTA/PTSA Unit of the Year Award (\*\*)
- ◆ Outstanding School Nurse Award (\*)
- ◆ PTA/PTSA Wellness Award (\*\*)
- ◆ Dr. Walt Kealey Leadership Award (\*)

Convention delegates will have the opportunity to vote for the following local unit and council awards:

- ◆ Most Outstanding Membership Promotion (\*\*)
- ◆ Most Outstanding Newsletter (Print) (\*\*)
- ◆ Most Outstanding Newsletter (Digital) (\*\*)

The President's Choice Award: Champions for Children will be selected by the Pennsylvania PTA President.

*(All entries are to be sent directly to the state PTA office and must be postmarked no later than February 1 (\*) or March 1 (\*\*). Complete rules and entry forms are available online at [www.papta.org/Awards](http://www.papta.org/Awards) in the Members Only section.)*



**Join fellow PTA advocates for this exciting three-day event that provides in-depth discussion about PTA's public policy priorities through interactive workshops, keynote speakers, advocacy trainings and more. The conference will close on Capitol Hill where attendees have the opportunity to put their skills and expertise to use through visits with their Members of Congress.**

**What: National PTA Legislative Conference**

**When: March 11-13, 2014**

**Where: Crystal City, Virginia**

**Who can attend: Registration is open to anyone! Beginner advocates are welcome.**

**How to Register: Visit National PTA's website [www.pta.org](http://www.pta.org)**

## April is the Month of the Military Child in NPTA's Every Child in Focus Campaign



Each month, National PTA will be spotlighting the educational challenges surrounding a particular group highlighting their achievements, and focusing on ways to strengthen Family-School Partnerships.

During the month of April, the focus will be on the educational challenges faced by our military families and children. To learn more about the Every Child in Focus campaign visit [www.pta.org/everychild](http://www.pta.org/everychild). You will be able to access materials that will help families and PTAs learn about the group of children "in focus" each month.



## Diversity Leadership Conference (DLC)

*Providing useful skills to help you lead today's diverse PTA!*

Decades of research prove that when families are actively involved in their child's education student achievement improves, students earn higher grades and test scores, they have fewer disciplinary referrals, and schools get better as a result.

Twenty-first century schools and PTAs are more diverse. It is important to be receptive and responsive to all families. The DLC is designed to increase your capacity to foster a spirit of inclusivity and acceptance of everyone. Come and learn strategies and techniques to effectively engage and support all the diverse groups and cultures in your school and community.

Hear national speakers at this pre-convention session including:  
Mauricio Velasquez, President of The Diversity Training Group (DTG)  
Eric Snow, WATCH D.O.G.S. (Dads of Great Students)  
Ivelisse Castro, National PTA Service Representative



***THE PLACE TO BE IS THE DLC!***

Friday, April 4, 2014 from 8:30 am to noon

*Refer to page 12 for more information.*



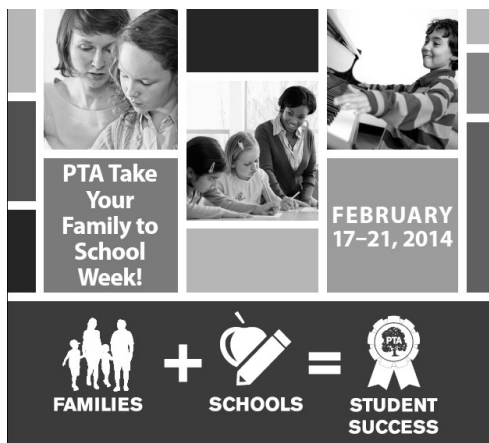
***Exercise your right to VOTE!***

*Delegates will receive an Award Voting Ballot upon registering at the PTA Registration Desk.*

*Vote for your favorite entries Friday 11am to 7pm and Saturday 8am to 4pm.*

*Award winners will be announced during the Saturday Banquet.*

## “PTA Take Your Family to School Week” - February 17-21



### National PTA launches toolkit to empower schools and PTAs across the country with resources to strengthen family engagement.

As part of the ongoing efforts to strengthen family engagement in education, National PTA announced the launch of a digital toolkit to empower parents, teachers and administrators with resources to help build family-school partnerships. The toolkit, available by visiting [www.pta.org/tvftsw](http://www.pta.org/tvftsw), is aimed at supporting PTAs and schools across the country for participating in *PTA Take Your Family to School Week*.

This year, *PTA Take Your Family to School Week*, February 17-21, incorporates the theme “Supporting Student Success.” The timing of the week honors PTA Founders’ Day (February 17). Throughout the week, PTAs and schools are encouraged to partner to host family-focused events with an emphasis on the theme. The initiative is sponsored by the AXA Foundation, the philanthropic arm of AXA Equitable, and a proud national sponsor of PTA.

The toolkit features resources to help PTA leaders, teachers, and administrators host family events to address risks associated with high school drop-out. These activities will occur nationwide during *PTA Take Your Family to School Week*. The toolkit includes downloadable template materials, guides, lesson plans, and tip sheets designed to encourage parents to support student success, prevent bullying, increase arts participation, and improve literacy and math skills.

In addition to launching the toolkit, National PTA awarded fifty-one \$1,000 grants to local PTAs from across the country for efforts to improve family engagement and support student success through *PTA Take Your Family to School Week*. The PTAs were selected to receive the grants from more than 140 applicants. Pennsylvania PTA congratulates **Melrose Mustangs PTA, Harrisburg** for being one of the grant recipients!

*PTA Take Your Family to School Week* reinforces PTA’s legacy and mission to promote children’s educational success and health and well-being through strong family involvement. For more information about PTA Take Your Family to School Week and to view the digital toolkit, visit [www.pta.org/tvftsw](http://www.pta.org/tvftsw).



## Male Engagement - Dads’ Initiative Essay Contest

Submit your essay on

***"What a Father-Figure Did to Make Your Holiday Special"***

to the Pennsylvania PTA at [info@papta.org](mailto:info@papta.org)

The winning essayist will be awarded a \$100 cash prize and a certificate at this year's convention.

Entries must be received by March 1<sup>st</sup>.



## Vacancies on the Pennsylvania PTA State Board of Managers

The following positions on the state board of managers are currently vacant:



Region 6 Director  
Region 11 Director  
Region 14 Director  
Bylaws & Policies Chair  
Legislation & Advocacy Chair  
Resource Development Chair  
Technology & Social Media Chair

Anyone interested in more information about the qualification and eligibility requirements and the duties of the positions is asked to contact the Pennsylvania PTA office by emailing [info@papta.org](mailto:info@papta.org) or calling 717-564-8985.

Vacancies will be considered at the next board of managers meeting being held on April 3, 2014. If you wish to be considered at that time, please submit a signed Consent to Serve Form, copy of a 2013-2014 PTA membership card, Resume of PTA activities, and at least one letter of recommendation to the state PTA office on or before **March 28, 2014**.

## Pennsylvania Honorary Life Membership Award (PLM)

The Pennsylvania PTA Honorary Life Membership Award is designed to be presented to individuals who have made significant contributions to the growth and development of children and PTA.

### Why present an Honorary State Life Membership Award?

In every PTA, there are individuals who have volunteered their time to help build PTA into an effective organization. This special recognition is a PTA's "thank you" to those people for their time, effort, strong belief in, work with, and support of PTA.

### Who might be a worthy recipient?

- ◆ PTA members who have demonstrated devotion to children and PTA.
- ◆ School representatives such as teachers, principals, superintendents, support staff, cafeteria staff, building custodians, and school board members who have given leadership and service to the PTA, or have demonstrated outstanding dedication to the students and PTA.
- ◆ Community members who made outstanding contributions to children, PTA, or public education.
- ◆ Local business owners who have shown support to children and PTA.

### What are ways a PLM could be presented?

- ◆ During a PTA activity or function where a large number of members will be in attendance.
- ◆ During the Founders' Day celebration.
- ◆ At a school board meeting (if presenting to a school board member).

Be sure to publicize the presentation (such as an article and photo in the local newspaper and school/PTA newsletters!

*To learn more about ordering and presenting a Pennsylvania Honorary Life Membership, visit [www.papta.org](http://www.papta.org) (Members Only section - Awards).*

## PTA Founders' Day - February 17

### What is Founders' Day?

Founders' Day is when we celebrate the legacy and work of our founders - Alice McLellan Birney, Phoebe Apperson Hearst, and Selena Sloan Butler. It's a time to reflect and take pride in our achievements, and renew our commitment to be a:

- ◆ powerful voice for all children;
- ◆ relevant resource for parents; and
- ◆ strong advocate for public education.

Our founders represented women of imagination and courage. They had a simple idea... *To improve the lives and future of all children.* They understood the power of individual action, worked beyond the accepted barriers of their day, and took action to change the world for all children.



### How Can Your PTA Celebrate Founders' Day?

Each year, PTAs organize Founders' Day events to celebrate our legacy, success and power as a leading voice speaking for all children. These events are designed to raise awareness of PTA's achievements in three, key ways.

**First**, Founders' Day activities promote an understanding of the shared vision and legacy of our founders. As engaged parents and children's advocates over 100 years ago, their efforts saw lasting improvements in the education, health and wellbeing of children that resonate today.

**Second**, how PTA enriches a community is highlighted as a central part of a Founders' Day celebration at your school and in your community. Share your PTA's goals, achievements and activities to showcase the impact and value of PTA in your community.

**Lastly**, Founders' Day provides an opportunity to recognize your hard-working volunteers and community partners for their outstanding service to children. Say thank you to these special individuals and organizations by presenting an **Honorary Pennsylvania Life Membership Award** to acknowledge their time, effort and dedication to children and to PTA.

### Ideas on ways to celebrate Founders' Day

- ◆ Hold a Family Dance (invite all families, not just members – but be sure to provide everyone the opportunity to join PTA).
- ◆ Hold an indoor Family Fun Day (such as various sporting events, activities).
- ◆ Hold school wide events that involve all of the stakeholders – students, parents, educators, school staff and community partners – in your community.
- ◆ Publish a newsletter or flyer dedicated to PTA Founders' Day that features information on your PTA's milestones, and activities that showcases the efforts of volunteers, teachers, school staff and community partners who always go that extra mile for PTA.
- ◆ Share the history and impact of PTA as the premier organization that builds strong family-school partnerships.
- ◆ Engage students in planning and presenting the program.

### How has Your PTA celebrated Founders' Day?

Send your ideas to [info@papta.org](mailto:info@papta.org).

Learn more about Founders' Day by visiting the National PTA website [www.pta.org](http://www.pta.org)  
(About PTA tab then select National PTA History)



# Proposed Pennsylvania PTA Bylaw Amendments

## Amendment 1

### Article X: Board of Managers, Section 3, Membership

Amend subsection a. by inserting the word “regular” before the word “meetings” in the second sentence to read:

“A member of the state office, as determined by the President, shall sit with the board of managers at all **regular** meetings,

Present Form:	Proposed Amendment:
<p><b>Article X: Board of Managers</b>  <b>Section 3. Membership</b>                      a. The members of the board shall be the elected officers, thirteen (13) region directors, eight (8) chairmen of standing committees: Arts in Education; Bylaws and Policies; Family Engagement; Health and Safety; Legislation and Advocacy; Membership and Extension; Resource Development; Technology and Social Media.                      A member of the state office staff, as determined by the President, shall sit with the board of managers at all meetings, but may be excluded from the meetings at which personnel or salary schedules are considered. No vacant position shall be represented.</p>	<p><b>Article X: Board of Managers</b>  <b>Section 3. Membership</b>                      a. The members of the board shall be the elected officers, thirteen (13) region directors, eight (8) chairmen of standing committees: Arts in Education; Bylaws and Policies; Family Engagement; Health and Safety; Legislation and Advocacy; Membership and Extension; Resource Development; Technology and Social Media.                      A member of the state office staff, as determined by the President, shall sit with the board of managers at all <b>regular</b> meetings, but may be excluded from the meetings at which personnel or salary schedules are considered. No vacant position shall be represented.</p>

**Rationale:** Inserting the word regular describes the quarterly required face to face board of managers meetings when a staff member, as designated by the President, is necessary to be in attendance to give the Office Report, assist the President by disbursing meeting materials, assist when a ballot vote is taken, etc. A staff member does not need to be present during board of managers teleconference meetings.

## Amendment 2

### Article X: Board of Managers, Section 4, Term of Office

Amend by striking subsections a., b., and c. in their entirety and by inserting new subsections a., b., c., d., e., and f. to read:

“**a. Officers: Refer to Article VIII: Officers, Section 5. b.**

**b. All board members shall be elected for a term of two (2) years. (Convention to Convention is considered one (1) year.)**

**c. A person shall be eligible to serve for no more than two (2) terms as a region director.**

**d. Chairmen of standing committees shall be eligible to serve for no more than two (2) terms in the same chairmanship.**

**e. Any (all) board members having served more than half a term shall be credited with having served a full term.**

**f. The term of office for all board members shall automatically expire at the close of the annual convention held in odd numbered years. All board members shall serve until their successors are elected, not to exceed sixty (60) days, unless as provided for in Article XVIII: State Convention, Section 6.”**

Present Form:	Proposed Amendment:
<p><b>Article X: Board of Managers</b>  <b>Section 4. Term of Office</b>                      a. Chairmen of standing committees shall be elected for a term of two (2) years. A person shall be eligible to serve for two (2) terms (4 years) in the same chairmanship.                       b. The term of office of board members shall automatically expire with the convention held in the presidential election year. However, a chairman may serve until his/her successor assumes responsibility for an interim period of not longer than sixty (60) days.</p>	<p><b>Article X: Board of Managers</b>  <b>Section 4. Term of Office</b>  <del>a. Chairmen of standing committees shall be elected for a term of two (2) years. A person shall be eligible to serve for two (2) terms (4 years) in the same chairmanship.</del>   <del>b. The term of office of board members shall automatically expire with the convention held in the presidential election year. However, a chairman may serve until his/her successor assumes responsibility for an interim period of not longer than sixty (60) days.</del></p>



# Proposed Pennsylvania PTA Bylaw Amendments

Present Form:	Proposed Amendment:
<p>c. A chairman of a standing committee having served more than half a term shall be credited with having served a full term.</p>	<p><del>e. A chairman of a standing committee having served more than half a term shall be credited with having served a full term.</del></p> <p><b>a. Officers: Refer to Article VIII: Officers, Section 5.b.</b></p> <p><b>b. All board members shall be elected for a term of two (2) years. (Convention to Convention is considered one (1) year.)</b></p> <p><b>c. A person shall be eligible to serve for no more than two (2) terms as a region director.</b></p> <p><b>d. Chairmen of standing committees shall be eligible to serve for no more than two (2) terms in the same chairmanship.</b></p> <p><b>e. Any (all) board members having served more than half a term shall be credited with having served a full term.</b></p> <p><b>f. The term of office for all board members shall automatically expire at the close of the annual convention held in odd numbered years. All board members shall serve until their successors are elected, not to exceed sixty (60) days, unless as provided for in Article XVIII: State Convention, Section 6.</b></p>

**Rationale:** Subsections a. b. and c. should be struck in their entirety because they reference only chairmen of standing committees and this Article is entitled "Board of Managers". Inserting new subsections a. through f. causes the state bylaws to be user-friendly. Members will be able to look in one area to find terms of office for all members of the board of managers. Inserting subsections a. through f. explains/defines the terms of office for all members of the board of managers, as the Article title indicates.

## Amendment 3

### **Article X: Board of Managers, Section 5, Vacancies in non-officer positions**

Amend subsection a. by inserting the words "region director position or in a" before the word "chairmanship" to read:  
 "a. A vacancy occurring in a **region director position or in a** chairmanship shall be filled for the unexpired term by a person elected by the board of managers."

Present Form:	Proposed Amendment:
<p><b>Article X: Board of Managers</b>  <b>Section 5. Vacancies in non-officer positions</b>            a. A vacancy occurring in a chairmanship shall be filled for the unexpired term by a person elected by the board of managers.</p>	<p><b>Article X: Board of Managers</b>  <b>Section 5. Vacancies in non-officer positions</b>            a. A vacancy occurring in a <b>region director position or in a</b> chairmanship shall be filled for the unexpired term by a person elected by the board of managers.</p>

**Rationale:** : Currently there is no mention of region directors in this section of the bylaws, therefore, there is no provision to fill a vacancy in the position of a region director.

# Proposed Pennsylvania PTA Bylaw Amendments

## Amendment 4

### Article XIII: Committees, Section 1, Standing Committees

Amend subsection c. Election of Standing Committee Chairman, ii. by substitution to read: **“Election shall be on the first day of convention, except as provided in ARTICLE XVIII, Section 6. When there is but one candidate for a chairmanship, the ballot for that chairmanship may be dispensed with and election held by voice vote immediately following the close of nominations. If there is more than one nominee for a chairmanship, election for that chairmanship shall be by ballot on the second day of convention. A majority vote shall be required for election. If there are more than two nominees for a chairmanship and a nominee does not receive a majority vote on the first ballot, re-balloting shall take place on the two nominees receiving the highest votes.”**

Present Form:	Proposed Amendment:
<p><b>Article XIII: Committees</b>  <b>Section 1. Standing Committees</b>  c. Election of Standing Committee Chairmen  i. Committee chairmen shall be elected biennially, in odd number years, at the annual convention by the voting body of the convention except as provided in Article XVIII, Section 6.</p> <p>ii. Election shall be on the first day of convention, except as provided in Article XVIII, Section 6. Election of chairmen of standing committees shall be by ballot, except if there is but one (1) candidate for a chairmanship it shall be in order that the election shall be by voice vote. A majority of votes cast shall constitute an election. If there are more than two nominees for a chairmanship and a nominee does not receive a majority vote on the first ballot, re-balloting shall take place for the two nominees receiving the highest votes.</p>	<p><b>Article XIII: Committees</b>  <b>Section 1. Standing Committees</b>  c. Election of Standing Committee Chairmen  i. Committee chairmen shall be elected biennially, in odd number years, at the annual convention by the voting body of the convention except as provided in Article XVIII, Section 6.</p> <p><del>ii. Election shall be on the first day of convention, except as provided in Article XVIII, Section 6. Election of chairmen of standing committees shall be by ballot, except if there is but one (1) candidate for a chairmanship it shall be in order that the election shall be by voice vote. A majority of votes cast shall constitute an election. If there are more than two nominees for a chairmanship and a nominee does not receive a majority vote on the first ballot, re-balloting shall take place for the two nominees receiving the highest votes.</del></p> <p><b>ii. Election shall be on the first day of convention, except as provided in ARTICLE XVIII, Section 6. When there is but one candidate for a chairmanship, the ballot for that chairmanship may be dispensed with and election held by voice vote immediately following the close of nominations. If there is more than one nominee for a chairmanship, election for that chairmanship shall be by ballot on the second day of convention. A majority vote shall be required for election. If there are more than two nominees for a chairmanship and a nominee does not receive a majority vote on the first ballot, re-balloting shall take place on the two nominees receiving the highest votes.</b></p>

**Rationale:** Passing this amendment would align the election of standing committee chairmen with the election of officers in Article VIII: Officers, Section 4. Also, when an election by ballot is necessary, it has been the custom (past practice) of the Pennsylvania PTA to hold the election on the second day of convention. It is impossible to meet the current requirement of electing standing committee chairmen on the first day of convention in the event a ballot election is required.

# Proposed Pennsylvania PTA Bylaw Amendments

## Amendment 5

### Article XIII: Committees, Section 5. Committee on Elections

Amend subsection b. by striking the words “that state officers are elected” at the end of the sentence and by inserting the words “odd numbered” before the words “years” to read: "The committee shall be elected at the winter meeting in **odd numbered** years."

Present Form:	Proposed Amendment:
<b>Article XIII: Committees</b> <b>Section 5. Committee on Elections</b> b. The committee shall be elected at the winter meeting in years that state officers are elected.	<b>Article XIII: Committees</b> <b>Section 5. Committee on Elections</b> b. The committee shall be elected at the winter meeting in <b>odd numbered</b> years. <del>that state officers are elected.</del>

**Rationale:** When this bylaw was written, the convention delegates elected only officers at convention and not the entire board of managers as they do now. Therefore, this amendment explains when the election actually happens and not who is elected.

## Amendment 6

### Article XIII: Committees, Section 5. Committee on Elections

Amend subsection d. ii. by striking the words “and standing committee chairmanship with sufficient space for write-in votes” to read: "be responsible for the printing of ballots, which shall show the names of all nominees for each office, if ballots are used, or for providing voting machines when necessary;"

Present Form:	Proposed Amendment:
<b>Article XIII: Committees</b> <b>Section 5. Committee on Elections</b> d. The committee on elections shall:  ii. be responsible for the printing of ballots, which shall show the names of all nominees for each office and standing committee chairmanship with sufficient space for write-in votes, if ballots are used, or for providing voting machines when necessary;	<b>Article XIII: Committees</b> <b>Section 5. Committee on Elections</b> d. The committee on elections shall:  ii. be responsible for the printing of ballots, which shall show the names of all nominees for each office, <del>and standing committee chairmanship with sufficient space for write-in votes,</del> if ballots are used, or for providing voting machines when necessary;

**Rationale:** The reference to write-in votes is in direct conflict with the thirty days notice requirement in Article XIII: Committees, Section 4.i. which states “*The committee is to report its list of nominees for state officers, region directors, and standing committee chairmen to the convention body on the first day of the session at which time additional nominations may be made from the floor provided they have given thirty (30) days prior written notice to the state office of their intent to be nominated and the written consent of the nominee shall have been secured. Nominations shall then be closed for that convention.*” Bylaws should never be in direct conflict with each other.

## Amendment 7

### Article XIV: Regions/Councils, Section 1

Amend by inserting the words “with each Region being represented by a region director serving on the state board of managers” after the word “Regions” to read: “The Pennsylvania PTA is divided into geographical divisions referred to as Regions with each Region being represented by a region director serving on the state board of managers.”

Present Form:	Proposed Amendment:
Article XIV: Regions/Councils Section 1. The Pennsylvania PTA is divided into geographical divisions referred to as Regions.	Article XIV: Regions/Councils Section 1. The Pennsylvania PTA is divided into geographical divisions referred to as Regions <b>with each Region being represented by a region director serving on the state board of managers.</b>

**Rationale:** Currently there is no specific Article referring to region directors in the State Bylaws.

# Proposed Pennsylvania PTA Bylaw Amendments

## Amendment 8

### Article XIV: Regions/Councils

Amend by inserting a new Section 2 and by renumbering the remaining sections to read: **“Region directors shall have served as a local unit or council president or as an elected member of the board of managers prior to being elected as region director. Region directors must reside in or adjacent to the region of their election.”**

Present Form:	Proposed Amendment:
<p><b>Article XIV: Regions/Councils</b> Section 1. The Pennsylvania PTA is divided into geographical divisions referred to as Regions.</p> <p>Section 2. a. Regions are comprised of councils and local PTAs within their borders.</p> <p>#b. Current membership must be verified for voting privileges.</p>	<p><b>Article XIV: Regions/Councils</b> Section 1. The Pennsylvania PTA is divided into geographical divisions referred to as Regions.</p> <p><b>Section 2. Region directors shall have served as a local unit or council president or as an elected member of the board of managers prior to being elected as region director. Region directors must reside in or adjacent to the region of their election.</b></p> <p>Section 3. a. Regions are comprised of councils and local PTAs within their borders.</p> <p>#b. Current membership must be verified for voting privileges.</p>

**Rationale:** Currently there is no mention of qualifications and/or eligibility requirements for region directors in the State Bylaws. The region directors’ qualifications and eligibility requirements are mentioned (exactly as in this amendment) in the Standing Rules for the State Board of Managers, which can be amended at any meeting of the board of managers by a majority vote with notice or by a two-thirds vote without notice. Standing Rules are meant to be procedural, according to RONR, and the qualifications and eligibility of board members should not be amended/suspended at the will of just the board of managers, but rather by an amendment approved by the Bylaws & Policies Committee, the board of managers and then the general membership, with notice.

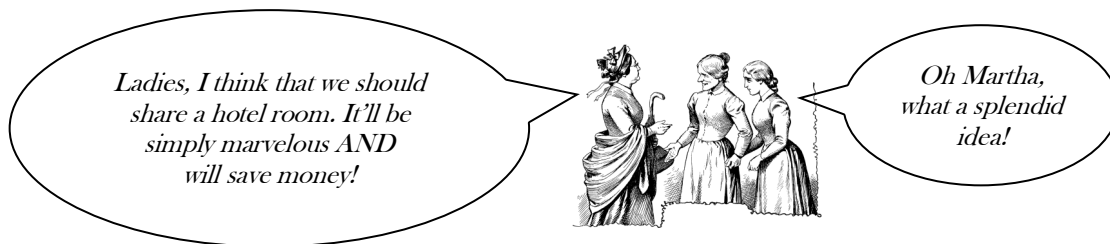
## Amendment 9

### Article XIV: Regions/Councils

Amend by inserting a new Section 4. **Election of Region Directors** and renumbering the remaining sections to read:

#### “Section 4. Election of Region Directors

- a. **Region directors shall be elected biennially, in odd numbered years, at the annual convention, by the voting body of the convention, except as provided in Article XVIII, Section 6.**
- b. **Election shall be on the first day of convention. When there is but one (1) candidate for a region director position, the ballot for that region director position may be dispensed with and election held by voice vote immediately following the close of nominations. If there is more than one (1) nominee for a region director position, election for that region director position shall be by ballot on the second day of convention. If there are more than two nominees for a region director position and a nominee does not receive a majority vote on the first ballot, re-balloting shall take place on the two nominees receiving the highest votes.”**



*Ladies, I think that we should share a hotel room. It'll be simply marvelous AND will save money!*

*Oh Martha, what a splendid idea!*

## Proposed Pennsylvania PTA Bylaw Amendments

Present Form:	Proposed Amendment:
	<p><b>Article XIV: Regions/Councils</b>  <b>Section 4. Election of Region Directors</b></p> <p>a. <b>Region directors shall be elected biennially, in odd numbered years, at the annual convention, by the voting body of the convention, except as provided in Article XVIII, Section 6.</b></p> <p>b. <b>Election shall be on the first day of convention. When there is but one (1) candidate for a region director position, the ballot for that region director position may be dispensed with and election held by voice vote immediately following the close of nominations. If there is more than one (1) nominee for a region director position, election for that region director position shall be by ballot on the second day of convention. If there are more than two nominees for a region director position and a nominee does not receive a majority vote on the first ballot, re-balloting shall take place on the two nominees receiving the highest votes.</b></p>

**Rationale:** Currently there is no provision for the election of region directors in the State Bylaws.

### Amendment 10

#### Article XVIII: State Convention, Section 1. Date and Place

Amend subsection a. by striking the word “April” inserting the word “October” to read: “A convention of the Pennsylvania PTA shall be held annually, in October, except under such conditions stated in Article XVIII, Section 5. The date and place shall be determined by the board of managers one (1) year or more in advance.” And by inserting a proviso to read: **“This amendment will become effective at the close of the Pennsylvania PTA annual convention 2015. The 2016 Pennsylvania PTA annual convention will be held in October of 2016.”**

Present Form:	Proposed Amendment:
<p><b>Article XVIII: State Convention</b>  Section 1. Date and Place</p> <p>a. A convention of the Pennsylvania PTA shall be held annually, in April, except under such conditions stated in Article XVIII, Section 5. The date and place shall be determined by the board of managers one (1) year or more in advance.</p>	<p><b>Article XVIII: State Convention</b>  Section 1. Date and Place</p> <p>a. A convention of the Pennsylvania PTA shall be held annually, in <del>April</del><b>October</b>, except under such conditions stated in Article XVIII, Section 5. The date and place shall be determined by the board of managers one (1) year or more in advance.</p> <p><b>Proviso: This amendment will become effective at the close of the Pennsylvania PTA annual convention 2015. The 2016 Pennsylvania PTA annual convention will be held in October of 2016.</b></p>

**Rationale:** Attendance at the Pennsylvania PTA Convention has been declining over the last ten (10) years. Delegates not attending the convention have said April is not a good time of the year, as Local Units are winding down and new leaders will be elected in May. Outgoing officers and board members feel it would be money better spent to send newly elected officers and board members to the annual convention.

To view a complete set of the current Pennsylvania PTA Bylaws visit [www.papta.org](http://www.papta.org).  
Log into the Members Only section and select *Bylaws*.

## Proposed Pennsylvania PTA Resolution

*The following resolution has been reviewed by the state Legislation & Advocacy Committee and approved by the state board of managers at its January 2014 meeting for submission to the convention body.*

### Youth Suicide

- Whereas, The current increase in youth suicide is affected by the lack of knowledge and resources available to those who need them; and
- Whereas, Over half of all youth suicides could have been prevented with proper suicide awareness training; and
- Whereas, Self-directed violent acts, fatal and non-fatal suicidal behavior, and non-suicidal intention of self-harm as in self-mutilation are all serious health issues; and
- Whereas, Children and youth are susceptible to high levels of stress, confusion, and a feeling of hopelessness related to various situations in their lives; therefore be it
- Resolved, The Pennsylvania PTA and its constituent associations support early screening and identification of suicidal behavior with input from mental health professionals; be it further
- Resolved, The Pennsylvania PTA and its constituent associations encourage the Pennsylvania Department of Education to require all faculty members and administrators of \*public school entities to complete at least four (4) hours of professional development training on suicide awareness every five (5) years; be it further
- Resolved, The Pennsylvania PTA and its constituent associations urge all public school entities to adopt model policies that deal with the prevention of suicide among youth, especially in grades 5 through 12; be it further
- Resolved, The Pennsylvania PTA and its constituent associations urge parents, community members, teachers and administrators to work together to develop a comprehensive school based suicide prevention program; and be it further
- Resolved, The Pennsylvania PTA and its constituent associations support legislation that will provide each public school entity with the needed resources (at no cost to the public school entity) such as online courses regarding youth suicide prevention, counseling, and awareness.

\* Public school entity is defined as a school district, joint school district, charter school, regional charter school, cyber charter school and intermediate or area vocational technical school.

**Pennsylvania School Breakfast Program**

- WHEREAS, Educators, realizing the important connection between learning and good nutrition, initiated the School Breakfast Program under the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (*recently updated and entitled: Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2013*) and made permanent by Congress in 1975 (*most recently on December 13, 2013*); and
- WHEREAS, Combined State and Federal reimbursements are designed to cover the full cost of a free breakfast for a low income child; and
- WHEREAS, Research has displayed many positive effects of school breakfast on the growth, health, and learning abilities of children; and
- WHEREAS, Pennsylvania PTA is an advocate of child nutrition; therefore be it
- RESOLVED, That Pennsylvania PTA encourage local units and councils to support the adoption of breakfast programs in their school districts; and be it further
- RESOLVED, That Pennsylvania PTA and its constituent ~~organizations~~ *associations* educate and inform their communities regarding benefits of school breakfast programs.

ADOPTED, April 2003  
AMENDED, April 2009

**Rationale:** National PTA has struck all references to organization in all of its documents and inserted the word association, therefore, the PA PTA must follow suit.

**Future Conventions...**

***Coming to an area near you???***

**Pennsylvania PTA is seeking locations for future conventions.**

**If your local PTA(s) or Council is interested in hosting a convention and there is a hotel and/or conference center in your area that is appropriate to hold convention, contact the state office to get more information on specifics and requirements.**

**Pennsylvania PTA  
info@ppta.org 717-564-8985**

# Pennsylvania PTA Resolutions - 5 Year Review - 2014

## Computer Pornography

- WHEREAS, In this technological age, access to personal computers (PC) at home and schools is increasingly available to children and youth; and
- WHEREAS, Children often use computers without close adult supervision; and
- WHEREAS, It is extremely easy for children to inadvertently access questionable and inappropriate material when browsing the Internet; and
- WHEREAS, Many computer owners subscribe to on-line services which have chat boxes/rooms\* and web sites\*\* which can contain pornographic messages and images; and
- WHEREAS, There have been documented cases dealing with adults who have met children and youth through these chat boxes/rooms and numerous children have been assaulted as a result of these meetings; and
- WHEREAS, There are companies who offer blocking software for on-line pornography; therefore be it
- RESOLVED, That the Pennsylvania PTA urge local units and councils to inform parents and schools of the potentially harmful imagery of computer pornography and encourage parents to monitor internet usage of their children; and be it further
- RESOLVED, That the Pennsylvania PTA and its constituent bodies support legislation dealing with the problem of access by children and youth to pornography on computer networks; and, be it further
- RESOLVED, That Pennsylvania PTA inform its constituent bodies and school districts that there are companies that offer blocking software for on-line computers; and be it further
- RESOLVED, That the Pennsylvania PTA, through its constituent bodies, encourage parents and schools to install blocking software on their computers to protect children and youth from the potentially harmful imagery of computer pornography.

\*chat boxes/rooms—an area of the on-line system where people can communicate with each other (or chat) via the keyboard.

\*\*web site—a computer program which is running on a computer attached to the Internet, which allows people using their computers to graphically browse the site of the computer that is running the web software.

ADOPTED, October 1996  
REVIEWED, April 2003  
AMENDED, April 2009

**Rationale:** National PTA, in 2007, passed a resolution entitled “Internet and Wireless Communication” which covers aspects of our children and youth’s access to inappropriate material on the internet and through wireless and other electronic communications, solicitation by sexual predators, and sexual or racial harassment with more up to date information and terminology. The Resolution also supports advocating for laws, policies, and regulations to ensure the safety of our children and youth. National PTA also passed, in 2011, a Position Statement on Mass Media, which also urges its members, at all levels, to monitor, support, and advocate for laws, regulations and programs with ten (10) bullet points, one of which stresses the importance of to be involved with and monitor all forms of mass media. To review and update Pennsylvania PTA’s resolution, every five years, would never be effective. The ever changing cyber world is always one step ahead. National PTA has the resources to continually update information as it becomes available. All National PTA Resolutions and Position Statements belong to every PTA member and Pennsylvania will continue to advocate accordingly.



# Pennsylvania PTA Resolutions - 5 Year Review - 2014

## Elementary World Language Instruction

- WHEREAS, The concern for excellence in education has resulted in a renewed interest in world language instruction at an elementary level; and
- WHEREAS, Studies show the early study of a world language at the elementary level results in cognitive benefits, academic achievement, increases in the skill and understanding of the English language, and positive attitudes toward diversity; and
- WHEREAS, The need for a person fluent in a world language is increasing in the fields of international trade and diplomacy; and
- WHEREAS, Studies indicate the earlier a child begins learning a second language the more likely that child is to attain proficiency; therefore be it
- RESOLVED, The Pennsylvania PTA and its constituent ~~organizations~~ **associations** advocate for children to be given the opportunity to begin learning a second language in the elementary school; and be it further
- RESOLVED, The Pennsylvania PTA and its constituent ~~organizations~~ **associations** encourage elementary schools to coordinate efforts with school districts to initiate before or after school world language instruction programs; and be it further
- RESOLVED, The Pennsylvania PTA and its constituent ~~organizations~~ **associations** support legislation that promotes the instruction of world language at the elementary school level.

ADOPTED, October 1991  
REVIEWED, October 1997  
REVIEWED, April 2003  
AMENDED, April 2009

**Rationale:** National PTA has struck all references to organization in all of its documents and inserted the word association, therefore, the Pennsylvania PTA must follow suit.



# Pennsylvania PTA Resolutions - 5 Year Review - 2014

## Nutrition Standards for Foods Sold Outside Of School Meals

- Whereas, While national nutrition standards for school breakfast and lunch programs are updated periodically in accordance with the *Dietary Guidelines for Americans*, nutrition standards for foods sold outside of school meals are not; and
- Whereas, These standards are almost thirty years old and are not up-to-date with current science and current concerns about children's diets and health; and
- Whereas, Foods such as fried snacks and candy and soft drinks are readily available at school, which undermine children's health and waste taxpayer dollars invested in the federal school meals program; and
- Whereas, The over-consumption of calories, saturated fat, trans fat, added sugars, and sodium are contributing to the increase in childhood obesity, diabetes, and tooth decay; and
- Whereas, According to the Surgeon General, the direct and indirect costs of obesity in the United States are \$117 billion per year; therefore, be it
- Resolved, The Pennsylvania PTA and its constituent ~~organizations~~ **associations** advocate for legislation for the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to update its nutrition standards for school foods sold outside of meals to ensure that they conform with current nutrition science and that they address the serious risks to child health and nutrition at school; and, be it further
- Resolved, That the nutrition standards are extended to apply to the whole campus and school day; and, be it further
- Resolved, School vending machines, a la carte items, and school stores be replaced with healthier options, such as water, 100% fruit juices, low-fat milk, soy milk, fresh fruit, and yogurt.

ADOPTED, April 2009

Rationale: USDA's "All Foods Sold in Schools" Standards, Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010, Smart Snacks in School Standards.



**Tuberculosis Testing of Children**

- Whereas, The first ~~object~~ **historical purpose** of the PTA is “To promote the welfare of children and youth” and the third ~~object~~ **historical purpose** is “to secure adequate laws for the care and protection of children and youth” and
- Whereas, Tuberculosis (TB) is a contagious disease which attacks the lungs but can also affect other areas of the body such the brain, lymphatic system, kidneys, bone/joint or spine; and
- Whereas, The number of reported cases of TB, ~~especially drug-resistant strains, continues to rise nationwide, (and has had much larger increases in some urban areas), in part because of its prevalence~~ **has slightly dropped in recent years but is still prevalent** among foreign-born, senior citizens, people who are HIV positive, **people who are diagnosed with Diabetes**, and because there is a generalized belief that TB is no longer a problem; and
- Whereas, Children are at a greater risk because they are more susceptible, and because people who are in close spaces, such as a classroom, are at a higher risk, **as are minorities and the homeless**; and
- Whereas, When TB is diagnosed early it can be controlled more easily and with less disability and morbidity; and
- Whereas, Routine testing of children by the Mantoux method is recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics, among other experts; therefore, be it
- Resolved, That the Pennsylvania PTA and its constituent bodies alert and educate parents about the ~~renewed~~ risk of TB and the need to have their children tested, preferably by the most current and accurate method available, as part of their routine physical examinations.

ADOPTED, October 1997  
REVIEWED, April 2003  
AMENDED, April 2009

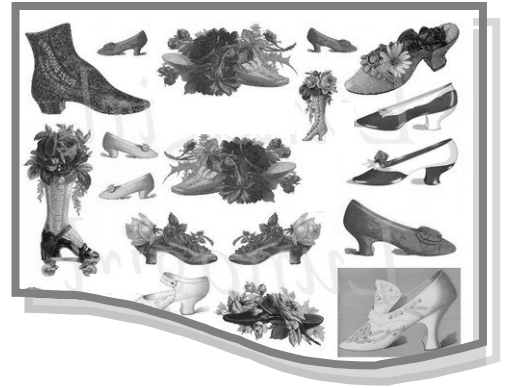
**Rationale:** According to the Center for Disease Control & Prevention, there were 9,945 reported cases of Tuberculosis in the United States in 2012, which is a 6.1% decline from the year 2011, which saw a 5.4% decline in reported cases. Therefore, although still an important issue, striking the word renewed amends the resolved clause with the most up to date information.

## Show Stopping PTA Shoe Showoff!

### *Who doesn't love a great shoe?*

The Local PTA Convention Committee is hosting a Shoe Showoff and shoe collection to benefit *"In Ian's Boots"*.

How can you help??? Impress us with your shoe decorating skills. Decorate, bling, and simply mystify us with your creativity. Any shoe will do, heels, slippers, sneakers, etc.



Register yourself and your shoe by March 1, 2014. You can register more than one shoe however only one needs to be decorated.

Anyone can enter - students, parents, grandparents, teachers, etc. Winners will receive a special secret gift as well.

How can you enter??? Send a copy of this completed form and fee to the address below and bring your "shoes" to the registration table at Convention. All entries will be put on display for judging Friday and Saturday. Winners will be announced at the Banquet on Saturday evening.

In addition to the Shoe Showoff, we will also be collecting new or gently used shoes for *"In Ian's Boots"*.

All entry fees will benefit *"In Ian's Boots"*!

*About In Ian's Boots: On January 16, 2010, twelve year old Ian Miller was killed in a sledding accident while on a Boy Scout trip. He was not wearing a helmet when he was sledding on a saucer style sled and collided with a ski lift tower. He died from traumatic brain injury. When the hospital staff removed Ian's snow boot, they found a typed passage, which read: "Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything." In Ian's Boots was created in honor of Ian to provide shoes and boots to those in need. Learn more by visiting [www.iniansboots.org](http://www.iniansboots.org).*

Registrant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

PTA: \_\_\_\_\_ Region: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's name (if under 18 years of age): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Registrant's Age Category (please select appropriate age):

\_\_\_\_\_ (5-9) \_\_\_\_\_ (10-13) \_\_\_\_\_ (14-16) \_\_\_\_\_ (17-24) \_\_\_\_\_ (25 and older)

I am registering \_\_\_\_\_ (number) of single shoes at \$5 per shoe (x \$5) = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ total enclosed.

Please send check or money order payable to: *"In Ian's Boots"* to  
Holly Ferrara-Feldman, 194 Mark Drive, Pottstown, PA 19465

## Convention Commemorative T-Shirts

### Be sure to order your special 2014 Convention T-Shirt

- ◆ Solid red short-sleeved shirts with Convention logo on the front.
- ◆ High Quality 100% cotton for comfort and durability.
- ◆ Pre-orders only (extras will not be available for sale).
- ◆ Bargain Price of \$10 for all sizes (S - 3X).
- ◆ Select quantity/sizes on registration form.
- ◆ Shirts will be available for pick up at the registration desk.



### *The Local Convention Committee Can Do... Can You?*

The success of Convention depends on the support of a strong team of local volunteers to assist with the conference.

Would you like to be part of the local convention committee?

The Local Convention Committee will be meeting on March 13, 2014 at the Owen J. Roberts Middle School, 881 Ridge Rd, Pottstown, PA 19465 at 6:00 pm.

Can't make the meeting, but would still like to help?  
Contact Holly Feldman, Local Convention Coordinator  
[hfpapta@yahoo.com](mailto:hfpapta@yahoo.com) or by phone 610-326-8543.

You have brains in your head,  
and feet in your shoes.  
You can steer yourself  
in any direction  
you choose!  
-Dr. Seuss



*Honey... You put the right  
address for the PTA Convention in  
the GPS didn't you???*

## 2014 Convention Rules

1. All delegates, guests, and visitors must display official convention identification to enter the general meetings, workshops, and exhibit areas.
2. Only delegates will be able to participate in official business on the convention floor by showing their voting card. Delegates shall be seated in sections designated as voting sections.
3. Delegates wishing to speak will go to the appropriate microphone, present their voting card to the microphone attendant, sign in, and wait for recognition by the chair before speaking. When recognized, delegates will give their name and local unit or council represented.
4. No resolutions, other than those submitted for consideration as emergency resolutions, will be introduced from the convention floor. The urgency of the subject matter must have arisen after the deadline for submission of resolutions (October 1, 2013). The resolution must conform to all established criteria for resolutions as established and adopted by the Pennsylvania PTA Board of Managers.
5. A delegate may speak up to two minutes at a time on any question and only twice on the same question. No delegate may speak a second time until all delegates seeking recognition have had an opportunity to speak.
6. Items of business, including a resolution or a proposed bylaw amendment, shall be on the floor for no more than twenty (20) minutes (inclusive of all points of order and points of information). To extend debate time, the motion to extend debate must be adopted by a two-thirds (2/3) vote.
7. The chair shall recognize delegates FOR and AGAINST a motion in alternating order.
8. During a counted rising vote, the doors will be closed and admission will be granted only after the chair announces the results of the vote.
9. Only those individuals or groups who have purchased space in the exhibit hall or have been approved by the president may sell or distribute material at the convention. Exhibitor sales activities must be confined to the limits of the exhibit booth.

## Emergency Resolutions

1. No resolutions, other than those submitted for consideration as emergency resolutions, will be introduced from the convention floor.
2. The urgency of the subject matter must have arisen after the deadline for submission of resolutions (October 1). The resolution must conform to all established criteria for resolutions as established by the Pennsylvania PTA.
3. The resolution must be signed by thirty (30) accredited voting delegates representing a majority of the regions of the Pennsylvania PTA. Before presentation, signatures must be verified for current voting status by the Convention Credentials Committee and will be placed on file with a copy of the emergency resolution attached.
4. A delegate presenting an emergency resolution must present a copy of the resolution, accompanied by background data as required by Pennsylvania PTA and the Resolutions Submission Form, to the Convention Registration Desk attendant, no later than 1:00 PM on the day of General Meeting I. The attendant will immediately submit the Resolution to the Legislation & Advocacy Chairman.
5. A two-thirds vote in the affirmative, of the convention body, is required for consideration of the resolution.
6. If the convention body gives the affirmative vote to consider, a copy of the resolution must be supplied, by the group or individual submitting the resolution, for each delegate in attendance at convention. The resolution shall only be distributed after the two-thirds vote required for consideration is obtained.
7. The originator of the resolution, who must be a delegate registered for convention, or their designated member (who must also be a registered delegate at convention) may speak first to the resolution.

## General Convention Information

1. Smoking is prohibited during any convention function.
2. Cell phones shall be silenced during all business meetings and workshops. Videoing and/or recording of the business meetings and workshops is prohibited, unless approved prior by the President.
3. All delegates and guests must display official convention identification to enter the general meetings, workshops, and exhibit areas. Convention identification badges are not transferrable.
4. All meetings will be called to order on time. Delegates are requested to be seated at least five (5) minutes prior to the opening of each session. Doors shall be closed when the meeting convenes. Those arriving late will be admitted upon directions of the pages.
5. Delegates shall receive a voting card required for voting in business meetings. In an election year, a portion of the card shall be exchanged for a ballot.
6. A delegate who has registered in advance will present a current PTA membership card at the convention registration desk to receive official credentials, a badge, a program, and workshop and special event tickets. Each delegate shall present a PTA membership card from the unit represented.
7. Accredited news media representatives will be issued PTA press passes on a daily basis at the PTA registration desk. A press pass will expire at the end of the day it is issued. Reporters will be permitted to sit in the guest section of general meetings to cover proceedings. Reporters may not participate in question-and-answer periods provided in some workshops, a privilege extended only to participating PTA delegates. All interviews, including those with program participants or with PTA officials, must be arranged through the Pennsylvania PTA President or their designee.
8. The minutes of the Convention shall be audited by a committee of three (3) members of the State Board of Managers.
9. The minutes of the Convention shall be approved by the State Board of Managers.
10. The Chair shall determine and adjust the agenda as required for smooth operation of the assembly. Therefore, the printed agenda is for guidance only and shall not be considered either general or special orders.
11. No material shall be presented directly to the Presiding Officer. All messages, announcements, and motion forms must be given to a page or other designated person and delivered to the Head Teller.
12. No one may approach the podium during General Meetings.
13. Announcements to the convention body shall be made only from the podium and only by the Presiding Officer.
14. Only those individuals or groups who have purchased space in the exhibit hall or have been approved by the president shall sell or distribute material at the convention. Exhibitor sales activities must be confined to the limits of the exhibit booth.
15. The President or President's designee shall approve all material prior its distribution at convention. Materials to be distributed shall be submitted for approval no later than 12:00 noon the day before General Meeting I.



### **SMILE!**

Photographs will be taken throughout the convention. These pictures may be used to promote the Pennsylvania PTA in publications and on the internet. If you do not wish to appear in photographs, please let the staff the PTA Registration Desk know.

## Convention 2014.... *Giving Truffula Tree*

The success of the 2014 Annual Pennsylvania PTA Convention depends on the support of our PTA members. Nearly 250 parents, teachers, students, and school administrators are expected to gather on April 4-6, 2014 at the Radisson in Valley Forge, PA. There will be more than 100 local area students performing and PTA members volunteering during convention. The local convention committee will be hosting a hospitality suite for these volunteers and providing refreshments and appreciation gifts for the performing students. We are seeking support from individuals, businesses, and local and council PTAs from each of the regions to help defray the costs of hosting this event.

In keeping with the logo and theme *Oh... The Places You'll Go...Let PTA Take You There*, we are suggesting the following donation levels:



Gold Truffula - \$100  
Silver Truffula - \$75  
Bronze Truffula - \$50



Your local unit or council *Truffula* level donation will be acknowledged in the following manner:

- ◆ Delegates from contributing units and councils will receive a *Truffula* on their official convention badge.
- ◆ A certificate will be presented at convention as well as mailed to those unable to attend.
- ◆ A 5x7 picture of your PTA's attendees taken at the photo stop prop.
- ◆ Local unit and council names will be included in the Convention Program according to their *Truffula* Level.

If your local unit or council is unable to attend convention but would like to show support, donations are always welcome!

In order for your donation to be included in the convention program, please send payment and a copy of this page no later than February 22, 2014 to:

Holly Ferrara-Feldman, Local Convention Coordinator  
194 Mark Drive, Pottstown, PA 19465

*(Checks payable to Pennsylvania PTA Local Convention Committee)*

Name: _____	
PTA Unit/Council Name: _____	Region Number: _____
Amount of Support: (please check or write in amount)	
___ \$50 Bronze    ___ \$75 Silver    ___ \$100 Gold    ___ other (\$ _____)	
Payment (please check one) ___ Check    ___ Money Order	
Support is from (check one) ___ Individual    ___ PTA Unit/Council    ___ Business	



*Photocopy this page to submit.*





# Oh...The Places You'll Go Let PTA Take You There

## Convention 2014

The annual Convention is the official business meeting of the Pennsylvania PTA. At Convention, delegates will meet old and new friends, attend workshops, gain valuable leadership skills, browse exhibitor booths, and plan the direction of the state PTA. **Units, councils and individuals who would like to send greetings may do so in the Convention materials.** Your support of PTA is greatly appreciated. Your efforts are what make this association strong and successful.

Information on submitting greeting ads and/or patron contributions is listed below. Please complete the request form and submit payment, greeting layout, and patron listing by **March 1, 2014**.

- Camera-ready ads may be submitted as color or black and white, but the convention program will be printed in black and white. Mail to Pennsylvania PTA, 4804 Derry Street, Harrisburg, PA 17111.
- Electronic file formats that can be accepted include JPG, EPS, AI, PSD, PNG, PDF and Publisher. Files must have a minimum of 300 dpi (dot per inch) resolution. Email to [info@papta.org](mailto:info@papta.org) or mail CD to the Pennsylvania PTA, 4804 Derry Street, Harrisburg, PA 17111.

Be sure to share this information with your PTA unit and council, and encourage everyone to show their support of the Pennsylvania PTA

### 2014 Convention Greeting Ads & Patron Contributors Request Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of PTA Unit/Council: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Greeting Ad Rates:

		<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Sub-Total</b>
Business Card Size	\$15.00	_____	_____
Quarter Page	\$25.00	_____	_____
Half Page	\$50.00	_____	_____
Full Page	\$75.00	_____	_____

#### Patron Contributors:

		<b># of Patrons</b>	<b>Sub-Total</b>
Individual Patron	\$5.00	_____ ( x \$5.00)	_____

\* Please list patrons on back of form.

**Total Amount Enclosed** \_\_\_\_\_

Submit photocopy of both sides of this form, greeting layout, patron listings, and check payable to *Pennsylvania PTA* by March 1, 2014 to:  
Pennsylvania PTA, 4804 Derry Street, Harrisburg, PA 17111-3440

<i>For State Office Use:</i>	
Date Received _____	Acknowledgment _____

## Attach Greeting Layout

### Patron List

\$5.00 contribution for each patron listing.

Please type or print each listing. Additional listings may be submitted on separate sheet of paper.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_
11. \_\_\_\_\_
12. \_\_\_\_\_
13. \_\_\_\_\_
14. \_\_\_\_\_
15. \_\_\_\_\_
16. \_\_\_\_\_

*Photocopy this page to submit.*

## Helpful Hints for Convention

### Convention Registration Procedure

Each delegate must send the completed Convention Registration Form and one lilac Voter Identification Card (*center insert*) to the Pennsylvania PTA office for processing. Mail completed registration form, Voter Identification Card and payment to:

Pennsylvania PTA - 4804 Derry Street - Harrisburg, PA 17111

### Voter Identification Cards

Four lilac Voter Identification Cards are included in the center of this publication. In order to vote at Convention, each delegate must have their own original Voter Identification Card. Additional cards are available on request from the Pennsylvania PTA Office. No photocopies will be accepted.

If representing a local PTA/PTSA, the Card must be signed by the president of the local unit being represented. If representing a council, the card must be signed by both the president of the council being represented and the president of a local PTA / PTSA in which delegate is a member. Council delegates (either the council president or alternate) must indicate the name of the council on the Voter Identification Card.

Everyone attending Convention as a delegate must have their own Voter Identification Card, which must be submitted with the Convention Registration Form.

### Confirmations

The Pennsylvania PTA office will acknowledge pre-registrations with a confirmation (e-mail or letter) and additional information. Please bring this letter with you when you register at the convention.

### Cancellations

Registration refund requests must be made by March 18, 2014, in writing, to the Pennsylvania PTA office. No refunds can be issued after this date.

### Attire

Business-Casual attire is recommended for the workshops and general meetings. Due to the fluctuation in temperatures between meeting rooms in the hotel, it is recommended that you have a light jacket or sweater on hand. For the Saturday evening banquet, either business-dress or semi-formal attire is acceptable

### Upon Arrival at Convention

*Pre-registered Delegates:* Proceed to the Convention Registration Desk and present your confirmation letter and your valid PTA membership card. Each delegate will receive official credentials, a badge, workshop and special event tickets and program.

*Delegates Registering On-Site:* All delegates who have not pre-registered must go to the Convention Registration Desk and complete a Convention Registration Form. Delegates will be required to present a signed Voter Identification Card for processing, as well as a valid PTA membership card.



### ***Remember to pack your....***

*Camera . . . Cell phone charger. . . Comfortable shoes. . . Medications you may need. . . \$\$ to Shop PTA and an Extra Bag to bring all your collected goodies home!*

## Registration & Hotel Fees

**\*COMBINED CONVENTION FEES:** *Registration Fees, Event Meals (Saturday's Sponsor Appreciation Breakfast, Speed Vending Boxed Lunch, Saturday Banquet, Sunday Reflection Awards Breakfast).*

**Postmarked by February 17, 2014**

\$135 per member  
\$105 per student member

**Postmarked by March 18, 2014**

\$150 per member  
\$105 per student member

### CONVENTION REGISTRATION FEES

**"PTA Connection" Rate (PTA Founders) – Postmarked by February 17, 2014**

\$45 per member with a group of 3 or more PTA members in the same envelope  
\$50 per member  
\$20 per student member

#### Advance Registration

*(Postmarked by March 18, 2014)*

\$65 per member  
\$55 per member *(when registering with a group of 3 or more members in the same envelope)*  
\$20 per student member  
\$55 per member One-Day Rate (Friday or Saturday only)  
\$125 per non-member

#### On-site Registrations

*(Postmarked after March 18, 2014)*

\$75 per member  
\$30 per student member  
\$35 per student non-member  
\$135 per non-member

### OPTIONAL TICKETED EVENTS/MEALS

Friday, Pre-Convention Conference Free  
Friday, Healthy Lifestyles Activity Free  
Friday, Reception Free  
Saturday, Healthy Lifestyles Activity Free  
Saturday, Sponsor Appreciation Breakfast \$20  
Saturday, Speed Vending Box Lunch \$17  
Saturday, Town Hall Meeting Free  
Saturday, Pre-Banquet Reception Free  
Saturday, Banquet \$35

Sunday, Reflections Awards Breakfast  
Adult \$20  
Child \$15 (Age 4-10) *(under age 4 are free)*

**Meal Option # 1** – Full meal package \$85  
*(Sponsor Breakfast, Box Lunch, Banquet & Reflections Breakfast)*

**Meal Option # 2** – \$52  
*(Banquet and Reflections Breakfast)*

### HOTEL INFORMATION & FEES

#### Convention Hotel

Radisson Hotel Valley Forge, 1160 First Avenue, King of Prussia, PA 19406 Phone: (800) 967-9033

#### Hotel Rates

Group rates are available to convention attendees. In order to receive the group rate, please book your overnight lodging directly with the hotel no later than **March 20, 2014**. A group rate of **\$127 + tax (single/double/triple/quad)** is available to convention attendees.

Please call the hotel directly at (800) 245-5900 or (610) 337-2000.  
Be sure to mention, "Pennsylvania PTA State Convention" to receive the group rates.

#### Parking & Amenities

The Radisson is connected to the Valley Forge Casino Resort in King of Prussia, and is located directly across from the Valley Forge National Park and just one minute from the King of Prussia Mall. The hotel has free parking & valet parking, complimentary Wi-Fi access, a luxurious spa, and seven exquisite, on-site restaurants.



## Pennsylvania PTA 2014 Convention Registration Form

One registration form is required for each delegate. This form may be duplicated. If you are taking advantage of the Group Rate, please send all registration forms in one envelope. Registration must be postmarked on or before **March 18, 2014**, to receive discounted registration fees. The cancellation deadline is **March 18, 2014**. The availability of Banquet or meal tickets cannot be guaranteed to late or on-site registrants.

### Contact Information

Name (as it should appear on badge): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Local PTA or Council your are representing (only one) : \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_ Region: \_\_\_\_\_

Please let us know if any of the following apply to you:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> This will be my first state convention | <input type="checkbox"/> I am a local PTA President   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I am a Pennsylvania Life Member (PLM)  | <input type="checkbox"/> I am a council PTA President |

Emergency Contact Information - Please provide the information of a person who is NOT attending the convention that should be contacted in case an emergency should arise.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Known Allergies: \_\_\_\_\_

Check here if you have any special dietary needs or require special accommodations in order to participate fully in this convention. You will be contacted by a staff member to discuss your specific needs.

**Payment:** Please complete the registration form price sheet on the opposite side to calculate the amount due.

**Total Payment for this delegate: \$** \_\_\_\_\_

- Cash / Check (**Payable to: Pennsylvania PTA**)       Visa     MasterCard     Discover

Name on card: \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Did you remember to:**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Return Convention Registration Form?                               | <input type="checkbox"/> Select Workshops? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Return <u>Signed</u> Voter Identification Card? (one per delegate) | <input type="checkbox"/> Return Payment?   |

**Pennsylvania PTA - 4804 Derry Street - Harrisburg, PA 17111**

Questions? Call (717)564-8985 or email [info@papta.org](mailto:info@papta.org)

# Pennsylvania PTA 2014 Convention Registration Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

<u>Check applicable</u>	Registering	By February 17	By March 18	After March 18	Total Due
<input type="checkbox"/> Combined Convention Registration (Member)		\$135	\$150	N/A	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Combined Convention Registration (Student)		\$105	\$105	N/A	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Group of 3 or more members <i>(in the same envelope, per member rate)</i>		\$45	\$55	N/A	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Member		\$50	\$65	\$75	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Student (up to grade 12)		\$20	\$20	\$30	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> One Day <u>Only</u> ( <input type="checkbox"/> Friday or <input type="checkbox"/> Saturday)			\$55		\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Member			\$125	\$135	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Member Student				\$35	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> T-shirt - choose size: S ___ M ___ L ___ XL ___ 2X ___ 3X ___				___ x \$10	\$ _____

**Special Ticketed Events** (Please check all you will be attending. Pre-registrations are required for the following events)

- Friday Pre-Convention Diversity Leadership Conference *Free*
- Friday Healthy Lifestyles Activity - "Boxing" *Free*
- Friday First Timers Orientation *Free*
- Friday Networking Reception - The Brain Show *Free*
- Saturday Morning Healthy Lifestyles Activity - "Combat" *Free*
- Saturday Town Hall Meeting *Free*
- Saturday Pre-Banquet Reception *Free*

Meal Packages:

- Option # 1** – Sponsor Breakfast, Speed Vending Box Lunch, Banquet, Reflections Breakfast *(select meal choices below)* \$85 \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Option # 2** – Banquet and Reflections Breakfast *(select meal choice below)* \$52 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

A la carte Meals

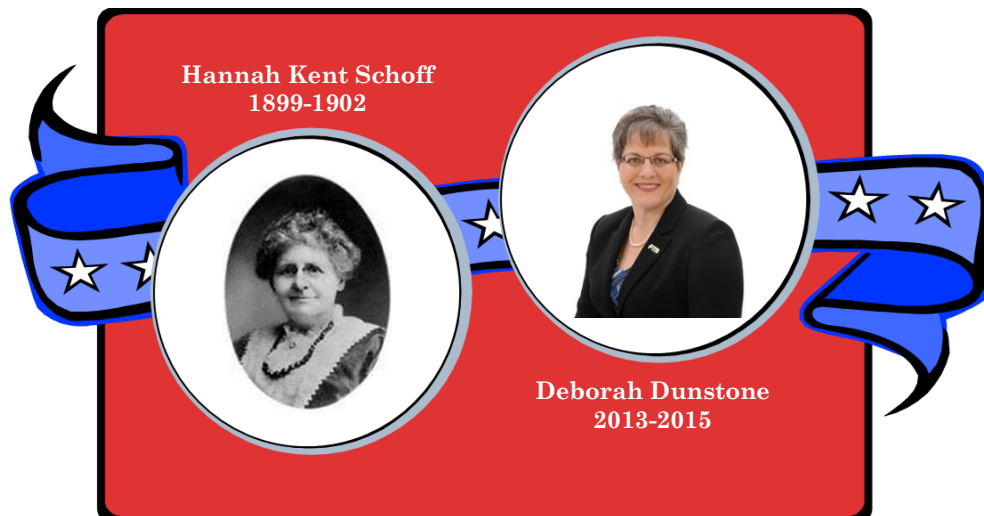
- Saturday Sponsor Appreciation Breakfast \$20 \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Saturday Speed Vending Box Lunch     Roast Beef     Turkey     Vegetarian \$17 \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Saturday Evening Banquet     Flat Iron Steak     Chicken Saltimbocca     Pasta Primavera \$35 x # \_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Sunday Reflections Breakfast Buffet  
     \_\_\_ # Adults (\$20)    \_\_\_ # Children age 4-10 (\$15)    \_\_\_ # Children under 4 (Free) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Enclosed** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Every effort will be made to assign you to the workshops selected. Request tickets only for workshops you are planning to attend. Delegates will receive workshop tickets at registration.*

WORKSHOP	FIRST CHOICE (WORKSHOP #)	SECOND CHOICE (WORKSHOP #)	THIRD CHOICE (WORKSHOP #)
Session 1: Friday, April 4			
Session 2: Friday, April 4			
Session 3: Friday, April 4			
Session 4: Saturday, April 5			
Session 5: Saturday, April 5			

## President's Membership Challenge



During the month of February we celebrate many events:  
Groundhog Day, Valentine's Day, Presidents' Day, and of course  
PTA Founders' Day on February 17<sup>th</sup>!

### Are you up to the President's Membership Challenge?

In honor of PTA Founders' Day, our state President is challenging all local units to increase membership in the month of February. For every 17 additional members reported in February (postmarked on or before February 28<sup>th</sup>) your PTA will receive one chance for the grand prize drawing of an **iPad**. The second entry drawn will receive 4 tickets (club level seats) to the Friday, March 14<sup>th</sup> **Philadelphia 76ers** game (if outside the Philadelphia area, your PTA can opt to receive a check for \$150 payable to the PTA).

*17 additional members = 1 chance, 34 additional members = 2 chances, and so on.*

All PTAs that participate in the President's Membership Challenge will receive special recognition at the state convention in April.

For a complete listing of members of the Pennsylvania PTA State Board of Managers, please visit [www.papta.org](http://www.papta.org) (About PTA - About Pennsylvania PTA - State Board of Managers)

Periodical  
Postage Paid  
Harrisburg

PTA IN PENNSYLVANIA

# Welcome To Valley Forge PENNSYLVANIA



Treat yourself to an exceptional stay at the Radisson Hotel Valley Forge, an upscale property featuring the perfect combination of premium amenities and a convenient location near the Pennsylvania Turnpike. The Radisson is connected to the Valley Forge Casino Resort in King of Prussia, offering you an unbeatable location directly across from the Valley Forge National Park and just one minute from the King of Prussia Mall. During your stay, you'll enjoy outstanding resort and hotel amenities, including complimentary Wi-Fi access, a luxurious spa and seven exquisite, on-site restaurants. See page 44 for fees & reservation information.