A Pennsylvania PTA Term in Review

2017–2019 President’s Report
By Bonita Allen
Two years ago we began “Building Bridges” at the Convention in Pittsburgh.
We continued to nurture & celebrate existing partnerships

Building Partnership Bridges

Want to Avoid A Lawsuit? So Do They!

Most parents don’t want to go to court, they just need help with their child’s medical bills.

Secure **Extended Medical** coverage to pay for these bills outside of a lawsuit & avoid court all together!

Give us a call at 1-800-876-4044 to for more information!

[MedExpress]
We know the holidays are a busy time. That's why Partners for Public Education and Pennsylvania PTA are extending the deadline on the "My teacher is an Olympian" contest.

Kids in grades K-3 have until Jan. 15 to tell us how an educator or support professional they know demonstrates the qualities of an Olympic athlete, including friendship, solidarity, and fair play.

My teacher is an Olympian

Students must write three original reasons explaining why their nominee shows one or all of the following qualities of an Olympian: friendship, solidarity, and fair play. They must also illustrate their reasons. Students should realize that...

PARTNERSFORPUBLICED.ORG
Lillianna, a third-grader at Moscow Elementary Center in the North Pocono School District, nominated her teacher, Sherri Hughes, for the honor.

Congratulations to Lillianna Fells, grand prize winner!
Office Depot/Office Max gave away 1,000 backpacks that day, one to each child in this high poverty Philadelphia school.
The kids were thrilled and so excited…and so were the adults. Only 10 cities were selected in the U.S. and one school chosen in each city. Philadelphia was one of them!

Sharing the stage with the Philadelphia SD Superintendent at William Dicks Elementary.
Our banner, representing the state of Pennsylvania, relayed words from the 1899 founding of PTA in our state and read, “We Stand Strong Together As One”.

Banner in support of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School
National Road Safety Foundation

Distracted Walking Poster Contest

Open to all Pennsylvania PTA Units
For students in Grades 1 – 6

The National Road Safety Foundation is teaming up with Pennsylvania PTA for a contest to call attention to the dangers of distracted walking.

DID YOU KNOW?
- Nearly 6,000 pedestrians are killed in traffic crashes every year
- Many are children distracted by mobile devices
- Tens of thousands of pedestrians are injured

PTA Units in Pennsylvania can win...
- $1,500 First Prize
- Three $500 Runner-up Prizes

Winning poster design will be printed and distributed throughout the State and also featured on Teen Kids News

Visit http://nrsf.org/teenlane/content/contests -OR- contact PA PTA for details
Emily, a fifth grader at Edward Tracy Elementary in the Easton School District won $1,500 for Edward Tracy Elementary PTA, Inc. and her poster design was featured on Teen Kids News.

Congratulations to Emily Berry, 1st place winner!
PDE reached out to PA PTA on many occasions over the past 2 years, including asking us to spread the word and participate in the first ever PDE Twitter Town Hall.
Building Communication Bridges

Pennsylvania PTA learned new tools, techniques, strategies and best practices...and explored new technologies!
This drawing of names among PTAs who submitted dues in March 2017, which allowed units to win tiered sums of money, was a fan favorite.
PA PTA offers MemberHub to all our units

Most recently our Membership & Extension Chair drew for prizes among PTAs who had completed registration & listed officers on MemberHub
We celebrated our Region Reflections winners... 

2017 theme: WITHIN REACH

2018 theme was HEROES AROUND ME
326 families and children attended the Pennsylvania PTA 2018 Reflections Celebration and Luncheon at the Penn Stater in State College on April 29, 2018.
330 families and children attended the Pennsylvania PTA 2019 Reflections Celebration and Brunch at the Blair County Convention Center in Altoona on April 28, 2019.
And Pennsylvania PTA celebrated our National Reflections winners. Good luck everyone as you *Look Within* in 2019–2020!
Starting a new tradition…
The Pennsylvania PTA 2019 New Year Greeting Card featured a student’s Reflections art on the front of the card, and the Board of Managers on the back.
PA PTA was in the house with NPTA President Jim Accomando. Our delegates included several local unit PTA members who attended “self sponsored” or funded by the NPTA & PA PTA Gates Advocacy Grant
PA PTA attended the 2019 NPTA Convention pictured here with National PTA President Leslie Boggs. Our delegates included Pennsylvania members from local and council PTAs!
Building Advocacy Bridges

With U.S. Representative Lou Barletta

With U.S. Representative Matt Cartwright

With Governor Tom Wolf

Chartering New PTAs: PaSEPTA

With Secretary of Education Pedro Rivera

Senator Bob Casey

Promoting Advocacy Together!
This was an amazing day of advocacy on the “Hill” in Washington D.C. Bills we were supporting were actually passed *while* we were there!

PA PTA was asked by National PTA to speak on behalf of parents and families at a press conference for “Public School Week” in the Senate.
On Monday, 10/15/18, PA PTA was invited to speak on behalf of parents and families at a “Bullying Prevention” rally in the PA State Capitol rotunda hosted by our partner, the Pennsylvania Statewide Afterschool Youth Development Network (PSAYDN).
PA PTA presented workshops & trainings
In 2017 PA PTA was the topic of the show

In 2018 PA PTA cohosted the show

In 2019 Pennsylvania PTA created and hosted this monthly television show

FOCUS ON EDUCATION AIRS ON PCN
On Focus on Education Sunday at 7:30 AM, learn about Title 1 Schools & how you can get involved. Featured guests are from the State Parent Advisory Council & Parent in Education Consultants, with host Bonita Allen, @pa_pta President. pcntv.com, on cable & streaming.

Pennsylvania PTA’s October 2019 Focus on Education television show
https://pcntv.com/focus-on-education/
Pennsylvania PTA began Monthly Zoom Video Conferences: Providing an opportunity to learn more about a different topic each month

Zoom Video Conferences are continuing! Join Pennsylvania PTA online or on the phone for our November PA PTA Video Conference

**Wednesday, November 20, 2019**

from 7 PM - 8 PM

Here is the link for the video conference:

**Join Zoom Meeting**

https://zoom.us/j/592201187

FYI: When you log in from a computer you will have a choice of phone or computer audio.

**If you are joining us by phone only**

**Dial:** 1 (646) 876-9923

**Meeting ID:** 592 201 187

Join PA PTA Officers, National PTA Staff, and local PTA Leaders to discuss important topics/issues, and so much more!

**And be sure to save the third Wednesday of each month on your calendar!**

Save the Date!

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Did you miss the 1/17/19, the 2/21/19, the 3/21/19, the 4/18/19, the 5/16/19, the 7/18/19, the 8/15/19 and/or the 9/19/19 PA PTA Video Conference?

No worries. You can watch them anytime using the link below!

Watch the 1/17/19 PA PTA Video Conference: Membership Ideas

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MxZ_pQc4WDA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MxZ_pQc4WDA)

Watch the 2/21/19 PA PTA Video Conference: Nomination and Elections

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eb8jbApsKaA&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eb8jbApsKaA&feature=youtu.be)

Watch the 3/21/19 PA PTA Video Conference: Finances/Budgeting

[Click Here to View 3/21 Video Conference](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eb8jbApsKaA&feature=youtu.be)

Watch the 4/18/19 PA PTA Video Conference: Awards & Transition

[Click Here to View 4/18 Video Conference](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eb8jbApsKaA&feature=youtu.be)

Watch the 5/16 PA PTA Video Conference: Reflections

[Click Here to View 5/16 Video Conference](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eb8jbApsKaA&feature=youtu.be)

Watch the 7/18 PA PTA Video Conference: Bylaws & Standing Rules

[Click Here to View 7/18 Video Conference](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eb8jbApsKaA&feature=youtu.be)

Watch the 8/15 PA PTA Video Conference: Membership & Reflections

[Click Here to View 8/15 Video Conference](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eb8jbApsKaA&feature=youtu.be)

Watch the 9/19 PA PTA Video Conference: Agendas & Taking Minutes

[Click Here to View 9/19 Video Conference](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eb8jbApsKaA&feature=youtu.be)

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Save the Date!
And most importantly...Every person with a membership card is now automatically a voting delegate! (Pictured: Delegates to the 2019 PA PTA Convention)

Thank you, Pennsylvania PTA Board of Managers and every delegate and member across the Commonwealth!
Always remember to HAVE FUN!
We are PTA and together we put the PA in PTA!