



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

## August 2017 Bulletin of the Kentucky PTA

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### Forms and Information

Complete the 2017-2018 PTA/PTSA [Officer & Chairman Information form](#) and send it to Kentucky PTA, even if your officers did not change.

Complete the 2016-2017 [Financial Review Form](#) and send to the Kentucky PTA office and your school's principal (it was due July 15).

Kentucky PTA's mailing address:  
148 Consumer Lane  
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

## A Message from Kentucky PTA President

Over the past two years, I have had the privilege of serving as the president of Kentucky PTA. The position of president-elect was vacant, so I will be continuing on as president. Over the course of my presidency, I have had the opportunity to meet and work with many incredible PTA leaders. They not only care about their own children, but they care about all children in their school and community. PTA leaders are "the voice" for those children and families who do not have a voice.



Cherie Dimar

Kentucky PTA was founded on April 17, 1918, so next year we will celebrate our 100th anniversary. [\[read more\]](#)

## Connecticut Father Takes Helm of National PTA

James L. Accomando of Fairfield, Conn. has been installed as the 55th president of National PTA, the oldest and largest all volunteer child advocacy association in the United States. Accomando's installation took place during a ceremony at the 2017 National PTA Convention & Expo in Las Vegas.



A father of two children, the husband of a public school teacher and with a K-12 teaching credential of his own, Accomando has been engaged in education and active in PTA for nearly 20 years. Accomando firmly believes in the mission

## Important Dates

September 26, 2017  
Kentucky PTA Kids' Day

October 22-28, 2017  
Red Ribbon Week

November 3, 2017  
Kentucky PTA Advocacy Training

## The 2017-2018 Back-to-School Kit Is Here!



As a hardworking volunteer for your PTA, we know the [2017-2018 Back-to-School Kit](#) will help make your upcoming school year a complete success. When you register for this year's kit, you'll get a Recruitment Tool and a poster-sized Calendar of PTA events. We will mail them at the end of this month, so hurry up and register to be eligible!

To register, visit [PTA.org/BTSKRegister](http://PTA.org/BTSKRegister).

## 2017-18 Reflections Program



All of the rules, regulations and

of PTA and that everyone can make a difference in the lives and futures of all children. [\[read more\]](#)

## KDE's Busy Summer

As an educator, the one question I hear more than almost any other is, "Do you get the summers off?" In a word, no.

Although children may not go to school in the summer, that doesn't mean an educator's life slows down during the summer. Teachers often spend their summer months attending workshops and furthering their own education in order to be more effective in their classrooms.



Stephen Pruitt

While I hope our teachers are taking a little bit of time to refresh and recharge their batteries, the Kentucky Department of Education and Kentucky's teachers didn't slow down just because the weather heated up. Our work to ensure all Kentucky's students are ready for success continues year round. [\[read more\]](#)



Did you know that Federal funding for public education programs has remained at 2% of the federal budget for decades despite the increase in public school enrollment and the rising cost of education resources and services.

This disparity between funding levels and actual costs means that the federal government has essentially enacted cuts to classrooms. National PTA is running a nationwide campaign - July 7 to September 29 - to raise public awareness that current levels of federal education funding are an inadequate investment in our children.

To learn more about the nationwide campaign and get involved in PTA's advocacy efforts visit [PTA.org/STOPCuts](http://PTA.org/STOPCuts).

## Membership News

The strength of the PTA/PTSA lies in its membership - the parents, teacher, school administrations and business leaders

forms for the Reflections Program can be found by going to our website [www.kypta.org](http://www.kypta.org).

For more information, contact Rhonda Willinger, 502.386.6697 or [reflectionskypta@gmail.com](mailto:reflectionskypta@gmail.com).



The [2017 National PTA STEM + Families Math Grants](#), sponsored by Mathnasium, will award local PTAs \$1,000 to host a STEM + Families Math Event at their elementary school this fall.

To be considered, submit a completed application online (We also have the application in Spanish) by Aug. 31 at 8:00 p.m. To apply, visit [PTA.org/STEM](http://PTA.org/STEM). Questions? Email [Programs@PTA.org](mailto:Programs@PTA.org).



Looking to step up your PTA's involvement in school improvements? Join the National PTA School of Excellence program!

This year-long program offers customized tools to help you to make a substantial, positive impact on school and student success, and to earn acknowledgement for your PTA and school. ENROLL NOW at [PTA.org/Excellence](http://PTA.org/Excellence) and learn more by watching our [PTA Live! about the program on Facebook](#).

### KY PTA Executive Board

**President**  
[Cherie Dimar](#)

**President Elect**  
[Heather Wampler](#)

### VP Leadership & Outreach

and community members who devote themselves to making a positive difference in the lives of children. Members are the lifeblood of PTA/PTSA and provide the passion, leadership and hard work needed to fulfill PTA's Mission. Every individual who joins PTA/PTSA is giving something not only to his or her child but to every child.

Attracting new members and retaining current ones are among the most important duties of a PTA/PTSA. A strong membership is essential for PTA/PTSA to be a force in the decision making of the welfare and education of children. But a thriving membership doesn't just happen, it requires good planning and year-round attention from leaders like you.

[Click here](#) for tips on recruiting new members and more!

## 2017 Kentucky PTA Convention Photos



Attendees took advantage of several special specialized training sessions



Treasurer Brian Wampler answered key questions about managing PTA funds.

Eddie Squires

**VP Organizational Services**

Adam Kesler

**VP Programs**

Karen Pridemore

**VP Membership**

Kathy Smiley

**VP Communications**

Debbie Weslund

**Secretary**

Virgil Berrong

**Treasurer**

Liz Hill

**Legislative Commissioner**

Sharon Whitworth



visit our [website](#)  
find us on [Facebook](#)  
follow us on [Twitter](#)

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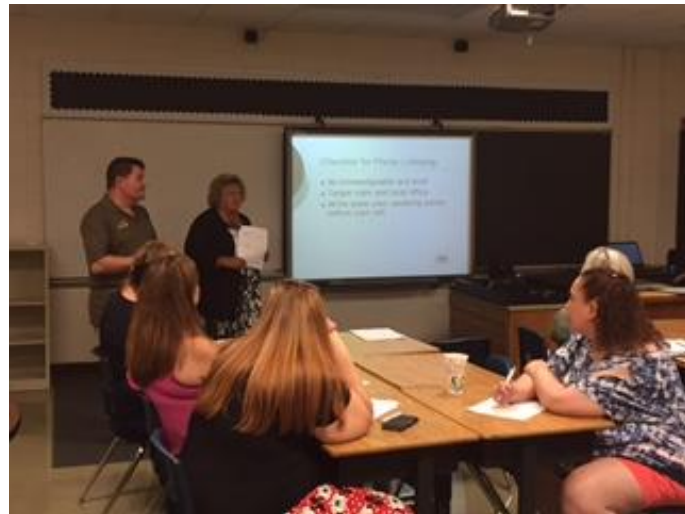
[12th District PTA](#)

[13th District PTA](#)

[14th District PTA](#)

[15th District PTA](#)

[16th District PTA](#)



Eddie Squires and Sharon Whitworth explain how to be a successful legislative advocate.

## Kentucky PTA Outstanding Award Winners 2016-2017

**Paul Mason - Legislative Advocate for Children Award**

Dr. Terry Brooks, Executive Director, Kentucky Youth Advocates

**Outstanding Educator Award**

Deshae Barnhorst, Teacher, Thornwilde Elementary PTA 14th

Kelly Sirginnis, Asst. Principal, Tates Creek Middle PTSA 16th

Jennifer Haemmerle, Teacher, James A. Caywoodl El PTA 14th

**Outstanding Membership Campaign**

Veterans Park Elementary PTA 16th

LaGrange Elementary PTA 13th

**Outstanding Local Unit Website**

Brandeis El PTA 15th

Stopher El PTA 15th

**Outstanding Local Unit Newsletter**

Veterans Park Elementary PTA 16th

**Outstanding School Nurse**

Janet Smith, Western El PTA 12th

**Outstanding Programs and Projects**

Lemons Mill Elementary PTA 13th

Stopher Elementary PTA 15th

Veterans Park Elementary PTA 16th

**Outstanding Classified Personnel**

Pat Clark, Financial Secretary, Thornwilde El PTA 14th

Ameerah Granger, Community Liason/Teacher, Iroquois Raiders

PTSA 15th

**Outstanding Volunteer Participation**

LaGrange Elementary PTA 13th

Stopher Elementary PTA 15th

**Outstanding Volunteer**

Stephanie Rogers, Stopher PTA 15th  
Melanie Bjarnson, LaGrange El PTA 13th

Kentucky PTA, 148 Consumer Lane, Frankfort, KY 40601

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