



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

May 2018 Bulletin of the Kentucky PTA

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Things to Do in May and June

- Find your bylaws and determine if you need to fill vacancies or hold an election.
- After your election, even if officers do not change, please complete the 2018 - 2019 PTA/PTSA [Officer & Chairman Information Form](#) and send it to the Kentucky PTA. If your election is not held until classes resume in the fall, give us the name of a contact person for the interim.
- Both returning and newly elected officers are welcome to attend the Kentucky PTA Convention on July 20 & 21 in Louisville, Kentucky. This is an excellent time to

A Message from Kentucky PTA President

It is hard to believe that the school year is almost over. This is a good time to reflect on this year's successes and challenges. Here are some questions to consider:

- Which events or programs were successful and which need to be modified?
- What were the best training experiences for your PTA leaders and what additional trainings do your leaders need?
- How can the PTA continue to improve its connections with parents, teachers, school administrators, and your community?



Cherie Dimar

Besides being a very busy time of the year, the leadership transition of one PTA board to another can be very stressful. If you are an outgoing president/officer please make time to meet with the next president/officer and share information. Being mindful of finishing your job before you move on will help ensure the continued success of your PTA.

Giving Thanks to All of Kentucky's Teachers

I wanted to begin this



start. More information about Convention is included in this issue.

- All PTAs / PTSAs are required to complete the 2017-2018 [Financial Review Form](#) and send it to both Kentucky PTA and your school's principal by July 15. It is necessary to appoint a financial review committee now so they may go to work as soon as the PTA books are closed on June 30.

Student Recognition

The Student Recognition Ceremony was Saturday, May 12, at the Lexington Children's Theatre. Students winners were recognized in the areas of Reflections, Self Esteem, Rising Star, and Scholarships.

Six students from Kentucky were named National PTA Reflections Winners, including:

Award of Excellence - Visual Arts

Katie Ross Nelson

Award of Excellence - Photography

Sydney Jenkins

Award of Excellence - Photography

Natalie Keckler

Award of Excellence - Choreography

Haylee Richter

Award of Merit - Choreography

Elise Trimble

Award of Merit - Film Production

India Smith

For a list of all winners, click [here](#).

The 2018-2019 Reflections theme was announced. "Heros Around Me" is the theme young artists will use to create their next award-winning pieces. For more information on starting a Reflections contest in your school, call 502.226.6607 or email reflectionskypta@gmail.com. Updated information is available this summer at kypta.org.

Important Dates

June 21 - 24, 2018
National PTA Convention, New Orleans, LA

July 20 - 21, 2018

introducing myself. Like many of you, I am a lifelong educator. And I am honored and excited to be serving as Kentucky's interim commissioner of education.



Wayne Lewis

I am currently on leave from the University of Kentucky, where I am an associate professor of educational leadership. I'm a New Orleans native and have taught middle and high school special education in the New Orleans and St. Charles Parish Public Schools in Louisiana and Wake County Public Schools in North Carolina. While I may have started out in NOLA, I've had the pleasure of calling Kentucky my home for the past nine years.

I have another connection to public schools in Kentucky as well. My wife is a former teacher and current high school counselor. We have a 3-year-old daughter who will soon be joining the ranks of the 650,000 children who attend Kentucky's public schools. [\[read more\]](#)

Call to the 2018 Kentucky PTA Convention

The Kentucky PTA Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc., hereby calls upon its membership to send duly accredited delegates to the Convention to be held on July 20 & 21, 2018 at Seneca High School in Louisville, Kentucky.

Kentucky PTA Bylaws, Article XVI: Kentucky PTA Annual Convention Section 1.

e. Each local PTA/PTSA in good standing as shown on the records in the Kentucky PTA Office thirty (30) days before the Kentucky PTA Annual Convention, shall be entitled to be represented at the Annual Convention of the Kentucky PTA by its president, or alternate, and one (1) accredited delegate plus one (1) additional delegate for every twenty-five (25) members, or a major fraction thereof.

- #f. A local unit PTA/PTSA in good standing is one which:
1. Adheres to the Purposes and basic policies of PTA;
 2. Remits the National and Kentucky portions of dues to Kentucky PTA as required;
 3. Remits District portion of the dues as required;
 4. Reviews the treasurer's books and submits the PTA Financial Review Form (formally the audit report form) to the Kentucky PTA Office by July 15;

Save the Date!

It's the annual
Kentucky PTA
Convention

July 20-21, 2018
Seneca High School
Louisville, KY

5. Files with the IRS the proper Federal 990EZ or 990N (e-postcard) and sends a copy to the Kentucky PTA Office by November 15th;
6. Has bylaws approved by the Kentucky PTA every five (5) years;
7. Has an IRS Employer Identification Number (EIN) on file in the Kentucky PTA state office; and
8. Maintains a minimum of ten (10) members.

Cherie Dimar, President
Virgil Berrong, Secretary

This is an excellent opportunity for leadership training, networking with fellow PTA/PTSA leaders from across Kentucky, accepting awards on your association's behalf, and making connections with numerous vendors.

Current and incoming board members, administrators, teachers, and students are invited to attend. Leadership training is a legitimate PTA expense, so include this in your budget.

[Click here](#) to download a registration form and [click here](#) to download a grant application.

Action Alert

Kentucky PTA statement about potential state takeover of Jefferson County Public Schools:



PTA's mission is to make every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children. In Kentucky, PTAs are active in many schools, meeting basic needs of children, supporting educators and advocating for policies and funding to provide healthy, productive learning environments.

PTA knows where the work happens: in local schools. And, because of that, PTA has been a strong supporter of local decision-making, at the school level and school board level. Parents have a strong voice in district decisions regarding the schools they pay for through state and local taxes. This local decision-making power allows schools and districts to design programs and policies to meet the needs of their communities.

The potential takeover of Jefferson County Public Schools by the Kentucky Board of Education would take away this local control, and virtually eliminate parental voice in decisions that impact policies from the district level to the classroom level. For this reason, the Kentucky PTA is restating its strong support for maintaining parent voice through local school and local board decision making.

JCPS has 30 days from the date of the recommendation of state management to request a hearing/appeal before the state board - deadline for action is May 30. That decision whether to appeal will be made by the Jefferson County Board of Education. The Board will most likely take this action at its next meeting which is May 29. It could call a special meeting for that purpose, but has not announced plans to do that.

If JCPS appeals, the hearing will be held a minimum of 20 days after the notice of hearing is issued by the Kentucky

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Sharon Whitworth

state board will not take any action at this time on the Commissioner's recommendation of state management. However, it may receive a report about the status of the process.



CALL TO ACTION: Email or call the Kentucky Board of Education members and let them know that you support maintaining the parent voice through local school and local school board decision making. [Click here](#) for contact information.

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