



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

November/December 2015

In this issue

- A message from Education Commissioner**
.....
- Membership Tips**
.....
- Advocacy Training**
.....
- KY PTA Scholarships**
.....
- E-Learning Is E-asy**
.....
- Upcoming Events**
.....
- KY PTA Executive Board**
.....

Just a reminder that all PTAs/PTSAs must file form 990, 990-EZ or 990 N by November 15 of each year.

You'll find the information you need on pages 2 and 3 of the [Leaders Notebook](#)

Every Child in Focus

A message from KY PTA president, Cherie Dimar

Traditionally, November is the month when we express thanks for all of the blessings in our lives. We gather with family and friends, eat too much, watch football games, and prepare for the next holiday. Far too many of the children in Kentucky will not be able to do these things this Thanksgiving break.



Cherie Dimar

I urge your PTA to think outside your school to your larger community. PTAs can partner with other like organizations to make a difference in the lives of our children.

We appreciate your willingness to serve in a leadership position on your school's PTA board. We want to thank you for the countless hours you volunteer and the sacrifices you make on behalf of the children and the families in your school and community. May you be blessed during this Thanksgiving!

Proud to Call KY Home

As I drove away from the interview with the Kentucky Board of Education to become the Commonwealth's sixth commissioner of education, my wife Cecelia turned to me and

National PTA's Every Child in Focus is a campaign to strengthen family engagement in schools by celebrating the achievements and reporting the disparities within diverse populations, and sharing resources and advocacy tools to help understand the needs of every child.

November is Native American Heritage Month. [Learn more.](#)

In December, the focus is on National Special Education Day. [Learn more.](#)

Upcoming Events

It's Healthy Lifestyles Month!



The National PTA created [Healthy Lifestyles Month](#) because research shows that a healthy child can achieve and learn more. What is your PTA doing to celebrate? You'll find some great ideas on the [National PTA website](#) and in the resource [Parents for Healthy Schools](#), developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

November 17 & 18, 2015

Webinars in English (11/17) and Spanish (11/18) - *Families of Hispanic Students: What Is PTA and Why You Should Get Involved to Support the Children You Love?* Learn more and find registration links [here](#).

January 7, 2016

Our Kids Can't Wait rally, at Westport Middle School in Louisville

January 14, 2016

[Children's Advocacy Day](#) at the Capitol

January 15, 2016

asked me one simple question.

"This wasn't in the plan, was it?"

No, it hadn't been in the plan. The plan had involved working to improve science education and definitely not being a commissioner of education. [\[Read more ...\]](#)



Stephen Pruitt

Membership Tip of the Month

A simple "thank you" can go a long way!

Thanksgiving is a time to be thankful. Let your members know how much you appreciate them and how much their membership means to the success of the children in the community.

Here are more ways to grow and thank you members:

- [Mid-year membership letter](#)
- [Kentucky PTA membership awards](#)
- [Helpful Tips](#)
- [Mid-winter membership drive](#)

Advocacy Training

Kentucky PTA sponsored Grassroots Advocacy Training in Frankfort on November 6. Attendees learned how to effectively communicate with legislators and how to build an advocacy campaign. Some advocacy efforts are carried out by experts but we can all be advocates for children. You just need to care enough to get involved and speak up. Your influence is greater than you think.



Membership dues payment to
Kentucky PTA

Advocacy Training attendees

February 15, 2016

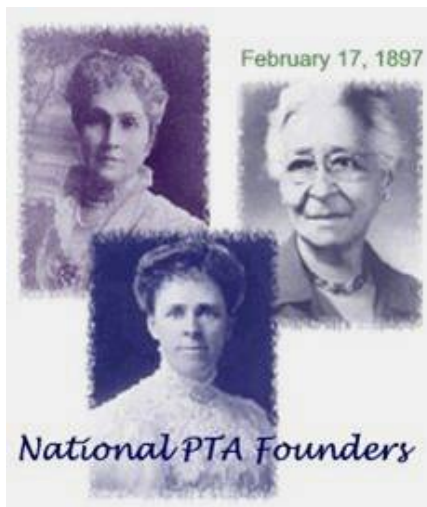
The following forms are due to
Kentucky PTA:

- [Scholarship applications](#)
- [Christa McAuliffe Rising Star applications](#)
- [Self-Esteem Award applications](#)

This is also the deadline for sending
[Membership dues](#) to Kentucky PTA.

February 17, 2016

National PTA [Founders Day](#)



February 15 - 19, 2016

[Take Your Family to School Week](#)

Looking for the KY PTA
Leaders' Notebook?
It's on our website!



SAVE THE DATE!
Kentucky PTA Convention

KY PTA Scholarships

Each year Kentucky PTA awards several scholarships. The application deadline is February 15. Applications and more information can be found in the [Kentucky PTA Leaders' Notebook](#) and on our [website](#).

\$500 Student Scholarship

This biennial \$1,000 scholarship is awarded in even numbered years for a two year period, \$500 for each year. The recipient must plan to enter the teaching field and attend a Kentucky college or university.

\$1,000 Harold Steele Student Scholarship

If funds are available, \$500 scholarships will be awarded to graduating seniors from high schools with a PTSA in good standing. Recipients must plan to enter the teaching field and attend a Kentucky college or university.

\$500 Teacher-Member Scholarship

The number of \$500 scholarships awarded is determined by funds available. The purpose of these scholarships is to help teachers obtain credit toward a master's degree or Rank 1 at a public college or university in Kentucky, or within a state bordering Kentucky. Preference will be given to specialized areas that are most needed by the state when the recipients are selected.

\$500 Parent-Member Scholarship

This scholarship is for PTA/PTSA parent members pursuing an undergraduate degree in education or a health field at an accredited public college or university in Kentucky.

E-Learning Is E-asy

National PTA has provided an online opportunity for PTA leaders to hone skills and enhance leadership knowledge. Access is easy and available 24/7.

Courses are 30-40 minutes long and cover 17 topics in the three general areas of PTA Essentials, PTA Nuts and Bolts, and Leadership Enhancement. Learn more at pta.org/elearning.

July 15 - 16, 2016
at Chancey Elementary School
4301 Murphy Lane, Louisville, KY 40241

Kentucky PTA Executive Board

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GET THE NEW BACK-TO-SCHOOL KIT ONLINE



AND IT'S MOBILE-FRIENDLY
FOR YOUR SMARTPHONE
AND TABLET!

[PTAKit.org](#)

Have you explored the National PTA's 2015-2016 [Back to School Kit](#)? It's completely digital, but includes the same advice and quick reference guides you've come to expect, that help PTAs deepen their impact and venture into new territory.

Rally for Education

Make plans to attend the 3rd annual Rally for Education Funding. Help encourage legislators to restore and increase funding to education this budget session.

Thursday, January 7, 2016, at 6:30 pm

Westport Middle School gym,

8100 Westport Road, Louisville, KY 40222

Questions or more information, contact [Brian Wampler](#)

Kentucky PTA | 148 Consumer Lane | Frankfort, KY 40601
502.226.6607 | kentuckypta@bellsouth.net | www.kypta.org

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