



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

September 2017 Bulletin of the Kentucky PTA

In this issue

Meeting the Needs of Children

Membership News

Kentucky PTA Kids' Day

Important Dates

Back-to-School Kit

Reflections

Kentucky PTA Executive Board

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.

A Message from Kentucky PTA President

As we begin the new school year, our thoughts are with the children, families, teachers, and school communities affected by Hurricanes Harvey and Irma. See information in this bulletin about ways you can help those impacted by these powerful storms.



Cherie Dimar

As we become more involved with the children in our school community, we realize that the opportunities we are providing should be available for all children.

Our strong commitment to improving educational experiences for the students also provides the opportunity to prepare groundwork and on-going programs for students who will follow.

Learning to work within the framework of laws, government requirements, and local school district policies is important. PTA has an infrastructure that includes bylaws, financial procedures, and programs that enables PTA leaders to maintain a viable presence in the educational setting. Guidance, support, and resources are available to PTAs. Grants, advocacy

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

Complete the [Kentucky & National PTA Membership Dues payment form](#).

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

Important Dates

September 26, 2017
Kentucky PTA Kids' Day

October 22-28, 2017
Red Ribbon Week

November 3, 2017
Kentucky PTA Advocacy Training

Visit [this link](#) for the Advocacy & Legislation section of the Kentucky PTA Leaders Notebook. The registration form for Kentucky PTA Advocacy Training is on page 27.

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



As a hardworking volunteer for your PTA, we know the [2017-2018 Back-](#)

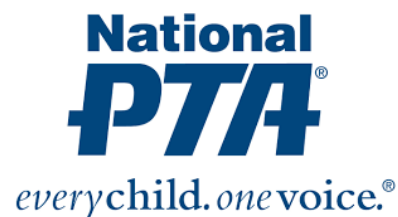
alerts on developing legislative bills, Back to School Kits, Kentucky PTA Leaders' Notebook, and free e-learning course trainings are a few of the resources. These things are essential to running a successful PTA.

When challenges and issues arise, PTA has the ability to use our collective voice to share our perspectives. Through our influence locally, statewide, and nationally we do have the opportunity to alter or change existing policies that can improve the health, education and welfare of all children.

Thank you for stepping up to a leadership position this school year. Kentucky PTA is here to help, so reach out to us if you have questions or need anything.

PTA's Response to Hurricane Harvey

National PTA President Jim Accomando and Texas PTA President Lisa Holbrook issued the following statement regarding Hurricane Harvey:



"National PTA, Texas PTA and PTAs across the country extend their thoughts and prayers to the millions impacted by Hurricane Harvey. We are deeply concerned for the children, families, teachers, schools and communities affected by this catastrophic storm. [\[read more\]](#)

PTA's Response to Hurricane Irma

National PTA President Jim Accomando issued the following statement regarding Hurricane Irma:

"National PTA extends our thoughts and prayers to the children, families, teachers, schools, communities and PTAs affected by Hurricane Irma, including those in the Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, Florida and other southeastern states. We are deeply concerned for everyone impacted by this powerful storm. [\[read more\]](#)

[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.

2017-18 Reflections Program



All of the rules, regulations and forms for the Reflections Program can be found by going to our website www.kypta.org.

For more information, contact Rhonda Willinger, 502.386.6697 or reflectionskypta@gmail.com.

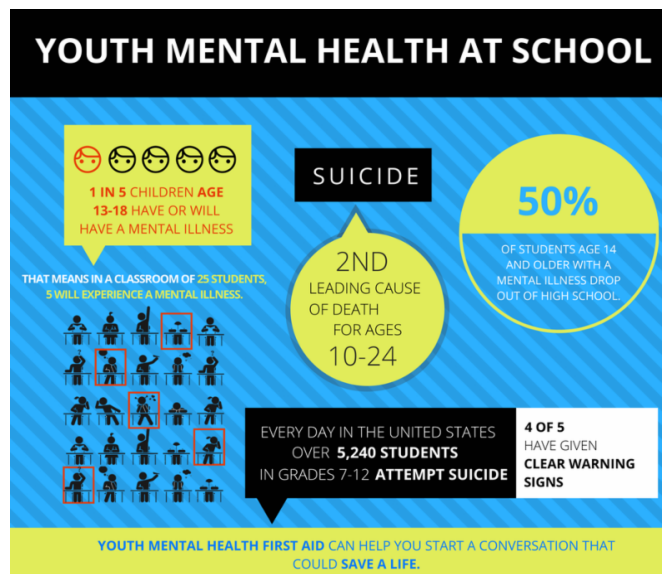
Meeting the Mental and Emotional Needs of Children

The numbers are sobering. According to the National Institute of Mental Health, suicide was the second leading cause of death in 2015 among those aged 15-24. And the National Alliance on Mental Illness says 90 percent of those who die by suicide have an underlying mental illness.



Stephen Pruitt

Kentucky is not immune to the prevalence of mental illness or suicide. In a 2016 Kentucky Incentives for Prevention survey of more than 111,000 students from across the Commonwealth, 20.6 percent of participating 10th-graders showed signs of serious psychological distress - an increase of almost 3 percentage points since 2014.



LEARN MORE AND GET TRAINED AT WWW.MENTALHEALTHFIRSTAID.ORG



And 15.4 percent of Kentucky's 10th-graders reported having considered suicide in the past 12 months, with 12.5 percent of them saying they had made a plan for how they would attempt suicide during the same time period.

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 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

[Eddie Squires](#)

VP Organizational Services

[Adam Kesler](#)

VP Programs

[Vicki Manning](#)

VP Membership

[Kathy Smiley](#)

VP Communications

[Debbie Wesslund](#)

Secretary

[Virgil Berrong](#)

We can't let this kind of pain and distress continue among our Commonwealth's youth. [\[read more\]](#)



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.

Membership News

Congratulations to Gray Middle School PTSA (District 14) for winning the "Back to School" Membership Incentives!

Our September Membership Drawing celebrates our "Early Bird". Send your payment for members equal to or greater than your total membership last year to be entered. Deadline is September 15.

The Kentucky PTA Membership Call is Thursday, September 14, 2017 @ 7:00 pm (EST). Call 641.715.3580, and use access code: 585-759.

Treasurer

Liz Hill

Legislative Commissioner

Sharon Whitworth



visit our [website](#)

find us on [Facebook](#)

follow us on [Twitter](#)

148 Consumer Lane
Frankfort, KY 40601
kypta.bulletin@gmail.com

[12th District PTA](#)

[13th District PTA](#)

[14th District PTA](#)

[15th District PTA](#)

[16th District PTA](#)

September Membership Tip:

How to Ask People to Join Your PTA/PTSA

(source: Membership Recruitment and Retention Manual)

Reasons for Asking:

1. You are asking for a good cause.

Asking someone to join PTA/PTSA is empowering that person to make a difference in his or her child's life.

2. PTA is the most recognized school organization

People understand what PTAs/PTSAs do for schools and are more inclined to join a recognized school organization.

3. Your audience (probably) expects you to ask.

Not asking people to join makes them think they are not needed.

[\[read more Membership Tips\]](#)

Kentucky PTA Kids' Day

Kentucky PTA Kids' Day is a special day set aside by Kentucky PTA just for our students. All children are special in many ways, yet too often we forget to tell them.

Many children in our world do not have someone telling them they are special often enough to help them feel really good about themselves. Kentucky PTA Kids' Day was established to change that for as many Kentucky students as possible.

This year, Kentucky Kids' Day is September 26, but it can be celebrated anytime. So plan a special celebration for your students!

[Click here](#) for a printable coloring sheet of the Kentucky PTA Kid's Day art (pictured).



Kentucky PTA, 148 Consumer Lane, Frankfort, KY 40601

[SafeUnsubscribe™ {recipient's email}](#)

[Forward this email](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by kypta.bulletin@gmail.com in collaboration with

Constant Contact 

Try it free today