



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

February 2018 Bulletin of the Kentucky PTA

In this issue

Career and Technical Education

KEAT's Response to Budget Proposal

Awards & Scholarships

Rally for Education CANCELED

Take Your Family to School

Important Dates

A Message from Kentucky PTA President

Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to the entire Marshall County community in light of the tragic shooting at Marshall County High School in Benton, Kentucky. One of PTA's main priorities is to promote safety for children and youth and improve education.



Cherie Dimar

Unfortunately, the threat of gun violence for children has increased and there have been far too many gun-related tragedies at or near a school. It is imperative that families, school leaders, community leaders, and elected officials work together to prevent gun violence in schools. Every student deserves to learn and grow in a safe environment

Save the Date!

It's the annual **Kentucky PTA Convention**

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

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 legitimate PTA expenses so include this in your budget.

Don't miss the special celebration as Kentucky PTA celebrates its 100th anniversary! More information coming soon.

Career and Technical Education

February is national Career and Technical Education Month. I think it its a great idea to have a month where we as a nation can take the time to learn more about and appreciate all that career and technical education (CTE) offers our students. And believe me, our students are learning a lot in these classes.



Stephen Pruitt

In Kentucky, our CTE programs start at the 6th grade with exploratory courses aimed at generating student interest in various careers. I like to refer to these classes as the appetizer course, offering a broad view of many possible career options for our younger students. If students don't know a job exists, then it's

hard for them to prepare for it during high school or college. [\[read more\]](#)

Rally for Education CANCELED

The Funding for Education Rally, being hosted by Kentucky State PTA and 15th District PTA on Tuesday, February 13th, 2018 at 7:00 p.m., at Westport Middle School has been CANCELED.

Kentucky PTA will send out regular emails and social media posts to keep our membership apprised of key legislative issues and instructions on how to reach your legislators. Everyone's voice is needed to help make a difference for our children. Thank you.

Take your Family to School Week



National PTA's Take Your Family to School Week is February 11-17 this year, and your PTA can be instrumental in encouraging the connection between school and families. Visit the [National PTA website](#) for ideas on events about Health and Safety, Literacy and Digital Learning, plus a detailed tool kit to use in planning your event.

If you come up with your own great idea, be sure to share with PTA so it can be shared with others.

Help create excitement about school by ensuring all family members feel a part of the learning community. These events are also great ways to grow your volunteer base!



National PTA and Microsoft have partnered to offer the 2018 National PTA STEM + Families Tech Grants to support events to bring families and students together to learn exciting tech skills focused on coding and robotics. The project will award \$1,000 to 35 local middle school PTSAs to host events.



Hundreds of Kentuckians from across the Commonwealth - including more than 150 children and youth - convened in Frankfort last month for the 14th annual Children's Advocacy Day at the Capitol. They urged elected leaders to support the [Blueprint for Kentucky's Children](#), a unified agenda for child advocates across the state.

They also honored legislators and officials with Champion for Children awards. [\[read more\]](#)

KEAT's Response to Governor's Budget Proposal

The members of the Kentucky Education Action Team (KEAT), who represent more than 130,000 active and retired school employees, and thousands of parents, elected school leaders, and administrators, once again recognize that Section 183 of our Constitution requires that the General Assembly "shall by appropriate legislation provide for an efficient system of common schools throughout the State." In a landmark ruling in 1989, our Supreme Court held:

Each child, every child, in this Commonwealth must be provided with an equal opportunity to have an adequate education. Equality is the key word here. The children of the poor and the children of the rich, the children who live in the poor districts and the children who live in the rich districts must be given the same opportunity and access to an adequate education. This obligation cannot be shifted to local counties and local school districts.

House Bill 200, Governor Bevin's budget proposal, clearly shifts the obligation to provide for each child's education to local communities, and thus to local taxpayers, and would abandon efforts to provide equitable and adequate state funding in ways that will seriously hinder education advancement in our Commonwealth. This budget would bring some local districts to the brink of insolvency and closure. [\[read the complete statement\]](#)

Kentucky PTA Scholarships, Rising

The PTA will provide all training and support necessary to host a successful program. Deadline to apply is February 9, 2018. Information is available at [this link](#). Apply today!

Important Dates

February 11-18, 2018

Take Your Family to School Week

March 13-15, 2018

National PTA Legislative Conference

April 27, 2018

Happy 100th birthday, Kentucky PTA!

May 6-12, 2018

Teacher Appreciation Week

May 12, 2018

Kentucky PTA Student Recognition Ceremony

June 21 - 24, 2018

National PTA Convention, New Orleans, LA

July 20 - 21, 2018

Kentucky PTA Convention, Louisville, KY

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Star and Self-Esteem Awards DUE: February 15, 2018

Scholarships

Kentucky PTA awards scholarships each year to:

1. High School seniors who plan to attend a Kentucky accredited university and pursue a degree in education.
2. A parent PTA member who is continuing his or her studies in a health field and will attend an accredited Kentucky college or university.
3. Teacher PTA members who are working toward a master's degree or Rank 1. Funding for the yearly scholarships comes from the fees from the Honorary Life Membership and other donations.

Rising Star Award

Kentucky PTA's "Christa McAuliffe" Rising Star Award recognizes students who have successfully worked through obstacles to improve performance in school, character and self esteem.

Grades P-1, Elementary 2-4, Elementary/Middle 5-8, High School 9-12, and Special Needs will be recognized.

Self Esteem Award - Elementary and Middle/High

The purpose of the Self Esteem Award is to allow students to express what makes them feel Special.

Kentucky PTA Scholarship and Rising Star and Self Esteem winners are recognized at the Student Recognition in Frankfort, KY in the spring.

Applications for all of these scholarships and awards are due into the Kentucky PTA Office, 148 Consumer Lane, Frankfort, KY by February 15th, 2018. See your leaders packet or [kypta.org](#) for the application. Participating PTA's must be a unit in good standing as of October 15, 2017.

Kentucky PTA Awards DUE: March 15, 2018

The Kentucky PTA gives a number of awards for Outstanding Volunteers in your school or PTA/PTSA and you are encouraged to apply for these awards.

Applications can be obtained from your Leaders Notebook or on the website, [KYPTA.org](#). From there, click Programs, then Awards, then the application that you need.

Please be thinking of your nominees for 2018 and apply for:

1. Outstanding Classified Personnel Award
2. Outstanding Educator Award
3. Outstanding Local Unit Newsletter Award
4. Outstanding Local Website Award
5. Outstanding Male Involvement

Sharon Whitworth



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- [12th District PTA](#)
- [13th District PTA](#)
- [14th District PTA](#)
- [15th District PTA](#)
- [16th District PTA](#)

6. Outstanding Membership Campaign Award
7. Outstanding Programs and Projects Award
8. Outstanding School Nurse Award
9. Outstanding Volunteer Award
10. Outstanding Volunteer Participation Award

Please pay close attention to the application as there are specific details it asks for when applying.

Your PTA must be a unit in good standing as of 10/15/17 to participate: bylaws are up to date and renewed every 5 years, national and state dues paid by 10/15/17, 990 IRS Tax Form filed, Financial Review completed, and district dues paid as required.

Applications must be postmarked by 3/15/18. Please mail to KY PTA, 148 Consumer Lane, Frankfort, Ky., 40601. Faxed or emailed applications are NOT permitted.

Questions? Contact kyptapattyh@bellsouth.net.

Kentucky PTA, 148 Consumer Lane, Frankfort, KY 40601

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