

Building a "New Foundation"... In TODAY's Kentucky PTA!

Kentucky PTA Bulletin

May 2015

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

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Leadership Messages

Kentucky PTA President Message

Edward Squires

Many of you are in the same position as I am with only a short time left in your term. Many times we have a tendency to look at the goals we did not complete and forget to look at all of the great things we did accomplish. Just remember that anything you have done and will continue to do for the children of Kentucky is what counts.



As you complete your term, make the transition a smooth experience. Take time to help prepare the incoming board members and supply them with all the tools they will need to make the goals for next term a reality. Being mindful of finishing your job before you move on will ensure the continuous success of your PTA.

I am looking forward to seeing you at our Convention on July 10 -11 at Fort Knox. For the outgoing officers it will be a time to celebrate your accomplishments and for the new officers it will be a great learning experience. The registration form, workshop schedule and more information is included in this issue.

On behalf of the entire Kentucky PTA board, I want to thank you for all you have done for the children and families in your schools. Your efforts have truly made a difference.

National PTA President Message

Otha Thornton

Last month, the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee unanimously passed the Every Child Achieves Act of 2015. The bill's passage by the committee is the first step in the process to reauthorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act/No Child Left Behind (ESEA/NCLB), the primary law governing the federal



[PTA Convention Today!](#)

role in education. The legislation now moves to the Senate floor. [Read the full press release here...](#)

Kentucky Commissioner of Education Message

Terry Holliday

In recent months you may have heard about a new initiative called Kentucky Rising. Simply put, this new effort is aimed at strengthening the future prosperity of the Commonwealth by creating a workforce that is globally competent and among the world's most highly skilled. Twenty-one percent of the jobs in our state are tied to international trade, and exports make up 13 percent of the state's gross domestic product (GDP). Foreigners account for 40 percent of new investments and 30 percent of newly created jobs in the state. More than 400 foreign-owned companies operate in Kentucky, in the automotive, food, and pharmaceutical industries, among others - and even in our signature bourbon industry. [Read more...](#)



Convention

2015 Kentucky PTA Convention

Mark your calendar for the 2015 Kentucky PTA Convention from Friday July 10 to Saturday July 11. It's 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! [Download the information packet](#) to check out the workshop agenda and get registered. [Visit the convention website.](#)

Kentucky PTA Proposed Bylaws Amendments

- [Proposed Amendment #1 - Article VII: Officers-Election and Vacancies](#)
 - [Proposed Amendment #2 - Article X: Board of Directors](#)
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Kentucky PTA Elections Information

The elected officers of the Kentucky PTA are a president, a president-elect, vice presidents, a recording secretary and a treasurer. The vice presidents include:

- Vice President of Organizational Services
- Vice President of Leadership/Outreach
- Vice President of Programs
- Vice President of Communications*
- Vice President of Membership*

*These positions will be voted on pending the approval of the bylaws amendment to add two additional vice presidents to the executive committee of the Kentucky PTA.




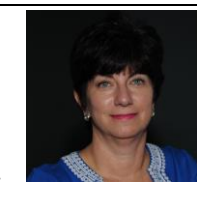
The officers will be elected at the annual Kentucky PTA Convention. This will be held July 10-11, 2015 at the Saber & Quill at Fort Knox. The term of office for each officer shall be two (2) years or until the election and qualification of his/her successor.

The vote shall be by ballot under the supervision of the committee on election. If there is only one (1) nominee for an office, with the approval of the assembly, the election may be by acclamation for that office. A majority vote shall be required for election.

The following provisions shall govern the qualifications and eligibility of persons to be officers of the Kentucky PTA:

- Only a member of a local PTA/PTSA of the Kentucky PTA shall be eligible to hold office in the Kentucky PTA or any of its divisions.
- Only those who are currently serving and have served at least one (1) year as a member of the board of directors shall be eligible for the office of president-elect.
- The president and president-elect shall serve no more than one (1) full term in the same office.
- A person who has served in an office for one-half (1/2) or more of a term shall be deemed to have served a full term in such office.
- From the close of Kentucky PTA Convention through the close of the next Kentucky PTA Convention shall constitute a one-half (1/2) term of office.
- Only those persons who meet the foregoing qualifications and only those who have consented to serve if elected shall be nominated by either the nominating committee or from the floor.
- **Nominees from the floor must have given thirty (30) days' notification before the beginning of the annual convention of their intent to run.**
- **Notification must be given in writing to the Kentucky PTA President, the nominating committee chairman, and convention chairman.**
 - **President: Eddie Squires kypta.president@gmail.com**
 - **Nominating Committee Chair: Heather Wampler hkwampler@gmail.com**
 - **Convention Chair: Kelly Capps kypta.oservices@gmail.com**

Nomination Slate for 2015-2017

<p><u>President Elect</u> Bekki Livingston Bekki has been a member of PTA continuously since 1999. She has served in every position on the Executive Board and most committees. Currently, she serves as President of the 13th District PTA and as Vice President of Membership and Volunteer Coordinator for North Oldham High School PTSA. She spent 22 years in the Financial Services industry followed by a 10 year career as an Elementary School Librarian. Becky lives in Prospect with her husband, daughter (20), son (17) and Labrador (12).</p>		<p><u>Treasurer</u> Brian Wampler Brian currently serves as KY PTA treasurer. He also has served as both a communications and legislative consultant for KY PTA. At the district PTA level his service includes legislative chair and website chair. During his long commitment to PTA he has served in several positions at the local level as well. Brian has received several awards including the National PTA Life Achievement Award. Brian is a Pharmacy Technician. He is married to Heather and they have one son (15).</p>	
<p><u>Secretary</u> Heather McGovern Heather has been involved with PTA for the past six years. She has served as the teacher representative for the Middletown Elementary PTA in Louisville Kentucky. She is also the Awards Chairman for the 15th District</p>		<p><u>Vice President</u> <u>Organizational Services</u> Maria Sorolis Maria has been a volunteer with PTSA for many years. She served as President of the Noe Middle School PTSA for two terms. She also served as Secretary and Newsletter Editor. She has served as Chair</p>	

PTA. Heather is a member of the Kentucky Core Academic Standards team for the 15th District and Kentucky PTA. Heather is a special education teacher at Middletown Elementary. She recently completed her Master's degree in School Counseling at Liberty University. She hopes to obtain a position as an elementary school counselor in the upcoming school year.

of Partners for Excellence at DuPont Manual (a PTSA Board position dedicated to fundraising for two terms), 2nd Vice President Membership and Advocacy Chair. Maria has also served on the Site Based Decision Making council. She is the proud mother of three children. She is an attorney and has also stayed at home with her children. Maria volunteers in her community in causes directed at children.

Vice President Programs

Leann Myers

Leann has been an involved PTA member for more than 20 years. She has served on local, district and state level PTAs. Currently she is KY PTA Vice President of Programs and a contact for PTAs in 1st district. Leann has served as a Calloway County school board member since 2007. She has represented KY PTA on the Commissioner of Education Parent Advisory Council and was a parent representative on the KY Schools to Watch Center for Middle School Academic Achievement. She lives in Murray with her husband. She has a son who is 30 and daughter that's 22, and two grandchildren ages 10 and 7.



Vice President Leadership Outreach

Mark Hartman

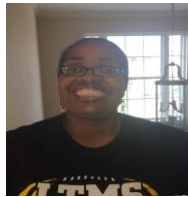
Mark is currently the Vice President of Leadership/Outreach for the KY PTA. Mark is an educator who served as a teacher, elementary principal and district administrator. He has his Rank 1 certification in leadership administration. He experienced PTAs influence at the local school level seeing students with increased self esteem and higher test scores. He also saw how PTA involvement encourages staff morale by celebrating school achievements. Mark is married and has adult children.



Vice President Membership*

Kathy Smiley

Kathy has a long history with the PTA and most recently was 16th District president. She has also served the district as Vice President of Membership and Vice President of Parent Training. Kathy held many positions at the local level as well. Kathy has received several awards for her PTA service including the National PTA Lifetime Achievement Award last month. She has worked at the Federated Allied Credit Services and TNG Merchandiser. Kathy is married, lives in Lexington and has two sons who are 20 and 13.



Vice President Communication*

Liza Holland

Liza currently serves as the KY PTA secretary and on the KY PTA advocacy commission. She is immediate past president of 16th district PTA, served as president of two local PTAs as well as an SBDM parent member at every level. Liza served as a parent representative on the School Curriculum, Assessment, and Accountability Council and is a member of Fayette County's Superintendent Screening Committee. Liza works as a consultant for the Prichard Committee for Academic Excellence. She lives in Lexington with her husband and two children.



President**

Cherie Dimar

Cherie has been involved with PTA for over 20 years. She has held various positions on local boards including president, vice president of membership, fundraising and communications. Cherie served as president of the 15th District PTA and currently is the Kentucky PTA President Elect. She also conducts board training for the 15th District PTA. Cherie has a background in elementary and special education and taught students with learning disabilities. She lives in Louisville with her husband, John. They have three adult daughters and one grandson.



*Pending bylaws change

**President is not included in proposed slate as the role was previously elected

Leadership Information and Resources

Things to Do in June

- Find your bylaws because they are the backbone of your PTA
- Fill any vacancies on your board
- Make sure incoming officers know about the Kentucky PTA Convention on July 10-11
- Close out the financial books and prepare for financial review
- Send in your Officers List with all incoming board members names and contact information
- Be sure procedure books are passed on to the incoming officers

Upcoming Events

- 6/26 -6/28 - National PTA Convention, Charlotte, N.C.
- 7/10-711 - [Kentucky PTA Convention](#), Fort Knox, KY

Leaders' Notebook

The Kentucky PTA Leaders' Notebook is available on the [KY PTA website](#). Click on the tab at the top called "Publications" and then find the Leaders' Notebook for 2014-15. The 2015-2016 version will be added in July.

E-Learning with National PTA - Free Learning Opportunity

The e-learning courses offered by National PTA are divided into three categories:

- PTA Essentials
- PTA Nuts and Bolts
- Leadership Enhancement

National PTA also has two courses in Spanish, Local Unit President and Board Basics. Check out these courses - only 20 to 40 minutes each - and enhance your PTA knowledge and leadership skills. The courses are located at www.pta.org. Go to the PTA Leaders tab at the top, click on for a drop down menu and look for e-learning.

New Local Resource Bank

Wondering what other State PTA Congresses are doing? Wonder no more! Why reinvent the wheel when you can adapt something that has already been built by one of your peers? The [Local Resource Bank](#) contains 300 documents from various local PTAs including newsletters, financial documents, bylaws and info on starting a new PTA. Use these documents to enhance and grow your PTA.



Want to contribute to the Resource Bank? Send submissions to PTAtraining@PTA.org for consideration. Access the [Local Resource Bank](#) today!

Executive Committee

- President - Eddie Squires at kypta.president@gmail.com
- President Elect - Cherie Dimar at kypta.preselect@gmail.com
- VP Leadership and Outreach - Mark Hartman at markohartman@frontier.com
- VP Organization Services - Kelly Capps at kelly.capps@uky.edu
- VP Programs - Leeann Myers at Leamyers1@aol.com
- Secretary - Liza Holland at liza@lizaholland.com
- Treasurer - Brian Wampler at bwampler68@gmail.com
- Legislative Commissioner - Sharon Whitworth at sharon.whitworth@jefferson.kyschools.us

Programs

Student Recognition Program

The Kentucky PTA Student Recognition Award Ceremony was held on Saturday, May 16 at Elkhorn Middle School in Frankfort, Kentucky. Nearly 200 students, one teacher and one parent received recognition. Four students from Kentucky were also named National PTA Reflection Winners, including:



- Dance Choreography, Intermediate Award of Excellence: Morgan Ray, Lincoln Performing Arts Elementary
- Literature, Primary Award of Merit: Ajayteja Lavuri, Greathouse-Shryock Elementary
- Photography, High School Award of Merit: Stephanie Stumbur, Dunbar High School
- Visual Arts, Middle School Award of Merit: Sydney Carter, Edythe J. Hayes Middle School

Get Ready for the PTA Family Reading Challenge!

Would you like to recognize a special person that has given outstanding service to children or National PTA and Kindle are excited to announce the [PTA Family Reading Challenge](#) -a campaign to inspire families to keep learning alive during summer break by reading great books together. Throughout the month of July, we will empower families with tips and activities that encourage ongoing reading, while challenging them to share photos, videos and memories that demonstrate how and why reading together is a fun and treasured family activity.

In the coming weeks, we will share tools to help you promote the PTA Family Reading Challenge to your local PTA units and members, such as sample Facebook and Twitter

messages, web graphics, and a template e-newsletter article. In the meantime, spread the word to your local PTA units by sharing this promotional [flier](#) or featuring the [video](#) of award-winning author, Kwame Alexander, talking with his family about the joys of reading together.

Stay tuned for more information about the PTA Family Reading Challenge or find out [what families can do](#) to create a family reading experience at home today. For more info, visit PTAReadingChallenge.org or contact [National PTA Programs](#).

Financial

2015 Financial Review Forms

All PTA 2015 financial reviews are due June 30. Download the [2015 Financial Review form](#) here to get started. If you have financial question, please contact your district president/contact or the Kentucky PTA Treasurer at bwampler68@gmail.com.

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Stay Connected

