

Wisconsin Parent Teacher

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Special points of interest:

- **New Bylaws Submission Procedure**
- **Resolutions**
- **Reflections Deadline Jan. 17th!**

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President's Letter



Hello fellow PTA members,

One thing you can always count on here in Wisconsin: the weather. Winter is here, after having a really warm fall, December has brought us cold (ok really cold) temperatures and snow, and at times lots of it. The weather has not stopped us from doing what we do best, advocating for ALL children. PTAs / PTSAs are also holding many events to bring the families together, and we are helping at many other school functions as well. Most units keep up this fast pace nine months of the year and during the summer you're planning for the next year. Remember to ask for help. Don't let just a few people do everything, a person can get burnt out that way. Doing all that work while taking care of your own families is a big job and for this, we at Wisconsin PTA thank you for your time and dedication.

We are still in need of officer lists from several units, as well as audit, proof of tax filing and membership payments. If you have questions, please reach out to our state office or your region advisor. Also if you need more membership cards, contact our state office and Shelia will get them right out to you. Membership can be accepted anytime not just in the fall, in

Michael Anton, Wisconsin PTA President

fact every time PTA holds an event you should have someone collecting membership.

This is also a time to be looking at your budgets to see if they need changing. Moving money around requires a vote by your membership, so be sure to include that in your next agenda.

Don't forget we have a State PTA Leg day in Madison on Feb 15, 2017. Sign up for that was sent in the fall packet and will be sent out to all again soon. The cost is \$15 per person which covers lunch. Convention is also coming up. Convention dates are April 28, 29, 2017 its being held at the Radisson Hotel Milwaukee West across from Mayfair mall in Wauwatosa. Watch for complete convention information to be sent thru email and on our website. A smaller packet of information will be sent out thru regular US mail all by early February.

TOGETHER we are doing great things here in Wisconsin. Read more in this newsletter about all of our hard work, and be sure to check out our Facebook page for up to date information.

From all of us, your Wisconsin PTA Board of Directors,
MERRY CHRISTMAS, and have the **BEST New Year Ever!**





Our next State Legislative Conference will be on Wednesday, February 15, 2017 at the State Capitol in Madison, WI.

Cost will be \$15.00, and lunch will be included.

Time will be from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Come learn about all the current legislation pertaining to our schools and children.

Everyone is encouraged to attend. Registration information will be sent out soon.

Adjusting Your Budget to Meet Your Unit's Needs

Brenda Ward, WI PTA Treasurer

Now that your budget has been created and your unit is realizing that maybe you might be finding a short fall. Don't worry, you are able to adjust your budget as needed. There are some guidelines to making changes to the budget but it can be updated.

Since the budget is only an estimate of the planned expenditures for the year, it may be necessary, from time to time, to amend it. When there are additional expenses or a change in an allocated expenditure, the budget may be amended by a vote of the association at any regular meeting or at a special meeting called for that purpose.

To amend a budget item previously adopted, it is necessary to have a two-

thirds vote; with previous notice, a majority vote. - See more at: <http://www.ptakit.org/Finance/The-Budget/Developing-the-Budget.aspx#sthash.JD4boLvM.dpuf> or the WI PTA Treasurer's Handbook at <https://app.box.com/s/tl2n4kpoo071lj1td6zhc368xabelaj>

No PTA Funds can be spent without approval of the general membership.

If you do have questions on budget or financial questions please feel free to reach out to the State Treasurer, Brenda Ward 414-732-4697.

New Bylaws Submission Procedure

PTA units need to review and submit their bylaws on the most current bylaws fill in form every three years. Wisconsin PTA will now accept bylaws submissions by email.

Check your current bylaws to see when they are due to be revised. If they are:

- Go to the Wisconsin PTA website and download the current version
- Review your current bylaws, revise as needed and fill in the current bylaws version -Word 2007 or newer is required to fill in the form
- Print only the signature page, have the bylaws committee sign it and fill in the date the bylaws were approved by membership
- Scan the page into your computer as a PDF
- Email both the PDF of the signature page and the bylaws proper in a Word document as attachments to

the Wisconsin PTA office at info@wisconsinpta.org

- The email used to submit the bylaws will be the one used by Wisconsin PTA to acknowledge receipt and to return your approved bylaws to your unit

Questions? Call our state office at 608-244-1455 or info@wisconsinpta.org.



Protect Your Family From Carbon Monoxide Poisoning

Kelley Serrano, Health Committee Chair

The Health and Safety committee has reached out to the WI Poison Center and asked them to be a vendor at convention and maybe to even do a workshop on the importance of Carbon Monoxide. Carbon Monoxide is very dangerous and can even be a silent killer if inhaled over a period of time. Here is some information about the most common cause of fatal poisoning:

Carbon Monoxide

Carbon monoxide is not a poison that is commonly thought as a concern in a residential home. Carbon monoxide is now the most common cause of fatal poisonings. Wisconsin State Law now requires carbon monoxide (CO) detectors in all residences in Wisconsin. If you detect (CO) in your home, call your local fire department and move everyone outdoors into fresh air.

Here are some helpful ways to avoid exposure:

- ◇ Have your furnace, gas stove, and fireplace checked annually by a qualified professional. Have the professional check for proper ventilation and function.
- ◇ All homes must be equipped with carbon monoxide detectors. Carbon monoxide detectors function similarly to smoke detectors and are

available at most hardware stores.

- ◇ Make sure the exhaust system on your automobile is in good working condition.
- ◇ Do not ride inside campers or trailers that are being towed by another vehicle.
- ◇ Never run an engine in an enclosed space, such as a garage. This includes cars, snowmobiles, generators, and lawn mowers. Review this fact sheet on using generators safely, P-01561 (PDF, 521 KB).
- ◇ Never use a gas oven to heat a home.
- ◇ Never use a charcoal grill indoors.

Here is some contact information:

1. Wisconsin Poison Center: 1-800-222-1222
2. Your local health department
3. Information on CO detector requirements from the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services Division of Public Health, Bureau of Environmental and Occupational Health
1 West Wilson St.
Madison, WI 53701
608-266-1120
6. U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Happy

Holidays

From

WI PTA!



PTA REFLECTIONS



To get your PTA signed up for Reflections
Please contact: Nancy Hart or Rindy Hart at

pta.reflections@yahoo.com

Wisconsin deadline is
JANUARY 13th, 2017

Together
Enriching
All
Members
PTA



108th Annual
Wisconsin PTA
Convention

April 28-29

Milwaukee
Radisson
West
Wauwatosa

Continuing The Journey to Being a Successful PTA Leader

By Angie Mattes, WI PTA President-Elect

As a new or returning officer of your local PTA/PTSA. You may be experiencing a few different emotions right now. Now that you've got a couple of meetings under your belt, you may be feeling excited, maybe nervous (Oh no, what did I get myself into?) or maybe you are feeling confident because you have held other officer positions before. Whether new or continuing, one thing remains the same, to be a good leader and to have a successful PTA, you've got to be knowledgeable about what PTA is, what our mission is and how to carry out that mission.

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

So how do you carry out the mission? How do you ensure your PTA/PTSA is successful?

The first thing you need to do as an officer, is learn what your role is. Talk to the person who held the position before you, and retrieve any binders or procedure books that were used during their term. Those now belong to you and

can be a source of reference for you. Make sure you start a binder/procedure book of your own to keep things neat and organized, for yourself and for your future successor.

Next, check out this link on National PTA's website:

<http://www.pta.org/members/RunYourPTA.cfm?ItemNumber=4233&navItemNumber=570>

There you will find several Local Leader Resources to help you run a successful PTA.

Lastly, National PTA offers E-learning courses. I urge you to take these courses, they are free and they are on-line, so you don't even need to leave the comfort of your living room to take them. E-Learning courses are an excellent way to learn the basics of PTA, learn about the budget, and learn about the Leadership Skills you need to run a successful PTA. Click on this link, to get started today.

<http://www.pta.org/members/content.cfm?ItemNumber=3090&navItemNumber=4632>

National PTA e-learning

PTA e-learning allows you to enhance your leadership skills and reach your potential. Online courses include:

- Board Basics (New!)
- Local Unit Secretary (New!)
- Local Unit President (New!)
- Effective Advocacy for Your Child
- Planning Your PTA Year
- Preventing Theft in Your PTA
- Running a Successful Program and much more...

pta.org/elearning

Be A Better Leader!

From the WI PTA Legislative Committee

by Cyndi Barbian, Federal Legislative Chair

Another in a series of articles from, Wisconsin PTA's Federal Legislative committee in an attempt to keep you up-to-date on a regular basis with the recently passed resolutions from National PTA's convention. Please note, resolutions provide PTA members with the "one voice" for all children. Resolutions are brought to the floor of the State and/or National conventions, discussed and voted on to become a part of the legislative activities of PTA.

If you do not agree with a resolution once it is passed, that is your right as an individual. However, when representing PTA, officially or by inference, you may ONLY speak TO the resolution.

This article represents the resolution below, passed in Orlando, FL by the delegates to the National PTA Convention:

Water Safety and Instruction

Whereas, in the United States, while bordered by 2 major oceans and the Gulf of Mexico, there are over 250,000 rivers, 123,000 lakes, 75,000 dams, and 18,000 canals (comprising 181,274 square miles of water and 24,766 miles of coastline) plus 8,592,000 swimming pools (309,000 commercial pools) and 5,823,000 hot tubs; and

Whereas, as of 2009, drowning is the third highest cause of death of youth 19 and under, only after motor vehicle deaths and suffocation – and is the number one cause of death for children aged four and under, more than motor vehicle deaths; and

Whereas, drowning is the leading cause of unintentional injury death among children aged 1–4 years and is the second leading cause of unintentional injury death among children 5–9 years where the vast majority (over 50%) of these drowning incidents occur in residential settings; and

Whereas, thirty-six percent of children aged 7-17 years, and 15% of adults in the United States, swim at least six times per year and water safety in general, and swimming instruction specifically, provides a lifetime of benefits for individual health and safety; now, therefore, be it:

Resolved, that National PTA and its constituent associations promote education of parents, students, school personnel and communities regarding the risks associated with water and water activities and the benefits of water safety and swimming instruction; and be it further

Resolved, that National PTA and its constituent associations encourage the development of consistent, quality standards for water safety and swimming instruction and support policies and legislation to make such programs accessible to all students; and be it further

Resolved, that National PTA and its constituent associations encourage and support public school districts to include curriculum in water safety and swimming skills to ensure all children receive such instruction and guidance; and, be it further

Resolved, that National PTA and its constituent associations seek opportunities to join with other relevant coalitions, partnerships, organizations and associations in advancing water safety and swimming instruction for children and youth.

With winter weather firmly in place, this may seem a bit inappropriate as a topic of discussion. However, now is the time to focus on the education of all children so that the summers ahead and the waterpark and pool involvement we all enjoy is as safe an experience as possible for every family.

WI PTA Resolutions

*For more information
on resolutions passed
by WI PTA, visit the
Resolutions page on
our website:*

[http://
wisconsinpta.org/
resolutions/](http://wisconsinpta.org/resolutions/)

DIDN'T MAKE IT TO TRAINING?

New Micro E-Courses Available

You can still do training online! Learning how to be a great PTA leader and understand the policies and procedures of PTA will make you a stronger leader. Visit the National PTA E-Learning courses to train in your own home.

[http://
www.pta.org/
members/
content.cfm?
ItemNumber=3090
&navItemNumber
=4632](http://www.pta.org/members/content.cfm?ItemNumber=3090&navItemNumber=4632)

WI PTA Convention April 28-29th, Start Planning Now!

By Cyndi Barbian, Convention Chair

Convention 2017 is right around the corner. Now is the time for your PTA to make their plans to attend the annual business meeting of Wisconsin PTA. It is at convention that Wisconsin PTA provides workshops, speakers, entertainment and, returning in 2017, the Vendor/Exhibitor Fair and speed lunch. Not to mention nominations and elections of officers, bylaws updates and the discussion and passage of resolutions which give PTA its very voice for all children.

Who will your PTA send to the Milwaukee Radisson West, 2303 North Mayfair Road, Wauwatosa on April 28-29, 2017? Perhaps you will choose your current President or President-Elect so

they will be able to face the next year with great ideas and energy. Or you could send your Membership and Legislative chairs to get the most up-to-date information about techniques and talking points. Maybe still some of your new parent or teacher members to learn more about the basics and values of being a PTA. Talk to everyone in your PTA and see who has an interest in attending this weekend full of facts, fun, celebration and surprises brought to you by Wisconsin PTA.

Full registration information and details will be sent shortly after the first of the year, you will be able to take advantage of Early Bird offers if you start planning now!

Wisconsin PTA Receives \$15,000 Grant to Promote Career and College Readiness

Wisconsin PTA is the recipient of a grant to promote Career and College Readiness in Wisconsin. A committee was formed in October to complete the application. After a thorough interview process, Wisconsin became one of six state PTAs to earn the grant for 2017. They include Michigan PTA, Arkansas PTA, New Jersey PTA, Georgia PTA, and West Virginia PTA.

The National Parent Teacher Association, along with local, state, and district PTAs across the country, is working to ensure that all children have access to a high quality education. In order to realize this goal, National PTA is continuing state work focused on advocacy with an emphasis on the *Every Student Succeeds Act* (ESSA) implementation including advancing college and career readiness and aligned assessments.

National PTA has supported college and career readiness standards since June, 2009 and has been working with several states to share information with families, communities and other organizations to help spread the word.

Our committee is very excited to get started on this important work, and we look forward to connecting with your area of the state to share our information in the coming months.

If you have any questions on what's happening in WI, please feel free to contact the committee chair, Cyndi Barbian at cycyndi@yahoo.com for more information. For general information about Common Core, visit the National PTA website page at <http://www.pta.org/advocacy/content2.cfm?ItemNumber=3008&navItemNumber=557#EducationStandards>

Sponsors/Vendors for the Wisconsin PTA Convention



<https://www.aim-companies.com>



<https://www.ecu.com>



weac.org

Boland Recreation, Inc.
 Mark Boland
 2347 Oak Park Road
 Marshalltown, IN 50158
 (800) 798-7589
www.bolandrecreation.com

Edvest, Wisconsin's College Savings Plan
 Meghan Boyle
 316 North Milwaukee Street
 Milwaukee, WI 53202
 (414) 316-2100 ext. 132
<https://www.edvest.com>

School Spirit Vending
 Greg Clark
 1980 Jan Avenue
 Waukesha, WI 53188
 (262) 894-8932

International Student Exchange
 Calla Kuehl, Regional Manager
 119 Cooper Street
 Babylon, NY 11702
 (920) 238-0624
lakeshores@iseusa.org

Holiday Treasures Gift Shop/Fun EVENTS
 Paula Kappes
 185 West Rawson Avenue
 Oak Creek, WI 53154
 (847) 918-9157
www.holidaytreasuresgiftshop.com

HELP FOR TREASURERS

Visit the IRS Website for rules regarding non-profit organizations:

<https://www.irs.gov/charities-non-profits>

We're on the web!

www.wisconsinpta.org



Visit the National PTA website at PTA.org



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everychild.onevoice

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Fax: 555-555-5555

every child. one voice.

PTA Vision: What the future will look like if PTA accomplishes its mission. Making every child's potential a reality.

PTA Mission: The overall purpose of PTA
"To make every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children."

PTA Values: What PTA stands for:
Collaboration: We work in partnership with a wide array of individuals and organizations to accomplish our agreed-upon goals.

Commitment: We are dedicated to promoting children's health, well-being, and educational success through strong parent, family, and community involvement.

Accountability: We acknowledge our obligations. We deliver on our promises.

Respect: We value our colleagues and ourselves. We expect the same high quality of effort and thought from ourselves as we do from others.

Inclusivity: We invite the stranger and welcome the newcomer. We value and seek input from as wide a spectrum of viewpoints and experiences as possible.

Integrity: We act consistently with our beliefs. When we err, we acknowledge the mistake and seek to make amends.