President’s Message

Hello Everyone,

The 109th Wisconsin PTA Convention in Janesville was a complete success. For those of you who attended, I want to thank you for spending the weekend with us. We accomplished a lot, starting with 13 Bylaws changes and ending with a fantastic Reflections ceremony, where we honored our many students who participated in the Reflections art program. Our delegates learned so much and had a great time networking with other officers from local PTA’s.

Highlights from Convention, were keynote speakers, Karri Hemming, founder of Fight to End Exploitation, and Nancy Yarbrough, Executive Director of Fresh Start Inc. Both women held a captive audience with their discussion and presentation on Human Trafficking; a problem that has affected communities across the United States and especially S.E. WI. Both Karri and Nancy taught us how we can recognize the signs of a trafficked teen and find help for troubled young adults in our schools and communities.

Another highlight was Sgt. Aaron Ellis of the Janesville Police Department. Sgt Ellis talked about the Janesville PD Threat Assessment team and School Resource Officers that are located in the Janesville middle and high schools. Sgt Ellis talked about what the department and the School District is doing to prevent tragic school shootings and other dangers in our schools and community. Sgt Ellis also talked about the phone app, "P3", which allows students to anonymously report tips to the police department. This new program has been a very successful asset to the community.

Ellen Chicka, CCRI Communications Chair and Melisa Yeoman, National PTA Regional Specialist, continued the grant work the CCRI team has been working on for the last year. Ellen presented a workshop called, "Presentation Skills and Public Speaking", and Melisa presented her workshop entitled "Recruitment Training". We are very thankful to National PTA for choosing us to be one of 6 states to earn a College and Career Readiness Grant. Our work with the grant has taken us all across the state. We have met with major Decision Makers, such as State Legislators, Superintendents, and School Board Officers. We have partnered up with the Department of Instruction, the Wisconsin Public Education network, as well as the Wisconsin Association for Middle Level Education. Wisconsin PTA has been a strong advocate for College and Career Readiness as well as the "Every Student Succeeds Act" (ESSA).

We had Jenn Southan of MemberHub come out and host two workshops, as well as speak to our delegates during our Membership Luncheon. All local PTA Presidents should have recently received a link via email from MemberHub. All units will be using this online membership system. It will streamline your membership process and most importantly, people can now join your PTA online. Yes, that’s right, they will be able to pay via debit or credit card. Presidents, please work with your Membership Chairs to get the process started. Details on how to get started with MemberHub can be found on our state website, on our Wisconsin PTA Facebook page and through that email link I mentioned earlier.

Lastly, don’t forget to sign up your foursome for the first annual Wisconsin PTA Golf Outing. June 8th, from 1:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. You won’t want to miss this spectacular event. 18 holes of golf, cart, Italian Meal, raffles, prizes and a great time. See the attached flyer for details on how you can sign up today!

Yours in PTA,
Angie

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Amendments to the WI PTA Bylaws

The delegates at the Wisconsin PTA Convention in Janesville approved 14 amendments to the Wisconsin PTA Bylaws. An overview of the changes is below. The full wording of all amendments can be found wisconsinpta.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/2018-Bylaws-Amendments. The amendments and the current Wisconsin PTA bylaws can be found on the Wisconsin PTA website. For questions or clarification, please contact the Wisconsin PTA office.

- **Amendment 1: Article V Wisconsin PTA Section 5** — This article is about what happens to Wisconsin PTA assets if it dissolves. To simplify and clarify the language in the bylaws, a wordy and confusing subsection was deleted and replaced with a reference to the Wisconsin At Large Unit (WALU).

- **Amendment 2: Article V Wisconsin PTA Section 6** — This amendment removed wording that would require WI PTA to seize the money of dissolving PTAs to start a new unit.

- **Amendment 3: Article VI Local PTAs/PTSAs Sections 1d and 10 (describing a unit in good standing)** — A section was deleted and necessary wording from it was added to another section to delete redundancies in the bylaws.

- **Amendment 4 Article VII Section 10 Membership and Dues** — Wording was changed in this article to clarify when dues should be paid. An addendum to the local PTA bylaws will be sent to all units this summer regarding this change.

- **Amendment 5 Article VII Section 13 Membership and Dues** — The deadline to submit dues before being considered inactive was moved from April 1 to June 30 and the consequence was changed from the withdrawal of the charter to evaluation for withdrawal to align the bylaws with the Wisconsin PTA Standards of Affiliation and current practice. An addendum to the local PTA bylaws will be sent to all units this summer regarding this change.

- **Amendment 6 Article VIII Section 4d Officers Election and Vacancies** — This section was reformatted to clarify the qualifications for running for an elected office.

- **Amendment 7 Article VIII Section 8d Officers Election and Vacancies and Article XV, Section 8d4** — Wording was added to clarify that candidates running from the floor must meet the same qualifications as those coming forward from the nominating committee.

- **Amendment 8 Section Article VIII Section 8 Officers Election and Vacancies** — A provision was added for notification to the state board of directors of the slate of candidates for committee/commission chairs 30 days before their election to match Wisconsin PTA Policy.

- **Amendment 9 Article X Board of Directors Section 3d & 3f** — The wording of section 3d was changed to clarify how region advisor appointments are approved and region advisors were added to section 3f because the term information provided applied to them, but they had been left out of the section.
Bylaw Amendments (continued)

- **Amendment 10 Article X Board of Directors Section 6 board meetings** — A provision to handle cancelled board meetings and how the work would be accomplished was added.

- **Amendment 11 Add new Article XIII Electronic Meetings and Communication** — A new article was added to allow some electronic meetings and communications and disallow others. It also covers how voting will be handled during electronic meetings.

For the following amendments, articles are referenced by their old number not the new number they will have since adding the new Article XIII referenced above.

- **Amendment 12 Article XIII Regions/Councils Section 2c** — The wording about appointing region advisers was deleted because it is covered in a different article to delete redundancy and avoid confusion

- **Amendment 13 Article XIV State and Local Relations** — This article was amended to make it possible for Wisconsin PTA to remove local/council PTA officers when they violate bylaws or are endangering their unit or council. An addendum to the local PTA bylaws will be sent to all units this summer regarding this change.

- **Amendment 14 Article XV Wisconsin State PTA Annual Meeting Section 7** — The quorum for the Wisconsin PTA Annual meeting was lowered from 50 to 35 voting delegates.

Penny Larson, Wisconsin PTA Bylaws Chair

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**Local Unit Leaders**

WI PTA will host a MemberHub webinar to help you get your local unit started with MemberHub and answer your questions. It is important that you join this webinar so that you can be familiar with your Hub. An email went out to the Presidents of local units two weeks ago, with login information. ALL PTA units will be using MemberHub, you will no longer be able to mail your Membership lists to the state office. All members will be input by your Membership Chair/President into your school’s PTA Hub.

**Wednesday, May 30th at 7:00 p.m,**

Please register for WI PTA State Training at:

[attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7488404651598472450](http://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7488404651598472450)

This webinar is for local PTA unit leaders ONLY

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

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It is hard to believe that the school year is upon us already. Where did 2017-2018 school year go? Now we are entering the season of out of sight out of mind. No school, no learning! During the summer kids start to lose some of the knowledge they learned over the course of the school year simply by not practicing it. One simple idea is the rule of 3. Three simple ways to help children keep learning moving. Three ways per day is a very achievable goal. An article that was produced by Scholastic books suggests three steps to prevent the dreaded summer slide.

1. Find 6 books to read this summer. This is a great opportunity to use your local resources like your library or even free book library that your school may host over the summer. Libraries typically have reading programs during the summer that can earn awards for completed a log.

2. Read something everyday. During the school year they emphasize the importance of 20 minutes a day. Continue with that but it can be anything from a magazine article to reading the ingredients in foods that they eat. Just getting into the practice of reading is super important.

3. Reading out loud. Parents can read to children or vice versa. Reading out loud keeps the comprehension skills awake. Our brain has to process the information in multiple formats from listening, focusing to understanding.

These three simple steps can help with the summer slide. Asking your teachers for a recommendation of books is also very helpful.

Brenda Truchon, Education Chair
Congratulations to the many PTAs, Council and Individual award recipients at the 109th Wisconsin PTA Convention.

On Saturday, April 28th Wisconsin PTA was pleased to present awards for innovative, creative programs, newsletters and hard work to the following people and PTAs:

**Newsletter:**
**Irving PTA** An excellent one page newsletter from an energetic unit in West Allis. Featuring the Irving Eagle logo this newsletter included member information regarding membership, Reflections, legislative contacts and issues and the fun activities offered.

**Non-Traditional Program:**
**Irving PTA** In one, for Irving annual event, this PTA promoted and presented their Pasta/Math Night. The event includes a spaghetti dinner for families to choose as well as an innovative program to enhance the math skills of their students with the theme: May the Facts be With You and guest appearances by Chewacca, Yoda and several Droids.

**Traditional Program:**
**Janesville Area Council** In an effort to promote the Reflections program throughout the area schools, the Janesville Council. The success of this program can be seen in the many arts entries received by Wisconsin PTA.

**PTA of the Year:**
**Irving Elementary** Award winning programs, newsletter and dedicated staff and families, Irving PTA was in Good Standing from the start of the year. Their hard work and tireless dedication to the goals and advocacy of PTA made them the logical choice.

**Kim Schwantes Watching Children Blossom:**
**Laurie Fritsch** Long time PTA member and dedicated records clerk in Racine, Laurie has been a help to the students and families at Starbuck Middle School through her work and by promoting PT membership to the families and staff serving the students.

**Outstanding Educator:**
**Matthew Fanning** Special Education teacher, Matthew Fanning is loved by his students, appreciated by the Irving PTA and staff and dedicated to making the education of his students a priority.

**Ronald Dunlap Administrator of the Year:**
**Andrea Vinje.** Andrea is the principal at Appleton’s McKinley Elementary. The award application describes her as having great student rapport, recognizes the collaborative atmosphere she has created and applauds her accessibility to the parents at McKinley.

**Wisconsin PTA Honorary Life Memberships:**
National PTA Representative, Kris Garst, Janesville Area Council President, Jessica May and Wisconsin PTA State Legislative Chair, Brenda Ward.

Additional awards presented were the Oak Leaf Award to Ms. Kerri Hemmig, LEADers I to Douglas Fryberg and LEADers III to Dawn Petrovick as well as the Brookmire-Hastings Scholarships to Kadie Kraabel from Kenosha and Kyle Simonsen from Racine.

Please watch for awards and honor information available from Wisconsin PTA as you begin the 2018-19 PTA year.
Congratulations to the students recognized by Wisconsin PTA for their artistic interpretation of the 2017-18 Reflections theme, “Within Reach”.

Entries in the areas of Dance, Film, Literature, Music, Photography and Visual Arts were reviewed and rated on their interpretation of theme, creativity and technique. Reviewers were from all areas of Wisconsin and considered to be experts in their field of review. These dedicated volunteers come forward year after year to support the Reflections program in Wisconsin.

As we applaud the award recipients, we also encourage PTAs to promote the 2018-19 Reflections theme: “Heroes Around Me” a theme designed by a student to spark imagination and creativity in the arts. Watch for information on registering your PTA for the 2018-19 Reflections program.

Many of the winners were able to attend the 109th Wisconsin PTA Convention in Janesville and receive their awards and certificates. We would like to acknowledge here all of this year’s award recipients:

**National PTA Reflections Awards of Merit**

Dance: Grace Johnson *Dancing My Way to My Dreams*  
Northstar Middle School PTSA, Wisconsin

Literature: Reiyah Jacobs *A Baby’s Understanding*  
Edison PTA, Wisconsin

**Wisconsin PTA Reflections Award Recipients**

Dance:  
*Grand Winners*  
Primary - Maylee Nord, Four Corners PTA  
Intermediate - Hannah Johnson, Sam Davey PTA  
Middle - Grace Johnson, Northstar PTA

*Outstanding Interpretation*  
Kyra Balch, Charles Nash PTA

*Award of Excellence*  
Sarah Gorman, Charles Nash PTA

*Award of Merit*  
Shayla Pitkin, Jefferson PTA
Wisconsin PTA Reflections Award Recipients (continued)

**Film:**
- **Outstanding Interpretation**
  - Intermediate - Kyra Balch, Charles Nash PTA
  - Middle - Katelyn Wilson, Mahone MS PTA

- **Award of Excellence**
  - Intermediate - Olivia Walley, Roosevelt PTA
  - Middle - Hussain Raja, Kennedy MS PTA

**Music:**
- **Grand Winners**
  - Primary - Lauren Gehri, Roosevelt PTA
  - Intermediate - Grace Palmer, Marshall MS PTA

- **Outstanding Interpretation**
  - Primary - Hailey Ruerstenberg, Roosevelt PTA
  - Intermediate - Marlee Wethal Combs, Roosevelt PTA
  - Middle - April Botten, Marshall MS PTA

- **Award of Excellence**
  - Intermediate - Evelyn Paull, Adams PTA, Haylee Nelson, Charles Nash PTA, and Tyler Hegle, Roosevelt PTA
  - Middle - Liz Puentes Avalos, Marshall MS PTA, Reiyah Jacobs, Ediston PTA, Rieleigh Pitkin, Marshall MS PTA,
    and Shae L. Weir, Marshall MS PTA

- **Award of Merit**
  - Intermediate - Kyra Balch, Charles Nash PT
  - Middle - Anna Rutherford, Marshall MS PTA, Heidi Oostdik, Marshall MS PTA

**Photography:**
- **Grand Winners**
  - Middle - Kayci Baumgartner, Kennedy MS PTA
  - High - Nicole Parmenter, Germantown HS PTSA

- **Outstanding Interpretation**
  - Primary - Isak Davis, Washington Elementary PTA
  - Intermediate - Raya Elliott, Adams PTA
  - Middle - Megan Parmenter, Kennedy MS PTA
  - High - James Blodgett, Germantown HS PTSA

- **Award of Excellence**
  - Primary - Abby McGrath, Charles Nash PTA, Kellan Konicki, Charles Nash PTA, and Oliver Paull, Adams PTA
  - Intermediate - Molly Ehler, Charles Nash PTA and Eleanor Cooley, Charles Nash PTA
  - Middle - Lauren Kainz, Northstar MS PTA and Michael Wank, Kennedy MS PTA

- **Award of Merit**
  - Primary - Penny McGrath, Charles Nash PTA and Ella Davis, Washington PTA
  - Intermediate - Olivia Walley, Roosevelt PTA and Colton Scholdt, Charles Nash PTA
  - Middle - Alyssa Balch, Mahone MS PTA, Cade Renken, Kennedy MS PTA, and Matthew Blodger, Kennedy MS PTA
Wisconsin PTA Reflections Award Recipients (continued)

Literature:

**Grand Winners**
*Middle* - Reiyah Jacobs, Edison PTA

**Outstanding Interpretation**
*Primary* - Caitlin Twitchett, Jefferson PTA
*Intermediate* - Ruby James, Four Corners PTA

**Award of Excellence**
*Primary* - Nirvan Ritesh, County Line PTA
*Intermediate* - Elizabeth Irlapati, Sam Davey PTA and Kyra Balch, Charles Nash PTA

**Award of Merit**
Shayla Pitkin, Jefferson PTA

Visual Arts:

**Grand Winners**
*Middle* - Grace Johnson, Northstar PTA

**Outstanding Interpretation**
*Primary* - Finley Thompson, Charles Nash PTA
*Middle* - Lindsey Knecht, Northstar PTA
*High* - James Blodgett, Germantown HS PTSA

**Award of Excellence**
*Primary* - Elise Froehlich, Whittier PTA, Amelia Rohlik, Sam Davey PTA, and Isak Davis, Washington PTA
*Intermediate* - Benjamin Fletcher, MacArthur PTA, Evelyn Paull, Adams PTA, and Ruby James, Four Corners PTA
*Middle* - Adalia Bock, Kennedy PTA, Elise May Edison PTA, and Gabriel Wank, Kennedy PTA
*Special* - Brennen Wygans, Jefferson PTA

**Award of Merit**
*Primary* - Ava Geissler, Sam Davey PTA, Jackson Menard, Whittier PTA, and Nirvan Ritesh, County Line PTA
*Intermediate* - Alyssa Junker, County Line PTA, Gracelynn Geissler, Sam Davey PTA, and Lily Kettner, Adams PTA
*Middle* - Alexandra Owens, Kennedy PTA and Skylar Bryl, Kennedy PTA
*High* - Sophi Leupi, Germantown HS PTSA
*Special* - Nolan Rohlik, Sam Davey PTA
Honoring the Past - Influencing the Future

109th Annual Wisconsin PTA Convention

Janesville’s Pack 520 presenting the flag

Bryan Dwyer, Reflections ceremony speaker from You are the Hero

Angie Mattes - President, Kris Garst - National PTA, Matthew John Rodriguez - Parliamentarian

Youth Outreach Chair - Chloe Mattes, Bylaws Chair - Penny Larson, State Leg. Chair - Brenda Ward, and Male Engagement Chair - Mike Almond
2018 WI PTA Golf Outing

Friday, June 8th at Brown Deer Park
7625 N Range Line Rd, Glendale, WI 53209

Registration begins at 12:00 P.M.
Shotgun Start – 1:00 P.M.
Italian Buffet following golf

$90.00 per golfer Includes Golf, cart, 2 drink tickets & dinner.
Interested in donating raffle prizes, contact Sheila Endicott at 608-244-1455

Co-Chairmen: John Mattes & Joe Mattes

Names of Golfers

1) ____________________________ X $90.
2) ____________________________ X $90.
3) ____________________________ X $90.
4) ____________________________ X $90.

Amount Paid for Golf $_______________
Just Dinner $25. X ______ = $__________

Would you, your business or PTA like to sponsor a hole? $100.00 $__________
Your name and/or Company info for Sponsor sign: ________________________________
______________________________

Total amount enclosed: $__________

Make checks payable to Wisconsin PTA

Mail to: Wisconsin PTA
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Madison, WI 53704
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Cover all your PTA needs by visiting our online store at:

stores.shoppta.com/index.lasso?host=wipta

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