

# WISCONSIN PARENT TEACHER

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## President's Message

Hello Everyone,

Can you believe how quickly this school year has gone? For many parents, graduation is right around the corner. It is so difficult for me to believe that my youngest daughter is graduating high school in a few short weeks. My how the time has flown by!

Inside this newsletter are highlights from our 110th annual PTA Convention that took place April 12-14th. My sincere thanks goes to Dawn Petrovick, and the Convention Committee for all of your hard work and dedication. I also want to thank everyone that attended. For those who missed out, please join us next year. Convention should always be a line item in your local unit budget. Convention qualifies as leadership training, (professional development for your local unit officers). Being a PTA officer is an important job, much like your child's teachers attend professional development to better their classroom management skills, you too should be learning the skills you need to make sure your PTA is operating to its fullest potential. Please make sure you add Convention as a line item on your 2019-2020 budget, and have it ready to be voted on at your first PTA meeting of the new school year. You will want to make sure you budget enough for at least one registration, and one night's hotel stay, (if needed).

We have accomplished a lot these last two years. Last year we completed our College Career Readiness Initiative grant, educating parents, communities, and decision makers about ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act) school report cards, assessments, grassroots advocacy, and career planning. I want to thank my team for helping me complete this worthwhile task. A Special thank you to committee members Ellen Chicka, Michael Anton, Heidi Nicolazzo, Brenda Ward, Andi Krizan, Chloe Mattes, Robin Anderson, and Cyndi Barbian.

We brought male engagement and diversity to the Wisconsin PTA Board of Directors. We brought on new faces with fresh ideas, to go along with the wisdom and expertise of our veteran officers. We completed our Strategic Plan by creating goals, and strategies to create best practices for future success. I had an awesome Bulletin Editor too; thank you, Tami Alfaro, for adding color, and fun to the newsletter. I am very proud of the work all of the 2017-2019 Board of Directors has completed.

We have increased our communication and streamlined our Membership using MemberHub. We will do all we can to help you should you have any questions or need assistance. Please do not hesitate to call (608)244-1455 anytime.

Lastly, please take advantage of the grant opportunities and programming provided by National PTA. This is the difference between other parent groups and the PTA. We have many resources, training, and opportunities available to us. I want to thank you for your support and encouragement these last two years. Together we have made a difference in the lives of Wisconsin children through our advocacy work, and family engagement. Please join me in wishing Heidi Nicolazzo, President-Elect success and adventure with her new board of directors.

Best Wishes,  
*Angie*



**Angie Mattes**  
Wisconsin PTA  
President

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## Adopted Amendments to the WI PTA Bylaws

The delegates at the Wisconsin PTA Convention, April 13-14, 2019, in Brookfield, Wisconsin adopted 3 amendments to the Wisconsin PTA Bylaws. Please share these amendments with your members. The complete Wisconsin PTA Bylaws are on the Wisconsin PTA website at [www.wisconsinpta.org](http://www.wisconsinpta.org).

### Article IX Duties of Officers

**Action:** Add Section 7: Immediate Past President (to give the IPP duties)

**New wording:**

- a. Serve as the president of Wisconsin At Large Unit (WALU)
- b. Work with the bylaws chair to update the WALU bylaws as needed
- c. Serve as advisor to the executive committee and other committees as designated by Wisconsin PTA policy

### Article XI Executive Committee

**Action:** Remove the legislative chairs from the executive committee

**New wording:**

Section 1: There shall be an executive committee of the Wisconsin PTA, the members of which shall be:

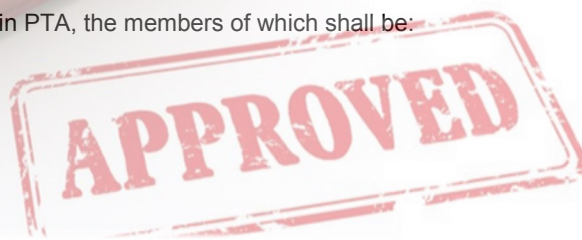
- a. all elected officers; and
- b. the immediate past president;

### Article XVI Wisconsin State PTA Annual Meeting, Section 3

**Action:** Remove vague wording

**New Wording**

Section 3: Each local PTA shall be entitled to be represented at the annual meeting of the Wisconsin PTA by its president or alternate, and one (1) delegate or alternate for each twenty-five (25) members, as shows on the books of the state treasurer as of March 1, preceding the annual meeting.



## 2019 Award Winners

On April 13, 2019 during the awards banquet portion of the 110th WI PTA Convention the following awards were presented. Congratulations to all of our winners ! Thank you to all that submitted entries, Some awards sadly to say we did not receive entries for. We know units/people are doing so many great things,so please remember next year to submit your unit entries. The following are an amazing group of winners, CONGRATULATIONS again !

**Member Communications award:**  
IRVING PTA, WEST ALLIS

**Local unit PTA of the Year award:**  
IRVING PTA, WEST ALLIS

**Outstanding Teacher of the Year - Primary:**  
JULIE TERTEEG / FOUR CORNERS PTA, SUPERIOR

**Ron Dunlap Administrator of the Year award:**  
GINA BIANCHI / MILWAUKEE FRENCH IMERSION PTA,  
MILWAUKEE

**Honorary Life award (the highest of awards WI PTA gives):**

- JENNY O'GROSKY - General Mitchell PTA, West Allis
- KELLY GEHRKE - Whittier Elementary PTA, Pleasant Prairie



## 2019 Brookmire-Hastings Recipient

Forty-one years ago by combining the Emma Brookmire Memorial Fund, which honored an outstanding teacher and Wisconsin PTA field secretary, with a scholarship fund to honor past Wisconsin and National President, Minetta Hastings, the Brookmire-Hastings Scholarship Fund, was born in 1967. This fund is responsible for presenting annual scholarships to students graduating from PTA schools pursuing a career

in education. Applications for the Brookmire-Hastings Scholarship are provided to the guidance office of all Wisconsin PTA/PTSA high schools in January and February of each school year. Wisconsin PTA makes every attempt to award two scholarships to qualifying students annually. Your support of this amazing fund will help us to continue this tradition.



### Kaylee Reuter - Shullsburg High School, Shullsburg

Hello, my name is Kaylee Reuter. I am a senior at Shullsburg High School, which is located in Shullsburg, Wisconsin. I have lived in Shullsburg almost my whole life. My entire life surrounds around my family and my close friends. I have six brothers, and two sisters and I love them all very dearly! I actually will be graduating with four of my siblings this year. I work at the local restaurant in Shullsburg called, "The Wheel Inn", as a server. I have worked here for about two and a half years. I love my job and all of the amazing opportunities that come with it. I have been living a life that is full of happiness every day. I love doing anything that involves being social. I am a very active member in high school and will continue to be throughout life.

I am a member in National Honor Society, Forensics, Volleyball, Student Council, yearbook, and Pep Club. My favorite place I have ever been to would be Laguna Beach, California and I plan on one day moving to California (that is the dream at least)! I will be going to the University of Wisconsin Platteville for college in the fall, and I will be pursuing a career in elementary education.

## Great Resource for Board Transitions — Local Leader Kit

Check out the **Local PTA Leader Kit at [PTAKit.org](http://PTAKit.org)** — your free, *year-round resource* to support all of your PTA leadership needs. You will find strategies, tips and turn-key tools to ensure your success. It contains resources to help PTA leaders serve their communities and manage local PTAs, including:

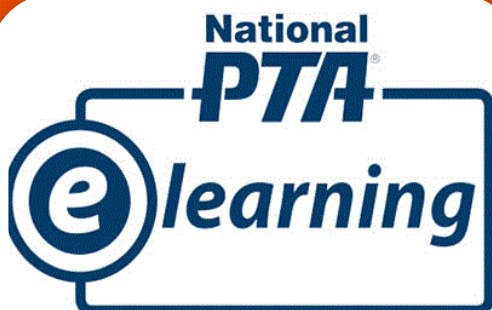
- Easy-to-use guides for the president and treasurer
- Turn-Key membership, fundraising and marketing tools
- Program and advocacy resources
- Special offers from national partners

It's also completely digital and mobile-friendly.



*The Local Leader PTA Kit*

## Leadership E-learning Opportunities



Here's something that you and your board can do to gain knowledge and have a little fun! National PTA has a series of trainings called E-Learning that anyone can do.

Some of the topics include training for your board (President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer), Parliamentary Procedure, and PTA Basics.

National PTA has it broken down into a few categories: Local PTA Leaders, All PTA Leaders, and a section in Spanish.

These trainings are approximately 30 minutes in length, and offer a wealth of knowledge. So what are you waiting for? Sign up on the National PTA website and get started today!

**[pta.org/elearning](http://pta.org/elearning)**



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## New WI PTA Resolution

It is with a great pleasure, that Wisconsin PTA announces the unanimous passing of the Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems and Vape Pens resolution. Thank you to all of our delegates who voted to help keep these devices out of the hands of Wisconsin's youth. Wisconsin PTA will continue to pursue a solution with our decision makers and legislators. Look for future updates on our progress.

### 19.1 ELECTRONIC NICOTINE DELIVERY SYSTEMS AND VAPE PENS

**WHEREAS**, E-cigarette use, commonly referred to as "JUULing" or "vaping", among youth has been declared an epidemic by the United States Surgeon General; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2018, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention stated that 20% of adolescents use E-cigarettes, and the use of E-cigarettes and vape pens are unsafe for children, teens, and young adults, causing harm to adolescent brain development and causing long term harm to the lungs; and

**WHEREAS**, E-cigarettes and/or other Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS) contain nicotine, a highly addictive substance that has a negative effect on the developing brains of children and youth; and

**WHEREAS**, a single cartridge may contain the nicotine of 20 cigarettes and some users are vaping marijuana and THC through vape pens; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2018 National Youth Tobacco Survey found that 20.8% of high schoolers and 4.9% of middle schoolers used E-cigarettes within 30 days of taking the survey, a 78% and 48% increase respectively over the 2017 survey;

### THEREFORE BE IT

**RESOLVED**, that Wisconsin Congress of Parents and Teachers (WCPT) through its constituent bodies, increase public awareness that ENDS makers are targeting youth through social media with hashtags such as #vapelifelife, #vapefriends and #vapefam, and are naming vape flavors after popular children's candies, drinks, and other treats; and BE IT FURTHER

**RESOLVED**, that school districts implement programs in all schools to educate students and families about the harmful effects of ENDS and vaping; and BE IT FURTHER

**RESOLVED**, that the WCPT urge companies to stop marketing ENDS products that are misleading and tempting to youth; and BE IT FURTHER

**RESOLVED**, that WCPT advocates working with local law makers to implement ordinances restricting retailers from the sale of ENDS to minors; and BE IT FURTHER

**RESOLVED**, that WCPT work with like-minded associations and organizations to develop and enact statewide legislation regulating the sale and distribution of ENDS to minors



## WI DPI Honors WI PTA Youth Outreach Chair's Achievement in Monthly Newsletter



Wisconsin's Education Newsletter



**Chloe Mattes, attending the 2019  
Legislative Conference**

## Wisconsin Student Named the National PTA Outstanding Youth Advocate of the Year

Chloe Mattes, a senior at William Horlick High School in Racine was recently named the National Parent Teacher Association (PTA) Outstanding Youth Advocate of the Year. The award is given to “a young person—who—through his or her creativity, leadership, and dedication, has positively affected policy or change in his or her school or community in a way that aligns with PTA’s mission and goals.” (National PTA, 2019).

Mattes received the award during the 2019 National PTA Legislative Conference on March 13 in Arlington, Virginia.

She was chosen among applicants from all over the country based on her advocacy work, which is focused on college and career readiness. Through her work, she provides a voice for herself and other students about the information they need to prepare for the important decisions they must make in high school and beyond.

"Our mission is to make every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children," Mattes said. "These decisions affect us and we need to be involved in them and this position gives me that voice to tell some of the adults about issues from the students' perspective."

At the local level, Mattes takes the role of youth advocate seriously. She is the Wisconsin PTA Youth Outreach Chair and works to make sure that student voices continue to be an integral part of Horlick High School's PTSA (Parent Teacher Student Association). She believes that "it's our job and our time to stand up for ourselves and help guide these leaders by informing them about how the issues affect us." Working alongside parents and teachers provides a space for students to assert their ideas and beliefs.

Participating in the Legislative Conference provided another opportunity for young people to be taken seriously. Mattes relished the time she had to talk with state legislators, specifically about the Rebuild America's Schools Act. "I loved seeing the look on their face when I would speak to them. This Act is to make sure schools are included in the infrastructure bill as well," she said.

Mattes is thankful for what she describes as a “powerful experience” and remains grateful for the opportunity. “Students think they have no voice, but on that day I felt so confident and spoke from my heart because I was the youngest in the room.” In the near future, she plans to add to the [Wisconsin PTA Youth Network YouTube channel](#) with new videos to inspire students to advocate for their schools and communities.

Mattes plans to attend the University of Wisconsin–Parkside to major in communications with hopes of pursuing a job in radio broadcasting.

**View the full article and other ConnectEd articles: <https://dpi.wi.gov/news/dpi-connected/wisconsin-student-named-national-pta-outstanding-youth-advocate-year>**

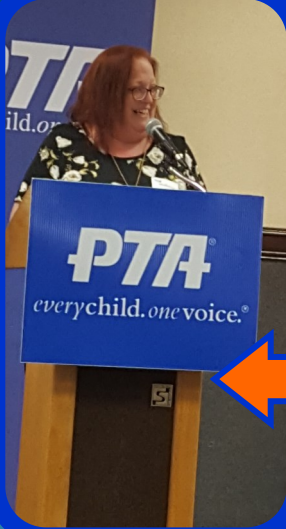


WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF  
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# 110<sup>th</sup> Annual Wisconsin PTA Convention

## Snapshots



National PTA Rep Linda Johnson, facilitates a grant writing workshop to delegates



Incoming 2019-2021 WI PTA President, Heidi Nicolazzo



2017-2019 WI PTA Board of Directors

Boy Scout Troup #558 of West Allis, presents the colors at the opening of the 110th WI PTA Convention



Outgoing 2017-2019 WI PTA President, Angie Mattes



# NATIONAL PTA<sup>®</sup> REFLECTIONS<sup>®</sup>



## Visual Arts Winners

Grand Winners - Intermediate:

Grand Winners - High:

Outstanding Interpretation - Primary:

Outstanding Interpretation - Intermediate:

Outstanding Interpretation - Middle:

Award of Excellence - Primary:

Award of Excellence - Intermediate:

Award of Excellence - Middle:

Award of Merit - Primary:

Award of Merit - Intermediate:

Award of Merit - Middle:

Special Artists - Outstanding Interpretation:

Special Artists - Award of Excellence:

## Film Winners

Outstanding Interpretation - Intermediate:

## Literature Winners

Grand Winners - Intermediate:

Outstanding Interpretation - Primary:

Outstanding Interpretation - Intermediate:

Award of Excellence - Intermediate:

Award of Merit - Intermediate:

Ariyana Ritesh, County Line School of Germantown

Erin Briggs, Germantown School of Germantown

Theodore Vang, Sam Davey School of Eau Claire

Ryan Helling, Washington School of Janesville

Shae Weir, Marshall School of Kenosha

Alayna Jasper, Sam Davey School of Eau Claire

Sullivan Kettner, Adams School of Janesville

Rylan Joseph, Nash School of Kenosha

Emma Froehlich, Wittier School of Kenosha

Yara Museitef, Nash School of Kenosha

Kendall Robinson, Nash School of Kenosha

Avalon Lidstrom, Woodworth School of Fond du Lac

Makena Pierce, Marshall School of Kenosha

Ella Lewinski, Kennedy School of Germantown

Jamie Twitchett, Jefferson School of Janesville

Clark Jones, Washington School of Janesville

Claire Kettner, Adams School of Janesville

Aaron Wolf, Roosevelt School of Janesville

Ashton Westendorf, Roosevelt School of Janesville

Brylee Taylor, Nash School of Kenosha

Grace Johnson, NorthStar School of Eau Claire

Lauren Kainz, NorthStar School of Eau Claire

Sydney Taylor, Marshall School of Kenosha

Stella Gaddy, Whittier School of Kenosha

Kyle Taffe, Whittier School of Kenosha

Kyra Balch, Nash School of Kenosha

Ariana Wilson, Roosevelt School of Janesville

Jamie Twitchett, Jefferson School of Janesville

Kyra Balch, Nash School of Kenosha

Ruby James, Four Corners School of Superior

Caitlin Twitchett, Roosevelt School of Janesville

Mylee McLean, Roosevelt School of Janesville

Kate Johnson, Sam Davey School of Eau Claire

Jane Gerstung, Nash School of Kenosha

Lily Kettner, Adams School of Janesville

(Winners continued on page 9)

## Special Congrats

to the  
**Merit  
Award**  
Winners  
at the  
**National Level:**

### **Oliver Paull**

Adams School,  
Janesville

In Photography



### **Grace Johnson**

NorthStar School,  
Eau Claire  
In Dance



## Reflections Winners (cont from page 8)

### Music Winners

Outstanding Interpretation - Intermediate: Kyra Balch, Nash School of Kenosha

### Dance Winners

Grand Winners - Primary: Olive Gaddy, Whittier School of Kenosha  
 Grand Winners - Intermediate: Hannah Johnson, Sam Davey School of Eau Claire  
 Grand Winners - Middle: Grace Johnson, NorthStar School of Eau Claire  
 Outstanding Interpretation - Primary: Maylee Nord, Four Corners School of Superior  
 Outstanding Interpretation - Intermediate: Shayla Pitkin, Jefferson School of Janesville  
 Outstanding Interpretation - Middle: Danica Gosz, Kennedy School of Germantown

### Photography Winners

Grand Winners - Primary: Oliver Paull, Adams School of Janesville  
 Outstanding Interpretation - Primary: Drew Shreve, Nash School of Kenosha  
 Outstanding Interpretation - Intermediate: Raya Elliott, Adams School of Janesville  
 Outstanding Interpretation - Middle: Megan Parmenter, Kennedy School of Germantown  
 Outstanding Interpretation - High School: Ella Mudge, Germantown School of Germantown  
 Award of Excellence - Primary: Jackson Menard, Whittier School of Kenosha  
 Theodore Vang, Sam Davey School of Eau Claire  
 Amber Card, Nash School of Kenosha  
 Eyan Vang, Sam Davey School of Eau Claire  
 Jasmyr Walker, Sam Davey School of Eau Claire  
 Lauren Kainz, North Star School of Eau Claire  
 Award of Excellence - Middle: Nicole Parmenter, Germantown School of Germantown  
 Award of Excellence - High School:  
 Mason Johnstad, Four Corners School of Superior  
 Garrett Bader, Nash School of Kenosha  
 Jameson Johnston, Jefferson School of Janesville  
 Hannah Johnson, Sam Davey School of Eau Claire



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to give out as incentives  
or for PTA wear?

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