

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



President's Message

August 16, 2024

Welcome to the 2024-2025 PTA year! I hope you had an incredible summer filled with fun and adventures. I am excited to start the second year of my term. Last year we made great strides in retaining members, creating, or re-establishing units, building communications, and having several in-person trainings. Every month I hope to send out a newsletter with important information (training, grants, and goals) it will contain links to an array of outside information too. If you have any challenges, questions, or concerns, please reach me by email: akrizan-burns@wisconsinpta.org, text or call: (414) 303-2972.

We have 4 training events planned for this fall:

Use this link to RSVP: https://forms.office.com/r/bFGVxQw0ti	Aug 29 th – Northside Library in Kenosha 5:30pm – 7:30pm
	Sept 14 th – Kimberly Library in Kimberly 10am
	Sept 21 st – L.L. Philips Library in Eau Claire 10am
	Sept 26 th – Hedberg Library in Janesville 5:30pm – 7:30pm

These training events will have all the basics to start the year off on the correct foot. We will be covering Givebacks basics, IRS requirements, good standing, bylaws and answering all your questions. Please send me an email to info@wisconsinpta.org with questions or specific items you wish for us to answer.

Have you joined your local unit yet? Officers should be the first to join! Membership and programing are usually the number one topic of conversation as you move into the beginning of the school year. Remember to vote on any items (budget, calendar, motion) you must be a member of the unit to discuss and vote.

Grant opportunities from National PTA will be going live August 29th so keep an eye out. National grants will be for running [PTA Programs](#) at your school. Grants, however, are NOT necessary to run a PTA program at your school. Typically, schools who get grants use the funds for food to entice families to attend. You can run many of the programs with little to no funding. These ready-to-use programs are a benefit of being a PTA. Your membership dues go to the creation of the programs so use them! Visit pta.org/grants for more information.

Wisconsin PTA is bringing back our local unit grants with sponsorship from Educators Credit Union. Use this link to learn more and access the application <https://tinyurl.com/PTALeaders24>.

If you are new to the board or just want to increase your learning, make sure you sign up for the training at Givebacks for the life [Fall Workshops](#) to help you and your board increase the usefulness of this free platform.

“Education is the most powerful weapon which can be used to change the world” ~ Nelson Mandela

PTA's Values: Collaboration, Commitment, Diversity, Respect, and Accountability

We are getting excited for the start of another school year. It's a chance for you to regroup, reimagine your PTA's role and engage your families. We can't wait to see what you can do!

Andi

Open Office Hours

Virtually meet with state leaders monthly to get tips, keep your unit in good standing, and ask questions. If you have a question you would like answered, email info@wisconsinpta.org and we will address it at a meeting.



Wisconsin PTA Annual Convention – Save the Date

Our annual convention and business meeting is set for April 5, 2025, at New Holstein. The committee is working to make this the best one yet. Our Theme this year is: **Connecting and Advocating for All Children**

Wisconsin PTA convention is where local units can learn, network, and find resources for making their local PTA a success. During the convention we hold the annual meeting where the state level business is conducted --just like your meetings! **YOU** are our members, and we need *your presence and input* to conduct the business of the association.

At convention we may:

- Vote to update our Bylaws.
- Vote to approve our Legislative Priorities
- Vote on rescinding Resolutions

We have begun contacting vendors and sponsors. If you have any vendors or sponsors you would like us to reach out to please email info@wisconsinpta.org

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New Fiscal Year – Unit Tasks

Reminder all documents for Good Standing are to be submitted via Givebacks. There is no need to mail any documents to Wisconsin PTA.

***Transfer your books.** Use a CPA or 3 non account signers to perform a Financial Review of your records for the Fiscal Year Ended 6/30/2024, then upload your signed [Financial Review Statement](#) into Givebacks by November 1st. ([EXAMPLE of a Completed Financial Review Statement](#))

***Submit your 990.** You do not need to wait until the IRS November 15th deadline. Once your financial review is completed you can submit your 990 to the IRS. Most PTA's only need to file the [990N](#). Take a screen shot of the filing and upload it in Givebacks.

***If you have not done so yet, go to the bank with the new board members and switch account signature responsibilities as necessary.** Make sure the right people are signers on the bank account for the summer and incoming year. Make sure all IRS and PTA Guidelines regarding treasurer responsibilities and account signers are followed. You should have 2 non-related/not-in-the-same-household signers for your account.

***Transfer Stripe Account in Givebacks** if you have a new treasurer [Instructions for Stripe Transfer](#).

***Prepare Draft Budget** and post it for 30 days for your members to read, then review in detail and motion to approve at your next meeting in the fall. Include funding for your board to attend the Wisconsin PTA Convention (April 5th), along with National PTA's Legislative Convention (March 3-6th) and virtual Annual Convention (June 25-28). Units should include funding to have one or more of your board members attend. Estimate the cost of registration to be \$75 per person for each event for use in your budget and motion to approve changes when actual costs are known. Reach out to info@wisconsinpta.org, if you need assistance.

***Save the date for the 2024-2025 Wisconsin State PTA convention on Saturday, April 5th, 2025, in New Holstein.** If you wish to be involved in the planning and receive free registration, please reach out.

Memberships

Having been to several PTA's membership Giveback stores we have noticed that many have not changed the PTA logo to be specific to their school. You can create your own PTA Logo [HERE](#) that automatically conforms to all PTA brand standards.

As your new board moves into place it's time to start the push for membership for the year!

- Create your membership options for the 2024-2025 school year in your store.
- Add an Alumni membership option to capture those who will be leaving your school but still want to support the PTA!
- Add a community membership option for future families and seniors to join.
- Start to engage your parents via social media to join now.
- Utilize Membership Resources at PTA.org.
- Create a [membership plan](#)/calendar for the year

Here is the state membership numbers for last year, compared to the previous year, and the year before Covid.

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Fiscal Year Ending 06/30/2024: 5059

Fiscal Year Ending 06/30/2023: 4926

Fiscal Year Ending 06/30/2020: 8114

We would love for us to get back to those pre-covid totals. This won't happen overnight, but if every unit could increase their membership by 10 members more than last year, we can achieve this year's goal of 5500 members. We have roughly 100 units, with the increase of 10 members per unit we could exceed our goal!

The National PTA is excited to bring back **Membership Mania** for the 2024-25 school year. **Sign up today** to join us this school year to strengthen membership together and make every child's potential a reality!



SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE

It is time to register your school for the School of Excellence Program that aims to:

- Provide a framework for PTAs to identify and implement best practices in family engagement to strengthen family-school partnerships.
- Build inclusive and welcoming school communities where all families contribute to enriching the educational experience and overall well-being for all students.
- Help PTA attract new, action-oriented PTA members who want to focus on the issues that affect our children the most.
- Provide step-by-step guidance and networking opportunities for PTAs to gain support and feedback, identify and reach goals and earn recognition.

Learn more [here](#) and register today!

Reflections

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It's a great time to start thinking about this year's Reflections program with the theme "Accepting Imperfection". Look to fill your Reflections chair position at your school for the year and reach out to your English and Art Teachers to share with them this year's theme and ask that they incorporate it into an assignment this fall. At back-to-school events you can have an information table with this eye catching [poster board](#). This is a great way to get lots of students involved while also sharing the requirements for the other categories such as dance, music composition, and photography that students can work on outside of school. Here are the [requirements for each category](#). Click [HERE](#) for the National PTA August Reflections newsletter. To learn more about NPTA Reflections program and [register today](#) for the year, visit [Here](#)

Meet the Wisconsin PTA Board of Directors

President – Andi Krizan-Burns akrizan-burns@wisconsinpta.org

President Elect – Open

Vice President – Angelica Parra aparra@wisconsinpta.org

Treasurer – Rita Wiesneski rwiesneski@wisconsinpta.org

Secretary – Cyndi Barbian cbarbian@wisconsinpta.org

Immediate Past President - Gena Kraemer gkraemer@wisconsinpta.org

Reflections – Ed Burns eburns@wisconsinpta.org

DEIA – Erica Christensen echristensen@wisconsinpta.org

Grants/Mental Health – Heather Birk hbirk@wisconsinpta.org

Brookmire-Hastings Scholarships – Stacy Marszalkowski smarszalkowski@wisconsinpta.org

We NEED volunteers to help the WI PTA service local units by being Region Advisors!

We NEED a volunteer to Chair our Website/Social Media updates!

We NEED a volunteer to Chair our Membership Drive!

We NEED a volunteer to assist with Convention planning, vendors, promotion, food, etc!

We can find a spot for you! Bring your knowledge and skills to the WI PTA Board!

Givebacks

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If you are new to your board or new to using Givebacks, our membership platform here is a [user guide](#). Visit [Givebacks Interactive Workshops](#) for training and to schedule a 1:1 meeting.



Social Media

Follow these Facebook pages to stay informed and get valuable information to pass on to your families!

[Wisconsin PTA](#) – info for all Wisconsin parents, PTA leaders and education advocates

[Wisconsin PTA Local Leaders](#) – closed group for Wisconsin leaders to network and share info and ask questions.

National Parent Teacher Association

[PTA Local Leaders](#) – a closed group National PTA local leader page where you can interact with leaders across the country and get ideas and feedback.

You can also follow, like, and subscribe!

