

BULLETIN

November, 2011



CT PTSA

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MEMBERSHIP NEWS!

The CT PTSA Membership Incentive Program is underway. The numbers are rolling in and they are very impressive. Your goal for September was to have a creative and effective membership drive. Please e-mail Annie at CT PTSA office @ ab_connecticut.pta@snet.net with your September membership drive details. When did you have your membership drive? How many members did you sign in the month of September? What made your membership drive creative and effective?

(con't on page 7)

Exciting New Benefit – Exclusively for Connecticut PTSA Members!!

The benefits of being a PTA/PTSA member are many and varied. From cellular phone service discounts to the comfort in knowing PTA is always “The Voice” for children in debates in Washington membership in PTA offers benefits to make your members’ life easier and more productive. Now, there is even more!

(con't on page 6)

Hot Topics

NOVEMBER-RESOLUTIONS – Connecticut PTSA’s resolutions and beliefs are what drive our Association. They set the direction of our Association and provide legislators and other educational leaders with our viewpoint on education and child related issues. Learn how to write a resolution. See page 2 for more information.

Resolutions– Hot Topics for November

This is your PTA, help us set the direction you would like us to take, join our webinar on:

THE RESOLUTION PROCESS: HOW TO PARTICIPATE

Connecticut PTSA resolutions and position statements are official documents outlining the opinion, will, or intent of the association to address local, state or federal problems, situations, or concerns that affect children and youth and require action to seek resolution on the issue. They serve an important purpose in formalizing and focusing the positions of the organization on various important and relevant issues. Resolutions and/or position statements are usually directed at school boards, legislature, the State Board of Education, or Congress. They set the direction of our association and help to drive our mission.

Webinars are as follows:

Thursday, November 10 from 1:00PM to 2:00PM

Monday, November 14 from 10:00AM to 11:00AM

Wednesday, November 16 from 6:00PM to 7:00PM

To Register for please visit our website at: www.ctpta.org

Reflections 2011-2012

Diversity Means

For those of you who are returning for a second or subsequent year, we appreciate your dedication to the program and for those who are new to Reflections, Welcome!

For those who took advantage of our Reflections Webinars, we hope that our training offered you a better understanding on the program and how it works.

It is very important the CT PTSA knows who your Reflection Chair is. If you did not include this information when you reported your officers, please contact CT PTSA by phone or email and provide us with your Reflections Chair information. This will allow us to keep you up to date on forms, rules, and tips to help make your program run smoothly.

The deadline to have all of your first place winners to CT PTSA is January 20, 2012 in all 6 categories.

Don't forget the theme Search. This area of the Reflections program allows students to create future themes. Winning submissions will receive cash awards. Entry forms can be found on our website and must be submitted to CT PTSA by November 28, 2011.

Thanks again for helping us bring a wonderful program and opportunity to our students through creative expression—we hope you enjoy it as much as the students and also our office - who can't wait to see all of our entries!

Questions? Call us at 203-281-6617 or email us at ab_connecticut.pta@snet.net

Reflections Categories:

Dance/Choreography

Film

Literature

Music

Photography

Visual Arts



*Due to State Office
January 20th, 2012*

Have you filed your 990?

- **FILE YOUR 990 BY NOVEMBER 15, 2011**
- **\$50,000 OR UNDER IN GROSS RECEIPTS MAY FILE A 990-E POST CARD**
- **SEND A COPY OF YOUR FILING TO THE CT PTSA OFFICE 60 CONNOLLY PARKWAY, BUILDING 12, SUITE 103, HAMDEN, CT 06514 or email us a copy to connecticut.pta@snet.net.**



“Take Your Family to School Week”

PTA® Take Your Family to School Week® is celebrated each February to pay tribute to PTA’s legacy of building family-school partnerships. PTA Take Your Family to School Week will be held **February 12–18, 2012** with the purpose of expanding and enhancing family engagement in schools across the country.

PTA “Take Your Family to School” Week is sponsored by the AXA Foundation, the philanthropic arm of AXA Equitable. The [AXA Foundation](#) is a Proud National Sponsor of PTA. The AXA Foundation provides more than \$1.3 million a year in scholarships to make college a reality for students across the country.

AXA offers free seminars to PTA units on how to apply for college and on other financial issues facing families. Consider having AXA provide a seminar during your “Take Your Family to School Week” activities. Learn more at AXA-Achievement.com/PTA.

Being a PTA in “Good Standing”

It is that time of year again: PTA/PTSAs/SEPTAs need to become units “in good standing”.

But what does it mean to be in good standing? It is very simple. Follow our Policy on Continuing Affiliation which was mailed to all Unit Presidents. It states the following:

Submit a current officer list, (Officer Information Sheet) including contact information to CT PTSA.

Submit names and dues for members by October 15 to be eligible for Insurance.

Submit a copy of your review or audit, which ever was completed, to our office by September 30th.

Submit a copy of IRS 990, (due to the IRS by November 15) , a copy to the state office by November 30.

Submit Proof of Insurance by November 30.

Submit a current set of approved Bylaws on file with the CT PTSA office. Bylaws need to be updated every 3 years to be current.

If any of these items are outstanding, please make arrangements to get them in as soon as possible. CT PTSA can help with the completion of missing items, concerns or questions of a unit or council.

Non compliance can result in a loss of tax exempt status and affiliation with

CT PTSA. The IRS charges a large fee for late and non filing of your 990.

For additional information, contact Connecticut PTSA State Office at : connecticut.pta@snet.net or 203-281-6617.



Nutmeg STATEWIDE PTA

Remember.....

When your children have graduated and gone on to college, you still have an opportunity to be a PTA member. Nutmeg Statewide PTA membership is open to any person who wants to continue to support PTA. Forms are available on our website at www.ctpta.org or you can call 203 281-6617. All net proceeds of Nutmeg are used to fund Scholarships for high school students.

Just Between Friends

New! It's Even Easier to Get Parents to Join your Group in JBF

Just Between Friends is making it easier than ever to get parents to join your PTA Group in Just Between Friends. JBF has created an ad to post to your website that parents can click on to join your group in JBF. It's available in four different sizes, so you'll be able to choose the size that best fits your site.

Click here for easy instructions to access, select and post the ad to your website www.learnjbf.com/htmlinvitationcode.php. After it's posted, when parents click on the ad they'll go through the household start up wizard that already has your invitation code. Easy, right? If you have any questions, please visit www.JustBetweenFriends.com and click on "Contact Us."

If your unit isn't using Just Between Friends, you're missing out on so many benefits including the opportunity to earn revenue from Just Between Friends. It's easy to get started. Simply visit www.JustBetweenFriends.com/PTAquickstart to enter your unit. Then, visit www.LearnJBF.com for lots of how-to information and a schedule of training webinars.

If you have questions at any time, please visit www.JustBetweenFriends.com and click on "Contact Us" or call 412-561-0600 x 0 and a knowledgeable, friendly Just Between Friends Customer Support Representative will help.

After you've entered your unit, if you have questions about revenue-share, please call 412-561-0500 x 1203. Don't delay! Enter your unit today for an opportunity to begin earning revenue-share for the Fall **and** Spring semester.



UNIT PRESIDENTS AND TREASURERS- DID YOU PAY YOUR MEMBERSHIP FEES?

Exciting New Benefit – Exclusively for Connecticut PTSA Members!!

Cont from page 1.

We are proud to announce an exclusive partnership only for the members of Connecticut PTSAs. We have partnered with Wells Fargo Advisors to offer your members a unique program to save for their children's advanced education. This member-only benefit offers professional college savings advice along with a no sales charge savings plan.

More benefits to your members include :

Potential tax benefits of investing in a 529 college savings plan

Professional advice regarding college savings

Complete college savings introductory kits

A no sales charge plan – potential savings of 4.75%

College savings experts to speak at your PTA meetings

Displays and information to educate your members at various events

Literature and educational materials for your PTA

In addition to all of these benefits, Connecticut PTSA and Wells Fargo Advisors are working together to develop a scholarship program for our members to help encourage saving for college.

We encourage you to contact Bruce or Joanne at Wells Fargo Advisors to discuss how to get information to your members. The enclosed sample information flyer can be sent home with your newsletters, back-to-school packets, directories, membership cards or as part of an announcement of an upcoming meeting or information session.

Connecticut PTSA is proud to be a partner in this groundbreaking program to benefit our members. This exciting offer will help many of your members plan and save for their children's future. And, we all know, that is why we do what we do with PTA – Making a difference in children's futures!

Thank you for your work in advancing the health, education and welfare of all children.

Sincerely,

Jim Accomando

President-Connecticut PTSA

Visit CT PTSA website at www.ctpta.org for brochure

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From Membership Support VP– Melinda Saller

Cont from page 1.

Now that September is under your belt, it is time to start thinking about your **OCTOBER INCENTIVE GOAL**. During the month of October, you will need to sign 10 outside members to your PTA, PTSA, or SEPTA. That means someone other than teachers, staff, and parents of the students (Grandparents beware).

Keep up the good work!! Remember, by increasing your unit's membership, you will energize your unit, increase your volunteer power, strengthen the connection between home and school, and make positive changes for all children. The larger your unit, the more resources you have to speak for every child with one voice.

If you have any questions regarding the program please feel free to contact myself or any of us at CT PTSA.

Thank you, have fun and **GOOD LUCK!!!**

Melinda Saller

VP Membership Support

CT PTSA



"People may doubt what you say, but they will believe what you do." - Lewis Cass

HONOR SOMEONE SPECIAL

Connecticut PTSA Lifetime Achievement Award

When a CT PTSA Life Achievement is conferred, not only is someone who has made a contribution to the welfare of children and youth honored, the work of CT PTSA is promoted through a contribution to the CT PTSA Scholarship Fund. The Scholarship Fund receives a donation of \$65.00 of the \$75.00 Life Achievement fee. (The remaining \$10.00 covers the cost of the Life Achievement pin and certificate.)

The CT PTSA Scholarship Fund established by the CT PTSA Board of Directors to grant scholarships through an application and selection process to graduating seniors from CT PTSA/PTSA high schools who, after graduation from a four-year college, will be entering the teaching profession.

The CT PTSA Scholarship Award recipients are presented their scholarship awards at the annual CT PTSA Annual Meeting or other event so deemed.

Leadership Training Day– For all Officers of all PTAs/PTSAs/SEPTAs

CT PTSA is proud to offer yet again another Statewide Leadership Training Day designed to make your work in PTA easier. Talk with your board members today and make arrangement for several people to be on hand for this morning PTA education. **Register online on our website at www.ctpta.org**. Training being Held at McKinley School ,Fairfield.

AGENDA -SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5TH, 2011

8:30 – 9:00 am	Registration/Continental Breakfast
9:00 – 9:30 am	Welcome <i>Presenter: Jim Accomando, President</i>
9:30 – 10:15 am	Membership Increase and Retention (RR)
10:15 – 11:00 am	Running Effective Meetings (BO) (RR)
11:00 – 11:45 am	Overcoming the “We have always done it this way” (BO)
11:45 – 12:15 pm	Ask Any Question (Your choice)

Outstanding Leadership Certification*
(RR) Roles and Responsibilities
(BO) Board Operations
(FR) Financial Requirements
(RA) Relationship with Administration
(MB) Member Benefits

From the Executive Director– Sally Boske

Well it is finally fall, the leaves are changing colors, there is a bite in the air and school is in full swing. You are all so busy right now with soccer games, homework assignments, and oh yeah PTA meetings! Are you thinking “Boy I wished I did this in summer.”? Well here’s a suggestion, take a minute and put together a list of things that you should or could have done this summer to save you from the extra work you are doing now.

I know, I know, and when do you have time to make a list? Well it will be worth it I promise. Okay now here is what goes on that list:

- The day after the election in the spring send a new officer information sheet to the CT PTSA
- In June put together the committee to review the books
- If you are going out of office as President then hand this list to the new President with the things you have completed checked off
- On July 1st remind the Treasurer to give the financial records to the review committee and to email or mail a copy of the final report to the CT PTSA
- During July remind the Treasurer to do the IRS 990 and send a copy to the CT PTSA
- On July 1st email all of the elected officers and set a date to get together in late July or early August to discuss goals for the next year
- Don’t forget to attend the CT PTSA Statewide Leadership training

Guess what, everything is done by July 1st and that gives you at least 60 days that you do not even have to think about PTA! Then when the fall comes you will not be sitting at the soccer game on your cell phone trying to make sure the 990 is done or filling out paperwork or wondering why no one from the State PTSA has reached out to you.

We know how busy your lives are, we have been there. Even though we are paid staff we started out as PTA volunteers and did most of what you are all doing. We understand! We use that understanding to try to make your lives as easy as possible and to make your jobs as easy as possible.

So take a deep breath! Enjoy the crisp fall air! Smile! And jump in a pile of leaves!

Sally A. Boske

CT PTSA Office will be Closed
Thursday, November 24
and Friday November 25



Happy Thanksgiving to all of our PTA Families

Region 1	BENNET MS PTSA	Manchester
	BOLTON CENTER PTA	Bolton
	BUCKLEY PTA	Manchester
	ELIZABETH GREEN PTA	Newington
	ILLING MS PTA	Manchester
	KEENEY STREET PTA	Manchester
	MANCHESTER SEPTA	Manchester
	MONTESSORI MAGNET	Hartford
	NEWINGTON SEPTA	Newington
	NOAH WEBSTER	Hartford
	O'CONNELL PTA	East Hartford
	PTA OF WILLINGTON	Willington
	RUTH CHAFFEE PTA	Newington
	SAGE PARK	Windsor
	SOMERS HS PTSA	Somers
	SOMERS PTA	Somers
	SUCCESS SEPTA	Willington
	TOLLAND SEPTA	Tolland
	VERPLANCK PTA	Manchester
	WADDELL PTA	Manchester
	WEST HARTFORD SEPTA	West Hartford

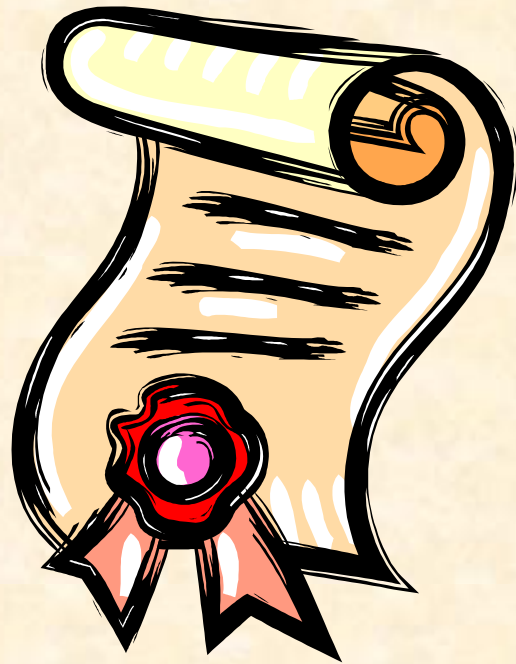
Region 2	ANDOVER PTA	Andover
	EAST LYME MS PTA	Niantic
	FLANDERS PTA	East Lyme
	LEBANON PTA	Lebanon
	LILLIE B. HAYNES PTA	Niantic
	QUAKER HILL /COHANZIE	Quaker Hill

Region 3	ALMA PAGELS PTA	West Haven
	BAILEY MS PTA	West Haven
	BEAR PATH	Hamden
	BIELEFIELD PTA	Middletown
	BRADLEY PTA	Derby
	BREWSTER & KORN PTAs	Durham
	BUNGAY PTA	Seymour
	CALF PEN MEADOW PTA	Milford
	CHAPMAN PTA	Cheshire
	CLINTON PTA	Clinton
	CLINTONVILLE PTA	North Haven
	DARCEY PTA	Cheshire
	FARM HILL PTA	Middletown
	FRANCES WALSH	Branford
	GREEN ACRES	North Haven

EARLY BIRD WINNERS!
Units who have reported their first payment of Membership Fees to the CT PTSA State office By October 15, 2011.

GUILFORD PTA	Guilford
HAMDEN MS PTA	Hamden
KATHLEEN GOODWIN	Old Saybrook
LAWRENCE PTA	Middletown
LIVE OAKS PTA	Milford
MARY R. TISKO PTA	Branford
MARY T. MURPHY PTA	Branford
MATHEWSON PTA	Milford
MEADOWSIDE PTA	Milford
MIDDLETOWN HS PTA	Middletown
MONTOWESE PTA	North Haven
MOODY PTA	Middletown
NORTH HAVEN HS PTSA	North Haven
NORTH HAVEN MS PTA	North Haven
NORTON PTA	Cheshire
ONE VOICE	Milford
ORANGE AVENUE PTA	Milford
ORCHARD HILLS PTA	Milford
PECK PLACE PTA	Orange
RACE BROOK PTA	Orange
RIDGE HILL PTA	Hamden
RIDGE ROAD PTA	North Haven
SHEPHERD GLEN PTA	Hamden
TURKEY HILL PTA	Orange
WASHINGTON ES PTA	West Haven
WEST HAVEN HS PTSA	West Haven
WEST SHORE MS PTA	Milford
WEST WOODS	Hamden
WORTHINGTON HOOKER PTA	New Haven

Region IV		
BARLOW MOUNTAIN ES PTA	Ridgefield	
BEDFORD MIDDLE SCHOOL	Westport	
BOOTH HILL PTA	Trumbull	
BROOKFIELD SEPTA	Brookfield	
BUNNELL HS PTA	Stratford	
BURR PTA	Fairfield	
CENTRAL MS PTA	Greenwich	
CHAPEL STREET PTA	Stratford	
CIDER MILL PTA	Wilton	
COLEYTOWN ES PTA	Westport	
RIDGEFIELD HS PTSA	Ridgefield	
RIVERFIELD PTA	Fairfield	
RIVERSIDE PTA	Greenwich	
ROGER LUDLOWE MS PTSA	Fairfield	
ROGER SHERMAN	Fairfield	
SANDY HOOK PTA	Sandy Hook	
SAUGATUCK ES PTA	Westport	
SCOTLAND PTA	Ridgefield	
SECOND HILL LANE PTA	Stratford	
SIX TO SIX INT. MAGNET PTA	Bridgeport	
STAPLES HS PTSA	Westport	
STRATFIELD PTA	Fairfield	
STRATFORD ACADEMY PTA	Stratford	
STRATFORD HS PTSA	Stratford	
TASHUA PTA	Trumbull	
TIMOTHY DWIGHT PTA	Fairfield	
TOMLINSON MS PTA	Fairfield	
TRUMBULL HS PTSA	Trumbull	
WESTERN MS PTA	Greenwich	
WILTON HS PTSA	Wilton	
WOOSTER MS PTA	Stratford	



Region V		
AVON SEPTA		Avon
CORNWALL COLSOLIDATED PTA		West Cornwall
EDGEWOOD PTA		Bristol
GAFFNEY PTA		New Britain
HARWINTON CONSOLIDATED PTA		Harwinton
IVY DRIVE PTA		Bristol
JOHN J. JENNINGS PTA		Bristol
LAKE GARDA PTA		Burlington
PLYMOUTH CENTER PTA		Plymouth
PLYMOUTH SEPTA		Plymouth
RAINBOWLAND NURSERY PTA		Naugatuck
SOUTHBURY/MIDDLEBURY/R EG.15		Southbury
SOUTH SIDE PTA		Bristol
HARRY S FISHER		Terryville
TERRYVILLE HS PTSA		Terryville
WENDELL CROSS PTA		Waterbury

CT PTSA

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www.ctpta.org

facebook

Nov 6th clocks back an hour!



National PTA® Convention

SAVE THE DATE!

June 21–24, 2012

116th Annual National PTA Convention & Exhibition
San Jose McEnery Convention Center
San Jose, California

Join hundreds of PTA leaders at the National PTA Convention where you can:

- Attend dozens of workshops led by dynamic presenters to enhance your confidence and leadership skills;
- Gain practical ideas and best-practices on how to run your state, regional or local unit PTA;
- Receive advocacy, education, and program updates about how you can make a difference in government and family engagement;
- Network with hundreds of peers and exhibitors from around the country, and;

Check out the great attractions and activities San Jose has to offer by visiting the San Jose Convention and Visitors Bureau website, Sanjose.org.

More information about registration fees, hotels, travel arrangements, and the workshop schedule will be announced on PTA.org in January 2012.

