



# Newsletter

15th District Office • 319 South 15th Street • Louisville, KY 40203 • (502) 485-3535

everychild. one voice.®

June 2009

## Together We Can ... Make a Difference

Why should you be involved in your child's education? Educators tell us all of the reasons to be involved. Numerous studies have shown that when parents are involved, students:

- Achieve higher grades and test scores.
- Are more likely to graduate.
- Have higher attendance rates, increased motivation, and improved self-esteem.
- Have lower suspension rates, decreased



Myrdin Thompson, 2009-11 President Elect, and Traci Priddy, Outgoing President

drug and alcohol use, and fewer instances of violent behavior.

- Are more likely to pursue postsecondary education.

We also know that the relationship between students and teachers, and between parents and teachers, has a major impact on a student's success. Involved parents can recognize that teachers are committed to the well-being of students. Parents can ensure their child's success by providing a home that encourages learning and supports physical, mental, and emotional development and by working with the school and other groups that have an impact on their child.

It takes time and care to be an involved parent. Who are your child's friends? What excites your child at school? Exploring questions such as these with your child can help ensure the success of your child in school, with friends, and in life. Education is a tremendous part of a child's life. So explore some ways that you can make a difference. Your child and your child's school will be pleased to have you as an active and involved parent. Every day offers a fresh opportunity to get involved with your child and his or her school.

Thank you for the opportunity to help you during the last two years to become more involved in your school and Parent Teacher Association (PTA). I would like to thank the members of the 15th District PTA Board of Managers for helping fulfill that involvement. Not only are they concerned about their own children's success in school, but they are also concerned about your child's success and experience in school. The 15th District PTA Board of Managers, like you, have put in countless volunteer hours. We want you and your child to succeed.

I am excited about the newly elected 15th District PTA Board taking office. Plan to attend the Kentucky PTA Leadership/Convention and 15th District Back-to-School/Back-to-PTA Conference. Get new ideas.

Enjoy the summer, but start planning the beginning of the school year **now!** Be prepared. *Together We Can ...* help ensure a successful future for every student.

Thank you,

*Traci Priddy*

Traci Priddy  
15th District PTA President

## Our New President's Acceptance Speech

"Thank you to all who have elected me to this position. I believe that we are at the cusp of opportunity for the 15th District PTA to provide a much needed voice to the discussion regarding the state of education today. Each of us in this room, and those that could not be with us this evening, have stepped into a role of leadership and responsibility, a role that asks us to work together for a common cause. We each have unique talents, strengths, and skills to share. When we link our individual strengths together, we are unstoppable. Each of us is an essential piece needed to ensure that all of the children of Jefferson County are represented both locally and in Frankfort, and are part of the equation

on a national level. I liken myself to that famous character from Roald Dahl's *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. No, not Charlie, I'm not that nice. More like Veruca Salt: I want it all. I want every school in JCPS that has a PTA to have a strong PTA. I want membership at every school to be not just 100 percent, but 200 percent. I want those PTA's that are struggling to be able to count on the PTA's that are succeeding for advice and mentoring. I want all of us to cheer one another's success, and help each other pick up and keep going when there has been a misstep. I want there to be busloads of JCPS PTA representatives at the Capital on Kentucky Kids' Day 2010 speaking for our children. See, I

want it all. However, I don't want to end up like Veruca Salt did in the book, being tossed aside with the bad nuts. So to avoid that circumstance, I will work closely with the new board that has been assembled here this evening to keep us all in balance and focused. I also look forward to partnering with all of you in the year ahead as we do our very best to adhere to the motto of the PTA, *everychild.onevoice*. Thank you for being part of this journey, for I can't imagine *us* without *you*."

Myrdin Thompson  
President Elect 2009-11

# Reflections

As you start to develop your projects and programs for the next school year, don't forget to include the Reflections Program.

This is a National PTA Arts in Education Program. Its purpose is to provide all children and youth with the opportunity to experience the self-fulfillment of creative expression through the arts. The primary goal of Reflections is for all children and youth to have the opportunity to participate. Although it is a program with recognition and awards at the local, district, state, and national levels, the importance of participation should be emphasized over winning. Students may submit entries in the areas of music, photography, visual arts, literature, dance choreography, and film/video production. The Kentucky PTA will no longer have dance group or dance individual categories. They have decided to conform to the National PTA guidelines. Each year, there is a different theme for the program. For the 2009-10 school year, the theme will be "Beauty is ...."

Packets will be sent out to all schools, PTA presidents, art teachers, English teachers, music teachers, and physical education (PE) teachers at the beginning of the school year. The deadline for entries to be sent to the 15th District PTA is **October 22, 2009**.

Please work together to provide this wonderful opportunity for your students.

If you need additional information, contact Sharon Whitworth, 15th District PTA Reflections chairman, at **485-7450**.

## Byck Elementary Receives Phoebe Apperson-Hearst Award

Byck Elementary School qualifies for the **Family-School Partnership Award of Merit** for its parent involvement programs. This award is based on the PTA's National Standards for Parent/Family Involvement. Research continues to show that when families are involved in their children's learning at home and in school, student success increases.

Byck should be proud of its many accomplishments and should celebrate its commitment to making family involvement in school a priority.

Congratulations on this national recognition.

## Congratulations to duPont Manual High School

DuPont Manual High School has requalified for the **National PTA Parent Involvement Schools of Excellence Certification** for its outstanding parent involvement programs that are based on the PTA's National Standards for Parent/Family Involvement.

Let us know if your school PTA has done something to be proud of.

# 15th District PTA Awards Banquet

The 15th District PTA Awards Banquet was held on May 5 at the Fern Valley Hotel and Conference Center. Many awards, scholarships, and recognitions were given out. Some of those who were recognized are listed below.

### Butler Traditional High School Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA)

Largest Unit in Kentucky  
4,961 Members  
Kim Rasche, PTSA President  
Steve Bocko, Principal

### Welcome to Our New PTA Ramsey Middle PTSA

### 2008-09 PTA Membership Equaled 2007-08 PTA Membership

Anchorage School  
Atkinson Elementary  
Auburndale Elementary  
Audubon Traditional Elementary  
Ballard High  
Barret Traditional Middle  
Bates Elementary  
Binet School  
Blue Lick Elementary  
Brown School  
Butler Traditional High  
Byck Elementary  
Carrithers Middle  
Carter Traditional Elementary  
Central High School Magnet Career Academy (MCA)  
Chancey Elementary  
Churchill Park School  
Dixie Elementary  
Doss High School MCA  
Dunn Elementary  
DuPont Manual High  
Eisenhower Elementary  
Fairdale Elementary  
Fairdale High School MCA  
Farmer Elementary  
Farnsley Middle  
Fern Creek Elementary  
Field Elementary  
Frayser Elementary  
Frost Middle  
Gutermuth Elementary  
Hartstern Elementary  
Highland Middle  
Indian Trail Elementary  
Jacob Elementary  
Jefferson County Traditional Middle  
Jeffersontown Elementary  
Jeffersontown High School MCA  
Johnsontown Road Elementary  
Kammerer Middle  
Kennedy Montessori Elementary  
Kenwood Elementary  
Kerrick Elementary  
King Elementary  
Knight Middle  
Lassiter Middle  
Layne Elementary  
Liberty High  
Louisville Male High  
McFerran Preparatory Academy  
Medora Elementary  
Newburg Middle  
Okolona Elementary  
Olmsted Academy North

Our Angels Childcare  
Pleasure Ridge Park High School MCA  
Portland Elementary  
Price Elementary  
Seneca High School MCA  
Shacklette Elementary  
Shelby Elementary  
Smyrna Traditional Elementary  
St. Matthews Elementary  
Stonestreet Elementary  
Stopher Elementary  
Waggener Traditional High  
Valley Traditional High  
Western MST Magnet High  
Wheeler Elementary  
Wilt Elementary  
Superintendent PTA

### The following schools had a 10 percent increase over 2007-08.

Auburndale Elementary  
Audubon Traditional Elementary  
Ballard High  
Barret Traditional Middle  
Bates Elementary  
Binet School  
Blue Lick Elementary  
Brown School  
Byck Elementary  
Carrithers Middle  
Carter Traditional Elementary  
Central High School MCA  
Chancey Elementary  
Churchill Park School  
Dixie Elementary  
Doss High School MCA  
Dunn Elementary  
Eisenhower Elementary  
Fairdale Elementary  
Fairdale High School MCA  
Farmer Elementary  
Farnsley Middle  
Fern Creek Elementary  
Frost Middle  
Gutermuth Elementary  
Hartstern Elementary  
Indian Trail Elementary  
Jeffersontown Elementary  
Jeffersontown High School MCA  
Kenwood Elementary  
King Elementary  
Lassiter Middle  
Layne Elementary  
Liberty High  
Medora Elementary  
Newburg Middle  
Okolona Elementary  
Olmsted Academy North  
Pleasure Ridge Park High School MCA  
Portland Elementary  
Price Elementary  
Shacklette Elementary  
Shelby Elementary  
Smyrna Traditional Elementary  
St. Matthews Elementary  
Stonestreet Elementary

Stopher Elementary  
Valley Traditional High  
Waggener Traditional High  
Western MST Magnet High  
Wheeler Elementary  
Wilt Elementary

### 200 Members Over 2007-08

Audubon Traditional Elementary  
Ballard High  
Barret Traditional Middle  
Farmer Elementary  
Farnsley Middle  
Fern Creek Elementary  
Hartstern Elementary  
Jeffersontown Elementary  
Pleasure Ridge Park High School MCA  
Valley Traditional High

### President's Award (100 over the last year)

Audubon Traditional Elementary  
Ballard High  
Barret Traditional Middle  
Blue Lick Elementary  
Brown School  
Byck Elementary  
Carrithers Middle  
Central High School MCA  
Chancey Elementary  
Dunn Elementary  
Farmer Elementary  
Farnsley Middle  
Fern Creek Elementary  
Gutermuth Elementary  
Hartstern Elementary  
Jeffersontown Elementary  
Kenwood Elementary  
Newburg Middle  
Okolona Elementary  
Pleasure Ridge Park High School MCA  
Schacklette Elementary  
Smyrna Traditional Elementary  
Stopher Elementary  
Valley Traditional High

### District's Largest PTAs (based on the number of members)

**Elementary**—Audubon Traditional Elementary—1,468 Members

**Middle**—Crosby Middle—1,453 Members

**High**—Butler Traditional High—4,961 Members

### District's Top Percentage Increase Schools (based on last year's membership)

**Elementary**  
Okolona Elementary—367 percent  
Hartstern Elementary—167 percent

**Middle**  
Farnsley Middle—854 percent  
Carrithers Middle—105 percent

**High**  
Valley Traditional High—2,860 percent  
Western MST Magnet High—330 percent  
Liberty High—330 percent

**Combined**  
Churchill Park School—18 percent

**Top Membership (based on percentage of current year enrollment)**

**Optional**  
First Butler Traditional High—298 percent  
Second Audubon Traditional Elementary—236 percent  
Third Barret Traditional Middle—213 percent

**Head of Cluster**

First Kennedy Montessori Elementary—94 percent  
Second Price Elementary—49 percent  
Third Byck Elementary—48 percent

**Small Elementary (Up to 450)**

First Medora Elementary—52 percent  
Second Okolona Elementary—45 percent  
Third Hawthorne Elementary—43 percent

**Large Elementary (451 and up)**

First Dunn Elementary—168 percent  
Second Fern Creek Elementary—160 percent  
Third Bowen Elementary—150 percent

**Middle**

First Crosby Middle—118 percent  
Second Ramsey Middle—107 percent  
Third Noe Middle—94 percent

**High**

First Fern Creek Traditional High—119 percent  
Second Pleasure Ridge Park High School MCA—72 percent  
Third Seneca High School MCA—65 percent

**Combined**

First Binet School—158 percent  
Second Anchorage School—82 percent  
Third Brown School—62 percent

**200 Percent Membership (based on enrollment)**

Audubon Traditional Elementary  
Barret Traditional Middle  
Butler Traditional High

**100 Percent Membership (based on enrollment)**

Audubon Traditional Elementary  
Barret Traditional Middle  
Binet School  
Bowen Elementary  
Butler Traditional High

Crosby Middle  
Dunn Elementary  
DuPont Manual High  
Fern Creek Elementary  
Fern Creek Traditional High  
Greathouse/Shryock Traditional Elementary  
Hite Elementary  
Jeffersontown Elementary  
Louisville Male High  
Lowe Elementary  
Norton Elementary  
Ramsey Middle  
St. Matthews Elementary  
Stonestreet Elementary  
Stopher Elementary  
Tully Elementary

**District's Top 20 PTA/PTSAs (based on number of members)**

1. Butler Traditional High..... 4,961
2. DuPont Manual High.....2,214
3. Louisville Male High ..... 1,954
4. Fern Creek Traditional High .....1,746
5. Audubon Traditional Elementary ..... 1,468
6. Crosby Middle..... 1,453
7. Pleasure Ridge Park High School MCA..... 1,393
8. Barret Traditional Middle..... 1,355
9. Fern Creek Elementary ... 1,264
10. Noe Middle ..... 1,229
11. Bowen Elementary ..... 1,132
12. Tully Elementary ..... 1,049
13. Dunn Elementary..... 1,045
14. Seneca High School MCA..... 1,036
15. Greathouse/Shryock Traditional Elementary ..... 938
16. Stopher Elementary..... 895
17. St. Matthews Elementary... 848
18. Jeffersontown Elementary .. 827
19. Norton Elementary ..... 798
20. Kammerer Middle ..... 747

**15th District PTA**

**2008-09 Hall of Fame Winners**

Paul Junk—Fern Creek Elementary  
Lyn Tyra—Jeffersontown Elementary

**15th District PTA Outstanding PTA/PTSA Programs**

Chancey Elementary and Foster Elementary

**15th District PTA Outstanding Local Unit Web Site Award**

Chancey Elementary

**15th District PTA Outstanding Volunteer Award**

Sonya Garr—Price Elementary  
Debbie Tinker—15th District Clothing Assistance Program (CAP)

**15th District PTA Outstanding Volunteer Participation Award**

Chancey Elementary

**15th District PTA Outstanding Newsletter Award**

Barret Traditional Middle  
Chancey Elementary  
Jeffersontown Elementary  
Price Elementary

**15th District PTA "Together We Can" Award**

Chancey Elementary  
Jeffersontown Elementary  
Byck Elementary

**Schools Participating in Board Trainings 2008-09**

Atherton High  
Blake Elementary  
Blue Lick Elementary  
Central High School MCA  
Cochran Elementary  
Conway Middle  
Dixie Elementary  
Farmer Elementary  
Gutermuth Elementary  
Jeffersontown Elementary  
Mill Creek Elementary  
Okolona Elementary  
Olmsted Academy South  
Ramsey Middle  
Watterson Elementary

**PTAs, PTSAs, People, and Schools Who Have Volunteered, Donated Money, and/or Clothing to CAP**

All Family Resource and Youth Services Center (FRYSC) Coordinators  
AmeriCorps Workers  
Ahrens Educational Resource Center  
Atkinson Elementary  
Audubon Traditional Elementary  
Barret Traditional Middle  
Bates Elementary  
Binet School  
Blue Lick Elementary  
Bowen Elementary  
Brandeis Elementary  
Brown School  
Butler Traditional High  
Byck Elementary  
Camp Taylor Elementary  
Carter Traditional Elementary  
Central High School MCA  
Chancey Elementary  
Chenoweth Elementary  
Churchill Park School  
Coral Ridge Elementary  
Crosby Middle  
Dunn Elementary  
DuPont Manual High  
Eastern High  
Eisenhower Elementary  
Farmer Elementary  
Fern Creek Elementary  
Field Elementary  
Foster Traditional Academy  
Greathouse/Shryock Traditional Elementary  
Gutermuth Elementary  
Highland Middle

Hite Elementary  
Jefferson County Traditional Middle (\$300)  
Jeffersontown Elementary  
Johnson Traditional Middle  
Kennedy Montessori Elementary  
Kenwood Elementary  
Kerrick Elementary  
King Elementary  
Knight Middle  
Louisville Male High  
McFerran Preparatory Academy  
Mezzeek Middle  
Middletown Elementary  
Mill Creek Elementary  
Moore Traditional School  
Newburg Middle  
Noe Middle  
Norton Elementary  
Price Elementary  
Seneca High School MCA  
Southern High School MCA  
St. Matthews Elementary

Stopher Elementary  
Tully Elementary  
Valley Traditional High  
Watson Lane Elementary  
Watterson Elementary  
Westport Traditional Middle and Fine Arts Academy  
Wheatley Elementary  
Wheeler Elementary  
Wilder Elementary  
Young Elementary  
Zachary Taylor Elementary

We would like to thank Binet School and Churchill Park School student workers who came every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday to volunteer for us. Also, we would like to thank other student workers who did their community service hours at CAP.

*Continued on page four*

## Reminder: Mark Your Calendars for These Events!

- General Board Training—**June 16**, 2–4 p.m. and 7–9 p.m., at VanHoose; contact Cheri Dimar at [jdimar2@aol.com](mailto:jdimar2@aol.com).
- PTA National Convention—**June 26 through June 29** in Fort Lauderdale; for more information, go to [www.pta.org](http://www.pta.org).
- Kentucky PTA Convention/Leadership—**July 16 through July 18** at Fern Valley Hotel and Conference Center; early registration is \$100, which includes three meals. Presidents should have received a mailing about this convention. **Presidents need to pick up their packet for the new year.** For more information, go to [www.kypta.org](http://www.kypta.org).
- Back-to-School With the 15th District—**September 1** at Jefferson County Public Schools (JCPS) Gheens Academy; there will be all-day sessions highlighting the Kentucky convention and important information for local units, including sessions on finances and Reflections! More details will be included in the next newsletter and at the state convention.
- Reflections Awards Ceremony/Winter Conference—**December 8** at Sallie Durrett Auditorium, 7–9 p.m., with a reception to follow next door at Gheens Academy in Flex Rooms A and B; light refreshments will be served.
- Vendors Fair/Spring Conference—**March 4**; this is an all-day opportunity to meet with local fundraising vendors and learn more about opportunities for your school. Door prizes will be given away.
- Awards Banquet—**May 11**; more information will follow, but mark your calendar for this important night of PTA recognition!

**15th District PTA**  
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*Thank you, Traci, for all of your hard work and dedication these past two years as president.  
Together, we made a difference. —2007-09 Board of Managers*

## 15th District PTA Awards Banquet

*Continued from page three*

### Student Scholarships

The 15th District PTA Honor Roll Certificates are \$10 each and are a terrific way to show a deserving volunteer how much he or she is appreciated. The funds raised by the sale of these certificates go directly into the Scholarship Fund.

### 2008-09 Scholarship Recipients

**\$1,700 Evangeline J. Sansome Memorial Scholarships**  
Michael Adeyinka—Waggener Traditional High  
Cristie Carter—Fairdale High School MCA  
Omar Cham—Fern Creek Traditional High  
Diana Duran—Fern Creek Traditional High  
Silvana Duran—Fern Creek Traditional High  
Phillipp Fox—Butler Traditional High  
Emmalee Gagle—Butler Traditional High

Megan Gosnell—Louisville Male High  
Emily Goldstein—Atherton High  
Kimberlee Green—Butler Traditional High  
Natalie Harrison—Atherton High  
Andrew Meyer—Ballard High  
Brittany Neal—Louisville Male High  
Nicole Pappé—Eastern High  
Summer Perry—Fairdale High MCA  
Whitney Probus—Butler Traditional High  
Kathryn Towles—Eastern High  
Jasmine Thomas—Butler Traditional High  
Xiangwen Zhao—Waggener Traditional High

**\$1,700 June Key Scholarship Award**  
Kristen Enteman—Seneca High School MCA

Christa McAuliffe Rising Star and Self Esteem winners for 2008-09 were announced on May 8 in Frankfort.

### 15th District PTA Self Esteem Award Winners

**Primary (kindergarten through third grade)**  
Nayya Martinique—Byck Elementary  
Tate Luckey—Chenoweth Elementary  
Avery Renner—Dunn Elementary  
Carly deDoming—Jeffersontown Elementary  
Blake Harris—Jeffersontown Elementary  
Ansley Minor—Jeffersontown Elementary  
Luke Carns—St. Matthews Elementary  
William Jackson—St. Matthews Elementary  
Tyler Johnson—St. Matthews Elementary

### Intermediate (Fourth and Fifth Grade)

Desha Horton—Byck Elementary  
Sara Duncan—Chenoweth Elementary  
Megan Carter—Dunn Elementary  
Isiah Davis—Jeffersontown Elementary

Elexis Pike—Jeffersontown Elementary  
Harrison Lentz—St. Matthews Elementary  
Allie Mills—St. Matthews Elementary  
Maya Pierce—St. Matthews Elementary  
Hannah Dingle—Stopher Elementary  
Caylyn Railey—Stopher Elementary

### Kentucky PTA Self Esteem Winners

Megan Carter—Dunn Elementary  
Aaron Markert—Noe Middle  
Tyler Johnson—St. Matthews Elementary

### Kentucky PTA Christa McAuliffe Rising Star Winners

Zachary Gibson—Dunn Elementary  
Jaquail Levels—Jeffersontown Elementary

### Kentucky PTA Student Scholarship Winners

Samuel W. Ellis—Pleasure Ridge Park High School MCA

Brooke Porter—Butler Traditional High  
Rebekah Rasche—Butler Traditional High  
Shelby Smith—Butler Traditional High  
Shianne Williams—Butler Traditional High

### Kentucky PTA Parent Scholarship Winner

Elizabeth King—Byck Elementary

### National PTA Parent Involvement Schools of Excellence

Crosby Middle (6/03)  
Dunn Elementary (3/03)  
DuPont Manual High (12/05)  
Greathouse/Shryock Traditional Elementary (3/04)  
Hite Elementary (3/06)  
Lowe Elementary (3/9)  
Noe Middle (5/05)  
Norton Elementary (10/03)  
St. Matthews Elementary (11/04)  
Wilder Elementary (2/04)