



Newsletter

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

every child. one voice.®

March 2015

President's Letter

Get ready to grab your hat and read with the Cat in the Hat on **Monday, March 2, 2015**, for the eighteenth annual Read Across America Day. The celebration will kick off a week of reading across the United States as National Education Association (NEA) members gather students, parents, and community members together to share their love of reading. Reading truly is fundamental. It provides the foundation for your child's lifetime of learning. Reading every day will help your child become a stronger reader and perform better in school. Take our pledge to help your child achieve reading success, whether you read with him or her every day or he or she reads on his or her own. Take the pledge to have your child read at least 20 minutes a day. Go to www.parenting.com/pledge, and make the promise now.

While you finish up this year's Parent Teacher Association (PTA) activities, help make it possible for your PTA to make a smooth transition into the next school year. The following is a checklist of to-do items:

- Don't forget to send your membership dues payment to the Kentucky PTA by **March 15**.
- Complete your Membership Report, and send it to the Kentucky PTA by **March 30**.

- Complete award and scholarship applications by the deadlines included in this newsletter.
- Make plans to attend the 15th District PTA Awards Banquet on **May 5**, and join us in celebrating your accomplishments.

March is the time for you to get your by-laws out and read the section that pertains to electing officers. PTAs usually elect their Nomination Committees this time of year, and this committee should be working to find the best qualified person for each elected office. Most PTA bylaws require the election of officers to be scheduled in the spring so that planning can take place over the summer months.

If your school's School-Based Decision Making (SBDM) Council elects its parent representatives in the spring, you need to begin that process.

I personally want to thank each of you for caring enough to donate your valuable time to be a voice for all children. By working together, PTAs and schools can make a difference and ensure a successful future for every student.

Heather Wampler, 15th District PTA President
671-9451 (cell)
15thdistrictpta.president@gmail.com

Calendar of Events

March

- 4.....Jefferson County Board of Education (JCBE) Community Conversation (Stephanie Horne)
- 6.....JCBE Community Conversation (David Jones Jr.)
- 10-12 ..National PTA Legislative Conference, Washington, D.C.
- 11.....JCBE Community Conversation (Chuck Haddaway)
- 13.....JCBE Community Conversation (Linda Duncan) Professional Learning Community (PLC)
- 14.....Parent Academy
- 18.....JCBE Community Conversation (Diane Porter)

Membership

Many schools are gearing up for one last push to get people to join the PTA. Consider the following suggestions:

- Set up a table at all school events.
- Tell people about the good things that the PTA has done and is doing for the school.
- Let people know that the PTA is one of the biggest advocacy groups for students.
- Double-check with the faculty to see if they have joined.
- Remember to ask the students in middle and high school to join.

As new members join, remember that the state/national dues still need to be paid once a month by the fifteenth. Check with your treasurer to make sure that this is being done.

John Buie
 Second Vice President—Membership

PTA Vision

Making Every Child's Potential a Reality

PTA Mission

PTA is:

- A powerful voice for all children.
- A relevant resource for families and communities.
- A strong advocate for the education and well-being of every child.



Membership Report

Deadline: March 15, 2015 [Postmark date, "Fax" and E-mail" copies are acceptable]

Mail Award Application Form to: Kentucky PTA, 148 Consumers Lane, Frankfort KY 40601

A Membership Report must be submitted to Kentucky PTA by March 15, 2015 to qualify for the following membership awards: Apple Award; Oak Tree Honor; Twin Oaks Honor, Chuck Saylor's He-Man Award, and Youth Voice Award

Please Copy This Form and Distribute to Appropriate Person to Complete.

*All membership awards are based on membership as of March 15, 2015.
The submitting PTA/PTSA must be a "Unit in Good Standing".*

Awards are based on the information you provide in this report

Name of PTA/PTSA _____

School Address _____
Street/P. O. Box City State Zip

County _____ PTA District _____

Type of School Elementary Middle/Jr. High Senior High Combined

Name of Membership Chair _____

Address _____
Street/P. O. Box City State Zip

Telephone Day (_____) _____ Evening/Cell (_____) _____

E-mail _____

Number of Students enrolled on Sept 1 _____

Total number of PTA/PTSA members _____

Under the Following Categories:

Number of Adult Female Members _____

Number of Adult Male Members _____

Number of Faculty Members _____

Number of Student Members _____

Have You Attained

100% Membership Based on School Enrollment?

100% School Faculty and Staff Membership Enrollment?

Staff includes classified (cafeteria, custodian, staff, instructional assistants)

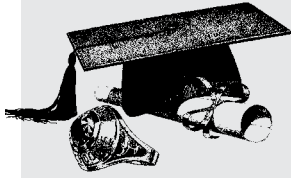
What is your 2014 - 2015 Membership Theme? _____

All PTAs/PTSAs to be a unit in good standing MUST:

- Send at least one national and state dues payment (\$3.50 per member) to the Kentucky PTA office no later than October 15th;
- Send district dues to district treasurer or Kentucky PTA office as required;
- Send the PTA financial review form to the Kentucky PTA office by Aug. 15th;
- File 990 IRS Tax Form by Nov. 15 and mail a copy to Kentucky PTA;
- Send bylaws for approval by the Kentucky PTA every 5 years.

Incomplete applications will not be considered.





Evangeline J. Sansome Scholarship Opportunity

We've got scholarship money for **you!** It seems as though there are as many different scholarships out there as there are careers to choose from. Many of them are specific for students of a certain background, affiliation, or career choice, but the Evangeline J. Sansome Scholarship is open to all PTSA students with minimal requirements. Who should be applying? **You!**

Thanks to all the JCPS PTSA units in good standing. (*Good standing* means that a PTSA has paid national, state, and district dues and that its bylaws are current.) Seniors with a 2.7 grade point average (GPA) and a PTSA membership are encouraged to apply. And there's not just one scholarship that many students are vying for. For the 2013-14 year, 14 scholarships were awarded throughout the district that were valued at \$1,700 each. It has not yet been decided how many scholarships or the dollar amount that will be given out this year.

The 15th District PTA is honored to promote the generosity of the Evangeline Scholarship Fund with this scholarship opportunity. Make plans now to check with your senior counselor for applications, or visit our Web site at www.15thdistrictpta.org.

Kathleen Helm, Scholarship Chair

Assimilation to Appreciation: A Change Is Upon Us

The greatest country in the world, the United States of America, is often referred to as the great melting pot. According to Wikipedia, "the melting pot is a metaphor for a heterogeneous society becoming more homogeneous, the different elements melting together into a harmonious whole with a common culture." In the early 1900s, immigrants were expected to assimilate in order to be successful and fit in with American ways of life. Though this metaphor promotes national unity, it does not pay homage to the individualism of the cultures that make up the whole. Our beloved America has stood proud and strong through the years, built through the contributions of many races and cultures.

As we celebrate and move past yet another Black History Month, I reflect over the various designated months celebrating ethnicities and cultures in recognition of their contributions to America's history. Many ethnicities have shaped significantly the nation we are today. There is power in these contributions, which is why America has risen to be such a powerful nation. The contributions of each and every race, ethnicity, and their cultures are woven into the fabric of Old Glory, and we are now living in times when we have come to accept and embrace the importance of these contributions and have moved toward a concept of multiculturalism.

Multiculturalism refers to how a body or jurisdiction of people respond to the various ethnicities that make up the whole body. Policies and decisions are rooted from the diversity of these groups. Differences are to be applauded and accepted as one piece of the quilt that is symbolic of today's America. Imagine that! Each race, culture, and ethnicity is not only collectively recognized as a contributor toward America the Beautiful but also individually recognized for the same.

The great songwriter Sam Cooke got it right back in the early 60s. His song "A Change is Gonna Come" was often referred to as a universal message of hope. This new movement toward multiculturalism feels like a fulfillment of such; change is upon us. America has a more diverse population than any other nation. For this, we stand proud! Let's take the time to honor and appreciate the "melting pot," but it is now time to embrace multiculturalism. "United we stand, divided we fall."

Kim Stevenson, Diversity Chairman

State PTA Award Entries

State

The following state PTA award entries are due by **March 15, 2015:**

- Outstanding Educator
- Outstanding Classified Personnel
- Outstanding Male Involvement/Participation
- Outstanding Membership Campaign
- Outstanding Local Unit Newsletter
- Outstanding School Nurse
- Outstanding Local Unit Web Site
- Outstanding Volunteer
- Volunteer Participation



These award applications can be found in the *Kentucky PTA Leaders' Notebook* or online at www.kypta.org.

District Awards

The 2014-15 15th District PTA Award winners will be honored at our Awards Banquet and General Meeting on **Tuesday, May 5, 2015**, at 6:30 p.m. at the Ramada Plaza Conference Center, located at 9700 Bluegrass Parkway. We look forward to recognizing and celebrating the accomplishments, programs, and projects of our local PTAs.

Feel free to e-mail me at heather.mcgovern@jefferson.kyschools.us for any additional information or questions regarding the 2014-15 PTA Awards.

Heather McGovern, Awards Chairperson

E-Mail Members of Congress

E-mails are the most effective form of communication when advocating a Congressional office. Most Congressional offices now have standard e-mail forms that can be accessed right from the "Contact" tab of their Web site. Due to the heightened security measures on Capitol Hill, a letter sent through the post can take between two and four weeks to reach a Congressional office. However, if you e-mail that same letter, the office will receive it immediately. This is especially important when what you are advocating for is time-sensitive. The best example of this is when you are asking the member of Congress to vote a certain way on an upcoming bill. If you mailed the letter, he or she would likely receive it long after the vote has passed.

E-Mail Tips

- Keep your letter as short and concise as possible. Some e-mails can be as short as a single paragraph urging your member of Congress to vote a certain way or to advocate for a certain issue, but e-mails up to three paragraphs are effective.
- Make sure the important information contained in your e-mail jumps out. You can do this by putting what action you are requesting in the subject line (e.g., "Yes on H.R. 3"). Even if the member or his or her staff does not take the time to read your letter in its entirety, he or she will still have received the message that one of his or her constituents feels a certain way about an issue.
- By using the PTA Takes Action Center (<http://cqrcengage.com/npta2/home>), you can e-mail your members of Congress directly, using a PTA action alert on current legislative issues affecting the education, health, and well-being of our children.

Find your elected officials at <http://cqrcengage.com/npta2/app/lookup?12&m=14720>.

Brian Wampler, Legislative Chairman

Board Trainings

If you are interested in having a board training, contact Cherie Dimar at 15thdistrictpta.5thvp@gmail.com or **693-8104**. Please provide us with three dates that are convenient for your board members. Trainings last about two hours. Let us know if there are specific topics that you want us to cover.

Districtwide Local Unit Board Trainings

- Three districtwide local unit board trainings are scheduled for this spring.
- The trainings will be held at the Jefferson County Public Schools (JCPS) Gheens Academy at 4425 Preston Highway, 40213.
- The trainings will begin at 5:30 p.m. and last for two hours.
- Dates: **Thursday, April 23; Thursday, May 14; and Wednesday, June 10**

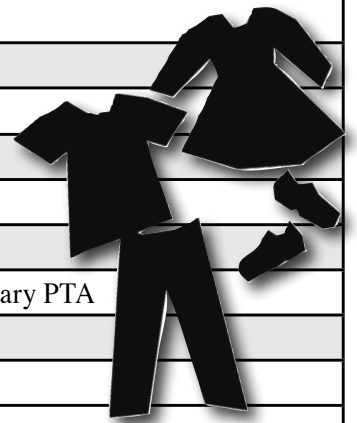
We would like to recognize the following PTAs for having completed a board training:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Dixie Elementary | Conway Middle |
| Iroquois High | Carrithers Middle |
| Johnsontown Road Elementary | Wheatley Elementary |
| Crums Lane Elementary | Kennedy Montessori Elementary |
| Cochrane Elementary | Trunnell Elementary |
| Stonestreet Elementary | Kammerer Middle |
| Maupin Elementary | Rutherford Elementary |
| Academy @ Shawnee | Breckinridge-Franklin Elementary |
| Slaughter Elementary | Valley High |
| Stuart Middle | Indian Trail Elementary |
| Fern Creek High | |

Cherie Dimar, Fifth Vice President

CAP Volunteer Dates

MARCH	
3	Farnsley Middle PTSA, Newburg Middle PTSA, Stonestreet Elementary PTA
4	Doss High PTSA, Moore Traditional PTSA, Okolona Elementary PTA
5	Maupin Elementary PTA, Meyzeek Middle PTSA, Myers Middle PTSA
9	Shacklette Elementary PTA
10	King Elementary PTA, Medora Elementary PTA, St. Matthews Elementary PTA
11	Louisville Male High PTSA, Lowe Elementary PTA, Young Elementary PTA
12	Carter Traditional Elementary PTA, McFerran Preparatory Academy PTA, Sanders Elementary PTA
17	Conway Middle PTSA, Gutermuth Elementary PTA, Wilder Elementary PTA
18	Camp Taylor Elementary PTA, Goldsmith Elementary PTA, Highland Middle PTSA
19	Atkinson Academy PTA, Bates Elementary PTA, Jeffersontown High PTSA
24	Field Elementary PTA, Johnson Traditional Middle PTSA, Wilkerson Traditional Elementary PTA
25	Fern Creek Elementary PTA, Greathouse/Shryock Traditional Elementary PTA
26	Crums Lane Elementary PTA, Hazelwood Elementary PTA, Watterson Elementary PTA





*The 15th District PTA is
enrolled in the Kroger
Community Rewards Program.*

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<https://www.kroger.com/communityrewards>

OR 1-800-KROGERS (choose option 3)

Our NPO Number is 99507

Reflections Notecards for Sale

The 15th District PTA is selling notecards made from all of the entries in this year's Reflections Program for just \$5 for a set of six cards, including envelopes. Pick a set of six of the same card, or pick sets that are made up of combinations of winning entries. The cards can be shipped via Pony at no additional cost or to an address anywhere in the country for an additional \$5.25 for shipping. They make

great gifts for relatives! To choose the cards you wish to order, visit www.15thdistrictpta.org/reflections.

Gay Adelman, First Vice President—Programs 15th District PTA
(260) 633-0463 • www.15thdistrictpta.org

SAVE

PARENT

CONFERENCE

3.14.15



FACILITATED BY:
Diversity, Equity, & Poverty Programs
Title I
15th District PTA



DATE

JEFFERSON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS Equal Opportunity Policies

Equal Employment Opportunity Employees/Applicants

The Jefferson County Public School District shall not discriminate in recruitment or employment on the basis of age, color, creed, disability, marital or parental status, national origin, race, sex, sexual orientation, veteran status, religion, or political opinion or affiliation. The District shall promote equal opportunities through a vigorous affirmative action program as an integral part of personnel policy and practice in the employment, development, advancement, and treatment of employees of the Jefferson County Public Schools.

In the Event of Questions

Employees or applicants, report to immediate superior, appropriate personnel administrator, the Compliance and Investigations Office, or the appropriate enforcement agency if you believe you have experienced harassment/discrimination.

Equal Educational Opportunity Students/Parents or Guardians

No student shall be denied equal educational opportunity by the board of education because of his or her age, color, disability, marital or parental status, national origin, race, sex, sexual orientation, political opinion or affiliation or religion.

Harassment/Discrimination of any type is not permitted. A student has the right to attend school free from harassment and should not be subjected to discrimination for any reason. Schools will strive to ensure that these rights are protected and that appropriate consequences are provided to offenders.

In the Event of Questions

Students and parents/guardians, report to principal, the Compliance and Investigations Office, or the appropriate government agency if you believe you have experienced harassment/discrimination.

Noncompliance with the above policy and procedures may result in disciplinary action.

Discrimination Grievance Procedure

The Jefferson County Public Schools Discrimination Grievance Procedure is available at local schools, on the Jefferson County Public Schools Web site at www.jcpsky.net, or in the Compliance and Investigations Office, C. B. Young Jr. Service Center, 3001 Crittenden Drive, Louisville, KY 40209. Contact Cheryl Walker, Compliance and Investigations director, at 485-3341, or call or write one of the following enforcement agencies:

Equal Employment Opportunity Commission

600 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Place, Suite 268
Louisville, KY 40202
(502) 582-6082
www.eeoc.gov

U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights

Wanamaker Building, Suite 515
100 Penn Square East
Philadelphia, PA 19107
(215) 656-8541
www.ed.gov

Kentucky Commission on Human Rights

The Heyburn Building, Suite 700
332 West Broadway
Louisville, KY 40202
(502) 595-4024
<http://kchr.ky.gov>

Louisville Metro Human Relations Commission

410 West Chestnut Street, Suite 300A
Louisville, KY 40202
(502) 574-3631
www.louisvilleky.gov/HumanRelations





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Awards Banquet and General Meeting

May 5, 2015, at 6:30 p.m.



9700 Bluegrass Parkway in Louisville, KY 40299
(off I-64/Hurstbourne)

Join us, and celebrate all of your PTA/PTSA accomplishments for the year!

Reservations are \$35 a person if received by **Friday, April 24**, and \$45 a person if received between **Saturday, April 25, and Monday, May 4**. We are unable to accept reservations after **May 4**.

Please note: **No refunds will be made after Friday, May 1, 2015.**

Each table seats eight people. To be sure that your PTA holds as many seats as you require, send in your reservations as soon as possible. If you need/want to be seated with another school, please send in both reservations at the same time.

Send reservations to:
15th District PTA, Banquet Reservations
319 South 15th Street
Louisville, KY 40203

All reservation requests must include a check made payable to the 15th District PTA. A vegetarian plate will be available if it is ordered at the time you make your reservation. If you have any questions, please contact Gay Adelman at 1stVP@15thDistrictPTA.com.

Complete and return the form below with payment to reserve your banquet tickets.

Name of PTA, school, or JCPS department:

Name of contact person and phone number:

E-mail:

Total number of tickets: _____ x \$35 (**April 24, 2015**, deadline)

Total number of tickets: _____ x \$45 (**April 25 through May 4, 2015**, deadline)

Amount of check enclosed: \$ _____

Number of vegetarian plates needed: _____

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15th District PTA Contact List 2014-15

28819 PTA Newsletter 2/15 Ig

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15thDistrictPTA.President@gmail.com

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1stVP@15thDistrictPTA.org

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT—Membership

John Buie
439-1759 cell
buie76@att.net

THIRD VICE PRESIDENT—Ways & Means

Tanyeka Holt-Percentie
475-7715 cell
christ_owned@yahoo.com

FOURTH VICE PRESIDENT—Communication VACANT

FIFTH VICE PRESIDENT—Board Training

Cherie Dimar
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15thDistrictPTA.5thVP@gmail.com

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15thDistrictPTA.Treasurer@gmail.com

SECRETARY

Brenda Hinojos
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15thDistrictPTA.Secretary@gmail.com

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EARLY CHILDHOOD CHAIRMAN

Carol Haddad
dph4@aol.com

PTA Contact Information

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www.15thdistrictpta.org
Phone: 485-3535

Kentucky PTA
www.kypta.org
Phone: 226-6607

National PTA
www.pta.org
Phone: (703) 518-1200 or
800-307-4PTA (4782)

Facebook—Get Connected!

15th District PTA
www.facebook.com/15thDistrictPTA

Kentucky PTA
www.facebook.com/KentuckyPTA

National PTA
www.facebook.com/parentteacherassociation

For additional information about the
PTA, please go to Kentucky PTA at
www.kypta.org or
National PTA at
www.pta.org.