



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

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Bulletin of the Kentucky PTA

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Important Dates

**A Message from Kentucky PTA
 President**



Cherie Dimar

Fall is always a busy season for PTAs. While establishing the programs, events and activities that will define your school year, the intention of PTA work is to get families, schools, and communities to work together to enrich student learning and well being. Family engagement from preschool through high school is an important key

to helping children reach their full potential and PTAs can help provide opportunities for effective family engagement.

Another important aspect of PTA that sets it apart from other parent organizations is the emphasis on advocacy. PTA is committed to ensuring that parents have a seat at the table whenever decisions are made that impact our children. Kentucky PTA will hold its annual Grassroots Advocacy Training on November 4. If you are interested

October 15, 2016 - Kentucky PTA Membership Dues payment

October 23-29, 2016 - Red Ribbon Week

November 4, 2016 - Speaking Up For Children Advocacy Training, Frankfort, KY

November 15, 2016 - Form 990 Filing Due to IRS (send a copy to Kentucky PTA)

November 21, 2016 - Kentucky PTA Unity Day

May 13, 2017 - Student Recognition Program, Lexington, KY

June 22-25, 2017 - National PTA Convention, Las Vegas, NV

July 14-15, 2017 - Kentucky PTA Convention, Louisville, KY



in learning more about advocacy, make sure to attend the **Speaking Up For Children Advocacy Training** at the Kentucky PTA Office in Frankfort. Download the registration form [here](#).

There is power in our PTA voice and that is why our membership matters. The more members we have the more our voice will be heard and the more effective our advocacy efforts will be. It is important that you send in your membership dues by the 15th of every month. Remember that membership is year round and doesn't end with orientation or open house.

I challenge you to maintain last year's membership total and then try to increase it! Continue your good work and reach out to us if you have any questions or need anything.

Let's Flip the Script

I was attracted to Kentucky by its groundbreaking history of education reform and the tremendous gains it has made in graduation rates and college and career readiness over the past decade. I want to build on those accomplishments and take our Commonwealth even higher, providing each and every child with a world class education that puts them and our state on solid economic footing for the future.



Stephen Pruitt

But for all its academic gains, our Commonwealth has fallen short when it comes to addressing disparities in learning among different groups of students. Far too many children are not getting the education they need and deserve to be successful in life. This disparity is called the achievement gap and, despite decades of well-



For more information on the Reflections program contact Jessica Merriman, 859.806.7325, reflectionskypta@gmail.com.

Take Note

The Kentucky PTA Leaders' Notebook is available on the KY PTA website, www.kypta.org.

Also, it's important you complete the 2016-2017 [Officer and Chairmen Information form](#) and send it to the Kentucky PTA, so you can receive information throughout the year.

Financial News

[Financial Reviews](#) were due to your principal and Kentucky PTA by July 15, 2016. Contact your district president/contact if you have questions regarding this.

2016-2017 Back-to-School Kit

meaning efforts aimed at closing these academic divides, it has not closed in Kentucky or nationally.

[\[Read more\]](#)

Membership Tips & Best Practices

Diversity and inclusion are about more than race/ethnicity and gender. While those remain key, we now define diversity to include the many differences that distinguish people, including mental, emotional, psychological and physical disabilities; learning styles; geographic residence; languages used; cultural heritage; educational level and more.



However, recognizing the value of differences is just one part of a PTA initiative. Inclusion is equally critical. This means reaching out to people, engaging them in ways that address their needs and perspectives, and encouraging all families to become actively involved in PTA activities and membership.

[Read on](#) to learn more Membership tips, including enlisting the participation of all parents, students, and community members.

To remain in good standing with Kentucky PTA you need to send in at least one dues payment by October 15. As a bonus, your local unit will be in our "June Key" drawing.

Download now:

[Kentucky PTA and National PTA Dues Payment Form](#)
[District Dues Payment Form](#)

IRS Form 990



The 2016-2017 Back-to-School kit contains resources to help PTA leaders serve their communities and manage local units. It's completely digital and mobile-friendly. Bonus: Each PTA that registers will receive a new RECRUITMENT TOOL!

Register at PTAkit.org. For our Back-to-School Kit FAQ, go to PTA.org/BTSKit



Teaching children the importance of [healthy habits, like regular hand washing and proper cough and sneeze etiquette](#), can help reduce school days missed from common illnesses like colds and flu.

To help students have a successful and healthy school year, the [National Parent Teacher Association](#), National Education Association and Lysol® have partnered to deliver the [Healthy Habits Program](#).

You can help by providing classrooms with disinfecting products, like Lysol Disinfecting

In late July it came to our attention that some PTAs may have been removed from our IRS subsidiary list. Since that time we have been working very closely with an IRS representative in Ogden, Utah and are making progress on having PTAs restored to our Kentucky Congress of Parents and Teachers group listing. We have been informed that these PTAs should be placed back on our list in a few weeks. This should allow PTAs to file their 990N by the November 15th deadline.

Once you are able to file your 990N, please send a copy of the IRS acceptance letter to Kentucky PTA for our files. The Internal Revenue Service no longer will send an automatic acceptance letter to your e-mail. Go to the IRS website for steps to follow to retrieve this notification.

We are very sorry for the inconvenience this has caused. All questions and information should be emailed to kyptapattyh@bellsouth.net or you may call Kentucky PTA office at 502.226.6607. Plus, you can download our [FAQ](#) for Form 990.

Is It Bullying?

Like adults, children experience conflict on a daily basis. School is often the setting for children to explore friendships and learn to interact with their peers. These learning experiences will shape their life long social skills and problem solving abilities.



It is important to remember that conflict is normal; everyone gets upset, has a bad day, or makes mistakes. We must teach children to work through their emotions and conflicts in order to prepare them for life. Many times, incidents will occur between students and are isolated incidents. However, there are times when the interactions between students become more than conflict. [\[Read more\]](#)

Become a PTA School of Excellence

Wipes, that kill 99.9% of bacteria and viruses on commonly touched surfaces around the classroom.

Plus, since these products are now eligible for Box Tops for Education redemption, it's a win-win for the classroom and the school!



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Are you interested in becoming a School of Excellence? Through the National PTA School of Excellence program, PTAs and schools will gain new ways to engage families in school decision-making, such as improvements to programs, practices and policies related to education, health, safety or the arts. **The deadline to apply is October 15, 2016.**

Learn more by downloading this resource, the [2016 School of Excellence Report](#), or visit PTA.org/Excellence.



The 2016-2018 Kentucky Schools of Excellence:

Lafayette High School PTA (Lexington)
Veterans Park Elementary PTA (Lexington)
Cane Run Elementary School PTA (Louisville)
Lincoln Performing Arts PTA (Louisville)
Price PTA (Louisville)

Kentucky PTA and Class Act FCU

Kentucky PTA is proud to announce that all Kentucky PTA members are now eligible to join Class Act Federal Credit Union. For a limited time the credit union will make a free \$25 deposit into the savings account for any Kentucky PTA member who simply joins the credit union, and will make an additional gift of \$5 to Kentucky PTA for each Kentucky PTA member who joins the credit union (see coupon below). [\[Learn more\]](#)

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everychild.one voice.[®]

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