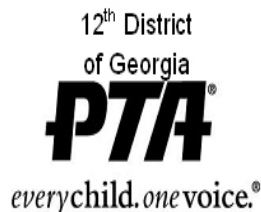


Georgia PTA District 12 - Making the Connection

Fall/Winter 2009
Volume 3, Issue 2



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Newly Chartered Unit:

Oglethorpe Ave ES PTA
Clarke County

Good Luck during your
Charter Year!

Become a fan of
the 12th District
PTA on Facebook:

[Click here to become a fan!](#)

District 12 Fall/Winter Update

By now, most of you are wrapping up your fundraising activities for the fall. It is time to take a long deep breath and assess how things have gone so far for your PTA/PTSA. As we are all aware, the reality right now is that many of our families are facing difficult economic times. This is an excellent time to refocus your resources on your membership recruitment efforts. While it may be an easy choice to forego wrapping paper, candy or trinkets, parents/families that are shown the value of a PTA membership are more inclined to join. Joining PTA is an easy way to show support for National, Georgia and your local PTA and doesn't involve nearly as much work as a traditional fundraising activity. You just need to ask.

Promote the membership benefits from Georgia and National PTA. You may want to even go out and find your own within your community. Also, show members the value of their PTA membership card by asking to see it at your meeting or events and offering discounts to those that have one.

Thank you for all you do and continued success. Take time this holiday season to relax and enjoy your family and friends.

Carol Ranft
District 12 Director

Healthy Lifestyles Awards

Congratulations to the following PTAs/PTSAs that applied for the Healthy Lifestyles Award, sponsored by National PTA.

Brookwood Elementary PTA
Cedar Hill Elementary PTA *
Centerville ES PTA *
Couch Middle School PTSA
Grayson High School PTSA
J.C. Magill Elementary PTA
Norcross High School PTSA
Parsons ES PTA
Sweetwater MS PTSA *

*Denotes Award Winner - Three of the five winners from Georgia were from the 12th District. There were 284 applications from PTAs big and small in over 43 states. What an accomplishment!

Georgia PTA Membership Awards

Each newsletter we spotlight Local Unit progress and achievements. This issue we focus on membership awards.

Awards:

Visionary Pin:
400 of more members submitted by Aug 31

Pacesetter's Certificate:
300-399 members submitted by Aug 31

Early Bird Certificate:
200 members submitted by Sept 30

Community Partnership Award:
30 Community Members (not parents of students) submitted by Oct 30

Oak Tree Award:
100 % staff membership submitted by Oct 30

Gold Membership Award:
Achieved Target Membership by Oct 30

Visionary Pin Winners:

Area I Council:
Brookwood ES PTA
Brookwood HS PTSA
Camp Creek ES PTA
Craig ES PTA
Crews MS PTSA
Five Forks MS PTA
Gwin Oaks ES PTA
Head, R D, ES PTA
Magill ES PTA
Parkview HS PTSA
Snellville MS PTA
Trickum MS PTSA

Area II Council:
Berkeley Lake E S PTA
Chattahoochee ES PTA
Collins Hill HS PTSA
Duluth MS PTA
Dyer, J. G., E S PTA
Freeman's Mill ES PTA
Hull, Richard MS PTSA
Jackson ES PTA
Lanier MS PTSA
Mason ES PTA
McKendree ES PTA
Parsons ES PTA
Pinckneyville MS PTA
Riverside ES PTA
Simpson ES PTA
Taylor, K E ES PTA
Twin Rivers Middle PTSA
Walnut Grove ES PTA
Woodward Mill ES PTA

Area III Council:

Alcova ES PTA
Archer High PTSA
Bay Creek Middle PTSA
Couch Middle School PTSA
Dacula ES PTA
Dacula MS PTA
Duncan Creek ES PTA
Grayson HS PTSA
Ivy Creek ES PTA
Osborne, Frank N., MS PTA
Pharr ES PTA
Starling ES PTA

Gold Membership Award:
Head, R D, ES PTA

Pacesetter's Certificate:

Area I Council:
Norton, R. L. ES PTA
Rosebud ES PTA
Shiloh ES PTA
South Gwinnett HS PTSA

Area II Council:
Harris, B. B., ES PTA
Level Creek ES PTA
Rock Springs ES PTA
White Oak E S PTA
Fort Daniel ES PTA

Area III Council:
Grayson ES PTA
Mulberry ES PTA

Oak Tree:

Centennial ES PTA
Oglethorpe Avenue ES
Annistown ES PTA
Arcado ES PTA
Camp Creek ES PTA
Craig ES PTA
Gwin Oaks ES PTA
Head, R D, ES PTA
Knight ES PTA
Magill ES PTA
Shiloh MS PTSA
Snellville MS PTA
Berkeley Lake E S PTA
Freeman's Mill ES PTA
Gwinnett School Math Science PTSA
Harris, B. B., ES PTA
Lanier MS PTSA
Parsons ES PTA
Rock Springs ES PTA
Simpson ES PTA
Twin Rivers Middle PTSA
Walnut Grove ES PTA
Woodward Mill ES PTA
Alford, J. A., ES PTA
Couch Middle School PTSA
Dacula ES PTA
Dacula MS PTA
Fort Daniel ES PTA
Grayson ES PTA
Harbins ES PTA
Ivy Creek ES PTA
Mulberry ES PTA
Pucketts Mill E S PTA

Early Bird Certificate:

Area I Council:
Annistown ES PTA
Arcado ES PTA
Britt, W C, ES PTA
Centerville ES PTA
Knight ES PTA
Meadowcreek ES PTA
Shiloh MS PTSA

Area II Council:
Creekland MS PTA
Gwinnett School Math Science PTSA
Ivy Prep PTSA
Mountain View High PTSA
Norcross HS PTA
Peachtree ES PTA
Peachtree Ridge HS PTSA
Sugar Hill ES PTA
Sycamore ES PTA

Area III Council:
Alford, J. A., ES PTA
Berkmar HS PTSA
Cedar Hill ES PTA
Central Gwinnett HS PTSA
Dacula HS PTSA
Harbins ES PTA
Harmony ES PTA
Jones MS PTSA
Lovin ES PTA
McConnell MS PTA
Mill Creek HS PTSA
Patrick ES PTA
Richards, J E, MS PTA
Trip ES PTA
Winn Holt ES PTA

Community Partnership:

Brookwood HS PTSA
Camp Creek ES PTA
Head, R D, ES PTA
Snellville MS PTA
Freeman's Mill ES PTA
Lanier MS PTSA
Parsons ES PTA
Twin Rivers Middle PTSA

PTA Mission: The overall purpose of PTA

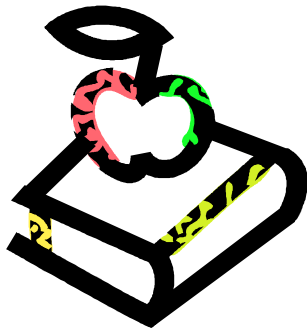
A powerful voice for all children,
A relevant resource for families and communities, and
A strong advocate for the education and well-being of every child.

Treasurer Reminders

Local Unit Bylaws guide how the PTA conducts an audit or financial review of the books. An audit is conducted whenever the treasurer changes, at the end of each school year and whenever deemed necessary. Remember - audits are necessary to:

- 1) maintain your unit's 501(c) (3) status as a non-profit organization,
- 2) protect the membership and officers relating to all financial issues, and
- 3) to be in good standing with Georgia PTA.

Your audits should have been completed and sent to the state office by September 30th for your local unit to remain in Good Standing. There are several units that are missing audits!



From The Archives: December, 1958: New Year's Resolutions

A little less of arrogance because of all we know;
 A little less impatient with those we deem too slow;
 A little more of humility, seeing our worth is slight;
 We are such trivial candles compared to stars at night!
 A little more forgiving and swifter to be king;
 A little more desirous the word of praise to find;
 The word of praise to others and making hearts rejoice;
 A little bit more careful to speak with gentle voice;
 A little more true eagerness to understand each other;
 A little more real striving to help a shipwrecked brother;
 A little more high courage to each task that must be done;
 These are our resolutions - and God help us everyone.

Author Unknown

A Few Words about Membership:

District Membership as of 12/6/2009 is **58,624**, representing a decline of 2 % over last year or 1,411 members. The good news is that at the same time last year, our membership stood at **57,776**, so we are keeping pace with last year. If we want to reach our 2007-2008 membership numbers, we need an additional **2,944** members. We have 124 local units in District 12. The difference represents **only 24 members per local unit!** An easy way to help make that up is to ask your staff to join if you haven't achieved 100 % staff membership. The key is to never stop asking! As they say in sales, "Go for No". Ask everyone you know. Every member counts so be sure to send in dues to the state office every month! I know we can do it. Do you? Will you give it a little extra effort to help us accomplish our goals? I hope so.

Has your contact information changed?

If your PTA has changed officers after the information has been submitted to Georgia PTA (as in the case of a vacancy) or if any of your officers have moved, changed phone numbers or email addresses, please be sure to notify Georgia PTA, your Council President (if applicable) and your District Director. This is the only way to ensure that you are receiving correct & timely information pertinent to your local unit. Don't wait – you will be missing out on important details & deadlines. Send changes to gapta@bellsouth.net.



Mark your calendars for the Reflections Reception on Sunday, March 21, 2010 at the High Museum of Art.

Nominating Committee Information:

- The first step in this process is to consult your bylaws. Remember your bylaws provide the "road map" for the entire process. The Nominating Committee is elected by the membership, as described in Article VI Section 3 of your bylaws. The number of people to be elected to the Nominating Committee and alternate(s) is stated in the bylaws. It is always an uneven number. If more than the required number is nominated, a vote by ballot is required. Only those holding a membership card or are on the membership list may receive a ballot.
- The secretary should read those portions of the bylaws pertaining to the nomination and election of officers to the entire membership before the election of the Nominating Committee.
- Any member who has paid current membership dues in the local unit is eligible to serve. The principal may serve on the Nominating Committee if elected as any other member. The current PTA President may not serve on the Nominating Committee.
- Upon completion of the election of the Nominating Committee, the presiding officer assigns a temporary chair until the committee meets to make its choice for a chair.
- Elect your Nominating Committee at least one month prior to the election meeting.

BE CAREFUL

- The committee is never chosen by the president.
- The committee is not chosen by asking for volunteers.
- The president is not a member ex officio of the Nominating Committee.
- The principal does not serve on the committee unless elected to do so.
- The total number of committee members must be an odd number.
- The future of your PTA is determined by the leadership qualities of the people selected by the Nominating Committee.

DOS AND DON'TS FOR NOMINATING COMMITTEES:

DO:

- Review bylaws for number of officers needed.
- Meet as soon as possible so a second or third meeting can be held if needed.
- Elect a chair per your bylaws.
- Set rules of the Nominating Committee at beginning of meeting.
- Study carefully the skills, qualification and interviewing questionnaire of members before presenting their name as a nominee.
- Check the membership list to be sure the nominee is a member of PTA.
- Chair calls nominee for consent to nominate. Remember you are only asking permission to nominate them for the position.
- Remember the committee discussion is confidential.
- See that the report of the Nominating Committee is posted in the school office 10 days prior to election.
- Sign the Nominating Committee Report if you agree with the nominees.
- Members of the Nominating Committee may be nominated.
- Keep the interview questionnaire documents with the other confidential record keeping process for your association and destroy everything when the slate is complete.
- Make sure a new interviewing questionnaire is used for future nominations for the same candidate.

DON'T:

- Submit a member's name because of friendship. Instead, look at skills and qualifications to perform duties specific to the office.
- Nominate someone with the idea of getting him/her involved if there are doubts about their interest or ability to perform the duties of the office.
- Accept the office for title only.
- Post interviewing questionnaires and responses for public viewing.