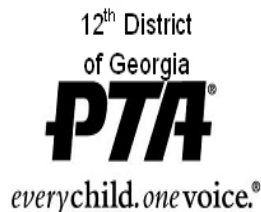


Georgia PTA District 12 - Making the Connection

Summer 2009

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Newly Chartered Units:

Beaver Ridge ES PTA
Timothy Rd ES PTA

Good Luck during your
Charter Year!

PTA on Facebook:

The 12th District has a Facebook group. If you are interested in becoming a member, just let your District Director know.

District 12 Post-Convention Update

It seems like it was just last week when I was writing as the school year came to a close. Time sure goes by quickly. It has been a busy summer filled with much PTA planning.

This year, I had the opportunity to attend my first National PTA Convention. It was a great experience - networking with other PTAs around the country, Europe, the Pacific Congress and the Virgin Islands. Both at the National convention and at our Georgia convention, new officers were elected for the next two years, energizing our members and leaders. We have many challenges ahead, but with challenge, we also have opportunity. Our Georgia PTA theme this year is "Back to Basics: A Road Map for PTA Success" and in the 12th District, we must all "Make the Connection" to be successful at the local, District and State level of our organization.

Please mark your calendars to be sure you can attend the Fall District Conference. You can attend either Tuesday, October 6th from 6-8:30PM or Wednesday, October 7th from 9-11:30AM.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have as you begin planning your year. I am looking forward to outstanding things from around our district.

Carol Ranft
District 12 Director

National PTA Emerging Minority Leadership Conference - Nov 6th-8th Atlanta, GA

The Emerging Minority Leaders Conference, now in its fourth year, is designed to prepare ethnic minority parents and caregivers from across the country to assume leadership roles in their local communities and schools.

This conference is for you if you are:

- An ethnic minority,
- Interested in growing as a PTA leader, and
- Interested in learning how to better advocate for all children.

Registration begins August 3, 2009 - visit www.pta.org for details

Each newsletter we spotlight a Local Unit and their progress and achievements through the year. This issue we focus on convention recognition.

Don't forget to:

Set goals for your Local Unit/Council

Begin preparing your budget, taking into account training, incorporation, council dues (where applicable), insurance and any accounting fees

Start preparing to be a Model PTA

Submit Incoming Committee Chairs to GAPTA by August 30

Submit your audit to GAPTA by September 30

Remit membership dues on a monthly basis

File a tax return (all are now required to file either the 990N, 990 EZ or 990 - based on Gross Income before expenses)

Dates to Remember

PTA Gwinnett Braves Night
- Sept 5th 7 PM

GAPTA Advocacy
Conference - Sept 25th

12th District Fall
Conference

October 6th - 6-8:30PM
or
October 7th - 9-11:30AM

Georgia PTA Award Recipients

Congratulations to the following Individuals, District & Local Units on the awards that they received at the 95th Annual Convention/Leadership Training:

Keys to Leadership Success:

Deirdre Hill- Trickum Middle School PTSA
Carol Ranft - Collins Hill High School PTSA

Outstanding Principal:

Cindy Antrim - McKendree Elementary School

Outstanding School Nurse:

Pam Barrientos - Rockbridge Elementary School

Outstanding District

1st Place - 12th District, Carol Ranft, District Director

Outstanding Local Unit (Elementary School over 751 students)

1st Place - McKendree Elementary School PTA

Outstanding Local Unit (Elementary School under 750 students)

3rd Place - R. D. Head Elementary School PTA

Outstanding Local Unit (Middle School)

2nd Place - Five Forks Middle School PTA

National PTA Hearst Family-School Partnership Award
Award of Merit - Jackson Elementary PTA

Model PTA Awards:

Brookwood HS PTSA
Camp Creek ES PTA
Cedar Hill ES PTA
Creekland MS PTA
Five Forks MS PTA
J E Richards MS PTA
Jackson ES PTA
K. E. Taylor ES PTA
Level Creek ES PTA
McKendree ES PTA
Trickum MS PTSA
Winn Holt ES PTA
R.D. Head ES PTA
Grayson ES PTA

Congratulations on all your hard work. These awards are richly deserved!

Last chance . . .

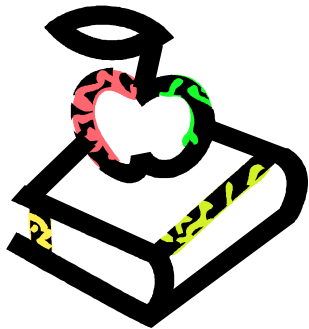
Purchase your Gwinnett Braves tickets by August 19th. Checks must be made payable to the Gwinnett Braves and delivered to your District Director by that date. Tickets are only \$5.50 each.

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 be completed and copies sent to the state office by September 30th for your local unit to remain in Good Standing.



From The Archives:

If you attended CLT in July, you were able to take a little piece of Georgia PTA's history with you. I was lucky enough to grab some newsletters for 1958-1959. In reading these newsletters, I found some interesting insight into our organization and our District. Did you know that Athens/Clarke County and Gainesville had thriving PTA councils? What I found most interesting is that in 1958, parents faced many of the same issues that we face today. So, in each newsletter, I plan to excerpt articles from those newsletters to spotlight the relevance of our organization in years past and today.

"How to get more Fathers to attend PTA Meetings"

- Schedule meetings at a time convenient for both mothers and fathers to attend
- Propose school service clubs volunteer to baby-sit on PTA nights
- Enlist the services of men members on PTA Committees and make recommendations on community needs, particularly in fields in which they have special competence
- Ask men members to serve as liaisons between the PTA and government agencies concerned with children and youth or between the PTA and men's service clubs, church clubs and other groups to which they belong
- Enlist the cooperation of community organizations that have men members and invite them to speak on fathers' responsibilities to their children

I guess they were onto something . . .

Local Unit Bylaws stipulate that an officer's last day of office is the last day of the school year. This means that no checks may be signed by the current officers on PTA accounts after the last day of the school year. The new incoming officers need to have their signatures recorded with the PTA banking institution so that ongoing business of PTA may continue throughout the summer. Until the books are returned from the audit, it is highly recommended that payments be limited to expenditures of an emergency nature. These include funding for PTA leadership events, back-to-school events and other ongoing business, such as purchasing membership campaign supplies for the coming year, etc.

Please refer to the Georgia PTA Leadership Resource for all the information and forms necessary to conduct the audit.

They can also be downloaded from the website www.georgiapta.org, members' only section.

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 as described on the next page) 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. Enter changes at www.georgiapta.org.

Quick Tips about Filling a PTA Officer Vacancy (from GAPTA Website)

What is a PTA officer vacancy?

An officer vacancy occurs with a resignation, removal from office or death of an elected officer.

Who elects individuals to fill a vacated PTA officer position?

The local unit PTA/PTSA Board of Directors (BOD) has the duty to fill PTA officer vacancies at a regularly scheduled Board of Directors meeting or at a Special (called) meeting of the Board of Directors.

Note: A Special BOD Meeting requires that you ONLY address the reason for which the meeting was called and address no other business.

When should an election to fill an officer vacancy occur?

It is important that an officer vacancy be filled as soon as reasonable so that the PTA/PTSA can move forward in handling its business and managing the organization. The timeframe varies, but it is reasonable that it may take a few weeks. If the filling of the officer vacancy is to occur at a special (called) meeting of the Board of Directors, per the bylaws that meeting requires a notification to all members of the Board of Directors, in writing, 3 days prior to the special meeting. Note: A quorum must be present to conduct the meeting.

Who is qualified and eligible?

The same qualifications and eligibility criteria apply to this process as to the annual election of officers. Only members of your local unit PTA are eligible. Note: Individuals authorized to sign checks shall not be related to each other by marriage or any other relationship. (i.e., president, treasurer or secretary)

Process for Filling a PTA Officer Vacancy - the Election

- Board of directors meeting must be the venue for the process.
- Specific meeting notification is required per the bylaws.
- VP conducts the meeting when the president has resigned.
- Secretary is to take the Minutes.
- Pass an Attendance Sheet to be signed by all board members in attendance - officers, principal, parliamentarian, standing committee chairs. [Per the bylaws, proxy voting is prohibited.]
- A quorum must be present.
- Secretary must confirm that a Quorum is met and state such for the minutes. [Quorum for BOD meeting is a majority per the bylaws. Therefore, one-half of the total number of persons on the board of directors (not number of committees) plus 1 person equals the quorum. Note: The parliamentarian counts in the quorum number requirement, but DOES NOT VOTE unless by ballot vote. And the presiding officer only votes to break a tie.
- If a quorum is present, proceed. Otherwise, the meeting must be adjourned and subsequently another special meeting called. The 3-day notice process begins again, etc.
- With a quorum present, proceed to formally accept the Resignation of the departing officer, stating this for the minutes.
- Parliamentary procedure (per Roberts Rules of Order, per the bylaws) will govern the election.

Note: Annual Election of PTA/PTSA Officers is NOT the Same Process.

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.



2009-2010 Reflections Theme - "Beauty Is"
Celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the Reflections Program and Georgia's winning theme by participating in this National Program recognizing student achievement in the Arts. Visit www.pta.org for details.