

Call for the 2023 Annual Meeting Official Call to CONVENTION

THE TENNESSEE CONGRESS OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS, INC., HEREBY CALLS UPON THE MEMBERSHIP TO SEND DULY ACCREDITED DELEGATES TO THE 110TH CONVENTION & ANNUAL MEETING TO BE HELD AT THE PUBLIC SAFETY CENTER, 304 BEASLEY DRIVE, FRANKLIN, TN, APRIL 21-23, 2023.

Hotel Accommodations at Holiday Inn Franklin-Cool Springs, 1738 Carothers Parkway, Brentwood, TN

Dwight Hunter, Tennessee PTA President

Theresa Shaw, Tennessee PTA Secretary

Our Journey through PTA

Download the Registration Packet

Find the convention registration packet at

https://tnpta.org/convention/registration_packet_2023.pdf

Inside the packet, find information about:

- ◇ Mini-Grants
- ◇ Registration Costs and Form
- ◇ Hotel reservations steps
- ◇ Accrediting voting delegates from your unit, and much more!

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Message from the President

It is February already!

My two years as state PTA president is rapidly coming to an end in a few months! (July 1st!) Transitions are a crucial part of the PTA mission. Each new president has a different vision and a different way to support our mission. I believe officer transitions are one of the many great strengths of PTA because it keeps our association continuing to be relevant and responsive. With this thought, I embrace transition and will help our state president-elect as much as possible in the upcoming months.

Our elected officers have taken on even more duties and tasks since late December. Our office administrator resigned, and those duties were reassigned to our all-volunteer elected officers. If we are slow responding to office emails or to office voice messages or to other requests, please know that we are diligently trying to take care of our position duties and the additional duties shifted to us during this time. We are discovering the long path sometimes in learning the procedures with our state and federal government departments. One of the major changes included [receiving the mail](#). With no one working at the state PTA office building, we had to forward our mail to a PO Box close to the president and president elect. Send mail to the Tennessee PTA at P.O. Box 1536, Hixson, TN 37343.

Save the date of April 21-23, 2023 for the Tennessee PTA Annual Meeting and Convention to be held in Franklin, Tennessee. Have your PTA unit budgets reflect sending a delegate to convention. This is a legitimate PTA expense!

We are advocacy. PTA was founded as an advocacy association. Read our [PTA Mission statement](#)—you will find the word advocate in the statement. What other parent-teacher association has been around for 125 years advocating for children and youth? Not one single organization beyond PTA. PTA is all of us.

We are PTA!

Dwight Hunter
President, Tennessee PTA



**Tennessee PTA Position Statement on Tennessee Learning
Loss Remediation and Student Acceleration Act
(T.C.A. § 49-6-3115)
Third Grade Reading Retention Legislation**

The Tennessee PTA works to ensure that all students can be successful. The current third grade retention law, while working to ensure that students are capable of meeting standards, creates an environment where a singular test (i.e. TCAP or TNReady), and not a student's tracked growth or potentially their full capabilities, determines their educational outcomes and progress in school. We believe that the exceptions to retention set forth in the current legislation do not meet the full spectrum of needs a student might present or provide enough flexibility to prevent a student who is capable from being retained.

The Tennessee PTA Board of Directors believes that legislation regarding student retention should work to meet the needs, skills, and abilities of each student and must be based on multiple measures including student growth and achievement. The board of directors also believes that this legislation should return the ability for students, parents, teachers, and schools to make decisions for each student on an individual basis. The board of directors deems that local education agencies are best suited to craft individual retention policies that promote the success of their students. The Tennessee PTA Board of Directors asks that the third grade retention legislation be amended to ensure that decisions are made individually and based on a student's capabilities, and not as a collective in order to ensure the success of every student.

Tennessee PTA and our board of directors will continue to focus on our mission: To make every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children.

Adopted by the Tennessee PTA Board of Directors on January 21, 2023

2023 Membership Increase Awardees!

Congratulations to our Gold Units!

Units listed in alphabetical order

Units move up in Status as Membership Dues are turned in!

Gold Certificate Status At Least a 20% Increase in Membership!

Apison Elementary School PTA
Arlington Middle School PTSA
Bailey Station Elementary PTA
Beaumont Elementary PTA
Bonny Kate Elementary PTA
Collierville Middle School PTA
Daisy Elementary School PTA
East Hamilton Middle School PTA
Green Magnet PTA
John Allen Elementary School PTA
Lake Ridge Elementary School PTA
Loftis Middle School PTA
Lookout Valley Elementary PTA
Marvin Wright Elementary School PTA
Montgomery Central Elementary PTA
Nolan Elementary School PTA
Oak View Elementary School PTA
South Side Elementary PTA
Sullivan Gardens K-8 School PTA
Sycamore Elementary PTA
Rivermont Elementary School PTA
Rose Hill PTA
West Collierville Middle School PTA

Awesome!

Our 2021-2023 Membership Theme

Building a Stronger PTA Together!

Congratulations to our Units that have Achieved Silver Status!

**Our Silver level units can still move up to Gold status!
Keep enrolling members! Reach for gold status recognition!**

Silver Certificate Status At Least a 10% Increase in Membership!

Crieve Hall Elementary PTA
Nashville Head Magnet PTA
New Hopewell Elementary PTA
Northside Elementary PTA
Rosebank Elementary PTA
Schilling Farms Elementary School PTA
Soddy Elementary School PTA
Wallace A Smith Community PTA

Outstanding!

Congratulations to our Units that have Achieved Bronze Status!

**Our Bronze level units can still move up to Silver/Gold status!
Keep enrolling members!**

Bronze Certificate Status At Least a 5% Increase in Membership!

Collierville Elementary PTA
Towne Acres Elementary PTA
West Hills Elementary PTA
Wolftever Creek Elementary PTA

Congratulations to our Units that have Achieved +1 Status!

**These units have increased membership by at least +1.
Keep enrolling members!**

Avoca Elementary PTA | Crosswind Elementary PTA | Emerald Academy PTSA
Ruby Major Elementary PTA | Thrasher Elementary PTA

Leadership Training Opportunities

Hello from your Leadership Committee Chair!

I was once told leaders are not born; they are developed. I want to encourage each of you as leaders to join us for all the training Tennessee PTA offers. We want to help develop you into a great leader.

Leadership Academy

Leadership Academy will be hosted at two locations this year to help support our future leaders. Our first one will be February 11, 2023, at Cedar Bluff Branch Library in Knoxville Tennessee. Our second will be in Nashville on March 4, 2023-- watch for more details about our Nashville location.

We invite leaders to join us at whichever location they can attend. Each participant will be recognized at our state convention and annual meeting in April.

Virtual Statewide Leadership Training

The Leadership Committee will host a virtual Statewide Leadership Training in early May to finish out our term with this current board. Look for a zoom invite to join us.

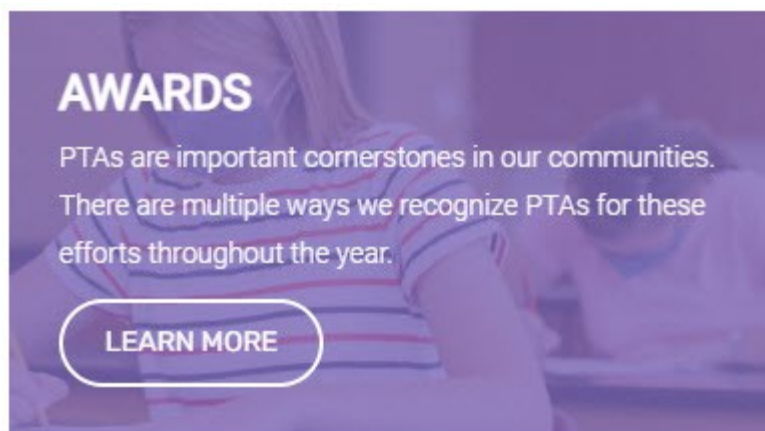
Looking for 2023-2025 State Board

2023-2025 leadership positions are open on the Tennessee PTA board! If interested go to [board_interest_form_2022.pdf](#)

I would love to have you join my board next year so we can serve together to continue the mission of PTA: To make every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children.

Dana Price
Leadership Chair and
Tennessee PTA President Elect

Tennessee
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**Apply for Unit Awards Be recognized at the
2023 State Convention!**

**Deadline: Received by Tennessee PTA
on or before March 1, 2023**

Certificates for Local Units

Leadership Achievement Report: Units in Good Standing and Complete 15 Items on Checklist

300 Hours of Literacy: Self-certified 300 hours of reading among PTA members at home and at school

300 Hours of Power: Self-certified 300 hours of volunteerism from men in PTA meetings and events

Outstanding Awards for Local and Council Units

Advocacy Award Recognition for the best outstanding achievement in advocacy.

Diversity & Inclusion Award Recognition for the best demonstrated achievement in the areas of diversity, inclusion and cultural sensitivity.

Mary Jo Clark Award Recognition for the best demonstrated outstanding achievement to recruit, mentor, and develop volunteers and encourage family engagement.

Outstanding Awards Nominated by Units

Outstanding Administrator Award | Outstanding Legislator Award Outstanding School Board Award | Outstanding Teacher Award Outstanding Local or Council Unit Award Find the links to these award applications at www.tnpta.org or go directly to <https://tnpta.org/index.php/other-local-unit-forms/>

Leadership: Lois Jean White Award



The **Lois Jean White Award** is awarded to a PTA leader through an application rubric assessment by the Leadership Committee. This individual leadership award was established by the Tennessee PTA in December 2019 when the Lois Jean White award was separated from the Leadership Achievement Certification process.

The award **cannot be self-nominated**. Access the form [here](#).

About Lois Jean White:

Lois Jean Barron White, the first African American President of the National Parent Teacher Association (PTA), was born in Nashville, Tennessee. White initially became involved with the Parent Teacher Association in Knoxville for the benefit of her son. Recognizing the importance of both volunteer work and the central role of parents in their children's educational development, she joined the Knoxville PTA and eventually was voted a representative to the PTA Council, which served as a link between the local and state chapters. In 1989, White was elected Tennessee PTA President. Six years later, in 1995, she was elected president of the National PTA.

Update: Student Awards Ceremony

The Tennessee PTA student awards ceremony will be held sometime in early May. Because of the parking limitations in place at the convention and annual meeting venue, the ceremony will be a separate event this year. If you are looking for convention vendors and exhibitors, the vendors will be moved to the Student Award Ceremony as well and will not be at convention. Convention sponsors will be at convention.

Tennessee PTA Arts Enhancement Grant

Want to apply for \$250 for your unit? Tennessee PTA offers an arts grant. This grant can be used for Reflections, or Tennessee PTA Citizenship Essay and Safety Poster contest programs. To be considered for a grant, complete the grant application anytime before March 1, 2023. PTA units must be in good standing to apply. Find more information at <https://tnpta.org/index.php/arts-enhancement-grant/>

2022-2025 Tennessee PTA Strategic Plan

In April 2022, the Tennessee PTA Board of Directors adopted an updated strategic plan for 2022-2025.

Strategic plans are important to help associations envision what to plan for future steps. **Vision is a vital component** to leadership, and strategic plans help with the leadership visioning process.

Strategic Plan - Tennessee PTA

Connect

- Face to Face
- Through our Social Media
- Members to MemberHub
- Like Minded Organizations
- With Parents/Teachers/Students

Advocate

- Legislative priorities
- All voices Parent, teacher and student matter
- Register to vote/get to know your Legislators
- Why have Resolutions/Position Statements
- Attend School Board meetings

Recruit

- Inspire Future Leaders
- Ask people to join PTA
- Provide Resources to Leaders
- Grow our Membership
- Host Multiple Training Opportunities
- By celebrating unit's successes

Build

- Community Partnerships
- Diversity and Cultural Inclusion awareness
- Students/Educators/Parents knowledge of PTA Mission
- Stronger PTAs (Local Unit, Council, Community)

Tennessee PTA Board of Directors

President: Dwight Hunter

President-Elect: Dana Price

Vice President of Advocacy: Anita Allen

Vice President of Communications & Student Programs: Larry Davis

Treasurer: Charles Everett

Secretary: Theresa Shaw

Immediate Past President: Kim Henderson

Chair, Family & Community Engagement: Cheryl Floyd

Chair, Membership, Diversity & Inclusion: Charles Scott

Chair, Reflections: Bala Ramachandran

Chair, State and Federal Legislative: Christy Carroll Highfill

Southeast Region Director: Gail Phillips

Memphis –Delta Region Director: Shelica Cox

Tennessee PTA

1905 Acklen Avenue

Nashville, TN 37212

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