

Welcome to the 2022-2023 Year!

Stay in good standing

1. This makes the IRS happy! And the State of Tennessee!
2. This keeps your unit in compliance with federal and state requirements.
3. This keeps your PTA unit eligible to participate in PTA programs, such as Reflections, and to be eligible to apply for PTA grants.

What is required for good standing?

1. Submit initial membership dues to Tennessee PTA no later than November 1. The first payment of dues can be submitted anytime before November 1.
2. Submit audit report no later than November 1. Audit reports can be submitted anytime before November 1. Save time and a stamp—Upload your report via MemberHub.
3. Submit a confirmation that your unit's 990 report was filed on time to the IRS by November 20th. IRS needs the 990 filed no later than November 15th. A screenshot image of the confirmation or downloaded submission documentation satisfies this requirement. Save time and a stamp—Upload the confirmation information via MemberHub.
4. In MemberHub, the date of your unit's last bylaws submission should be available. Bylaws need to be updated and submitted every five years.
5. Maintain a minimum of 20 members annually
6. The unit adheres to the Purposes and basic policies of the PTA.

While not a part of the official good standing list, the local unit bylaws state that a PTA unit shall adopt a budget approved by the general membership.

Early Bird Membership Recognition!

Turn in your unit's membership dues no later than September 30, 2022, via MemberHub, or postmarked by September 30, to qualify for early bird recognition!

Early Bird!

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Message from the President

It is mid-September already!

September is Membership Month! While membership is an all-year round invitation to join your local units, September is a focus month.

This year National PTA is introducing a new membership program:

Membership Mania. Local PTAs can stay connected and in the know throughout the school year by joining Membership Mania. This is a fun and interactive year-round journey that is easy and flexible. PTAs can participate in two calls and weekly emails spread across the entire school year. There are no minimum requirements, leaders only do what they can. [Sign up today](#) to join this program to strengthen membership together.

On page one are the listed requirements for PTA units to stay in good standing. This list keeps PTA units in compliance with state and federal requirements and in an umbrella association through paid membership dues. There has been some confusion about the budget question found in MemberHub. This was a pilot test of budget awareness and not a current part of the good standing list. However, local unit bylaws do state that an annual budget shall be approved by the general membership.

Our NLDC is looking for officer nominees! Find more information on page 3.

National PTA is giving away \$600,000 in grants. Guess what? If a unit doesn't apply, there is a zero chance to receive a grant from this \$600,000. Find out more information from [PTA.org/Grants](https://pta.org/grants) The deadline to apply is September 27, 2022.

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, connected together, supporting each other, and training sessions for each of us to learn together.

We are PTA!

Dwight Hunter

President, Tennessee PTA



TNPTA Nominations and Leadership Development Committee (NLDC)

Searching for Officer Candidates

In April 2022, the delegates to the Tennessee PTA convention approved changes to the bylaws that changed officer eligibility for the following:

Vice Presidents | Secretary | Treasurer.

If you are serving as a committee chair or as an elected officer for a local unit in good standing or council unit in good standing for more than one year, you are eligible to be nominated for these offices!

President-elect nominees need to serve two terms on a state board with at least one of those terms as an elected state officer.

Here are the official requirements:

Requirements for Nominees:

1. Only a member of a Tennessee local unit PTA in good standing shall be eligible to hold office in Tennessee PTA.
2. The nominee(s) shall have served at least one year as committee chair or officer in a local, council or state PTA in any of the National PTA constituent associations.
3. The nominee for President–elect must have served at least two (2) terms on the Tennessee PTA Board of Directors, or at least one term on the Tennessee PTA Board of Directors and at least one term on the Board of Directors for another National PTA Congress. One of these terms shall be as an elected officer.

Deadline to return the officer interest form is **November 1, 2022!**

Download the officer interest form at
https://tnpta.org/nldc/officer_interest_form_2022.pdf

Find out more information and job descriptions by visiting the NLDC webpage at
<https://tnpta.org/index.php/nldc/>

Contact the NLDC at nldc@tnpta.org

Promoting Healthy Lifestyles!

Did you know Tennessee PTA has a resolution promoting and encouraging school systems to be in the farm to food program? Find the resolution at tnpta.org

Gardening and canning your fresh produce in 2022!

By Dana Price, TNPTA President-elect

I grew up in a time where we picked our garden daily and we canned our vegetables. I remember working along side my mom, sisters and Mamaw in the summer. When I got married and we had our first garden, I knew I had to can my vegetables.

Canning lets you control the amount of sodium you put into your fresh vegetables.

I never understood really why we canned every summer, we just did it. However, once I had my own family, I realized that not only did it help with saving money, having fresh vegetables on hand during the winter months was a benefit for our health. I could also control what I put into my canned vegetables.

I enjoy knowing that I have a healthier option in my pantry, and I don't have to depend on the store bought can vegetables. The amount of sodium in store can vegetables was a shock to me. I know you can now buy less sodium or no salt at all, but I still enjoy know exactly what is in my jars that I have canned.

In 2020 when the pandemic hit, canning sales surged. There was an increase in canning lids demand, of more than 600% than the year before. You must have mason jars, canning lids or flats, and canning rings to properly can any fruit or vegetable. I remember being in shock when I had a hard time getting flats for my canning. I had canned pretty much my whole life and never had an issue with getting the supplies I needed to can properly.

However, with everything shutting down, people staying home, people growing gardens for the first time, or just deciding hey, we might want to figure out how to survive this pandemic by preserving all produce we can get our hands on. Whatever the reason behind people starting to can. I for one hope they continue to see the benefit of canning for their family and will keep doing it.

My two daughters now both can for their families and I am proud to know that this once piece of my family's history will continue into their families. Canning was a way in the 30s and 40s that my Mamaw said was a given, if you did not can, you did not have any vegetables in the winter.

If you have never canned. I encourage you to start with pickles. Very easy to process the cucumbers and have some great crispy pickles all year long.

Membership, Diversity & Inclusion News

From Charles Scott, TNPTA Membership, Diversity and Inclusion Chair

The Tennessee PTA Membership Goal for 2022-23 is 22,000 or more members. With your help, we know we can meet or exceed this goal! Please keep in mind the importance of submitting any dues you have collected each month via MemberHub or mail it to the state office.

Tennessee PTA proudly recognizes the following eleven (11) Local Units and their twelve (12) Diversity Chairs as of September 20, 2022. We encourage EACH Local unit to create a Diversity Chair this school year to ensure you meet the needs of all the children in you school, their families and your communities. Having a Diversity Chair/committee will aid you in growing your membership as an added bonus. Many Local Units have people “doing the work of a Diversity Chair” but they don’t identify them as such, some are identified as “other” in MemberHub. Be sure to enter the name of your Diversity Chair and give them that “title” in MemberHub or on the Incoming officers form you submit to the State.

<u>Unit Name</u>	<u>Region</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Name</u>
Bailey Station Elementary PTA	MDR	Diversity/Inclusion	Jennifer Brown
Big Ridge Elementary PTA	SER	Diversity/Inclusion	Cynthia Parker
Crieve Hall Elementary PTA	MCR	Diversity/Inclusion	Nydia Torres
Crieve Hall Elementary PTA	MCR	Diversity/Inclusion	Renuka Deshmukh
Crosswind Elementary School PTA	MDR	Diversity/Inclusion	Jennifer Breuer
Lake Ridge Elementary School PTA	FTR	Diversity/Inclusion	Grace Ratliff
Powell Middle PTSA	ETR	Diversity/Inclusion	Paige Graves
Ruby Major Elementary PTA	MCR	Diversity/Inclusion	Lakisha Taylor
Schilling Farms Elementary PTA	MDR	Diversity/Inclusion	Balaji Kamalakannan
Towne Acres Elementary PTA	FTR	Diversity/Inclusion	Courtney Murphy
Vance Middle School PTA	FTR	Diversity/Inclusion	Katy Stigers
West Collierville Middle School PTA	MDR	Diversity/Inclusion	Ta'mia Jeffrey

Updates from the National PTA!

A New Learning Community

We've launched a brand new online learning community for volunteers. Thrive brings PTA leadership development to you with engaging, short courses. Our THRIVE learning hub is free, self-paced and mobile friendly. Take training at your own time and pace. [Learn more today!](#)

Become a School of Excellence

New school year—new PTA year goals! Get the head start your PTA needs to succeed by enrolling in the School of Excellence program. Start your journey to excellence—enrollment is open until Oct. 1 at [PTA.org/Excellence](https://pta.org/excellence)

Membership Mania

Membership Mania is a fun and interactive journey that connects local leaders to other passionate leaders and offers free resources that will naturally integrate membership into all things PTA. [Sign up today](#) to join us this school year to engage your community, strengthen membership and make every child's potential a reality!

Engage in Advocacy

In the new school year, PTAs continue to be essential voices in advocating for the health and safety of all children. Follow [National PTA for policy resources](#) and expert conversations to help you engage your school community in advocacy work for this school year on these issues: child nutrition, school safety and gun violence prevention and mental health

#BackpackNotes

Join our podcast community for everyday parents like you. Get ready for Season Seven of the [Notes from the Backpack](#) podcast! We will discuss important topics such as supporting kids through transitions, facing math anxiety and harnessing the power of parent advocacy to help you navigate through the school year. Listen to our previous seasons and look for new episodes Sept. 14, and be sure to subscribe on [your favorite podcast platform](#)

National PTA Programs

National PTA offers In-Person and At-Home programs in English and Spanish to meet students and families where they are. Partnering with caregivers and schools, [National PTA programs](#) are designed to support the physical, social-emotional and learning needs of students while having fun! Programs include [The Family Reading Experience](#), [PTA Connected](#) digital literacy, [STEM + Families](#) and [Healthy Lifestyles](#).

Welcome to our New PTA Units!

Mid-Cumberland Region
Kenwood Middle PTA
Kenwood High School PTA

South East Region
Harrison Community PTA

East Tennessee Region
Cedar Bluff Middle PTSA

Get Grant Funding from National PTA to Host PTA Programs!

National PTA is offering over \$600K to nearly 500 PTAs to help conduct programs for families in the areas of digital safety, STEM, literacy, healthy lifestyles and the arts. The [application period is now open](#). By answering only a few questions, your PTA can be eligible for \$1,000 or \$2,500 in program funding to help cover expenses like custodial services, food, transportation and translation services to help ensure all families can participate. The deadline to submit applications is Sept. 27. No prior grant-writing experience is needed. Visit [PTA.org/Grants](https://pta.org/grants) to learn more and apply. PTA units must be in good standing to apply.

Have you heard?
Over \$600K in funding
is available to PTAs!

- ▶ Get support to host a PTA program in your community.

National PTA
everychild.one voice.™

Apply now at [PTA.org/Grants](https://pta.org/grants)



Updates from the Tennessee PTA!

From the Tennessee PTA Blog: Updated Filing 990N requirements!

You must use your IRS personal identification number or your ID.ME account to file the 990N. Read more about this change and find two links from the IRS tutorial database on our blog post: <https://tennessepta.tumblr.com/post/692838859613093888/the-irs-changes-the-990-n-authentication>

In the same blog post, find links to IRS tutorials about maintaining your unit's 501c3 tax-exempt status and about Form 990 Overview.

From the Tennessee PTA Blog: Tennessee PTA Position Statement Supporting Our Teachers.

Did you know the TNPTA Board of Directors adopted a position statement about supporting our teachers during the July 2022 board meeting? Read the blog post at: <https://tennessepta.tumblr.com/post/690227818537287680/tennessee-pta-position-statement-supporting-our>

From the Tennessee PTA Blog: VIDSIG Partners with Tennessee PTA

"Tennessee PTA is excited to expand our 2021-2023 advocacy focus, crossing the gap from high school to postsecondary, by offering **high school students** the opportunity to ask questions of their college peers," stated Dwight Hunter, President of Tennessee PTA. "We are pleased to partner with VIDSIG to support Tennessee high school students during their college explorations and finding their path to cross the gap to postsecondary education." Read more about the partnership at: <https://tennessepta.tumblr.com/post/685263611191541760/vidsig-partners-with-tennessee-pta>

Coming in April 2023—the 110th Tennessee PTA Annual Convention and Meeting!

Theme: Our Journey through PTA!

Stay tuned for more information about location and dates. Plan your unit budget to include sending delegate(s) to the Annual Convention and Meeting!

Tennessee PTA Strategic Plan 2022 Adopted in April

In April 2022, the Tennessee PTA Board of Directors adopted an updated strategic plan. Strategic plans are vital to help associations envision what to plan for future steps. Vision is a vital component to leadership and strategic plans help with the 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 Arts Enhancement Grant

Want to apply for \$250 for your unit? Tennessee PTA offers an arts enhancement grant. This grant is to be used for the National PTA 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 about the grant at <https://tnpta.org/index.php/arts-enhancement-grant/>

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

Tennessee PTA

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PLACE
STAMP
HERE