

A Call for Public Engagement in K-12 Public Education Funding Review from the Tennessee Department of Education

The Tennessee Department of Education (TDOE) completed eight public town halls to gather public opinion about funding public education across the state. The Tennessee PTA was a co-host at each of the town halls. But it is not too late to give input of your opinion.

All Tennesseans are invited to submit public comments by emailing tnedu.funding@tn.gov

The education funding focus team for Tennessee PTA is planning to survey PTA members on educational funding and equitable resources as well as other plans to help engage PTA members. Look for these surveys and other opportunities in the months of December and January.

Save the Date: Tennessee PTA Annual Convention!

Join us in Chattanooga for the 2022 Annual Convention, April 23 - 24. We have booked a hotel to give delegates a convention rate for the nights of April 22nd and 23rd. Look for more information about hotel booking and registration in January!

Save the Date: National PTA Listening Session about the Standards

The National Standards for Family-School Partnership have not been updated since 2008! National PTA is conducting virtual listening sessions in many states. Save the date of January 27th for the Tennessee PTA listening session.

Call for Applicants for Tennessee PTA Vice President & Board Members

Applications are being accepted for the position of Vice President of Membership and Outreach. Applications may be sent to dhunter@tnpta.org. To be eligible for the VP position, an applicant must have served at least one term on the state board of directors.

Other vacancies on the board include chairs for the Bylaws, Resolutions, Resource Development, and Arts in Education committees. There are several region director positions. Eligibility is being a PTA member. Contact Dwight Hunter at dhunter@tnpta.org

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Collierville Family Literacy Event Held on November 7th

All six Collierville Schools elementary PTA units teamed up to sponsor a family literacy event with the Collierville Literacy Council. The event, Pumpkin Soup: The Best You Ever Tasted, was centered around the fall-themed book, Pumpkin Soup, by Helen Cooper. Each PTA sponsored a different station that helped demonstrate to students that literacy touches all aspects of life and learning! The stations had the activities such as story time theater, art, STEM, make-your-own pumpkin soup trail mix, and refreshments. Great job to **the six PTA units** to join together and provide both an enriching and fun experience for your community!



Awesome!



Apply for Unit Awards—Be celebrated at the 2022 State Convention!

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/>

Deadlines for almost all of these awards are March 1st. The exception is Outstanding Legislator deadline of February 1st.

Individual Award: Lois Jean White Award

Nominate someone for the Lois Jean White Award for **Outstanding PTA Leadership**.

Find more about the award at <https://tnpta.org/index.php/lois-jean-white-award/>

A.L. Lotts PTA Instagram Account—Promoting Literacy and Diversity!

Discover and follow the A.L. Lotts Elementary PTA Instagram account at <https://www.instagram.com/lottspata>

The Lotts PTA has posted pictures of Reading 360, Hispanic Heritage Month book display and other displays recognizing diverse cultures in reading and in topics! The Hispanic Heritage Month book display picture was re-shared by National PTA! The Lotts PTA Parent Book Club began in 2018 and the group tries to meet monthly, even during the summer months! The group has read over 30 books together and the Lotts PTA has received the Tennessee PTA 300 Hours of Literacy certificate three times! Awesome work by the A.L. Lotts Elementary PTA promoting literacy, reading, and diverse cultures!



9 likes

lottspata September has been named Tennessee Literacy Month. Over the next few weeks we will be asking for you to answer questions and post... more

[View all 2 comments](#)

tennesseepata A great way to head for @tennesseepata 300 Hours of Literacy certification!



9 likes

lottspata In honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, we are highlighting the 2021 Pura Belpré Book Award winners.

The PTA Diversity and Inclusion Committee has put together a display of books honoring Hispanic Heritage Month in the A.L. Lotts Library.

Leadership Academy

Good morning leaders and those who want to become future leaders, I am looking for you to join me, Dana Price, at our Leadership Academy. This is a great opportunity to see how your leadership skills can be enhanced and for each individual to see their leadership potential and grow. We are the future leaders of our great association. I would like to invite all presidents, president elect's and past presidents of local units and councils to join me. The academy will be held during the winter months of January or February. Once the date, location and time is set I will be sending out a save the date and personal invitation to join me for the Leadership Academy. If you all interested in being a part of this please feel to reach out to me Dana Price at presidentelect@tnpta.org or dprice@tnpta.org

Ruby Major Elementary PTA Celebrates the Arts!

The Ruby Major PTA had an amazing ARTs Mentorship Night with over 20 artistic mentors in attendance, including 2 MNPS High Schools, and 100+ of our Ruby Rockets students joining in the fun with their families! One of the pictures below is the song students worked on with Amirah Shantel during her CMHOF songwriting 101 class. Way to go Ruby Major Elementary PTA!

ARTS Mentorship NIGHT Nov 4

AMIRAH SHANTEL
My Area Get Lit in a Golden Hour

GOLDEN EUREKA HALL OF FAME

Songwriting 101 Class
Ruby Major Elementary School Song Lyrics

Verse:
I used to be afraid of the monster parade
The absence of the lights and the scary sights
Until I saw the lights that shine so bright
My friends came to play and took the fear away

Chorus:
The stars at night, they shine so bright
It makes it feel like day
The love we share, it makes me care
I'm no longer afraid

2021



Take Action! Sign up for VoterVoice

VoterVoice is Tennessee PTA's advocacy platform! Receive messages about proposed legislation or current hot topics such as student-based funding formula. Participate in our petition drives or our advocacy campaigns. Contact your state legislators.

How to sign-up? Go to <https://tnpta.org/index.php/take-action> and enter your email and zip code under Sign Up for Alerts. This page will also display the highlighted campaigns for both National and Tennessee PTA!. Take Action—[Sign Up Today!](#)

**Congratulations to our Gold
Membership Increase Awardees!
Units listed in alphabetical order**

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

Amherst Elementary School PTA
Apison Elementary School PTA
Arlington High School PTSA
Arlington Middle School PTA
Battle Academy PTA
Bearden Middle School PTA
Bonny Kate Elementary School
Cedar Bluff Elementary PTA
Chattanooga School for Liberal Arts PTA
Cherokee Elementary School PTA
Christenberry Elementary School PTA
Collierville Elementary PTA
Daisy Elementary School PTA
Donelson Elementary
East Brainard Elementary School PTA
East Hamilton Middle School PTA
Emerald Academy PTSA
Frayser Community PTSA
Glenn Martin Elementary PTA
Grandview Elementary PTA
Hixson High School PTSA
Indian Trail Middle School PTA
Liberty Bell Middle School PTSA
Lookout Mountain Elementary PTA
Lookout Valley Elementary PTA
Mary Hughes PTSA
North Hamilton County Elementary School PTA
Phi Beta Phi Elementary School PTA
Rock Spring Elementary School PTA
Ruby Major Elementary School PTA
Schilling Farms Elementary PTA
Sequoyah High School PTSA
Smith Spring Elementary School PTA
South Side Elementary School PTA
Westwood High PTSA

Congratulations!

Awesome!

Congratulations to our Units that have Achieved Silver and Bronze Status!

**Our Silver and Bronze level units can still move up to Gold status!
We have units closing in on a Bronze status—Keep enrolling members!
Reach for gold status recognition!**

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

A L Lotts Elementary School PTA
Ball Camp Elementary PTA
Bordeaux-North Nashville Community PTA
Crosswind Elementary School PTA
Hunter Middle School PTA
Ooltewah Elementary PTA
Rosebank Elementary PTA
West Hills Elementary PTA

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

Creekside Elementary PTA
Lakeland Elementary School PTA
Science Hill High School PTSA

**Congratulations to all of our units listed for a membership increase of
at least 5 percent or more!**

WooHoo!

Our 2021-2023 Membership Theme

"Building a Better Way Back Together"



Message from the President

Hello PTA Members!

Tennessee PTA is gearing up to gather input about educational funding and more. We are excited to be at the table discussing and representing PTA members across the state! PTA is connected membership!

To continue with more short leadership information, one of the important leadership topics is vision. Vision is not about always being right about the future but instead constantly learning what's right and striving for it. From a leadership class, I thought this was useful knowledge: Management is communications, project planning, strategies, data analysis, and development. Leadership is communications, vision, engagement, training, and ownership. One way to be a positive leader is to lead with vision and purpose.

Tennessee PTA has two good resources about vision: [writing a vision statement](#) and an old podcast about [vision](#). I hope these informative resources will help you to write your vision statement as PTA leaders and in PTA advocacy.

Dwight Hunter

president@tnpta.org

Give the Lifetime Achievement Award
from Tennessee PTA.

*Highest
Honor!*

Give a Lifetime Achievement Award!

The Tennessee PTA Life Achievement Award is the highest honor from Tennessee PTA. You may wish to recognize a principal, teacher, staff member, or a community citizen or leader who has made positive differences in the lives of children with a Tennessee PTA Lifetime Achievement Award. Find the form at:

www.tnpta.org/news/life_achievement_award.pdf

Contact Us

For more information, assistance, questions and support, contact us, we are here for you.

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2022 Annual Convention to be held in Chattanooga in April!

The National Standards for Family School Partnerships



When families, schools and communities work effectively together as partners, family engagement is a powerful strategy that boosts student achievement and better prepares our children to lead healthy, happy and productive lives.

That's the thinking behind PTA's National Standards for Family-School Partnerships. As research-based family engagement standards, they

provide a framework to build stronger connections between home and school.

View the recorded videos by 6 members of the state board on each standard at <https://tnpta.org/index.php/standards/>

Call for Advocacy Stories

Do you have a great story about advocating for your families, PTA, or community? We want to hear from you! Tennessee PTA is looking for local units who are doing the hard work of advocating for children and we want to know what you are doing to help other units see what is possible! Your story may be featured in some upcoming Tennessee PTA training materials. Please send any advocacy stories you have to chighfill@tnpta.org.

Farm to School Program

From our Farm to School resolution as directed by the general PTA membership in Tennessee: RESOLVED That the Tennessee PTA and its constituent associations promote the state of Tennessee's Local Foods for Local School program in all Tennessee school systems. Read the adopted resolution at <https://tnpta.org/resolutions-adopted/farmtoschoolresolution.pdf>

Many schools and districts in Tennessee participate in the state's [Local Foods for Local Schools](#) program, partnering with the community's local food producers to serve locally grown foods in school cafeterias.



Tennessee PTA Board of Directors

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Southeast Region Director: Gail Phillips

Interested in [applying](#) for a state board position or to serve on a state committee? Contact Dwight Hunter at dhunter@tnpta.org

Tennessee PTA

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PLACE
STAMP
HERE