



everychild.one voice.

# ONE VOICE

SPRING 2008

## Frequently Asked Questions About Convention

### Who should attend convention?

*The convention is open to everyone. The workshops are designed to benefit all PTA members – not just unit or council leaders – though it is highly recommended that all unit and council officers attend the convention. School administrators, educators and other professionals involved with children should be encouraged to attend, too.*

### What exactly happens at convention?

*Convention attendees will have the opportunity to hear inspirational speakers, attend informative workshops, network with other PTAs from across Iowa, visit exhibits, shop at the PTA Shop, and voting delegates will vote on bylaws amendments and resolutions.*

### Who is eligible to be a delegate?

Per Iowa PTA bylaws, A PTA in good standing is entitled to one voting delegate, plus one additional voting delegate, for every fifteen (15) members. Voting delegates will be required to show their PTA membership card at the registration table. By sending a delegate(s) to the Iowa PTA convention, your local unit has the opportunity to have their voice heard when voting on important decisions.

**Is it O.K. for local PTAs to fund delegates?** PTA conventions – both the National PTA Convention and the Iowa PTA Convention - are valid expenses for your local PTA!

*If your PTA is audited, the IRS looks at your training budget to see if you are providing training for your leaders. Convention is an investment in the future leadership and success of your PTA.*

**For more information about Convention, visit:**  
[http://www.iowapta.org/en/state\\_pta/convention.cfm](http://www.iowapta.org/en/state_pta/convention.cfm)

## PTA Mission

PTA is...

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

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Dues must be sent to the Iowa PTA office by the end of each month for any new memberships sold during that month. Include a Dues Remittal Form and Membership Roster along with payment. Membership forms may be found on the Iowa PTA website at <http://www.iowapta.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=membershi p.committee>

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**Get all your PTA instructions and forms at**  
[www.iowapta.org](http://www.iowapta.org)

## INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE

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Join us at the...

108<sup>th</sup> Annual Iowa PTA Convention

April 25 & 26, 2008



Excellent Schools don't  
just happen...  
they're created.

Excellent schools are created through the dedication of superintendents, principals, teachers, parents and community members who are passionate about student success.

The **Parent/Family Involvement Schools of Excellence Certification** recognizes schools whose parent involvement programs are based on the *National Standards for Parent/Family Involvement Programs*.

To learn more about the certification process – or to begin your certification process – please go to:

<http://www.pta.org/picert>

Iowa PTA is proud to announce the Iowa schools that have received National PTA's *Schools of Excellence Certification* – the gold standard for parent involvement.

*Congratulations to Iowa's most recent Parent Involvement Schools of Excellence:*

**Hubbell Elementary, Des Moines (recertified 2008)**

**Windsor Elementary, Des Moines (2007)**

**Perkins Academy, Des Moines (2007)**

*And continued congratulations to our earlier Schools of Excellence:*

**Greenwood Elementary, Des Moines (2007)**

**Eisenhower Elementary, Davenport (2006)**

**Hubbell Elementary, Des Moines (2005)**

**Clive Elementary, West Des Moines (2003)**

**Pierce Elementary, Cedar Rapids (2003)**

**Westridge Elementary, West Des Moines (2003)**

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# REFLECTIONS

**2007-2008 Reflections Theme: "I Can Make A Difference By..."**

PTA believes all children deserve a quality arts education and encourages students to pursue artistic expression through participation in its annual arts Reflections Program. When children express themselves through words, pictures, music, photography, film and choreography, they grow intellectually. They learn to analyze their thoughts, feelings and ideas. They learn to look at things, people and experiences in a fresh and exciting way and they become more interested in the ideas and works of others. The Reflections Program also helps parents encourage and recognize the continuous self-discovery process of their children.

Everyone is invited to attend the annual Reflections recognition ceremony, but please RSVP to Iowa PTA office by April 4<sup>th</sup>.

**2008 Iowa Reflections Recognition Ceremony**

**Saturday, April 19, 2008**

**9:45 A.M. – VIEWING OF ENTRIES**

**10:45 A.M. – CEREMONY**

**STATE OF IOWA HISTORICAL BUILDING, DES MOINES**

**FOR INFORMATION ABOUT REFLECTIONS GO TO:**

**[HTTP://WWW.IOWAPTA.ORG/INDEX.CFM?FUSEACTION=IOWAPTA.REFLECTIONS](http://www.iowapta.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=iowapta.reflections)**

# CALENDAR

## 2008

- Apr. 1 Scholarship Winners notified by Iowa PTA  
<http://www.iowapta.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=iowaPTA.scholarships>
- Apr. 2 Read Across America <http://www.nea.org/readacross/index.html>
- Apr. 12 Drop Everything and Read (D.E.A.R.) Day <http://www.dropeverythingandread.com/>
- Apr. 19 Iowa PTA Reflections Recognition Ceremony - contact Iowa PTA office for more information
- Apr. 22 Earth Day <http://www.iowapta.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=iowaPTA.convention>
- Apr. 24 Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day [www.daughtersandsonstowork.org](http://www.daughtersandsonstowork.org)
- Apr. 25 Iowa PTA Board meeting [ia\\_office@pta.org](mailto:ia_office@pta.org)
- Apr. 25-26 Iowa PTA Convention**  
<http://www.iowapta.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=iowaPTA.convention>
- Apr. 27-May 3 National Volunteer Week <http://www.pointsoflight.org/programs/seasons/nvw/>
- Apr. 30 Deadline for dues to the Iowa PTA office (for memberships sold in April)  
[http://www.iowapta.org/pdf/membership/Monthly\\_Dues\\_Remittal\\_Form.pdf](http://www.iowapta.org/pdf/membership/Monthly_Dues_Remittal_Form.pdf)
- May 4-10 PTA Teacher Appreciation Week  
[http://www.pta.org/archive\\_article\\_details\\_1143233402484.html](http://www.pta.org/archive_article_details_1143233402484.html)
- May 11-17 School Board Recognition Week  
<http://www.iasb.org/memberbenefits.aspx?id=2548&terms=school+board+recognition+week&rawsearchtype=1&fragment=false&SearchType=AndWords>
- May 25 National Missing Children's Day  
[http://www.missingkids.com/missingkids/servlet/PageServlet?LanguageCountry=en\\_US&PageId=1992](http://www.missingkids.com/missingkids/servlet/PageServlet?LanguageCountry=en_US&PageId=1992)
- May 31 Deadline for dues to the Iowa PTA office (for memberships sold in May)  
[http://www.iowapta.org/pdf/membership/Monthly\\_Dues\\_Remittal\\_Form.pdf](http://www.iowapta.org/pdf/membership/Monthly_Dues_Remittal_Form.pdf)
- Jun. 8 End of the Rescuing Recess Volunteer Challenge  
[http://www.cartoonrecessweek.com/win\\_prizes.html](http://www.cartoonrecessweek.com/win_prizes.html)
- Jun. 20-23 National PTA Convention [http://www.pta.org/ne\\_conference\\_details\\_1116942630843.html](http://www.pta.org/ne_conference_details_1116942630843.html)
- Jun. 30 Deadline for dues to the Iowa PTA office (for memberships sold in June)  
[http://www.iowapta.org/pdf/membership/Monthly\\_Dues\\_Remittal\\_Form.pdf](http://www.iowapta.org/pdf/membership/Monthly_Dues_Remittal_Form.pdf)
- ASAP **Send list of officers for next year to Iowa PTA as soon as you know who they will be! Resources and membership cards will not be sent until an Officer Form for 2008-2009 has been received by the Iowa PTA office. The Officer Form is included in this bulletin or can be found at:**  
[http://www.iowapta.org/files/documents/word\\_docs/New\\_Officer\\_Form.doc](http://www.iowapta.org/files/documents/word_docs/New_Officer_Form.doc)

*"The area where we are the greatest is the area in which we inspire, encourage, and connect with another human being."*

- MAYA ANGELOU  
Keynote Speaker  
National PTA Convention



Join thousands of parents, teachers, students, and leaders who come to national convention each year to enhance their skills, connections, and success! Visit [www.pta.org](http://www.pta.org) for details.



everychild.onevoice.®

# 2008-2009 OFFICER FORM

To submit this form electronically, type in the information then SAVE the form on your computer.

Send EMAIL to [ia\\_office@pta.org](mailto:ia_office@pta.org) and attach the file that you saved on your computer.

Contact information for officers and committee chairs may be submitted as an attached document in WORD or EXCEL if this is more convenient for you.

If you prefer you may print the form, fill in the information by hand, and send it by mail or fax.

MAIL: Iowa PTA, 8345 University Blvd., Suite F-1, Des Moines IA 50325 FAX: 515-225-6363

**REMIT THIS FORM TO THE IOWA PTA OFFICE IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING YOUR ELECTIONS.**

THIS FORM IS DUE BY **MAY 31, 2007** TO RECEIVE MEMBERSHIP CARDS, REFERENCE MANUALS, AND OTHER MATERIALS FOR THE UPCOMING YEAR. IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO REMIT A NEW FORM FOR EVERY YEAR EVEN IF YOUR OFFICERS AND CONTACT INFORMATION STAY THE SAME.

Full Name of your PTA or PTSA:

EIN (Employer Identification Number – every PTA has one):

1099 IRS Form sent for last tax year? Yes No

Insurance Carrier (optional, but recommended):

Types of Coverage (check all that apply): Liability Bonding Property Directors & Officers Liability

Name of School District:

Type of School (check all that apply): Elementary Middle/Jr.High Sr. High

Name of School:

Name of Principal:

Principal's E-Mail:

School Address:

**OFFICERS**

**President:**

Address  
City/Zip  
Phone-Day Eve.  
E-Mail

**Vice President:**

Address  
City/Zip  
Phone-Day Eve.  
E-Mail

**Secretary:**

Address  
City/Zip  
Phone-Day Eve.  
E-Mail

**Treasurer:**

Address  
City/Zip  
Phone-Day Eve.  
E-Mail

*\* It is the treasure's responsibility to remit membership dues to the Iowa PTA office.*

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

**Membership:**

Address  
City/Zip  
Phone-Day Eve.  
E-Mail

**Legislation:**

Address  
City/Zip  
Phone-Day Eve.  
E-Mail

**Reflections:**

Address  
City/Zip  
Phone-Day Eve.  
E-Mail

*Iowa PTA sends information via email. Please include email addresses whenever possible. Attach another sheet with e-mail addresses of additional board/committee members if you would like them to receive Iowa PTA newsletters and the bulletin, One Voice.*

# Sun Safety for All\*

\*Adapted from The University of Arizona, Arizona Cancer Center, Family Sun Safety Project.



When baby ducklings are hatched, they mimic the behavior of the first thing they see – usually Mom or Dad duck. Kids seem to act the same way. They model what their parents do. Eating and physical activity patterns, TV-watching habits, even sunbathing can be learned from watching adults. That’s why parents can be powerful role models for their children.

Being a parent today is different than it used to be. Kids today face a lot of pressure in all directions (school, peers, and television). That’s stiff competition when you’re trying to teach your children to do something that’s good for them like practicing sun safety. If you choose to adopt sun-safe behaviors, your children will likely think they need to follow your example.

## **Here are a few tips to help you become a sun safety role model for you children:**

### ***1. Choose to Be a Sun-Safe Family***

Practicing sun safety means protecting yourself and your family from sunburn now and skin cancer later in life.

Limit the total amount of time you spend in the sun (especially between the peak sun hours of 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.).

Find shade (shade trees, awnings, umbrellas).

Wear long-sleeved shirts and long pants (cover-up) clothing.

Use sunscreen every day (even in winter).

Plan outdoor activities for early in the morning or late in the afternoon.

Adopt one new behavior at a time. This will give your children time to become familiar with it.

When a child asks why you are wearing a hat or applying sunscreen, take time to talk about the importance of taking care of skin by protecting it from the sun.

### ***2. Get Ready***

Keep a supply of sun-safe items at home and in your car so you have them the next time you’re going to be outdoors.

You can make your backyard, neighborhood parks, and school more sun safe by adding umbrellas, planting a shade tree, or building a shade structure.

### ***3. Let Your Children See You in Action***

Your children will look to you for cues on how to behave in the sun. If you sit in the shade, they may. If you wear a hat, they may think it’s cool too. So, put on sunscreen and wear sunglasses. Avoid sunbathing or visiting a tanning salon because this sends a mixed message!

### ***4. Praise Your Children’s Successes***

Children love praise! Praising your children and doing special activities are great ways to reinforce and reward behavior change. Saying “I’m so proud of you” goes a long way toward building self-esteem in children. Try to catch your children doing sun-safe things. Rewards work best when they are unexpected!



What sun-safe items do I have at home (school, in the car)?

- Sunscreen with an SPF of 15 or more
- Sunscreen lip balm
- Wide-brimmed or flap-in-the-back hat
- Sunglasses
- Sun umbrellas
- Long sleeved shirts and long pants

## **Colo-NESCO Fathers and Students** **Visit the Iowa ENERGY**

Twenty-three middle school students and their father/uncle or family friend braved the elements on February 10<sup>th</sup> to enjoy some basketball together. The group went down to Wells Fargo Arena to watch the new D-League NBA team, the Iowa Energy. An exciting game, floor seats, food vouchers, and a win for the Iowa team made it a fun experience for all. The outing, sponsored by the Colo-NESCO PSTA, was organized with two goals in mind:

1. To have families come together from the three towns that make up our district, McCallsburg, Colo and Zearing and get to know each other. The better we all know each other, the better we can help make this the best school for our children.
2. To give Dad an opportunity to interact with his child on a one-on-one basis. Studies have shown that when Dad is an active part of a child's life they do better in school and in social situations.



### **Share Your Success Stories!**

Share your good ideas with other local units across Iowa! Please send a short paragraph and picture(s) of your programs and/or events to the Iowa PTA *ONE VOICE* editors:

Sherry Brown  
[edandsherry@dishmail.net](mailto:edandsherry@dishmail.net)

Kim Winterhof  
[Gwinterhof@cfu.net](mailto:Gwinterhof@cfu.net)

## THINK GREEN

- Per “The Green Book” by Elizabeth Rogers and Thomas M. Kostigen, if everyone in America simply separated the paper, plastic, glass and aluminum products from the trash and tossed them into a recycling bin, we could *decrease the amount of waste sent to the landfills by 75%!*
- Currently, it takes *an area the size of Pennsylvania* to dump all our waste each year.

*With fast shrinking landfill space and diminishing natural resources, recycling has never been more important. Recycling items such as paper, plastic, aluminum and ink cartridges reduces toxic greenhouse gas emissions and conserves energy.*

To learn more about recycling, go to  
Go Green Initiative at:  
<http://gogreeninitiative.org/index.php>

## FINDING NEW USES FOR ITEMS THAT ARE WORN OUT OR NO LONGER NEEDED

### *Recycle your tennis shoes*

Whether you call them tennis shoes, runners, sneakers, or gym shoes, your old ones can be recycled. Your old shoes will be ground up to make surfaces for tracks, basketball courts and the like for underserved communities. They won't end up in landfills (often in those same communities). Nike accepts any brand – not just Nike. For more information, visit <http://www.letmeplay.com/reusesashoe>

### *Donate your old cell phones*

Do your community and the environment a favor, and legally comply with EPA regulations on disposal of toxic items such as batteries, by joining tens of thousands of individuals and over 5,000 local and national charitable organizations in recycling old, unused cell phones through [AmericanCellPhoneDrive.org](http://AmericanCellPhoneDrive.org)

### *Donate your old computer and other old electronic products*

There are numerous organizations and businesses that accept old computers and electronics that will either be reused or recycled. In some instances, companies offer a trade-in program. For more information go to:  
<http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/hazwaste/recycle/ecycling/donate.htm>



## ***Parent Involvement Resources***

*Do you have a child who is the victim of bullying at school? Need some ideas for getting your family more physically active? Do you want to make the most of your next parent-teacher conference? Then get involved and let PTA help.*

*Parent involvement is crucial to the health and well-being of a child. As a parent, you are the most important influence in your child's success in school and in life. In this role, you have a fresh opportunity every day to get involved with your child.*

*Parent involvement in children's education allows kids to perform better in school, and navigate more easily some of the challenges of growing up, such as bullying.*

*PTA is committed to being the leading resource for parent involvement. We offer comprehensive resources for helping parents get involved and stay involved in the lives of their children. Look through these parent involvement categories and learn about new ways you can make a difference in your child's life.*

[Student Achievement](#)

[http://www.pta.org/pr\\_category\\_details\\_1122916501015.html](http://www.pta.org/pr_category_details_1122916501015.html)

[Safety](#)

[http://www.pta.org/pr\\_category\\_details\\_1117206082062.html](http://www.pta.org/pr_category_details_1117206082062.html)

[Media Technology](#)

[http://www.pta.org/pr\\_category\\_details\\_1117232399312.html](http://www.pta.org/pr_category_details_1117232399312.html)

[Nutrition, Health and Wellness](#)

[http://www.pta.org/pr\\_category\\_details\\_1117232379734.html](http://www.pta.org/pr_category_details_1117232379734.html)

*PTA also offers a number of annual campaigns and resources encouraging parent involvement. For more information go to: [http://www.pta.org/parent\\_resources.html](http://www.pta.org/parent_resources.html)*

## ***Teacher Appreciation Week***

***May 4-10***

All year teachers dedicate their time, knowledge and spirit to helping our children succeed. This spring take a week to tell teachers how much you appreciate their efforts. Celebrate your school's teachers and staff during PTA Teacher Appreciation Week.

Teacher Appreciation Week is not a substitute for year-round demonstrations of respect and admiration for teachers. Instead it is a special opportunity to go above and beyond for teachers as they frequently do for students. Host a special luncheon honoring your school's teachers. Have students create teacher thank you signs and hang them throughout the school and community. Encourage parents to send thank you notes to their children's teachers.

For a wealth of Teacher Appreciation Week celebration ideas, go to [www.pta.org/teachers](http://www.pta.org/teachers)

## What's the difference between “PTA” and “PTO Today”?

*One common question PTA leaders are asked is, “What’s the difference between PTA and PTO Today?” Below is a list of replies you can give. The first item is the most important, so use that if you only have a little time. Use more when speaking or making presentations to interested non-PTA parent or community groups.*

\* In a nutshell, PTO Today, which appears to position itself as a national affiliation organization, is a for-profit business that sells information through a magazine and a Web site. Whether or not they pay PTO Today a single dime, non-PTA parent groups are not part of a larger organization.

\* Most state PTAs (though not all) offer automatic not-for-profit and tax exemption to their local units. PTO Today cannot do this. All non-PTA parent groups must apply for this status themselves if they want the benefits of not-for-profit status. The current fee for filing for not-for-profit status with the IRS is \$750.

\* The money that goes to PTA is not money taken away from schools. It is put back into the organization to provide services and resources to members so that they can be more effective at helping their children and schools. PTO Today is a privately owned company with \$2.6 million in revenue in 2004 (*Boston Business Journal*, April 18, 2005). Its owner benefits from the profits from the services his company provides.

\* State PTAs are made up of trained and passionate volunteers who have led local units. They provide personal support to local units and assist with legislative issues, training, tax changes, and many other items that specifically affect PTAs. PTO Today does not have people in the field and provides no such support.

\* PTA is an extremely well-recognized organization that has worked to make significant, positive changes for all children, including school breakfast and lunch programs, nationwide polio vaccinations, and most recently, parent involvement standards in the federal act known as No Child Left Behind. PTO Today isn't and hasn't.

\* The portion of dues local PTAs send to state and national PTA is low (only \$1.75 to national and a few dollars to state), but the return on investment is very high. PTO Today claims to be cheap—but you get what you pay for. (See number 7 below.)

\* PTA's growing list of resources currently includes 18 comprehensive campaigns and programs; 5 national award recognitions; 1 annual convention (and 1 state convention in each state), dozens of print publications, including *Our Children* magazine; a resource-filled Web site; 8 national print and e-newsletters, as well as state newsletters and Web sites; 10 e-learning courses; live workshops; and member discounts at popular retailers. PTO Today offerings are much more limited and narrower in scope.

\* PTA welcomes and works with all people interested in children and education, as well as a wide variety of national, not-for-profit groups and non-PTA parent groups to ensure that each child has a good start in life. PTO Today has no such reach.

\* PTA's loss of membership—touted by PTO Today as proof PTA doesn't work—reflects losses across the entire not-for-profit world, as the pace of life and time for volunteering for any organization has decreased for everyone. PTA is nearly 6 million members strong—still a formidable advocate working successfully for children, families, and education.

**Other than membership dues, there is no charge to form a PTA in Iowa.  
Dues to state and national PTA total \$4.25 per member per year.**

# WHY YOUR SCHOOL NEEDS A PTA

*There is no better way to get acquainted and to know what is happening in your school than by joining PTA!*

As local PTAs elect new officers and set budgets for the coming year, sometimes someone will bring up the question, “Does our school really need a PTA?” The answer should be a resounding **YES!**

Why?

## *Harnessing the Power of Volunteers*

Budget cuts, curriculum cuts, increasing class sizes, and government mandates are just a few of the challenges schools face. There is help for our schools – and the good news is that it won’t cost the school administration a cent. The solution is you – the PTA!

PTA organizes hard-working and dedicated volunteers. Parents are ready and willing to help implement school improvement programs. Usually, all you need to do is ask them.

Involved parents understand the challenges schools face and become part of the solution.

## *Improve Communication*

Most PTAs issue a newsletter, manage a webpage or send out informational fliers; helping keep the entire school community informed of current events, issues and accomplishments. The PTA meetings are an opportunity for everyone in the school community to share information.

## *Improved Student Achievement*

Research has shown that kids do better when parents are involved: grades are higher - attendance increases - fewer behavior problems.

## *Funding for Programs*

Local PTAs are self-funding. By inviting the entire school community to join, they generate membership fees to pay for programs. Local PTAs often organize, fundraising events with proceeds supporting school-based programs and educational events.

## *Access to Proven Programs*

Local PTAs have access to ready-made programs including topics such as: health and safety, collaborating with teachers and community members, and fundraising essentials. The programs are a free resource for PTAs.

## *Increase Children’s Well-Being*

PTA is the largest child advocacy organization in the United States. PTAs focus on what students need in all areas to be successful. Whether it’s school safety, physical fitness, or healthy nutrition, PTA works with school administrators to ensure that children succeed.

*PTA Benefits Everyone!* PTA addresses issues that are important to public school administrators and parents. We are all fighting for the same things – funding, quality teachers and ways to make our schools thrive.

## *Fulfill NCLB Obligations*

Finally, as part of the No Child Left Behind Act, PTAs can help schools fulfill the parent involvement requirement of the law. PTA understands the needs behind NCLB. In fact, it’s National PTA’s definition of parent involvement that is used in NCLB!

## *A message from our National PTA President...*

You don't have to be PTA national president to see the passion of this organization's members. I knew long before I took office that it was our membership's commitment to children which has propelled PTA forward for over a century. But an organization doesn't thrive for 112 years on enthusiasm alone. Membership has enabled PTA to grow for generations because they are inspired and because they want to inspire others—that's how our membership becomes our leadership.

Nurturing our emerging leaders is important not only for the seamless operation of units from term to term, but it's also the means by which PTA remains relevant to the evolving masses that make up our nation's school communities. Developing leaders from within our membership ensures that our organization has a constant influx of new ideas worthy of the PTA mission.

It's never too early or too late to begin developing the next generation of PTA leaders. Newly elected PTA presidents can begin cultivating successors right away. By identifying several promising candidates and assigning roles or tasks which give them an opportunity to show their leadership potential, the entire unit can see who rises to the challenge. It is important not to favor any one candidate over another, however; there should always be a democratic process, rather than an "anointing," for choosing our new leaders.

Current leaders late in their terms can help develop leaders, too. Any time a PTA president has a meeting—with a school board member, state PTA leader, or potential community partner—that's a chance for an emerging leader to make new contacts or personally witness new, higher-level strategies.

Connect with the future of PTA: develop new leaders in your unit today! The destiny of a great organization is truly in your hands.

Jan Harp Domene  
PTA National President

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Ustedes no tienen que ser el presidente de National PTA, para ver la pasión de los miembros de esta organización. Yo sabía, mucho tiempo antes de que tomara esta posición, de lo que significaba el compromiso con los niños de nuestra membresía, la cual PTA ha impulsado por más de un siglo. Pero una organización, no prospera por 112 años sólo con el entusiasmo. La membresía ha logrado que PTA crezca por varias generaciones porque están inspirados y porque desean inspirar a otros, de esta manera, es como nuestra membresía se convierte en nuestro liderazgo.

Ayudando a nuestros nuevos líderes, es importante, no solo para que nuestros PTA locales operen sin problemas de término a término, sino también por lo que significa, el por qué PTA se mantiene relevante para desarrollar masas para que integren nuestras comunidades escolares en toda la nación. Desarrollando líderes dentro de nuestra membresía, nos aseguramos que nuestra organización tenga una constante afluencia de nuevas ideas, que dignifiquen la misión de PTA.

Nunca es tarde o temprano para empezar a desarrollar la próxima generación de líderes de PTA. Los presidentes electos recientemente, pueden empezar a cultivar a sus sucesores ahora mismo. Identificando a varios candidatos prometedores y asignarles papeles o labores en los cuales ellos tengan una oportunidad para mostrar su liderazgo, y así todos podamos ver quién se crece al reto, pero es importante, no favorecer a un candidato sobre otro, sin embargo, podría haber siempre un proceso democrático, en lugar de designar a alguien, para escoger a nuestros nuevos líderes.

Nuestros líderes actuales que están a punto de concluir sus términos, pueden también ayudar a desarrollar líderes. Cada vez que un presidente de PTA tenga una reunión —con miembros de la junta, líderes estatales de PTA, o potenciales miembros de la comunidad— habrá una oportunidad para que un líder en surgimiento, haga nuevos contactos o pueda ver algo personalmente con estrategias de alto nivel.

¡Conéctense con el futuro de PTA, desarrollando nuevos líderes en su PTA local ahora mismo!. El destino de una gran organización, está realmente en sus manos.

Jan Harp Domene  
PTA National President

## What Kids Have To Say...

- *When your mother is mad and asks you, “Do I look stupid?” it’s best not to answer her.*  
– Meghan, age 13
- *If Mom’s not happy, nobody’s happy.* – Neely, age 13
- *When my dad says to be home at 11:30, he doesn’t mean be in the driveway, but inside the house by myself.*  
– Elizabeth, age 16
- *Every time I am at home and I’m getting on my parents’ nerves, they wish I were at camp. And every time I’m at camp and nothing’s bothering them, they miss me.* – Ashley, age 12
- *My grandmother can say more in a sentence than a college professor can say in an hour and a half.*  
– Angela, age 14
- *When I think about my grandpa who is dead, tears jump into my eyes.* – Calen, age 7
- *You can’t play sick and expect your mom to let you go to the mall after school.* – Wendy, age 14
- *Parents do have eyes in the back of their heads.* – Melissa, age 12
- *Parents should come with instructions.* – Shanna, age 14
- *Despite all the loving and caring relationships in the world, there is nothing more loving than the feel of my mother’s hand on my forehead when I’m sick.* – Rosemary, age 17

### **DON’T THROW AWAY YOUR TAX-EXEMPT STATUS!**

Beginning in 2008, small tax-exempt organizations will have a new filing requirement. It’s short, easy and electronic – it’s the new e-Postcard.

If your PTA normally has annual gross receipts of \$25,000 or less and does not have to file Form 990 or 990-EZ, you must file the e-Postcard. The e-Postcard is due by the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the fifth month after the close of your tax year. For example, if the end of your PTA’s fiscal year is June 30, the e-Postcard is due by November 15.

**What happens if you don’t file? You risk losing your tax-exempt status!**

Go to [www.irs.gov/eo](http://www.irs.gov/eo) for complete details - and while you’re there, sign up for Exempt Organization’s free email newsletter, *EO Update*, to receive up-to-date information posted on the charity pages of [irs.gov](http://irs.gov).

### **PTA BANNER**

A 2-1/2 foot by 4 foot, heavy-gauge vinyl banner with the “*everychild.onevoice.*” logo is available from Iowa PTA. The banner has blue letters on a white background and can be customized to include the name of a local PTA unit or council. These banners are a great way to make the PTA’s presence known at school and community events. Order at: [http://www.iowapta.org/pdf/iowaPTA/programs/Banner\\_Order\\_Form.pdf](http://www.iowapta.org/pdf/iowaPTA/programs/Banner_Order_Form.pdf).

*Need an idea? - Got an idea?*

### **Go to the NATIONAL PTA IDEA BANK**

Find or share successful programs and projects at

[www.pta.org/local\\_leader/idea](http://www.pta.org/local_leader/idea)

# IOWA PTA BOARD OF MANAGERS 2007 - 2009

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**FREE on-line training:**

To reach as many members as possible, National PTA is proud to present e-learning, a computer-based training program. Each member's potential is just beginning to be tapped with e-learning. Check it out at:  
[www.pta.org/local\\_leader/elearning/](http://www.pta.org/local_leader/elearning/)

**everychild.onevoice**

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***Get the E-Connection!***

Iowa PTA regularly sends news and updates via email to PTA units. If you are not receiving electronic communications, contact the PTA office with email addresses for you and your board.

Iowa PTA *One Voice* is published quarterly.

Past issues of *One Voice* can be found on the Iowa PTA website at [www.iowapta.org](http://www.iowapta.org) Select Newsletter

**Stay In Touch!**

Let us know what your PTA is doing – send a copy of your newsletter or minutes to the Iowa PTA office at: [ia\\_office@pta.org](mailto:ia_office@pta.org)