



President's Message

Greetings all PTA/PTSAs,

Welcome Back! I hope this newsletter finds you in good health and great spirits. I also hope we are all ready to get back to the business at hand – our children. As our students focus on academic achievement, our PTAs should focus on supporting our schools and advocating for our children.

** January is Membership month – encourage family and friends to support this cause by joining the largest child advocacy organization in the nation. The more members we have, the greater impact we can make on student achievement.

** February is Black History month – inform and promote the legacy of African American history while encouraging inclusivity and an appreciation for all cultures and their impact on this great nation.



** Speak up for all children by attending the Children's Advocacy Day Rally at the Capitol on February 18th.

** March and April is nomination and election time – check your bylaws for more information!!!

The 16th District PTA Board is here to support you as you continue your endeavors. Please feel free to contact us for assistance. Keep up the momentum - It's About Kids!

Jessica Berry, President
16th District PTA

16th District PTA News

January 2010

16th District PTA Newsletter

If you have any questions or suggestions for the 16th District newsletter, please contact Jessica Berry, 16th District President, at jdberry@insightbb.com or Colleen Wolfe, 16th District Corresponding Secretary, at colleen.wolfe@insightbb.com.

The next district newsletter will be published on February 1st. Please submit all articles by January 20th.

Who Reads the Newsletter?

It's not just for the PTA president! Please be sure that you distribute the monthly 16th District newsletter to parents especially all your board members, including committee chairs. It would also be a good idea to post it on the PTA section of your school's website and include it in your newsletter!

Dates to Remember

- January 4Classes resume
- January 5.....Tourette support group, 7p.m.
- January 7.....Middle and high school report cards, suggested date
- January 14.....Elementary report cards, suggested date
- January 14.....International Baccalaureate, informational meeting 7:00 p.m.
- January 18.....MLK, Jr. holiday, No School
- January 21.....Roundtable meeting, 6:00 p.m. Conference Room C
- January 26....."On the Line with Stu," 7:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
- January 30.....Academic Challenge, Principal's Cup
- February 6.....District Science Fair
- February 18.....Children's Advocacy Day

Information regarding above events can be found at <http://calendars.fcps.net/> and <http://www.kypta.org/>.

Membership Notes

PTA January Membership Campaign

- Place "New Year...New Opportunities" yard signs, posters, and fliers around your community and school. Post web banners on PTA, schools, and community websites.
- Include ads in PTA and school newsletters, accompanied by articles describing the benefits of PTA membership.
- Work with the school office to identify new families moving in for the second semester. Ask the new families to join PTA.
- Mail a membership postcard to every non-PTA parent at your school, and a thank-you card to every PTA parent.
- Host your membership event, and set up your membership table at every occasion.
- Ask each current member to resolve to invite at least one new person to join PTA.

Source: Membership Recruitment and Retention Manual (National PTA Website)

Family-School Partnership Awards

Local PTA units should plan to apply for the Phoebe Apperson

Hearst Family-School Partnership Awards, which recognize local PTAs that are

achieving the National Standards. The awards include monetary prizes of up to \$2,000. The award application will be available starting January 15th. Visit PTA.org/Hearst to learn more.

These awards serve as recognition for schools that use the PTA National Standards for Family-School Partnerships: An Implementation Guide, available at <http://www.pta.org/2757.asp>. Your PTA/PTSA can use the guide to help establish activities, programs, and policies that encourage family-school partnerships.

Take Your Family to School Week

The week of February 7th-13th, schools across the country will be celebrating PTA *Take Your Family to School Week* with special events to engage parents in their children's education.

There will be lunch dates, science discovery days, art fairs, reading circles, family games, opportunities for children to teach their parents, career days, tea parties, cultural celebrations, workshops on supporting children's academic and social success, and more.

Find out what events your school has planned. Also consider helping out in planning or hosting. If your school isn't already planning an event, it's not too late to get started. Find event ideas at <http://www.pta.org/1985.htm>.



I'm a Big Kid!

Kindergarten Registration

The first round of Kindergarten Registration is fast approaching - February 16th through March 12th. Please visit your district school during this time to register for the 2010-2011 school year. If you are not sure of your district school, please visit www.fcps.net or call 381-4000.

Remember, it is important to get your child signed up so you can begin to receive information from the school district, as well as begin talking to your child about their new school.



Food for Thought

For adults, the world in which they want to make a difference is largely defined by children and children's success. We encourage you to ask parents, relatives, and friends to make it their number one resolution to be more involved in the education of their children. It's a resolution they'll want to keep. **They can easily do so by joining PTA!**

Source: National PTA

YMCA Black Achievers Program

The YMCA Black Achievers Program is still recruiting students, grades 7th-12th, and volunteers. The next sessions are:

◇ January 9th – Session # 8

◇ January 18th – Martin Luther King, Jr. March @ Heritage Hall

◇ January 23rd – Session # 9

For more information on how to participate, please contact Roxanne Brown, Program Coordinator, at rbrown@ymcaofcentralky.org or call 226-0393 or 559-5502.

Kids' Stress Higher than Parents Think

According to a survey recently released by the American Psychological Association (APA), young people are experiencing higher stress levels. For more information see [APA Stress Survey: Children are More Stressed Than Parents Realize](#).

The APA offers guidance for parents on identifying increased stress levels in their kids:

- » watch for negative changes in behavior
- » understand that "feeling sick" may be caused by stress, including complaints of frequent headaches and stomach upsets

» be aware of how your child interacts with others

» listen and translate: children using words such as "confused" and "angry" or expressions such as "nothing is fun anymore" are often important indicators of increased stress levels.



Children's Advocacy Day at the Capitol

February 18th is the date for teams of advocates to come to Frankfort and speak with legislators about issues facing Kentucky's children. Registration 9:00 a.m.; Rally 10:00 - 11:00 a.m., Capitol Rotunda, 2nd floor Mezzanine, Frankfort.

In 2009, nearly 400 advocates, speaking on behalf of children and youth, met with legislators and shared concerns on the health, education, and welfare of children in Kentucky.

Source: www.kypta.org

2009/2010 PTA Reflections Program Winners

All local winners of the PTA Reflections contest for participating Fayette County schools were recognized at the Reflections Awards Ceremony on December 6th.

The following district winners will continue on to the state competition. The awards ceremony for the state winners will be held on May 8th. Please encourage parents to mark this date now. Winners will receive more information from Kentucky PTA.

Congratulations to all of our participants and good luck to those who will be competing at the state level!



Literature

Primary

- 1st Place – William Maclain Cromwell
- 2nd Place – Annika Sial
- 3rd Place – Karson Caswell

Intermediate

- 1st Place – Virginia Smith
- 2nd Place – Annie Griffith
- 3rd Place – Bailey Watkins

Middle

- 1st Place – Shannon Calkins
- 2nd Place – Athena Kern
- 3rd Place – Ryan Springer

Senior

- 1st Place – Arunita Kar
- 2nd Place – Marylynne Anderson-Cooper
- 3rd Place – Shatila Zamen

Honorable mention: Lauren Hickey

Film

Primary

- 1st Place – Daniel Callahan
- 2nd Place – Alec Bond
- 3rd Place – Karson Caswell

Intermediate

- 1st Place – Dasia Woods
- 2nd Place – Ariontaye Benton-Jones
- 3rd Place – Kayla Wall

Middle

- 1st Place – Chinni Suryadevara
- 2nd Place – Joshua Phillips
- 3rd Place – Lydia Sarver

Dance Choreography

Primary

- 1st Place – Keeneland Dublow

Intermediate

- 1st Place – Mary Mason
- 2nd Place – Elora Mukhopadhyay
- 3rd Place – Christina Allston

Middle

- 1st Place – Presli Neal
- 2nd Place – Molly Felty

Senior

- 1st Place – Shawntez Taylor

Visual Arts

Primary

- 1st Place – William Ding
- 2nd Place – Elizabeth Solie
- 3rd Place – Anya Hartman

Intermediate

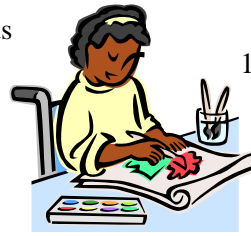
- 1st Place – Billy Pence
- 2nd Place – Eleanor Liu
- 3rd Place – Kate Joseph

Middle

- 1st Place – Tanya Warren
- 2nd Place – McKayla Pennington
- 3rd Place – Kyla Kepcha

Senior

- 1st Place – Tori Jenkins
- 2nd Place – Olivia Hall
- 3rd Place – Ron Martin



Musical Composition

Primary

- 1st Place – Nate Meade
- 2nd Place – Addison Jane Hollingshead
- 3rd Place – Parker Hodge

Intermediate

- 1st Place – Annalisa Casar
- 2nd Place – Donte Tichenor

Middle

- 1st Place – Charles Tanner Duke

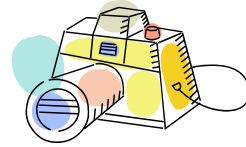
Senior

- 1st Place – J. Clay Gonzalez

Photography

Primary

- 1st Place – Ronnie Morris
- 2nd Place – Jackson Gonzales
- 3rd Place – Kolton Perkins



Intermediate

- 1st Place – Maxwell Schneider
- 2nd Place – Will Feese

Middle

- 1st Place – Abigail Watkins
- 2nd Place – Mary Helen Pepper
- 3rd Place – Claire Roberts

Senior

- 1st Place – Charlotte Eckmann
- 2nd Place – Marylynne Anderson-Cooper
- 3rd Place – Arlene Wang

Special Education

- 1st Place – Creighton Noal

2010-2011 Reflections

Start planning your 2010-2011 Reflections Program now. The 16th District 2010-2011 Reflections deadline will be October 21, 2010. The theme is "Together We Can."

Look for more Reflections information at the 16th District PTA Leadership Training in July. Plan early to have your chairperson attend.