

16th District PTA News

March 2011

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 Secretary, at colleen.wolfe@insightbb.com.

The next district newsletter will be distributed April 1st. The deadline to submit articles is March 20th.

President's Message

Greetings,

The 16th District PTA would like to thank Superintendent Stu Silberman for his dedication, service, and unwavering support of parent involvement. In light of his retirement I urge you to continue his legacy by promoting more academic programs, developing more leaders, encouraging involvement, and most of all supporting our children and our schools.

It was about this time last year that the mantra "Finish Strong" started echoing throughout the district. I ask that each of you join me in making a pledge in Stu's honor -- that we will continue the work he started by being/staying involved, striving to close the achievement gap, and continuing to pursue excellence in our students, our schools and ourselves! In other words...Finish Strong...and remember that our work is not done until ALL Fayette County students receive the quality education that enables them to compete locally, nationally, and globally.

Remember at this month's Roundtable the slate of officers for the 2011-2013 school year will be presented. Anyone wishing to run from the floor will have the opportunity at that time. Information on the PTA Spring Luncheon will also be announced. Don't forget to make your donation to the 16th District Scholarship Fund if you have not already done so and please encourage all high school seniors to apply for our scholarships. Every little bit helps on the road to college.

Have a great month!!!

Jessica Berry, President
16th District PTA

Do you know the goals of the 16th District PTA? Check out:
<http://www.fcps.net/partners/pta>

Dates to Remember

- March 2.....Read Across America Day
- March 3..... ILP Training, 6-8 p.m.
- March 4..... School is in session
- March 5..... Read Across America Event,
10am-3pm at Fayette Mall
- March 8..... Encouraging Parent Leaders,
IAKSS Conference Room C, 6-8p.m.
- March 8..... Multi-Sensory Reading Strategies
Training, see info in article
- March 12..... Academic Challenge 8am-4pm,
Superintendent's Cup
- March 15..... KYPTA Awards Applications Due
- March 15..... Last dues payment to KYPTA
- March 17..... Roundtable, 11:30 a.m.
- March 17..... Middle School Report Cards
- March 18..... No Classes for Students
- March 24..... Elementary Report Cards

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

Grab Your Hat and Read with the Cat!

It's almost time for the National Education Association's Read Across America Day and Dr. Seuss' birthday on March 2nd. The NEA's Read Across America is an annual reading motivation and awareness program that calls for every child in every community to celebrate reading on that day. Partner with your school to do something special to make this a spectacular day of reading. Find more information at <http://www.nea.org/readacross/>.



Also, plan to attend the special "Read Across America" event on Saturday, March 5th in front of Dillard's in Fayette Mall. There will be celebrity readers and a special appearance by the CAT IN THE HAT! The event runs from 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

16th District PTA

March Training Madness

Please join us for our upcoming trainings in March. On Thursday, March 3rd we will host our 2nd **Individual Learning Plan (ILP)** training from 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. at William Wells Brown Elementary.

On Tuesday, March 8th the 16th District PTA will host **Encouraging Parent Leaders** at IAKSS, Conference Room C from 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. This training includes the standards of involvement, how to get/stay involved (including information on PTA & SBDM), the different levels of involvement, and general volunteer information. Whether you're new to school involvement or experienced, this is a training you won't want to miss!

Also, on March 8th the 16th District PTA is partnering with FCPS Parent Resource Center for **Multi-Sensory Reading Strategies** at the College for Technical Education, 1165 Centre Parkway, Ste 120. This training will include the opportunity to learn and practice multi-sensory strategies. To register for either of the two sessions (11am-1pm & 6:30-8:00pm), please contact Stella Smith at 381-4229 or stella.smith@fayette.kyschools.us.



March Training Madness continues into April with **Summertime in the City: How to Keep Your Child Sharp**. Are you worried that your child might not remember what he learned during the school year after a long summer break? Don't sweat it! We have suggestions of fun ways to keep your child on track. The training is presented by the Lexington Public Library in collaboration with the 16th District PTA. The training will be held at the Central Library on Tuesday, April 12th from 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

Superintendent Screening Committee

According to state law the superintendent screening committee is composed of two certified employees elected by their peers; one classified employee elected by their peers; one principal elected by their peers; one parent elected by PTA presidents from each school; and one board of education member appointed by the board chair.

Nominees were presented and accepted at the February 28th board meeting. Members of the search committee are:

- ▶ John Price, Board Member Rep
- ▶ Jessica Berry, Parent Rep
- ▶ Jessica Hiler, Teacher Rep
- ▶ Amanda Hurley, Teacher Rep
- ▶ Amy McVey, Principal Rep
- ▶ Kim Webb, Classified Rep

Watch for more information and updates on the committee's progress.

Bluegrass Trifecta

FCPS is offering the 1st Annual FCPS Bluegrass Trifecta race series. Southern Middle, Bryan Station High, and Sandersville Elementary have teamed up to help get students and their families active in our community.

Are you up for a challenge? Participants who complete all 3 races will receive a "Trifecta Finisher" shirt. Also, finishers of all three races that are age 18 & over will be entered in a cash drawing. Cash prizes include 1-Win: \$150, 1-Place: \$100, and 1-Show: \$50. FCPS students who complete all three races will also be entered to win a prize.



- Here are the dates of the races:
- ▶ 4/16/2011 **Southern Middle Lightning Strike** 5K and 1 mile Fun Run/Walk
 - ▶ 4/23/2011 **Bryan Station Defender Classic** 5K Run/Walk
 - ▶ 5/14/2011 **Sandersville Sharks on the Run** 5K and 1 mile Fun Run/Walk

You can find more information about all of these races at:

www.johnsrunkwalkshop.com

March Madness Membership Drive



The 16th District PTA presents the "March Madness Membership Drive". The PTA/PTSA with the most new members from March 1st to 15th will be entered into a drawing that will be held at the April Roundtable.

- ◇◇ Send membership dues by March 15th to count for membership awards.
- ◇◇ Submit your membership report by the March 15th deadline.
- ◇◇ Review plans and update records of membership activities.
- ◇◇ Set up a PTA info table at kindergarten pre-registration.

Source: Kentucky PTA Leaders' Notebook

Membership Awards:

Note: To win an award marked with an asterisk (*) you must submit a membership report to KYPTA by March 15th. The membership report can be found on pg. 15 of Part I – Intro and Forms of the Leaders' Notebook.

Apple Award * - 100% of faculty and staff membership.

Oak Tree Honor * - one (1) member for every student enrolled.

Chuck Saylor's He-Man Awards* - largest % of male members based on school enrollment.

Youth Voice Award * - for PTSAs with the largest number of student members based on school enrollment.

Twin Oaks Awards * - two members for each student enrolled.

Lida Gardner Honor Roll – largest number of members in each of five school enrollment categories.

Acorn Award - largest % increase in each PTA district.

Mrs. George Weldon 200+ Awards * – increase of 200+ members over previous year.

For other award applications due to KYPTA by March 15th go to <http://kypta.org/site/programs/outstanding-classified-personnel.html>.

PTA Election Info

It's that time of year again! As the snow begins to melt (we hope) and spring arrives, officer elections are in the air. PTA officer elections typically take place in May following April nominations – although each PTA may be different based on bylaws. Make sure you take a look at Article VI of your bylaws.

As a general rule, all PTAs need to start forming a nominating committee. The nominating committee, which is composed of at least 3 members, may be elected by the general membership or the Board – depending on your bylaws. This should be done at least one month prior to presentation of the slate of officers so that there is enough time for the nominating committee to meet and seek out candidates. The nominating committee then presents a slate of officers, typically at the April general membership meeting. Additional nominations may be taken from the floor at that meeting.

Voting typically takes place at a general membership meeting in May. If there are no additional nominations and only the slate is presented, ballots are not necessary and the slate of officers may be elected by voice majority vote.

Officer Election Timeline Example

March - Elect nominating committee and collect nominations.

April - Present slate of officers to general membership and offer nominations from the floor.

May - Officer elections.

Make sure this timeline coincides with what is stated in your PTA bylaws and review Article VI for any other provisions that may be specific to your PTA. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact Karen Irving, 16th District Bylaws Chair at kirving@lexlaw.us or 806-7088.



1,300 Advocates Support Children's Advocacy Day!



A record breaking 1,300 Kentuckians from across the state kicked-off Children's Advocacy Day at the Capitol on February 17th!

Students, teachers, parents, and others spent the day pushing the [Blueprint for Kentucky's Children](#) agenda. They encouraged legislators to: respond in a more effective and cost-efficient way to things like kids missing school and running away from home, making sure we have the tools we need to combat childhood obesity, and ensuring children attending alternative programs receive a quality education.

Kentucky PTA was a sponsor of this great day and we had several representatives from the 16th District there meeting with legislators and working to make a difference for kids!

NOBLE Youth Leadership Scholarship

NOBLE is the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives. Their annual conference will be held in Lexington, July 16th-20th. The Youth Leadership Conference, held concurrently, targets ages 13-18. At the conference, the youth participants develop projects for their community and gain an understanding of leadership ideals and practices. They learn the nature and purpose of leadership through community service and project development.

Scholarships are available to local youth wishing to participate. The scholarship application and more info can be found at <http://www.noble2011.com/youth.html>.

CIPL Application Deadline

Have you wanted to know more about Kentucky's education system but didn't know where to get the answers? Have you wanted to learn how to partner with your child's school in a meaningful way besides the usual 'punch and cookies' and 'fundraising' route? Have you wanted to get more training to improve your communication and leadership skills but couldn't afford it? The Commonwealth Institute for Parent Leadership (CIPL) is the place to learn the answers and improve the skills.

The Institute is a fourteen year nationally acclaimed leadership training program sponsored by the Prichard Committee for Academic Excellence, a nonprofit citizens' organization that works to improve education for all Kentuckians.



CIPL has trained over 1,500 Fellows (graduates) in Kentucky since 1997. More than 700 CIPL Fellows serve on SBDM Councils and committees and many more are PTA presidents, board members and committee members.

The Commonwealth Institute for Parent Leadership with a STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) focus will be held in Louisville on: August 26-27, Sept. 23-24, and Oct. 28-29. *CIPL is a 3-two day training with attendance required at all 6 days...training materials, meals and lodging are paid for by the Institute. Space is limited.

For more information about the Commonwealth Institute for Parent Leadership you can visit the website at www.cipl.org or call Lou Ann at 233-9849 x231. Also, applications are available online at www.cipl.org. The application deadline is April 15, 2011.

