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Indiana PTA Good News Email

Dear Nichole,

This is the Indiana PTA Good News Alert that goes out every Sunday night throughout the year. Please feel free to pass this on to your PTA contacts!

We are looking to highlight PTAs and Councils across the state that are excelling at membership, projects, or just have a great idea to share! We also hope this keeps you up to date on deadlines and events for Indiana PTA.

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Indiana PTA Update

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GOOD NEWS ABOUT THE 990-N E-POSTCARD

You may have seen in the "Good News" or maybe heard quite a bit over the last week about the tax-exempt status of non-profits. We know some of you are worried and somewhat unsure of what to do, so Indiana PTA will share with you what we know.

The May 17, 2010 deadline that was highly publicized only applies to non-profits with a year end date of December 31. There are about 3% of Indiana PTA local units fall into that category. Indiana PTA will be following up with the IRS to fix these errors. Each local unit's bylaws, # Article XV: Fiscal Year, state that your fiscal year shall begin on July 1 and end on the following June 30. That is so your bylaws will not conflict with Indiana PTA or National PTA. For these units with a December 31st year end date, Indiana PTA will send a copy of the bylaws, as well as a letter, to the IRS explaining the error and requesting that these PTA's fiscal year end dates be changed to June 30. In the meantime, we are happy to report that all of our schools with a fiscal year end date of December 31 have filed their required e-postcard. If your unit filed the e-postcard after May 17, 2010, the IRS is saying that they will work with you. Once we get all local unit year end dates corrected with the IRS, the problem should take care of itself. It will take approximately 45-60 days for this change in fiscal year to occur. We will monitor it and let you know when it looks like it has been completed.

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Important INPTA Dates to Remember

June, 2010
President's CD mailed out
Your unit MUST have a
current **2010-2011 Officers
List** on file to receive the CD.

June 30, 2010

If you have a fiscal year end date of June 30 and have not yet filed your 2008-2009 tax forms, you must file before June 30. After the date of June 30, the IRS system will switch over and be set up to accept only 2009-2010 e-postcards, which you will then need to complete before November 15. If you do not file these, you will be subject to fines as well as having your tax exempt status revoked. To file a 990N e-postcard is simple. Just go to the following link:

End of the fiscal year
Financial records need to be
audited and the **Annual
Financial Report** needs to be
submitted to the office.

November 15, 2010
Current year Form 990(N or
EZ) due to IRS

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

<http://epostcard.form990.org/>

Please do not hesitate to contact Julie French at Indiana PTA
(317-357-5881) should you have any questions.

There are still 44 PTAs that need to file for the 2008-2009 school year. It is important that you click [HERE](#) to see if your PTA is on this list.

DON'T FORGET TO COMPLETE AND RETURN YOUR 2009-2010 OFFICER'S LIST [HERE...](#)

Indiana PTA Success Stories

At **Scott Middle School PTA** is already planning for next year. First up, canvassing the local neighborhood in hopes of getting the community involved. And, they already have two business interested in being a community member of the PTSA.

Portage Middle School is starting a web page and they are now on Facebook!

O'Bannon PTA has started a Facebook page and they already have lots of ideas churning for next school year! One thing they are hoping for is to get more parents involved next year!

What GREAT things are happening in your unit? Send your story to GoodNews@indianapta.org.

Indiana PTA Teacher Feature

Today, we are celebrating an outstanding teacher; **Deb Hudson**, currently a 5th grade teacher at Shambaugh Elementary. Submitted by Theresa Distelrath, here is why she thinks Mrs. Hudson is so amazing!

Mrs. Hudson has had a significant impact on my son. When my son started the school year in Mrs. Hudson's class he was reading below grade level and struggling in school. My husband and I had tried everything including Sylvan and other programs, but to no avail. Mrs. Hudson approached my husband and me and asked if she could have my son in her class. She believed in him and knew he could be successful. Almost one year later, my son is reading at grade level (his lexile score increased by over 150 points) and is feeling confident in his abilities as a student. He is looking forward to Middle School and is feeling prepared. Mrs. Hudson believes in my son and has made great strides in his education. She is truly a teacher that has made a difference. Thank you Mrs. Hudson for believing and working hard! You are truly appreciated!!!

Want YOUR teacher featured? Send your story to GoodNews@indianapta.org.

National PTA Update

USE THE GREAT IDEA BANK FROM NATIONAL PTA!

The Great Idea Bank has been restyled as a social networking platform for PTA members and parents to share ideas on how to be more involved in their child's education and ensure their continued success. Within this social network you will be able to engage in online discussions on topics of your choice. You can seek advice from your peers and form new online communities built around topics important to you.

For parents, the PTA Great Idea Bank social network will enable them to learn from each other how to overcome the challenges of parenting today. The best advice comes from peers, so use the discussion forum to share money-saving tips, ideas on how to be a more involved parent, fun activities to share with your kids, ways to communicate with your child's school and more. The advice and discussion on these pages is directed by users.

If you are also a PTA leader or active in your local unit, this idea bank is filled with ways to run PTAs more effectively.

What's the Latest?

[Discussion on how to get parents more involved in advocacy](#)

[How to get teachers to join PTA](#)

[Ideas shared in the PTA Membership Group](#)

Continue on to [PTA Great Idea Bank](#).

REGISTER FOR YOUR FREE OFFICIAL PTA KIT [HERE...](#)

GOOD THINGS ARE HAPPENING IN INDIANA PTA! WE ARE EXCITED FOR THE NEW IDEAS AND PROGRAMS THAT CAN HELP YOUR UNITS!

NOTE: How do I get my school featured in an Indiana PTA Good News Alert? If you have a great story that you would like us to use, contact us directly at GoodNews@indianapta.org or let your Region VP know and we will highlight your PTA in one of our weekly emails! Contact your Region VP at: Northwest: Dee Jones (ptadee@yahoo.com), Northeast: Julie Klingenberger (jklingenberger04@comcast.net), Central: Sharon Wise (swise36@comcast.net); Southern: Natalie Jones (twinmama02@yahoo.com).

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