

This is the **Indiana PTA Good News Alert** that goes out every Sunday night throughout the year.

We are looking to highlight PTA's and Council's 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. Please feel free to pass this on!

INDIANA PTA UPDATE

THIS WEEK IS "PARENTS AS PARTNERS IN EDUCATION WEEK"

Celebrate and Honor Parent Involvement August 16-22

At the request of The Indiana Partnerships Center (Indiana PIRC), Governor Mitch Daniels has declared August 16-22 "Parents as Partners in Education Week." "Parents as Partners in Education Week," which is supported by The Indiana Partnerships Center, the Office of Senator Richard Lugar, Indiana State Teachers Association, WFYI Indianapolis, **Indiana PTA**, Indiana Head Start Association, and the Indiana Department of Education, will honor and celebrate family engagement in education. Schools and communities can show their support of family engagement in education as part of "Parents as Partners in Education Week" in a variety of ways, such as through hosting press conferences and Back to School nights to thank families for being involved in their children's education and to encourage them to continue their involvement at home and at school during the upcoming school year. For more information about parent involvement, including "Parents as Partners in Education Week," visit www.fscp.org. We would love to hear if your school is planning something to celebrate parent involvement this week!

Watch for the Indiana PTA Redesigned Website Coming Soon!

Every day now the redesigned Indiana PTA website is really taking shape! The new interactive design and up-to-date information will be a one-stop place for you to get all the information that can help you organize your PTA and keep informed. The plan is to have the website changed over on September 1st. We hope you will take the time to really explore the site and let us know what you think. The countdown has begun...we can't wait until September 1st for you to see it!

PTA Success Stories:

In next week's email we would love to list those PTA's across the state that are on Facebook or who have a website. Please email us with your web address or if you have a Facebook page so you can be included on our redesigned website

and in the Good News Email. Below are a few we know of on Facebook and/or that have a website:

- Hammond PTA Council:** Website: www.hammondpta.org
- Fort Wayne Area PTA Council:** Website: www.fortwayneareacouncilpta.org (Also has facebook page)
- Evansville Area PTA Council:** Website: <http://www.evscschools.com/AdminDefault.aspx?portalId=3dcf69ed-dd8f-4099-96a1-ea8405d8adc6&pid=f815f451-0813-43de-8fce-24b733bb16ac>
- Gavit PTSA:** Website: <http://gavitpta.org>
- Rosa Parks-Edison PTA:** Website: <http://rpepta.com>
- Tekoppel PTA:** Website: http://tekoppelpta.com/joomla/index.php?option=com_frontpage&Itemid=1
- Snider PTSA:** Website: <http://snider.fwcs.k12.in.us/information/parents/pta/index.html> (Also has a facebook page)
- Brookview PTA:** Website: <http://brookviewpta.com> (Also has a facebook page)
- Croninger PTA:** Website: <http://www.croningerpta.org> (Also has a facebook page)
- Bunche-Towles Montessori PTA:** Has a facebook page
- Price Elementary PTA:** Website: <http://www.pricepta.org>
- Shambaugh Elementary PTA:** Website: <http://www.shambaughpta.com>

We know there are other PTA's that have websites and/or facebook pages. Please let us know if you have a current site and what the address is so we can add your PTA to the list. Note: The **Indiana PTA** Facebook page currently has 239 fans. This is turning out to be a great tool for getting out information and getting questions answered!

To recap some of the great membership stories we've heard:

- **Jefferson Middle School PTSA** has 193 members. They are already above their total for all last year! They made a big push to get fathers involved by having a dad sell memberships. It worked!
- **Elmhurst High School PTSA** last year had a total of 117 members in their PTA; they are currently up to 156 members and they haven't even approached the teachers yet! The discount cards really helped them sell memberships and they also had a raffle.

- **Northrop PTSA** has 460 PTSA members, and just four of them are staff. That leaves over 100 staff/family friends left yet to sign up. Three years at 500+ here they come!
- **Brookview Elementary PTA** hit 220 members this week. Their total membership for the whole year last year was 240 so they are poised to pass that number by the end of the month at this rate! Their enrollment is right around 440 this year, so they currently have one member for every 2 children.....working towards one for every child!
- **Shawnee Middle School PTSA** has 120 members on their way to a goal of 500 members for the year. This was triple the amount of members they had same time last year. If they reach 500 members, their PTSA will have an end of the year all-school carnival with top homerooms getting in free.
- **Shambaugh Elementary PTA** usually gets only 12 or so members at registration. This year they got 48 and were very pleased because they get the bulk of their members at Back-to-School night!
- **North Side High School PTSA** had a really good registration day and has 175 members so far with approximately 30 men and 89 names for "In the Know" emails.
- **Croninger Elementary PTA** was very happy with the 60 members they signed up so far!
- **How is your school doing with membership? Let us know so we can feature your school in a future Good News Email!**

WE WANT TO ADD YOUR PTA'S STORY HERE NEXT WEEK. WE KNOW PTA'S ACROSS THE STATE ARE DOING GOOD WORK. WE'D LIKE TO SHOUT IT OUT TO EVERYONE! We are still looking for YOUR stories and successes...please email me direct at kathie.green@verizon.net by Saturday evening to be included in the next Sunday's email...we'd love to promote your PTA or your region!

REGION NEWS

Training opportunities are available in every region of the state. Following are the dates we have available as of this publication:

**CENTRAL REGION FALL TRAINING will be held:
Monday – August 31, 2009, 6:00 am – 8:30 pm
Warren Education & Community Center**

Contact: Sharon Wise at Swise@CSOinc.net or at 317-753-3197

NORTHWEST REGION FALL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE will be held:

Saturday – September 12, 2009, 8:30 am – 1:00 pm

Twin Branch Elementary School

Mishawaka, IN.

Topics include: Presidents Packet(President/VPs, Secretaries, Treasurers, Reflections, Citizenship), Forms, Teambuilding, Parent Involvement, Membership and more

Contact Dee Jones at ptadee@yahoo.com for more information

NORTHEAST REGION FALL TRAINING will be held:

Saturday - October 10, 2009, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm (Watch for more information to follow)

Forest Park Elementary School

2004 Alabama Ave. in Fort Wayne, IN

Contact: Julie Klingenberger at jklingenberger04@comcast.net

National PTA Update

Play a Leading Role in Promoting Healthy Lifestyles at Your School

Now is the time to plan that after-school walking club your board talked about last spring, or to meet with the school's food service manager about increasing healthy lunch options for students. Maybe this can be the year your school starts a Safe Routes to School program. Or how about creating a healthy recipe cookbook with contributions from the entire school community? This November, PTA will once again celebrate the ways units across the country are promoting balanced nutrition and regular physical activity at home and at school. All units are encouraged to plan PTA Healthy Lifestyles Month events and apply for the PTA Healthy Lifestyles Awards—up to \$1,000—to support their plans. Take a look at the Sample Proposal and Budget to learn more about the application process and criteria—you might be surprised at how simple it is. Remember: Proposals that are specific, concise, and unique are more likely to catch the judges' attention. All applications must be submitted online before 5:00 EDT on Friday, September 11, 2009. Visit PTA.org/HealthyLifestyles for more information, including a link to the application form.

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 the above email or phone number 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**

Klingenger ([**jklingenger04@comcast.net**](mailto:jklingenger04@comcast.net)**), Central: Sharon Wise (**[**SWise@CSOinc.net**](mailto:SWise@CSOinc.net)**); Southern: Natalie Jones (**[**twinmama02@yahoo.com**](mailto:twinmama02@yahoo.com)**). Also don't forget to check out the Indiana PTA website at** [**www.indianapta.org**](http://www.indianapta.org) **for some great information and the revamped National PTA website at** [**www.pta.org**](http://www.pta.org)**. The new format for the "PTA Great Idea Bank" could also be really useful for your unit – it can also be found on the National PTA website.**