

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 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

The Redesigned Indiana PTA Website

The redesigned Indiana PTA website goes live Tuesday, September 1st! 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. Included in the website is the forms you need to run your PTA, contact information, leadership materials, a way to determine who your legislator is, "Ask the Experts" and so much more! A HUGE thank you goes to Nichole Thomas and Pat Taylor, Indiana PTA Board of Managers members who have overseen the redesign. They have spent HOURS getting this worked into a really good tool for our units. We hope you will take the time to really explore the site and let us know what you think. We would also love to hear if you have any suggestions for the website!

REGION NEWS

This week is the Central Region Training. See below for details for all region trainings. Make sure you make plans to attend for your region! Following are the dates we have available as of this publication:

CENTRAL REGION FALL TRAINING:

"Time to Get Your Ducks in a Row"

Monday – August 31, 2009, 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Warren Education & Community Center

975 N. Post Rd.

Indianapolis, IN.

Topics include: New Unit Training, Presidents (Running meetings, Agendas), Secretaries (Minutes - What to record and what not to record), Treasurers (990, 990 N-E Post Card, Budgets), Bylaws (This is a chance to bring yours up to date!)

Contact: Sharon Wise at swise36@comcast.net or at 317-753-3197:

NORTHWEST REGION FALL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE:

"Finding Your Voice: Being the Voice For Our Children, Schools, and Communities"

Saturday – September 12, 2009, 8:30 am – 2:00 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

SOUTHERN REGION BACK TO SCHOOL PACKET/LEADERSHIP TRAINING:

Thursday – September 17, 2009

Starting at 5:00 p.m. with the Vendor Fair

Career & Technical Center

Evansville, IN.

Contact Natalie Jones at 812-401-3203 or at Natalie.jones@evsc.k12.in.us 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](#)

National PTA President's Update: The State of the Association

A special message from Chuck Saylor

As you may know, 113 years ago PTA was founded and chartered in Washington DC; in the 1930's the association relocated to Chicago; a central hub for the railroad industry. Several years ago PTA outgrew its building in downtown and has since been working from leased property. From the day PTA sold its building, PTA has been working to find our association a new home.

On August 14, 2009, the PTA Board voted unanimously to purchase a property in the Washington DC area... So we're moving back home! In moving our headquarters back to Washington, DC, PTA will be able to have an appreciable asset for our association, we'll be in the city that houses the most non-profits in the nation, and we'll be better positioned to continue being the premier parent association in the country on Capitol Hill. These opportunities will allow PTA to grow our leadership and service capabilities, thus making us more attractive to a wider array of prospective donors.

Creating Successful Family-School Partnerships—The PTA Way

National PTA has developed a new resource to help you plan and implement programs, practices, and policies that strengthen partnerships between families and schools and

support student success. PTA's [*National Standards for Family-School Partnerships Implementation Guide*](#) includes:

- An explanation of each standard, with expert insights from the research on parent involvement
- Local success stories from PTA schools making real progress toward meeting the standards
- Action steps for parent and school leaders
- A family survey
- A family-school partnership action plan template
- The National Standards Assessment Guide, with specific goals, indicators, and examples of what good practice looks like

To download a copy of the *Implementation Guide*, go to PTA.org/partnerships. While you're there, check out the other resources for building and sustaining effective family-school partnerships. You may also contact PTA staff for assistance at sjohnson@pta.org.

Let Your Voice Be Heard: The H1N1 Vaccination Program

PTA members are invited to participate in a two-day web dialogue to give the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) input on its voluntary vaccination program against the 2009 H1N1 flu virus. Participants will discuss, deliberate, and offer input as the CDC helps state and local health organizations develop the vaccination program.

Two identical dialogues are scheduled for **August 26-27** and **August 31-September 1**. While the dialogue may be two days in length, participants can come and go from the web-based conversation as their time allows. Visit webdialogues.net/H1N1 to register for one of the dialogues.

PTA Success Stories will return next week: Don't forget to let us know information about the good things happening in your school!!!

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 Klingenberger (jklingenberger04@comcast.net), Central: Sharon Wise (swise36@comcast.net);**

Southern: Natalie Jones (twinmama02@yahoo.com). Also don't forget to check out the Indiana PTA website at www.indianapta.org for some great information and the revamped National PTA website at 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.