

# Bulletin

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## 2015 Convention Highlights



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## 2014-2015 Kansas PTA Membership Awards List

### **Early Bird Award:**

Region 1- Schlagle PTSA, McKinley PTA, New Stanley PTA, Parker Elementary PTA, Stony Point South PTA, Stony Point North PTA, Wyandotte High School PTSA

Region 2- Eisenhower PTA, O'Laughlin PTA

Region 3- Allen Magnet, Eisenhower Elementary PTA, Freeman Elementary PTA, Marshall PTA, Nelson Elementary PTA

Region 5- Galena PTA

Region 6- Blue Valley Early Childhood PTA, Clear Creek Elementary PTA, Cottonwood Point Elementary PTA, Forest View Elementary PTA, Mill Creek MS PTA, Monticello Trails MS PTA, Pleasant Ridge Elementary PTA, Prairie Park Elementary PTA, Golden Oaks PTA

Region 7- Junction Elementary PTA, Lansing Elementary PTA, Leavenworth HS PTA, Midland Trail Elementary PTA, Oak Grove Elementary PTA, Piper Elementary PTA, Turner SEPTA, Turner Elementary PTA, THS PTSA, Turner MS PTSA

Region 8- Briarwood Elementary PTA, Broken Arrow Elementary PTA, Brookwood Elementary PTA, Christa McAuliffe PTA, Corinth Elementary PTA, Crestview Elementary PTA, East Antioch Elementary PTA, Hocker Grove PTA, Indian Hills PTA, Indian Woods MS PTA, John Diemer Elementary PTA, Merriam Park PTA, Overland Park Elementary PTA, Pawnee Elementary PTA, Rosehill Elementary PTA, Rushton Elementary PTA, Santa Fe Trail Elementary PTA, Shawnee Mission East HS PTA, Shawnee Mission North HS PTA, Shawnee Mission Northwest HS PTA, Shawnee Mission SEPTA, Shawnee Mission South HS PTSA, Sunflower PTA, Tomahawk Elementary PTA, Trailridge MS PTA, Trailwood MS PTA, Westridge MS PTA, Westwood View Elementary PTA

### **Meadowlark Award:**

Region 7- Midland Trail Elementary PTA, Oak Grove Elementary PTA

Region 8- Hocker Grove Middle School PTA, Indian Hills MS PTA, Indian Woods MS PTA, John Diemer Elementary PTA, Nieman Elementary PTA, Pawnee PTA, Rosehill Elementary PTA, Shawnee Mission East High School PTA, Shawnee Mission North HS PTA, Shawnee Mission South HS PTA, Westridge MS PTA

### **Golden Apple Award:**

Region 6- Forest View Elementary PTA

Region 7- Oak Grove Elementary PTA, Turner MS PTSA

Region 8- Santa Fe Trail Elementary PTA, Merriam Park PTA, Belinder Elementary PTA

## 2014-2015 Kansas PTA Membership Awards List (cont.)

### **One Voice for every child Award:**

Region 8- Trailwood Elementary PTA

### **Challenge Award:**

Region 1- Stony Point South PTA

Region 3- Eisenhower Elementary PTA, Freeman Elementary PTA, McLean PTA

Region 5- Galena PTA

Region 6- Golden Oaks PTA

Region 8- Tomahawk Elementary PTA, Ray Marsh Elementary PTA, Indian Woods MS PTA, East Antioch PTA

### **Making a Difference Award:**

Region 1- Stony Point South PTA

Region 3- Allen Magnet, Eisenhower Elementary PTA, Freeman Elementary PTA

Region 5- Galena PTA

Region 6- Golden Oaks PTA

Region 8- East Antioch PTA, Indian Woods MS PTA, Tomahawk Elementary PTA

### **Kansas Honor Roll Award:**

Region 1- Stony Point South PTA

Region 6- Cottonwood Point Elementary PTA

Region 8- Westwood View Elementary PTA, Trailwood Elementary PTA, Ray Marsh Elementary PTA, Oak Park Carpenter PTA, Mill Creek Elementary PTA

### **Community Outreach Award:**

Region 1- Stony Point South PTA, Eugene Ware PTA

Region 3- Freeman Elementary PTA

Region 6- Golden Oaks PTA

Region 7- Midland Trail Elementary PTA, Oak Grove Elementary PTA

Region 8- Shawnee Mission North HS PTA, Rushton Elementary PTA, Rising Stars Elementary PTA, Merriam Park PTA, East Antioch Elementary PTA

**\*Thriving Units Awards\*****Masters in PTA Award:**

Region 1- Stony Point South

Region 6- Mill Creek MS PTA, Golden Oaks PTA

Region 7- Turner MS PTSA

Region 8- Hocker Grove MS PTA, Westridge MS PTA, Westwood View Elementary PTA

**PhD in PTA Award:**

Region 1- Stony Point South

Region 7- Turner MS PTSA , Golden Oaks PTA

Region 8- Hocker Grove MS PTA, Westridge MS PTA

**\*Special Membership Awards\*****Council Achievement Award**

Region 7- Turner Council PTA

Region 8- Shawnee Mission Council PTA

**Tomorrow's Leaders Today Award**

Region 7-Turner Middle School PTSA

**Leaders of the Future Award**

Region 8-Shawnee Mission West High School PTSA

**Male Involvement Award**

Region 7- Turner Middle School PTSA

**Male Engagement Award**

Region 8- Trailwood Elementary PTA

**President's Challenge award**

Region 3- Allen Magnet

Region 6- Blue Valley Early Childhood PTA

## 2014-2015 Kansas PTA Membership Awards List (cont.)

Region 6- Forest View Elementary PTA

Region 7-Turner Elementary PTA

Region 8- Briarwood Elementary PTA

Region 8- East Antioch Elementary PTA

Region 8-John Diemer Elementary PTA

Region 8-Shawnee Mission NW High School PTSA

Gold Award

Region 8- Shawnee Mission NW High School PTSA

Silver Award

Region 8- Shawnee Mission NW High School PTSA

## The 2014 - 2015 Citizenship Program

Theme: "How can you help impact your community that will be remembered 100 years from now?"

Kansas PTA sponsors the Citizenship Program for students in the 5th through 9th grades. There are two categories: essay and poetry. The theme changes each year, but is designed to encourage students to think about good citizenship. The content of the piece could encompass an event that has happened in the past, what is currently happening, or something in the future that will make a positive impact on the community or the world.

### Poetry Winners

5th Grade

Award of Excellence

Ainsley Smyth, Rising Star Elementary

6th Grade

Award of Excellence

Aly Horne, Turner Sixth Grade Academy

Award of Excellence

Elizabeth Kuffour, Mill Creek Elementary

7th Grade

Award of Excellence

Grace Hughes, Hocker Grove Middle

8th Grade

Award of Excellence

Carols Jaime, Trailridge Middle

9th Grade

Award of Excellence

Sydney Burns, Shawnee Mission South

**Essay Winners**

5th Grade

Award of Excellence

Lucy Harrison, Briarwood Elementary

6th Grade

Award of Excellence

Allison Schessman, Turner Sixth Grade Academy

Award of Excellence

Eric Dusek, Turner Sixth Grade Academy

Award of Excellence

Ryan Nolan, John Diemer Elementary

7th Grade

Award of Excellence

Alyssa Murray, Westridge Middle

8th Grade

Award of Excellence

Jennifer Kindred, Turner Middle

Award of Excellence

Katelyn Buckler, Turner Middle

Award of Excellence

Jacob Wallace, Trailridge Middle

Award of Excellence

Hunter Bremenkamp, Trailridge Middle

9th Grade

Award of Excellence

Nathan Del Rio, Turner High

Award of Excellence

Gabriel Lopez, Shawnee Mission South

**The 2014-2015 Reflections Program****Theme was “The world would be better place if...”****The 2015-2016 Reflection Program them is: “Let Your Imagination Fly”**

National PTA believes all children deserve a quality arts education and encourages students to pursue artistic expression through participation in its annual arts Reflections Program. The program offers students the opportunity to create works of art for fun and recognition. Students in preschool through grade 12 are encouraged to create and submit works of art in six areas: Dance Choreography, Film Production, Literature, Musical Composition, Photography, and Visual Arts (which includes art forms such as drawing, painting, print making, and collage). For nearly 40 years, the program has encouraged millions of students across the nation and in American schools overseas to create works of art. The Reflections Program was started in 1969 by then Colorado PTA President, Mary Lou Anderson.

**Literature**

Primary Award of Excellence

Murphy Weiss, Christa McAuliffe

Primary Award of Merit

Adam Holscher, Pleasant Ridge

Intermediate Award of Excellence

Cassidy Randolph, Mill Creek Elementary

Intermediate Award of Merit

Hannah Parvin, Lansing Elementary

Intermediate Award of Merit

Maddie Anderson, Riverview

Middle School Award of Excellence

Sara Holscher, Pleasant Ridge

Middle School Award of Merit

Leah Flint, Brookwood Elementary

High School Award of Excellence

Elizebeth Oliver, Shawnee Mission North

High School Award of Merit

Angel Mora, Wyandotte High School

High School Award of Merit

Gary Bradley-Lopez, Wyandotte High School

High School Award of Merit

Nathan Del Rio, Turner High School

## **Dance Choreography**

Middle School Award of Excellence  
High School Award of Excellence

Jaydyn Butterfield, Westridge Middle  
Hanna La Londe, Shawnee Mission West

## **Musical Composition**

Primary Award of Excellence  
Intermediate Award of Excellence  
Intermediate Award of Merit  
Intermediate Award of Merit  
Middle School Award of Excellence  
High School Award of Excellence  
High School Award of Merit

Ishya Bhavsar, Briarwood Elementary  
Rachel, Rothmeyer, Lansing Elementary  
Grace Piper Fields, Corinth Elementary  
Cienna Crabtree, Pleasant Ridge  
Emma Jo Mathieson, Westridge Middle School  
Hanna Patterson, Shawnee Mission North  
Mathew Anthony, Wyandotte High School

## **Photography**

Primary Award of Excellence  
Primary Award of Merit  
Intermediate Award of Excellence  
Intermediate Award of Merit  
Intermediate Award of Merit  
Middle School Award of Excellence  
Middle School Award of Merit  
High School Award of Excellence

Sophia Boshart, Ray Marsh Elementary  
Mahi Panchal, Pleasant Ridge  
Alexis Buchholz, Lansing Elementary  
Andrew Middleton, Rising Star Elementary  
Madeline Holscher, Pleasant Ridge  
Sophia Olivera, Mill Creek Elementary  
Sara Holscher, Pleasant Ridge  
Hayley Neff, Shawnee Mission North

## **Film Production**

Intermediate Award of Excellence  
Middle School Award of Excellence

Tatum Swanwick, Rising Star Elementary  
Sophia Terian, Westridge Middle

## **Visual Arts**

Primary Award of Excellence  
Primary Award of Merit  
Primary Award of Merit  
Intermediate Award of Excellence  
Intermediate Award of Merit  
Intermediate Award of Merit  
Middle School Award of Excellence  
Middle School Award of Merit  
High School Award of Excellence  
High School Award of Merit

Scarlet Given, Oak Grove Elementary  
Alexander Hillebrand, Christa McAuliffe  
Mahi Panchal, Pleasant Ridge  
Palak Panchal, Pleasant Ridge  
Madilyn Gregor, Lansing Elementary  
Maggie Merckens, Brookwood Elementary  
Nina Kulikov, Indian Woods Middle  
Aliyah Peery, Turner Sixth Grade Academy  
Michelle Chan, Shawnee Mission South  
Jonathan Song, Wyandotte High School





## 2015 Kansas PTA Legislative Priorities for Education

In alignment with the 2015 Kansas PTA Legislative Platform, adopted by the 2015 convention delegates, the Kansas PTA Legislative Priorities for the 2015-2016 Kansas legislative session are the following:

### EDUCATION

**PLATFORM—CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION.** *The Kansas PTA will recommend, initiate and support legislation and appropriation for public schools that will ensure all children and youth in Kansas a high quality, adequately funded education.*

### LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

1. Kansas PTA will support efforts to strengthen and improve the Kansas public school finance system, which includes legislation and policies that:
  - a. uphold Kansas Constitutional obligations to *make suitable provision for the finance of the Kansas public schools that is equitable for every child.*
  - b. restore state cuts to base state aid per pupil, back to levels comparable to those deemed suitable by the legislature - actual costs identified in research studies requested and authorized by the Kansas legislature (e.g., Legislative Post Audit 2006 Cost Study).
  - c. pursue solutions to fully fund state and federal educational mandates, including the new uniform financial accounting and reporting act, without disproportionately shifting the burden to local communities.
2. Kansas PTA will support efforts to restore an equitable and balanced tax policy to maintain a reliable revenue stream for public education. A policy which draws upon a combination of income, property and sales taxes has been proven by history to be a secure and sustainable approach. Kansas PTA opposes provisions limiting the growth of government before public education is fully funded to the statutory levels.
3. Kansas PTA will support efforts to preserve the Kansas Constitutional infrastructure for education, including nonpartisan elections of Kansas school board members and their appointment of our Education Commissioner, as well as, retaining the primary responsibility of defining the phrase *intellectual, educational, vocational and scientific improvement* with the education governance structure (Kansas School Board, Kansas Department of Education, education scholars and practitioners).
4. Kansas PTA supports the State Board of Education's adoption of new education standards including the College and Career Ready Standards (derived from the Common Core States Standards Initiative) and the Next Generation Science Standards. Kansas PTA opposes legislation that would defund efforts to implement curriculum related to Common Core and/or the Next Generation Science Standards.
5. Kansas PTA opposes the use of vouchers, scholarships or tax credits toward the tuition of non-public schools that can discriminate in admissions, provide sectarian religious instruction or "compete" under different rules than public schools; we affirm Governor Brownback's position that vouchers would not be effective in the state of Kansas.
6. Kansas PTA will advocate for evidence-based prevention and early intervention programs, including early childhood programs (e.g., Parent as Teachers and Pre-K Pilot), allocating state funds for all-day kindergarten, Head Start, and student engagement programs that reduce dropout rates and increase school completion.



## LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

Where Kansas PTA Stands:

### EDUCATION

**BASIC POLICY:** The Kansas PTA will recommend, initiate and support legislation and appropriation for public schools that will ensure all children and youth in Kansas a high quality, adequately funded education. Recognizing that quality education for children is directly related to the effectiveness and efficiency of school personnel, the Kansas PTA will recommend, initiate and support legislation and appropriations to encourage, recognize and provide incentives for school personnel that will improve and benefit the education of children and youth in Kansas. The Kansas PTA recognizes no educational system can be of the highest quality without the support, involvement and cooperation of parents, legislators, and the community.

### HEALTH, WELFARE AND SAFETY

**BASIC POLICY:** The Kansas PTA will support legislation and appropriations that safeguard and/or relate to the health and safety of children and youth.

### EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

**BASIC POLICY:** Kansas PTA will support high-quality early childhood education programs that are affordable and accessible, characterized by high standards for teaching, training, health and safety and incorporate strong family engagement components.

*Adopted by the 2015 Kansas PTA Convention delegates.*

## 2015-2016 Kansas PTA Membership Theme



# Building a Better Community Together.

When we come together to support our youth we build strong foundations for them to grow and thrive at home, at school and in the community.

The Kansas PTA office is here to help your PTA unit succeed. Contact us if you have any questions and visit [kansas-pta.org](http://kansas-pta.org) for additional membership resources!

**Kansas**  
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Kansas PTA  
715 SW Tenth Street  
Topeka, KS 66612

(785) 234-5782  
[kansaspta@gmail.com](mailto:kansaspta@gmail.com)  
[kansas-pta.org](http://kansas-pta.org)



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**Kansas Congress of Parents and Teachers**  
**715 SW Tenth**  
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Forward this and all mailings immediately to your successor.