



**Kansas
PTA**[®]
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Bulletin

September/October 2024

Hello from Your Kansas PTA President!

It is so amazing that here we are at the beginning of a new school year. The transition from one term to another is always about change. But change is good. It is a fresh start. It is a clean slate. It is square one. I have often heard it be said, ***“There is nothing so constant as change.”***

As we “change” from the 2023-2024 school year to the 2024-2025 term, we at Kansas PTA wanted to allow you all to reflect with us at some of the highlights of the spring 2024 Kansas PTA Convention. It is the culmination of the work we did with our Kansas PTA units during the past year.



But as we take a moment to look back, we also are here to show you what looking forward looks like to us. And we will do that by giving you dates of importance for 2024-2025. These dates include some new and exciting events that we are bringing back for your learning success.

An exciting day to mark on your calendar is **Saturday, October 26, 2024**, as we go back to an event we have presented in the past, a Fall Parent Leader Bootcamp. This one-day event will give you an opportunity to be “in the know” for your upcoming year. There will be a combination of classes to learn more about best practices for your current officer positions and also opportunities to learn about broader parent topics. There will be a panel discussion and opportunities to sign up for more personal advice on a topic that might be a stumbling block you would like help to overcome.

For those of you who may not have PTAs at your school now, there will be opportunities to find out more about what PTA means and how you can form a parent group under the PTA umbrella. More detailed information (including how to sign up) will be sent out soon so keep an eye out for it. Cost for this event will only be the price of the meal.

Mark that calendar with this date now!!

As you begin your new year with the inevitable change, please feel free to reach out to us and ask us your questions. Change can be challenging but it can also be rewarding. Just remember one thing that will not change is our effort to assist you in any way that we can.

As spokesperson for the 2023-2025 Kansas PTA Board of Managers,

Denise Sultz
Kansas PTA President

Save the Dates

Save the dates now for these upcoming PTA training, leadership, and support events during this school year.

KANSAS PTA PRESENTS

Parent Leader Bootcamp

SATURDAY

**OCT
26**
2024

New Unit Academy

OFFERED AT THE PARENT LEADER BOOTCAMP

SATURDAY

**OCT
26**
2024

Kansas PTA Advocacy Day

TUESDAY

**FEB
18**
2025

KANSAS PTA'S

Annual Convention

TURNER MIDDLE SCHOOL

SATURDAY

**APR
26**
2025

KANSAS PTA PRESENTS

Parent Leader Bootcamp

Are you a parent, caregiver, PTA or PTO leader?

If yes, you won't want to miss the **Parent Leader Bootcamp, presented by *KS PTA*.**

WHEN:

Saturday, October 26
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

WHERE:

Shawnee Mission Center for Academic Achievement in Overland Park.

WHAT IS IT?

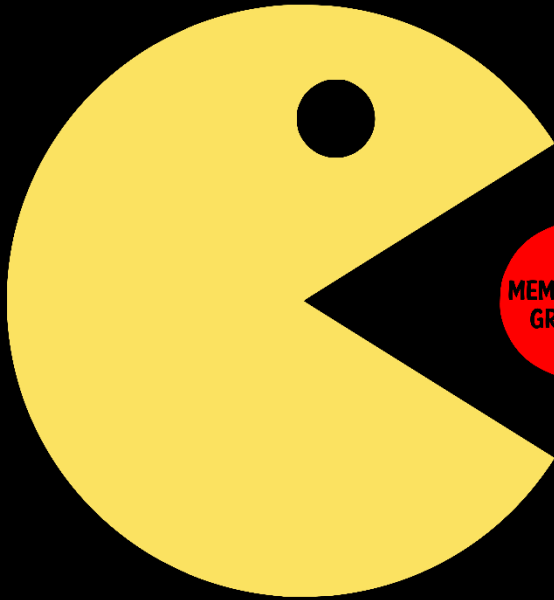
This event will give parents, volunteers and PTA leaders essential information to help you lead with success. We'll offer workshop topics that include family engagement, DEI, advocacy, how to start a PTA, and so many more.

SATURDAY

OCT
26
2024

**A full event
agenda &
registration will
be open in early
September!**

LEVEL UP



MEMBERSHIP
GROWTH

BOARD
TRAINING

CITIZENSHIP &
REFLECTIONS

SCHOOL OF
EXCELLENCE

Kansas
PTA[®]
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Congratulations to the Kansas 2023 – 2025 School of Excellence Award Recipients

Broken Arrow Elementary PTA Shawnee, KS

Shawnee Mission East High School PTSA Prairie Village, KS

Enrollment for the 2024-2025 SOE program is open! Deadline October 15th.

Enroll your school into the National PTA School of Excellence (<http://www.pta.org/excellence>)—an opportunity to make a substantial, positive impact on school and student success.

Whether you are looking to step up your PTA's involvement in school improvements, or there is something magical happening between your PTA and school that deserves recognition, you can put your school on the School of Excellence map when you enroll by October 15. The National PTA School of Excellence program celebrates schools where families feel welcomed and empowered to support student success and PTA is a key partner for continuous school improvement.



**SCHOOL OF
EXCELLENCE**

National PTA Reflections Contest

Unleash the artist in your students!

- 6 categories within the Reflections Contest
- Ages Preschool-Grade 12, including a special artist division to provide students with disabilities

All information, including registration, deadline entry dates, and Reflections Toolkit is located in the Arts and Awards Packet at: <https://kansas-pta.org/programs/arts-awards/>

State Turn-In Deadline – January 5, 2025

Additional Resources:

<https://www.pta.org/home/programs/reflections/startyourprogram>

<https://kansas-pta.org/programs/arts-awards/>

<https://www.smac-pta.org/reflections>



Kansas PTA Citizenship Writing Contest

The 2024-2025 Citizenship theme: “Small Things I Can Do to Impact My Community are...”

Kansas PTA is proud to sponsor, support, and encourage our students in grades 5-12 to write an essay or poem on the selected theme for the Citizenship Writing Program. This theme changes every year and encourages students to think about Citizenship in a broad sense.

Get complete participation guidelines at <https://kansas-pta.org/programs/arts-awards/>

State Turn-In Deadline – February 15, 2025

Suggested Timeline:

- Local Unit Chair December 5, 2024 (or as determined by your local unit)
- *Council Chair January 15, 2025 (or as determined by your local Council)
- **if your unit is not part of a council, submit your entries to the State PTA Chair: KSartsawards@gmail.com

[See the winners of the 2023-2024 Reflections and Citizenship Contests >](#)

National PTA Reflections Contest Winner from Shawnee Mission!

Congratulations to Kansas PTA's Reflection Contest Award of Excellence winner, **Olivia Garza**, for being named the **Outstanding Interpretation Award Winner in the National PTA Reflections contest!**

From 45 state PTAs, National PTA received over 900 student entries inspired by the 2023-2024 Reflections theme *"I am Hopeful Because..."* Of those submissions, seven students achieved the top national-level Reflections honor: the Award of Outstanding Interpretation.

Judging strongly considers the artist's interpretation of the Reflections theme as shown in the student's original artwork, title and artist statement. This award is given to the student artworks that achieved the highest scores for interpretation of the Reflections theme.

Olivia's piece, *"After Tragedy"*, interpreting the contest theme, "I Am Hopeful Because...", demonstrated creative expression and talented technical skills in the Film Production category.

This is only the second time Kansas has had a 1st place winner in Nationals and the first National winner for the Shawnee Mission Area Council (SMAC) PTA and the high school, Shawnee Mission South PTSA.

Outstanding Interpretation Award student artists receive \$800 Young Artist Scholarship; Gold Medal; Certificate of Outstanding Interpretation; their work featured in the virtual exhibition, and a \$200 Prize to the Local PTA Unit.



*Congratulations,
Olivia!*



View Olivia's video, "After Tragedy" at <https://www.smac-pta.org/reflections>

An advertisement for the Future Teacher Scholarship. It features a young man with glasses and a yellow t-shirt holding books. The text reads "Future Teacher Scholarship" and "\$800". The Kansas PTA logo is at the bottom left with the tagline "everychild.one voice."/>

Future Teacher Scholarship

\$800

Kansas PTA
everychild.one voice.®

Are you (or do you know) a college student studying to become a teacher? Consider the **KS PTA Future Teacher Scholarship!**

Each year college students in Kansas can apply for scholarships from Kansas PTA. These scholarships are geared to students wanting to continue their careers as teachers in Kansas and are encouraged to apply. Students who have completed two years (must be of junior standing or obtain junior standing during the semesters the scholarship is received or a minimum of 60 hours) in any accredited two- or four-year college in Kansas are eligible to apply for the scholarship. The amount of the scholarship will be \$800 for the year.

Get complete details and applications forms at <https://kansas-pta.org/programs/arts-awards/>

Advocacy Update

The following bills passed in the Kansas Legislature this year, were signed by Governor Kelly and went into effect on July 1, 2024. These bills pertain to the health and well-being of Kansas students.

HB 2547 Pertains to the regulation of certain drugs, authorizing schools to maintain stock supplies of emergency medication kits for certain life-threatening conditions and adding and removing certain substances in schedules I, II, IV and V of the uniform controlled substances act and making conforming changes to the criminal code definition of fentanyl-related controlled substances. This allows schools to stock epinephrine and albuterol to assist students, staff and visitors in school facilities who are experiencing anaphylactic or respiratory emergencies.

SB 19 Establishes the Kansas national guard educational master's for enhanced readiness and global excellence (EMERGE) program and the EMERGE program repayment fund and requiring school districts to establish requirements for cardiac emergency response plans. This requires all schools to have emergency cardiac response plans in place.

SB 419 This is a so-called Good Samaritan Opiate bill that would provide immunity from prosecution for possession of a controlled substance or certain drug paraphernalia if the person seeks medical assistance while under the influence of a controlled substance or provides medical assistance to a person who is under the influence of a controlled substance and in need of medical assistance.

House Substitute for SB 287 by Committee on Health and Human Services - Prohibits a healthcare provider from administering medication, diagnostic tests or conducting ongoing behavioral health treatments to a minor in a school facility without parental consent, enacting the no patient left alone act to require medical care facilities to allow in-person visitation in certain circumstances, expanding licensure of rural emergency hospitals that meet criteria between January 2015 and December 2020 and authorizing emergency medical responders to distribute non prescription over-the-counter medications.

The provisions of this bill that pertain to healthcare delivery by school nurses and school social workers are the following:

Except as provided in subsection (c), notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, unless a healthcare provider has consent of a minor's parent, a healthcare provider shall not, while a minor or healthcare professional is at a school facility:

- (A) Prescribe, dispense or administer any prescription or nonprescription drug;
- (B) administer a diagnostic test with the minor's bodily fluids; or
- (C) conduct ongoing behavioral health treatment.

A health care provider who violates these provisions would be subject to professional discipline from the health care provider's appropriate licensing agency.

HB387 A school finance bill passed that increases **special education** funding by \$75 million. This is a huge win that helps all educators and students.

These laws are now published on the Secretary of State's website at this link:

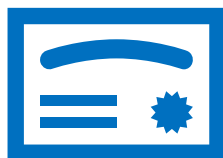
<https://sos.ks.gov/publications/session-laws.html>

Marjorie Holwick KS PTA Wall of Fame Update

The Kansas PTA Marjorie Holwick Wall of Fame is a recognition program to honor educators, parents, students, and volunteers who have made special contributions in the lives of children. Each year PTA members from across the state nominate these outstanding volunteers to the Kansas PTA Marjorie Holwick Wall of Fame.

Congratulations to these individuals named to this year's Kansas PTA, Marjorie Holwick Wall of Fame!

- ★ Shirlyn Richardson, Wyandotte HS
- ★ Judi Tucci, KCK Council of PTA
- ★ Rachel Villa, Golden Oaks
- ★ Tavia Foley, Turner Elementary
- ★ Angie Gunion, Comanche Elementary
- ★ Sarah Adams, Comanche Elementary
- ★ Patty Jurich, Golden Oaks
- ★ Vikki Mullins, Turner Elementary
- ★ Tara Hudson, Turner Elementary
- ★ Diana Ortega, Turner Elementary
- ★ Kristin Ussery, Turner Elementary
- ★ Devin Wilson, Shawnee Mission Northwest HS
- ★ Janell Keltner, Golden Oaks



Nominations to the Marjorie Holwick Wall of Fame are \$10 per individual nominated. The proceeds from the nominations are contributions to the Kansas PTA Future Teacher Scholarship Fund and Teacher Graduate Study in Education Fund.

For more information on nominating someone to the Kansas PTA, Marjorie Holwick Wall of Fame, or about the scholarship program, visit www.kansas-pta.org.

[2023-2024 Membership Award Winners List](#)

Convention Recap

- 109th Annual Kansas PTA Convention
- Saturday, April 12, 2024
- SMSD Center for Academic Achievement



KANSAS PTA CONVENTION APRIL 2024

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Melissa Rooker



2024 KANSAS PTA OUTSTANDING STUDENT AWARDEE

Danny
Robeson

Shawnee Mission
School District



2024 VIRGINIA PEAK AWARD RECIPIENT

Tash Davis



TWO NEW PTA UNITS 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR

Logan Ave. PTA
Lindbergh PTA

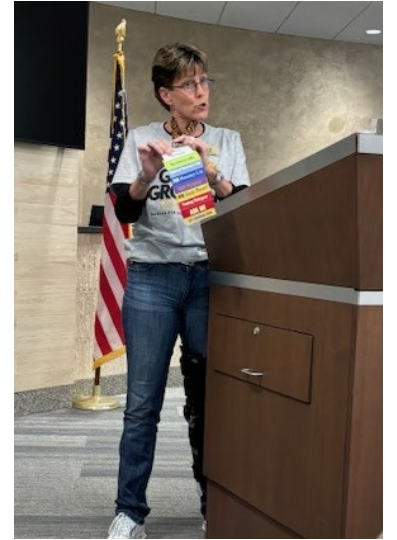
107 MEMBERSHIP AWARDS
GIVEN TO PTAS ACROSS KS!

2024 KANSAS PTA OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR AWARD

Jay Foster

Turner School District







Thank you to our sponsors, exhibitors, workshop presenters, special guests, the CAA, and most of all, our delegate attendees for joining us at Convention 2024!

Contact Kansas PTA

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Kansas PTA Board of Managers – 2023-2025

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Turner Council Pres	Carla Soptic	csoptic@gmail.com
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