



Newsletter

15th District Office • 319 South 15th Street • Louisville, KY 40203 • (502) 485-3535

every child. one voice.®

June 2009

Together We Can ... Make a Difference

Why should you be involved in your child's education? Educators tell us all of the reasons to be involved. Numerous studies have shown that when parents are involved, students:

- Achieve higher grades and test scores.
- Are more likely to graduate.
- Have higher attendance rates, increased motivation, and improved self-esteem.
- Have lower suspension rates, decreased



Myrdin Thompson, 2009-11 President Elect, and Traci Priddy, Outgoing President

drug and alcohol use, and fewer instances of violent behavior.

- Are more likely to pursue postsecondary education.

We also know that the relationship between students and teachers, and between parents and teachers, has a major impact on a student's success. Involved parents can recognize that teachers are committed to the well-being of students. Parents can ensure their child's success by providing a home that encourages learning and supports physical, mental, and emotional development and by working with the school and other groups that have an impact on their child.

It takes time and care to be an involved parent. Who are your child's friends? What excites your child at school? Exploring questions such as these with your child can help ensure the success of your child in school, with friends, and in life. Education is a tremendous part of a child's life. So explore some ways that you can make a difference. Your child and your child's school will be pleased to have you as an active and involved parent. Every day offers a fresh opportunity to get involved with your child and his or her school.

Thank you for the opportunity to help you during the last two years to become more involved in your school and Parent Teacher Association (PTA). I would like to thank the members of the 15th District PTA Board of Managers for helping fulfill that involvement. Not only are they concerned about their own children's success in school, but they are also concerned about your child's success and experience in school. The 15th District PTA Board of Managers, like you, have put in countless volunteer hours. We want you and your child to succeed.

I am excited about the newly elected 15th District PTA Board taking office. Plan to attend the Kentucky PTA Leadership/Convention and 15th District Back-to-School/Back-to-PTA Conference. Get new ideas.

Enjoy the summer, but start planning the beginning of the school year **now!** Be prepared. *Together We Can ...* help ensure a successful future for every student.

Thank you,

Traci Priddy

Traci Priddy
15th District PTA President

Our New President's Acceptance Speech

"Thank you to all who have elected me to this position. I believe that we are at the cusp of opportunity for the 15th District PTA to provide a much needed voice to the discussion regarding the state of education today. Each of us in this room, and those that could not be with us this evening, have stepped into a role of leadership and responsibility, a role that asks us to work together for a common cause. We each have unique talents, strengths, and skills to share. When we link our individual strengths together, we are unstoppable. Each of us is an essential piece needed to ensure that all of the children of Jefferson County are represented both locally and in Frankfort, and are part of the equation

on a national level. I liken myself to that famous character from Roald Dahl's *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. No, not Charlie, I'm not that nice. More like Veruca Salt: I want it all. I want every school in JCPS that has a PTA to have a strong PTA. I want membership at every school to be not just 100 percent, but 200 percent. I want those PTA's that are struggling to be able to count on the PTA's that are succeeding for advice and mentoring. I want all of us to cheer one another's success, and help each other pick up and keep going when there has been a misstep. I want there to be busloads of JCPS PTA representatives at the Capital on Kentucky Kids' Day 2010 speaking for our children. See, I

want it all. However, I don't want to end up like Veruca Salt did in the book, being tossed aside with the bad nuts. So to avoid that circumstance, I will work closely with the new board that has been assembled here this evening to keep us all in balance and focused. I also look forward to partnering with all of you in the year ahead as we do our very best to adhere to the motto of the PTA, *everychild.onevoice*. Thank you for being part of this journey, for I can't imagine *us* without *you*."

Myrdin Thompson
President Elect 2009-11

Reflections

As you start to develop your projects and programs for the next school year, don't forget to include the Reflections Program.

This is a National PTA Arts in Education Program. Its purpose is to provide all children and youth with the opportunity to experience the self-fulfillment of creative expression through the arts. The primary goal of Reflections is for all children and youth to have the opportunity to participate. Although it is a program with recognition and awards at the local, district, state, and national levels, the importance of participation should be emphasized over winning. Students may submit entries in the areas of music, photography, visual arts, literature, dance choreography, and film/video production. The Kentucky PTA will no longer have dance group or dance individual categories. They have decided to conform to the National PTA guidelines. Each year, there is a different theme for the program. For the 2009-10 school year, the theme will be "Beauty is"

Packets will be sent out to all schools, PTA presidents, art teachers, English teachers, music teachers, and physical education (PE) teachers at the beginning of the school year. The deadline for entries to be sent to the 15th District PTA is **October 22, 2009**.

Please work together to provide this wonderful opportunity for your students.

If you need additional information, contact Sharon Whitworth, 15th District PTA Reflections chairman, at **485-7450**.

Byck Elementary Receives Phoebe Apperson-Hearst Award

Byck Elementary School qualifies for the **Family-School Partnership Award of Merit** for its parent involvement programs. This award is based on the PTA's National Standards for Parent/Family Involvement. Research continues to show that when families are involved in their children's learning at home and in school, student success increases.

Byck should be proud of its many accomplishments and should celebrate its commitment to making family involvement in school a priority.

Congratulations on this national recognition.

Congratulations to duPont Manual High School

DuPont Manual High School has requalified for the **National PTA Parent Involvement Schools of Excellence Certification** for its outstanding parent involvement programs that are based on the PTA's National Standards for Parent/Family Involvement.

Let us know if your school PTA has done something to be proud of.

15th District PTA Awards Banquet

The 15th District PTA Awards Banquet was held on May 5 at the Fern Valley Hotel and Conference Center. Many awards, scholarships, and recognitions were given out. Some of those who were recognized are listed below.

Butler Traditional High School Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA)

Largest Unit in Kentucky
4,961 Members
Kim Rasche, PTSA President
Steve Bocko, Principal

Welcome to Our New PTA Ramsey Middle PTSA

2008-09 PTA Membership Equaled 2007-08 PTA Membership

Anchorage School
Atkinson Elementary
Auburndale Elementary
Audubon Traditional Elementary
Ballard High
Barret Traditional Middle
Bates Elementary
Binet School
Blue Lick Elementary
Brown School
Butler Traditional High
Byck Elementary
Carrithers Middle
Carter Traditional Elementary
Central High School Magnet Career Academy (MCA)
Chancey Elementary
Churchill Park School
Dixie Elementary
Doss High School MCA
Dunn Elementary
DuPont Manual High
Eisenhower Elementary
Fairdale Elementary
Fairdale High School MCA
Farmer Elementary
Farnsley Middle
Fern Creek Elementary
Field Elementary
Frayser Elementary
Frost Middle
Gutermuth Elementary
Hartstern Elementary
Highland Middle
Indian Trail Elementary
Jacob Elementary
Jefferson County Traditional Middle
Jeffersontown Elementary
Jeffersontown High School MCA
Johnsontown Road Elementary
Kammerer Middle
Kennedy Montessori Elementary
Kenwood Elementary
Kerrick Elementary
King Elementary
Knight Middle
Lassiter Middle
Layne Elementary
Liberty High
Louisville Male High
McFerran Preparatory Academy
Medora Elementary
Newburg Middle
Okolona Elementary
Olmsted Academy North

Our Angels Childcare
Pleasure Ridge Park High School MCA
Portland Elementary
Price Elementary
Seneca High School MCA
Shacklette Elementary
Shelby Elementary
Smyrna Traditional Elementary
St. Matthews Elementary
Stonestreet Elementary
Stopher Elementary
Waggener Traditional High
Valley Traditional High
Western MST Magnet High
Wheeler Elementary
Wilt Elementary
Superintendent PTA

The following schools had a 10 percent increase over 2007-08.

Auburndale Elementary
Audubon Traditional Elementary
Ballard High
Barret Traditional Middle
Bates Elementary
Binet School
Blue Lick Elementary
Brown School
Byck Elementary
Carrithers Middle
Carter Traditional Elementary
Central High School MCA
Chancey Elementary
Churchill Park School
Dixie Elementary
Doss High School MCA
Dunn Elementary
Eisenhower Elementary
Fairdale Elementary
Fairdale High School MCA
Farmer Elementary
Farnsley Middle
Fern Creek Elementary
Frost Middle
Gutermuth Elementary
Hartstern Elementary
Indian Trail Elementary
Jeffersontown Elementary
Jeffersontown High School MCA
Kenwood Elementary
King Elementary
Lassiter Middle
Layne Elementary
Liberty High
Medora Elementary
Newburg Middle
Okolona Elementary
Olmsted Academy North
Pleasure Ridge Park High School MCA
Portland Elementary
Price Elementary
Shacklette Elementary
Shelby Elementary
Smyrna Traditional Elementary
St. Matthews Elementary
Stonestreet Elementary

Stopher Elementary
Valley Traditional High
Waggener Traditional High
Western MST Magnet High
Wheeler Elementary
Wilt Elementary

200 Members Over 2007-08

Audubon Traditional Elementary
Ballard High
Barret Traditional Middle
Farmer Elementary
Farnsley Middle
Fern Creek Elementary
Hartstern Elementary
Jeffersontown Elementary
Pleasure Ridge Park High School MCA
Valley Traditional High

President's Award (100 over the last year)

Audubon Traditional Elementary
Ballard High
Barret Traditional Middle
Blue Lick Elementary
Brown School
Byck Elementary
Carrithers Middle
Central High School MCA
Chancey Elementary
Dunn Elementary
Farmer Elementary
Farnsley Middle
Fern Creek Elementary
Gutermuth Elementary
Hartstern Elementary
Jeffersontown Elementary
Kenwood Elementary
Newburg Middle
Okolona Elementary
Pleasure Ridge Park High School MCA
Schacklette Elementary
Smyrna Traditional Elementary
Stopher Elementary
Valley Traditional High

District's Largest PTAs (based on the number of members)

Elementary—Audubon Traditional Elementary—1,468 Members

Middle—Crosby Middle—1,453 Members

High—Butler Traditional High—4,961 Members

District's Top Percentage Increase Schools (based on last year's membership)

Elementary
Okolona Elementary—367 percent
Hartstern Elementary—167 percent

Middle
Farnsley Middle—854 percent
Carrithers Middle—105 percent

High
Valley Traditional High—2,860 percent
Western MST Magnet High—330 percent
Liberty High—330 percent

Combined
Churchill Park School—18 percent

Top Membership (based on percentage of current year enrollment)

Optional
First Butler Traditional High—298 percent
Second Audubon Traditional Elementary—236 percent
Third Barret Traditional Middle—213 percent

Head of Cluster

First Kennedy Montessori Elementary—94 percent
Second Price Elementary—49 percent
Third Byck Elementary—48 percent

Small Elementary (Up to 450)

First Medora Elementary—52 percent
Second Okolona Elementary—45 percent
Third Hawthorne Elementary—43 percent

Large Elementary (451 and up)

First Dunn Elementary—168 percent
Second Fern Creek Elementary—160 percent
Third Bowen Elementary—150 percent

Middle

First Crosby Middle—118 percent
Second Ramsey Middle—107 percent
Third Noe Middle—94 percent

High

First Fern Creek Traditional High—119 percent
Second Pleasure Ridge Park High School MCA—72 percent
Third Seneca High School MCA—65 percent

Combined

First Binet School—158 percent
Second Anchorage School—82 percent
Third Brown School—62 percent

200 Percent Membership (based on enrollment)

Audubon Traditional Elementary
Barret Traditional Middle
Butler Traditional High

100 Percent Membership (based on enrollment)

Audubon Traditional Elementary
Barret Traditional Middle
Binet School
Bowen Elementary
Butler Traditional High

Crosby Middle
Dunn Elementary
DuPont Manual High
Fern Creek Elementary
Fern Creek Traditional High
Greathouse/Shryock Traditional Elementary
Hite Elementary
Jeffersonton Elementary
Louisville Male High
Lowe Elementary
Norton Elementary
Ramsey Middle
St. Matthews Elementary
Stonestreet Elementary
Stopher Elementary
Tully Elementary

District's Top 20 PTA/PTSAs (based on number of members)

1. Butler Traditional High..... 4,961
2. DuPont Manual High.....2,214
3. Louisville Male High 1,954
4. Fern Creek Traditional High1,746
5. Audubon Traditional Elementary 1,468
6. Crosby Middle..... 1,453
7. Pleasure Ridge Park High School MCA..... 1,393
8. Barret Traditional Middle..... 1,355
9. Fern Creek Elementary ... 1,264
10. Noe Middle 1,229
11. Bowen Elementary 1,132
12. Tully Elementary 1,049
13. Dunn Elementary..... 1,045
14. Seneca High School MCA..... 1,036
15. Greathouse/Shryock Traditional Elementary 938
16. Stopher Elementary..... 895
17. St. Matthews Elementary... 848
18. Jeffersonton Elementary .. 827
19. Norton Elementary 798
20. Kammerer Middle 747

15th District PTA

2008-09 Hall of Fame Winners

Paul Junk—Fern Creek Elementary
Lyn Tyra—Jeffersonton Elementary

15th District PTA Outstanding PTA/PTSA Programs

Chancey Elementary and Foster Elementary

15th District PTA Outstanding Local Unit Web Site Award

Chancey Elementary

15th District PTA Outstanding Volunteer Award

Sonya Garr—Price Elementary
Debbie Tinker—15th District Clothing Assistance Program (CAP)

15th District PTA Outstanding Volunteer Participation Award

Chancey Elementary

15th District PTA Outstanding Newsletter Award

Barret Traditional Middle
Chancey Elementary
Jeffersonton Elementary
Price Elementary

15th District PTA "Together We Can" Award

Chancey Elementary
Jeffersonton Elementary
Byck Elementary

Schools Participating in Board Trainings 2008-09

Atherton High
Blake Elementary
Blue Lick Elementary
Central High School MCA
Cochran Elementary
Conway Middle
Dixie Elementary
Farmer Elementary
Gutermuth Elementary
Jeffersonton Elementary
Mill Creek Elementary
Okolona Elementary
Olmsted Academy South
Ramsey Middle
Watterson Elementary

PTAs, PTSAs, People, and Schools Who Have Volunteered, Donated Money, and/or Clothing to CAP

All Family Resource and Youth Services Center (FRYSC) Coordinators
AmeriCorps Workers
Ahrens Educational Resource Center
Atkinson Elementary
Audubon Traditional Elementary
Barret Traditional Middle
Bates Elementary
Binet School
Blue Lick Elementary
Bowen Elementary
Brandeis Elementary
Brown School
Butler Traditional High
Byck Elementary
Camp Taylor Elementary
Carter Traditional Elementary
Central High School MCA
Chancey Elementary
Chenoweth Elementary
Churchill Park School
Coral Ridge Elementary
Crosby Middle
Dunn Elementary
DuPont Manual High
Eastern High
Eisenhower Elementary
Farmer Elementary
Fern Creek Elementary
Field Elementary
Foster Traditional Academy
Greathouse/Shryock Traditional Elementary
Gutermuth Elementary
Highland Middle

Hite Elementary
Jefferson County Traditional Middle (\$300)
Jeffersonton Elementary
Johnson Traditional Middle
Kennedy Montessori Elementary
Kenwood Elementary
Kerrick Elementary
King Elementary
Knight Middle
Louisville Male High
McFerran Preparatory Academy
Mezzeek Middle
Middletown Elementary
Mill Creek Elementary
Moore Traditional School
Newburg Middle
Noe Middle
Norton Elementary
Price Elementary
Seneca High School MCA
Southern High School MCA
St. Matthews Elementary

Stopher Elementary
Tully Elementary
Valley Traditional High
Watson Lane Elementary
Watterson Elementary
Westport Traditional Middle and Fine Arts Academy
Wheatley Elementary
Wheeler Elementary
Wilder Elementary
Young Elementary
Zachary Taylor Elementary

We would like to thank Binet School and Churchill Park School student workers who came every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday to volunteer for us. Also, we would like to thank other student workers who did their community service hours at CAP.

Continued on page four

Reminder: Mark Your Calendars for These Events!

- General Board Training—**June 16**, 2–4 p.m. and 7–9 p.m., at VanHoose; contact Cheri Dimar at jdimar2@aol.com.
- PTA National Convention—**June 26 through June 29** in Fort Lauderdale; for more information, go to www.pta.org.
- Kentucky PTA Convention/Leadership—**July 16 through July 18** at Fern Valley Hotel and Conference Center; early registration is \$100, which includes three meals. Presidents should have received a mailing about this convention. **Presidents need to pick up their packet for the new year.** For more information, go to www.kypta.org.
- Back-to-School With the 15th District—**September 1** at Jefferson County Public Schools (JCPS) Gheens Academy; there will be all-day sessions highlighting the Kentucky convention and important information for local units, including sessions on finances and Reflections! More details will be included in the next newsletter and at the state convention.
- Reflections Awards Ceremony/Winter Conference—**December 8** at Sallie Durrett Auditorium, 7–9 p.m., with a reception to follow next door at Gheens Academy in Flex Rooms A and B; light refreshments will be served.
- Vendors Fair/Spring Conference—**March 4**; this is an all-day opportunity to meet with local fundraising vendors and learn more about opportunities for your school. Door prizes will be given away.
- Awards Banquet—**May 11**; more information will follow, but mark your calendar for this important night of PTA recognition!

15th District PTA
319 South 15th Street
Louisville, KY 40203

www.jcpsky.net/Programs/PTA/index.html

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15th District PTA Executive Board 2009-10

President
MYRDIN THOMPSON
361-3072—home
295-1315—cell
myrdin.thompson1
@insightbb.com

First Vice President
CHERIE DIMAR
244-5171
jdimar2@aol.com

Second Vice President
ALISHA PASLEY
776-3648
wolf390120@aol.com

**Third Vice President and
Immediate Past President**
TRACI PRIDDY
935-3370
tpriddy1@bellsouth.net

Fourth Vice President
THERESA MAYFIELD
964-0703—home
689-2227—cell
binetptamail@bellsouth.net

Fifth Vice President
ROSE BABIAK
895-6004
rphabiak@bellsouth.net

Secretary
BARBARA FISCHER
969-8371
b1u3fisch@gmail.com

Treasurer
SYNDI SCHERFFIUS
899-1861
JLOsbourn@bellsouth.net

Parliamentarian
SHARON WHITWORTH
485-3535—work
477-8086—home
592-4185—cell
sharon.whitworth
@jefferson.kyschools.us

PTA Liaison
MARTY BELL
485-3949
marty.bell@jefferson
.kyschools.us

*Thank you, Traci, for all of your hard work and dedication these past two years as president.
Together, we made a difference. —2007–09 Board of Managers*

15th District PTA Awards Banquet

Continued from page three

Student Scholarships

The 15th District PTA Honor Roll Certificates are \$10 each and are a terrific way to show a deserving volunteer how much he or she is appreciated. The funds raised by the sale of these certificates go directly into the Scholarship Fund.

2008-09 Scholarship Recipients

\$1,700 Evangeline J. Sansome

Memorial Scholarships

Michael Adeyinka—Waggener Traditional High

Cristie Carter—Fairdale High School MCA

Omar Cham—Fern Creek Traditional High

Diana Duran—Fern Creek Traditional High

Silvana Duran—Fern Creek Traditional High

Phillipp Fox—Butler Traditional High
Emmalee Gagle—Butler Traditional High

Megan Gosnell—Louisville Male High
Emily Goldstein—Atherton High
Kimberlee Green—Butler Traditional High

Natalie Harrison—Atherton High
Andrew Meyer—Ballard High
Brittany Neal—Louisville Male High
Nicole Pappé—Eastern High
Summer Perry—Fairdale High MCA
Whitney Probus—Butler Traditional High

Kathryn Towles—Eastern High
Jasmine Thomas—Butler Traditional High

Xiangwen Zhao—Waggener Traditional High

\$1,700 June Key Scholarship Award

Kristen Enteman—Seneca High School MCA

Christa McAuliffe Rising Star and Self Esteem winners for 2008-09 were announced on May 8 in Frankfort.

15th District PTA Self Esteem Award Winners

Primary (kindergarten through third grade)

Nayya Martinique—Byck Elementary
Tate Luckey—Chenoweth Elementary

Avery Renner—Dunn Elementary
Carly deDoming—Jeffersontown Elementary

Blake Harris—Jeffersontown Elementary

Ansley Minor—Jeffersontown Elementary

Luke Carns—St. Matthews Elementary

William Jackson—St. Matthews Elementary

Tyler Johnson—St. Matthews Elementary

Intermediate (Fourth and Fifth Grade)

Desha Horton—Byck Elementary
Sara Duncan—Chenoweth Elementary

Megan Carter—Dunn Elementary
Isiah Davis—Jeffersontown Elementary

Elexis Pike—Jeffersontown Elementary

Harrison Lentz—St. Matthews Elementary

Allie Mills—St. Matthews Elementary

Maya Pierce—St. Matthews Elementary

Hannah Dingle—Stophers Elementary

Caylyn Railey—Stophers Elementary

Kentucky PTA Self Esteem Winners

Megan Carter—Dunn Elementary

Aaron Markert—Noe Middle

Tyler Johnson—St. Matthews Elementary

Kentucky PTA Christa McAuliffe Rising Star Winners

Zachary Gibson—Dunn Elementary
Jaquail Levels—Jeffersontown Elementary

Kentucky PTA Student Scholarship Winners

Samuel W. Ellis—Pleasure Ridge Park High School MCA

Brooke Porter—Butler Traditional High
Rebekah Rasche—Butler Traditional High

Shelby Smith—Butler Traditional High

Shianne Williams—Butler Traditional High

Kentucky PTA Parent Scholarship Winner

Elizabeth King—Byck Elementary

National PTA Parent Involvement Schools of Excellence

Crosby Middle (6/03)

Dunn Elementary (3/03)

DuPont Manual High (12/05)

Greathouse/Shryock Traditional Elementary (3/04)

Hite Elementary (3/06)

Lowe Elementary (3/9)

Noe Middle (5/05)

Norton Elementary (10/03)

St. Matthews Elementary (11/04)

Wilder Elementary (2/04)