



District 9 News

WINTER NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY, 2018

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For our D9 calendar of events, please visit our [website](#)



Click the Image and LIKE us on Facebook

A Note from our Director

Welcome to the winter edition of the District 9 Newsletter. Within this letter, you will find information that you can share with your membership. It is that time of year where the nominating committee is elected to search for new leadership. I hope that each of you will give serious consideration to step up to serve next year. Whether its District, Council or Local unit. Our students, educators, families and communities need dedicated people like you. Please know there is plenty of room for you to serve, so please give it some serious thought about where you would like to serve. Your talents are needed.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our Spring Conference on April 26 at Northstar Church.

Thank you for all that you do!

Anita Hagins Jones
9th District Director



You are Cordially Invited
to attend an
Evening of Inspiration
Featuring our *Exceptional Students*

Tuesday, February 13
McEachern High School
(Performing Arts Center)
2400 New MacLand Rd, Powder Springs, GA 30127

6pm – Networking, Community Resources,
& Light Refreshments
6:30pm – Program

RSVP: www.signup.com/go/1AFocSE
Questions: 770-529-0046

We invite our entire District 9 PTA membership to the 2nd Annual Evening of Inspiration. We have partnered with the Parent Mentors from all 4 school systems in hosting this event. You will see and hear from exceptional students from all of our school systems. Come join us and show your love!

Treasurer Notes



Keeping Those Records In Good Order

Treasurers, now is a good opportunity to set aside a little time to make sure all your financials are in good shape. Here are six quick steps.

1. **Get Caught Up** - The holidays were a crazy time. it's perfectly natural to have let your book keeping get backed up.
2. **Clean House** - Go through all your records and make sure you have all your documentation in order. Do you have all the receipts and signatures you need?
3. **Verify Book Content** - Does your file contain everything it should? Page 3 of the D9 Money Matters training has a list.
4. **Check Membership Count** - Are your dues payments up to date? Check your membership roster against your financial records. Make any necessary adjustments.
5. **Bank Statement Review** - Have checks written more than two months ago all cleared? If not, you may need to contact the person or business and inquire as to why the check hasn't been cashed. Have all your statements been balanced/reconciled? Have they been checked and signed by someone that's not a signer on the account?
6. **Budget Check** - Look over your budget. Does it still apply? Is there a need for an amendment?

Help is just a phone call away. Contact your Council or District 9 Officers if you have any questions or concerns. It's best to get on track sooner than later.



News from GA PTA

National PTA removed Georgia PTA from probation on December 20, 2017. Georgia PTA is now in good standing with National PTA's Standards of Affiliation. Click [here](#) to read the complete status update via an article in the AJC.



Sign up for [Capitol Watch](#) to stay up to date with the latest happenings under the Gold Dome and see you at Georgia PTA Day at the Capitol on Thursday, March 1st. Click [here](#) for more information!

Nominating Committees and Officer Elections



The Nominating Committee is the most important committee. It holds the key to a successful PTA. This special committee is responsible for presenting the most qualified nominees for a PTA/PTSA office. The future of your PTA/PTSA is in the hands of your nominating committee.

Members of the nominating committee are elected by your general membership; its role is to form a slate of nominees for the next year's elected officers.

Electing the Nominating Committee

- Review your bylaws for the number of regular and alternate members
- Ensure that individuals are members of your local unit
- The current president may **NOT** serve and is not an ex-officio member of the committee.
- Once the committee has completed its tasks and presented its final report, it is discharged
- Elect the nominating committee at least 30 days prior to election
- The nominating committee elects its own chairperson
- Diversity and representation of your school community is key!

Responsibilities of the Nominating Committee

- Review Bylaws for number of officer positions
- Meet early enough to leave time for multiple meetings
- Verify that each candidate is a member of your local PTA/PTSA
- Identify characteristics and skill sets needed in the leadership of the local PTA/PTSA
- Screen, evaluate and nominate the most-qualified candidates for each office
- Keep all discussions confidential
- Select **one** nominee for each office and prepare to state qualifications of each nominee
- Members of the nominating committee may be considered for an office, but must leave the room during the discussion and return when the vote is taken
- All votes taken by the committee are by ballot and require a majority vote
- Post the proposed slate of officers at school at least ten (10) days prior to the election meeting
- Present the nominees at the election meeting
- Keep all documents confidential then destroy everything when the slate is complete

Report of the Nominating Committee

- Prepare a written report (slate) for presentation at the election meeting
- Have chair and members who agree with report sign the report
- Have chair read and hand the report to the presiding officer who conducts the election

Nominating Committees DO NOT:

- Submit a member's name because of friendship
- Nominate someone with the idea of getting him or her involved
- Accept the office for title only
- Post interviewing questionnaires and responses for public viewing
- Fill Committee Chair positions; those are the responsibility of the new elected officers (Executive Committee)

Continued on next page

The Nominee...Are you...

- Willing to receive and attend required PTA training for the position to which you are being nominated?
- Enthusiastic and supportive of your school community?
- A team player, willing and able to collaborate?
- Willing to give PTA a level of priority and commitment?
- Committed to the PTA mission and vision?



Please refer to the [Nominating Committee and Elections Guide](#) at www.georgiapta.org for additional details on nominating committees and officer elections.



Please contact your Council or 9th District if you have questions or run into any issues during your elections process. We are here to support you.



District 9 Cordially Invites you to Our SPRING CONFERENCE

Vendor Fair

April 26, 2018

8:30am Vendor Fair 9:30am Registration

10:00 am Conference

North Star Church

3413 Blue Springs Rd NW, Kennesaw, GA 30144

Follow the [link](#) for Directions

Family Engagement



Take Your Family to School Week – February 11- 17, 2018

For over 120 years, National PTA has been encouraging families to get more involved in their child's education. Your school community can celebrate PTA's long legacy of family engagement during National PTA's Take Your Family to School Week—**Feb. 11-17, 2018**. Even if you have not planned a specific set of activities yet, there is time! Your leadership team, Family Engagement Chair and administrators can identify regular events to highlight that use parent volunteers (reading circles, math centers, cafeteria monitors, front office volunteers, etc.) or plan a special event related to STEM curriculum, the arts, literacy or health and wellness.

While the tendency is to think of these type of themed-activities as pertaining only to elementary school, there are opportunities at the middle and high school levels as well. Spotlighting various careers that family members are involved in can enhance class discussions. Invite your families to an evening event that focuses on college readiness or financial aid. An athletic team can entitle one of their games or matches "Family Night" and give a coupon for "Buy One Get One" concessions. Your program or event does not have to be elaborate or cost a lot of money; the most important thing is to once again communicate that families are not only welcomed, but encouraged to come to school. The week simply provides you with the context. And if you want to do something, but the week of February 11 is simply too soon, there's nothing wrong in hosting a "family in school" event at a later date.

PTA has templates for invitations, morning announcements, social media messaging and more. Those can be found at <https://www.pta.org/home/events/PTA-Take-Your-Family-to-School-Week> We encourage you to plan an activity, promote it and then share all those smiling faces with your school community. Let us know what you are doing as well so that we can share with 9th District PTA.

D9 February Membership Contest



For the month of February, District 9 PTA would like to focus on dads, granddads, uncles and other male figures on the importance of their involvement in the PTA. Make family engagement and PTA relevant to men by connecting it to their children's success in school and in life. Share with men the many benefits of family engagement.

The 3 schools with the highest number of men joining in the month of February will be put in a drawing for something to share with the members of their schools. Local units will need to submit male memberships to District 9 by Wednesday, February 28th, 2018 for the month of February. This is on the honor system, so we don't need names, just a number please. Send this to Ms. Metellus PTA.Lockheed@yahoo.com

To help you with your campaigns, here are some ideas to get you started!!

Elementary School Ideas

- *Carpool Breakfast, handout bagged breakfast with a membership application to all of your carpool parents.
- *Host a Sports Night and invite dads, granddads, uncles and other male figures. Offer Babysitting at school for the event.
- *Drinks on us, offer cold beverages for ASP pickup.
- *Dads Matter Breakfast
- *"Dads on Duty" Dads volunteer at Carpool, Breakfast line, Bus ramp, Front Office, Kindergarten Room Dad, Library Assistant.
- *E-Blast from principal focusing on why male volunteers are important in school.
- *Parent's can request a "Birthday Shout Out" during the morning announcements
- *Discount off of Spirit wear for the month of October
- *Pizza/popsicle/kickball/other theme party for class with most new male members in October.
- *Principal for a Day
- *Coach for a Day
- *Prime parking spot
- *Front row tickets to Spring Musical or family pack for Spring Fling carnival - work with administration to be creative with your school events and have drawing for PTA members.
- *Free admission to the PTA next event to all dads, granddads, uncles, etc. that have PTA membership.
- *Male members get entered into a raffle for a Gift Card

Middle and High School Ideas

- *Homeroom competitions - work with Dunkin' Donuts, Chick-fil-A or other local supporters for breakfast for winning class.
- *Dads Matter Breakfast
- *"Dads on Duty" Dads volunteer at Carpool, Breakfast line, Bus ramp, Front Office, Kindergarten Room Dad, Library Assistant.
- *Homework pass
- *Drive-In Movie, free admissions to all student members
- *Discount off of Spirit wear for the month of October
- *Extra graduation tickets
- *Season seats for basketball or football- work with administration to be creative with your school events and have drawing for PTA members.
- *Go to local businesses and seek donations for a drawing for male members only. Restaurants, movies, zoo, other places they can go or things they can do with their families.
- *At a school sporting event, i.e. basketball, have a freebie give away to all male PTA members that attend that night and have a membership table for people to join that aren't members so they can receive freebie
- *VIP seating at Pep Rally
- *15 minutes early dismissal for Student PTA members, student. Student's can get beat the afternoon crowds and make their way to the bus ramp, carpool, or parking lot.
- *Student PTA members get Prime parking spot for the month
- *Male student members get entered in a Raffle for a Gift Card.

D9 Scholarship Fund



Three years ago, D9 kicked off its **9th District Education Enrichment Grant**. Since then, we've been extremely excited to award **\$200 scholarships** to several of our outstanding students!

These grants are intended to provide funding for tutoring, enrichment activities or camps, or provide support with textbooks and supplies to student applicants **of all ages**, who attend a school within D9.

To be considered for one of our 2018 Education Enrichment Grants, download the application by clicking [HERE](#)

All entries are due March 12, 2018.

Are you, your company or local unit PTA interested in being a **D9 Education Enrichment sponsor**? Please contact Anita Hagins Jones at haginsanita@gmail.com for more information on how you can contribute toward **student success!**

College Scholarship Opportunity



Positive Athlete Georgia announces \$22,000 in College Scholarships. The deadline is March 31, 2017. Positive Athlete Georgia, an organization started by former UGA Football star and Super Bowl XL MVP Hines Ward, will be awarding \$22,000 in college scholarships to Georgia high school student-athletes.

Nominate an athlete who has overcome difficult circumstances, given back to their school and community, or just has an infectious positive attitude. Athletes can be nominated by parents, coaches, teachers, administrators or fans of high school student-athletes grades 9-12.

Nominate online [HERE](#) at the Positive Athlete Georgia's [Website](#).

Click [HERE](#) to see ALL corporately sponsored scholarships available and how to nominate.