

Springfield Council of PTAs



Springfield Council of PTAs and the Missouri Congress of Parents and Teachers (Missouri PTA) will host our annual legislative rally with state and federal representatives on the evening of Thursday Nov. 5, 2015, at Kickapoo High School, 3710 S Jefferson Ave, Springfield, MO, beginning at 6:00 p.m.

You won't want to miss this year's event because we will be giving area high school students a chance to participate by asking questions at the forum.

Please RSVP by October 15, 2015, by replying to this email: petiford@sbcglobal.net.

I look forward to seeing you there!

Sincerely,

Donna Petiford

Legislative Chair for Springfield Council of PTAs
and Past President of Missouri PTA

417.830.4352

See page 8 for more information

In this issue:

President's Letter	2
Agenda	3
RIF	3
4th Grade Play	3
Treasurer's Report	4
Reflections	4
Clothing Bank	5-6
Major Saver	6
Parliamentary Tip	7
Legislative Rally	8
Membership & Incentive	9
SPS Hall of Fame	10

Letter From the President– Carrie Windes

What is a PTA Council?

A Council is a group of local PTA units (no less than three) organized under the authority of the State PTA for the purpose of promoting conferences, communications, leadership development, and coordination of efforts of such local PTA units. It is this council's honor and responsibility to provide support and assistance to our local PTA/PTSA units.

I hope that your units are off to a great start this year and all is running smoothly. One way to ensure things continue to go well is to stay informed. Attending our council meetings is the first step. Information is available on the National PTA (PTA.org), Missouri (MOPTA.org), and Springfield Council of PTAs (scptamo.com) websites. SCPTA also has a Facebook page (Springfield Council of PTAs) and Twitter account (SCPTA). Another excellent source of information is this newsletter!

We, as a Council board, want to work with our units, parents, teachers, and principals for the benefit of all of our students.

Council Officers:

- Carrie Windes, President, crgraphics@sbcglobal.net
- Michele Boswell, Bylaws, Advocacy, Scholarships, Micheleboswell@mac.com
- Jennifer Penny, Clothing Bank, Safety, Maxandmecompany@gmail.com
- Kim Wrinkle, Membership, Founders' Day, kwrinkle77@yahoo.com
- Lori Nelson, Reflections, 4th Grade Play, RIF, nelson4336@sbcglobal.net
- Becky Volz, Treasurer, rsvolz5@gmail.com
- Mary Christiano, Secretary, mary_christiano@sbcglobal.net

PTA Mission:

The overall purpose of PTA is to be

A powerful voice for all children

A relevant resource for families and communities, and

A strong advocate for the education and well-being of every child.

***“You tell me
and I forget.
You teach
me and I
remember.
You involve
me and I
learn.”***

**Benjamin
Franklin**

We are still looking to fill a few positions on our Council Board. If you are interested, please see one of our Officers after today's meeting.

Thank you!

how can
YOU 
help ?

Agenda October 7, 2015 Pershing Elementary/Middle School

- I) Welcome
- II) Pledge of Allegiance
- III) Pershing Elementary Choir, Pershing Middle School String Sensations and Jazz Band
- IV) Pershing PTA President, Brette Hay; PTSA President, Christie Browne; and Principal, Pam Holmes
- V) Michele Boswell, SCPTA VP of Organization & Development; Dale Krumm, Major Saver; and Pershing Principal, Pam Holmes
- VI) Patty Dunn, SCPTA Clothing Bank
- VII) Financial Report, Becky Volz
- VIII) Council Reports, All officer reports are printed in this newsletter.
- IX) Sergeant at Arms, Lori Chisholm
- X) Adjourn



Reading Is
Fundamental

A BIG THANK YOU to the following PTA Units schools for their contributions to RIF this year: Disney, Field, Hickory Hills Elem, and Pleasant View Elem. We are ordering the books for the first distribution now. The first distribution is Wednesday October 28 at Tefft. If you would like to help sort we are working on Tuesday the 27 from 9 am to noon at Tefft.

Thanks,
Mary Christiano



Council General Meeting minutes are approved by the Executive Committee as directed in the bylaws. Minutes are available online at <http://scptamo.com/category/meetings/>.

4th Grade Play

This year we have selected Huck Finn as the 4th Grade Play/ Springfield Little Theatre Literature to Life Presentation! SLT will be presenting the special daytime performances for Springfield Public School 4th graders on Tuesday, October 27 and Wednesday, October 28 at 9:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

All 4th grade students in the district will be provided transportation to Springfield Little Theatre compliments of Teresa Bledsoe and the Community Relations and Strategic Planning Office of Springfield Public Schools. We know that it will be a wonderful opportunity for all of our 4th graders to be exposed to great literature in our local community. Thank you to PTA Council and Springfield Public Schools for continuing to make this happen!



Treasurer's Report

Account	6/30/2015	8/31/2015
CARE Fund	138.29	138.30
Clothing Bank	8,468.81	3,824.47
General Checking	79,759.30	79,567.43
Gertrude McBride Fund	3,763.54	3,763.92
Scholarship Checking	2,790.91	2,838.81
Total Unrestricted Funds	94,920.85	90,132.93
Scholarship CD (Restricted)	47,476.00	47,476.00
Total Funds	\$142,396.85	\$137,608.93

Tips for Treasurers

- When receiving money for membership dues and fundraiser sales, be sure to deposit cash and checks immediately into your PTA/PTSA account. Cash counting sheets are available from your SCPTA treasurer, or make your own. Two people should count and sign and date the sheet. Be sure to make notes identifying all deposits and expenses, including what monies are from fundraiser item sales and what monies are from memberships, or donations. Copies of deposit/cash sheets from each event should be given to the Chairman and the Treasurer.
- Keep a spreadsheet of your memberships noting name, amount received, date received and the date you sent state and national portions to MO PTA. Forms are available at <http://mopta.org/wp-content/uploads/2007/08/2015-2016MembershipDuesForm.pdf> or by emailing rsvolz5@gmail.com. The portion of unit dues for the state are requested at the beginning of each month.



Detailed financial records are available on-line at <http://www.nonprofitcentral.biz>. Use SCPTA as the username and password.

November 10th is the collection date that we have set for the Springfield PTA. This year we have the opportunity to use the Creamery for our drop off sight. We will be there collecting art from 6 - 8pm. Please make sure that you have taken all of your pictures of your art before you have given it to us. All 3-D art needs to be packaged in a box for safe transport. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at aaronmrads@yahoo.com or call (417) 619-7533.



CLOTHING BANK

We have had so many wonderful things happening at the Clothing Bank--it is a joy to share all the good news!

We continue to send weekly text blasts to remind schools of their assigned day at the Clothing Bank, and we have been met with an incredible response! Every week we get to see old friends of the Clothing Bank and make new ones from nearly every school in the district. Our volunteers are the heart of the organization and their willingness to serve is invaluable and inspiring! If you haven't already done so, please sign up to receive reminders by texting @scptag to 81010.

Again this year after the *Trading Hands* Kids Consignment Sale ended, Jennifer Shotwell with Delaware PTA loaded up her truck and brought us tons and tons of beautiful children's clothes! Later that day, we had a huge group of volunteer moms and dads from Hickory Hills work alongside us to get the entire donation out on the floor for our customers!

Wanda Gray Elementary PTA continues to show us generosity in action! They collected 20 boxes of clothing for us earlier in the school year—only to top that with a recent all-school clothing drive that literally filled half of our donation/sorting room! If that wasn't enough, they sent volunteers to help hang all of the clothing and then gave us a \$500 donation! They said it was important to their PTA to provide the children with an example of supporting their community. We think they set a beautiful example!

The Girl Scouts at Jeffries Elementary collected a carload of clothing for The Clothing Bank! What an outstanding thing these young ladies did for fellow SPS students.

For two consecutive Saturdays, we were the very grateful recipients of MSU's *Bear Up--Into The Streets* volunteer program. Almost 30 good-hearted souls worked for hours and completed every single job we had on our list, plus some we never thought we would get to! The bonus? They were a great group of young people to serve alongside!

After their very successful garage sale, *Help Give Hope* was kind enough to pass along clothing--in those sizes we are always needing --to help out the children we get to serve through The Clothing Bank! We were grateful to this organization that provides such a wonderful service to our community.



We were just one of many grateful recipients as some 1,300 Parkview students took to the streets for their annual *Parkview Cares* day. Twenty students and two teachers worked steadily for hours to start and even finish projects that were becoming a little overwhelming for us. What an awesome program this is and we, of course, think we got to work with the nicest kids out of the bunch!

continued page 6

CLOTHING BANK (continued)

Commerce Bank employee and friend-of-the-Clothing Bank, Whitney, organized a coat drive and cash donation drive. Commerce raised over \$1600 and donated over 50 winter coats! Not only did they personally come by to deliver the check and coats, but three bank employees stayed a while to volunteer! Amazing!!

And last but certainly not least, as part of a PBL unit on citizenship, students in four classrooms at Hickory Hills looked for an opportunity to help kids in their own community—and they chose to help kids through the Clothing Bank! For a few weeks they worked hard to recruit volunteers, gather clothing donations, and hold a bake sale to raise money for the PTA Clothing Bank. The students were in charge of planning, organizing, and communicating their project to the community. Their efforts paid off as they raised \$648.75 from their bake sale, recruited over 15 volunteers, and collected several boxes of clothing. Their teachers said the students “were beyond thrilled to help an organization that provides so much for kids that are in need in their community.” We were humbled to be the recipients of their very special blessing!



Mark Your Calendars!

Major Saver Fundraising Card dates have been set. The fundraiser will run from March 17-29 with kickoff assemblies occurring on the 17th and 18th.

Remember this is the largest fundraiser the Council does all year to benefit the Clothing Bank, AND each unit raises money for their own school as well. For each \$15 card sold, your school will receive \$3.75 and the Council will receive \$3.75.

Contact Michele Boswell at 417-693-1302 or micheleboswell@mac.com to sign up. This is a GREAT way to raise extra money for your school and help provide clothing to students in need throughout the district.



Parliamentary Tip of the Month

Parliamentary procedure requires that all members have equal rights; that there be mutual respect among board members; that the rights of the minority to initiate motions, debate, and have their votes counted be protected, while at the same time the will of the majority governs.

Only one item may be under consideration at a time.

The majority vote decides the question.

The simplest, clearest, most expeditious way to conduct business is considered proper, as long as it does not violate the rights of members.



RESPONSIBILITIES OF BOARDS

Assure that all business is conducted in accordance with the purpose and bylaws of the organization.

Assure that only those individuals who are properly authorized speak, correspond, or otherwise act for the entire organization.

Assure that all members are aware of the organization's purpose and are trained in its procedures.

Assure that all business is conducted in a manner that preserves the organization's tax-exempt status.

Assure that all funds are handled in a responsible manner and disbursed in accordance with the budget and other guidelines.

Assure that income is adequate to maintain the organization's activities and programs.

Assure that membership practices comply with state and federal requirements.

Assure that all records are maintained and retained and that property and equipment is maintained properly.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF INDIVIDUAL BOARD MEMBERS

Attend all meetings at which business is discussed.

Be familiar with and review bylaws, financial statements and other significant documents.

Know how meetings should be conducted – know your parliamentary procedure.

Keep good records.

Insist any activities having legal ramifications be reviewed by counsel.

Speak and act only with authority granted or delegated.

Communicate and act through proper channels.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Can bylaws be suspended?

Only bylaws that are clearly in the nature of rules of order (for a business meeting) may be suspended. This can be done with a two-thirds vote. For more information, refer to Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised 11th Edition (RONR).

President has resigned, now what?

Most PTA bylaws have a provision in Article VI Section 9 that an election will occur to fill the unexpired term of any officer that resigns and that, in the event of the President's resignation, the Vice-President will serve the notice of election. In the interim, the Vice-President will act as president until the election occurs. This is different from RONR in which case your PTA bylaws supersede RONR.

When does a resignation take effect?

A resignation is actually a request to be excused from a duty. It is effective only after the resignation has been accepted by the appointing or electing authority, unless the by-laws say otherwise.

Are mail-in, email or telephone okay?

No, not unless authorized by the bylaws. If allowed per bylaws, a provision should be included that states that the result of such votes will be noted in the minutes of the next meeting.

Does a treasurer's report need to have a motion of approval?

No, a motion is not needed nor is it proper. A treasurer's report is simply "received" as it is given and no motion should be made to "adopt", "accept" or "approve" it. An annual auditors' report, on the other hand, is "accepted" or adopted.

LEGISLATIVE RALLY

Our annual Legislative Focus event is THURSDAY, NOV. 5 in the EVENING, beginning at 6:00 p.m. at Kickapoo High School.

Encourage your members to attend our Council's annual Legislative Focus event (and all council meetings). Make plans now to attend and recruit additional members to join you. Remember that you can bring an unlimited number of members to any council meeting, however, only 5 may vote if a vote on council issues occurs during our business meeting.

Encourage your elected officials to attend. We have invited the following legislators to the event, but your encouragement is needed to help them prioritize our meeting in their busy schedules!

Missouri House Members:

Sonya Anderson (Sonya.Anderson@house.mo.gov)

Charlie Norr (Charlie.Norr@house.mo.gov)

Eric Burlison (Eric.Burlison@house.mo.gov)

Elijah Haahr (Elijah.Haahr@house.mo.gov)

Lincoln Hough (Lincoln.Hough@house.mo.gov)

Kevin Austin (Kevin.Austin@house.mo.gov)

Lyndall Fraker (Lyndall.Fraker@house.mo.gov)



Missouri Senate Members:

Bob Dixon (Bob.Dixon@senate.mo.gov)

Jay Wasson (Jay.Wasson@senate.mo.gov)

Federal Elected Officials:

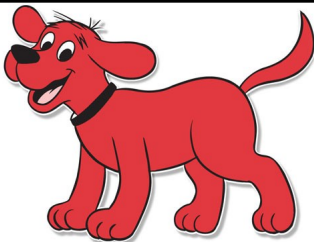
Sen. Claire McCaskill Phone: (417) 868-8745

Sen. Roy Blunt Phone: (417) 877-7814

Rep. Billy Long Phone: (417) 889-4915

Please contact me if you have questions or need additional help in contacting your elected officials

Donna Petiford (petiford@sbcglobal.net)



Clifford Takes a Walk! (From Safe Kids Springfield)

Our Clifford books arrived just in time for Walk This Way! We're so excited to schedule story times at area elementary schools to teach kids about pedestrian safety and to provide books to participants.

Our first 400 books are already scheduled for distribution and we're hoping to get more copies ASAP.

Clifford the Big Red Dog will be joining us "in person" to kick off Walk This Way next week, as well as coming to Marshfield very soon!!! If your school (or child's school) is interested in a Clifford program, please contact me at info@safekidsspringfield.org



SCPTA MEMBERSHIP CHALLENGES

MEMBER CHALLENGE - Every PTA Unit who has increased their membership over last year will be entered into a drawing for a great prize. Deadline is Wednesday, October 21, 2015.

BUSINESS MEMBERSHIP CHALLENGE - Increase your school's business membership total from last year and your school goes into a drawing for a wonderful prize. The deadline to report is October 21, 2015. Drawing for prizes will be at the November Council meeting. Totals will be based on State office totals received from Units by October 21, 2015.

Don't forget that Pinterest is your best friend when looking for fun and different membership ideas!

FOCUS ON HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

This year we wanted to directly encourage our high school students to join. We asked our bank if they would donate a Visa gift card that we could award to a student for joining. We offered a student membership drive for thirty days. As a result, our student membership increased significantly and a student won a \$50 gift card. The drive was so successful that the bank donated a second gift card and we are going to do it again! We have also had students attend our general meetings this year. We are very excited to see this increase and we are hoping this will continue.

We have found that our presence at school functions has also helped with membership. Having a sense of urgency by having deadlines and a give away has helped with our pursuit to increase our student membership!

Nicole Hopper
Membership Chair
Hillcrest High School PTSA President



SCPTA Meeting Incentive Program - \$250

If you send a PTA/PTSA member to every Springfield Council meeting this school year, your unit will receive \$250 from SCPTA at our May 2016 meeting.

The program will begin with October's meeting. Principal attendance does not count. It must be a member of your unit who attends. Be sure to sign in each time when you arrive!



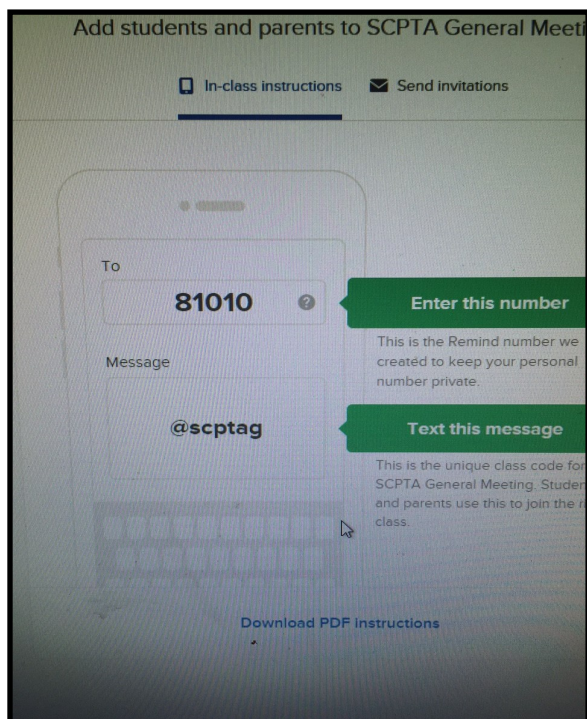
2015 Hall of Fame inductees named

Steven D. Edwards, Glendale High School, Class of 1984, President and CEO, CoxHealth; Dr. Anthony Hlavacek, Kickapoo High School, Class of 1992, Associate Professor of Pediatrics and Radiology Medical Director, Pediatric Cardiology Inpatient Unit (8D), Medical University of South Carolina; and Susan Everett Provance, Glendale High School, Class of 1971, Community Recreation Administrator, Springfield-Greene County Park Board; and Retired Coach, Springfield Public Schools will be honored October 22nd.

The Springfield Public Schools Hall of Fame annually honors some of the district's most outstanding graduates whose education has been a cornerstone of their success. Inductees have demonstrated a commitment to giving back to the community, have received accolades in their industry, and are advocates for strong public education.

Want to learn more about the inductees, here is a link to the news release: http://www.springfieldpublicschoolsmo.org/pages/SPSMO/News/2015_Hall_of_Fame_inductees_na.

The October 22 inductee luncheon will be held at Bass Pro White River Conference Center, 600 W. Sunshine Street, beginning at noon. Tickets for the event will be on sale October 1-12 by calling 523-0021 or ehiggins@spsmail.org.



Be sure to sign up for REMIND so you receive important text reminders about SCPTA general membership meetings; Clothing Bank volunteer schedule; specific donation needs at the Clothing Bank; Reflections deadlines, etc.

It's easy to sign up for this FREE service that many teachers and coaches already put to use. Just text @scptag to 81010. You will be asked to reply with your full name, then you'll receive a text confirming that you are on the REMIND thread for SCPTA!