

October 2013  
Volume 2, Issue 2

# Springfield Council of PTAs

Organized 1913 • Visit: <http://scptamo.com> for more information

## ***PTA Mission: The overall purpose of PTA is to be***

- The 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.

## **Call to Convention**

Missouri PTA 98th Annual State Convention

October 18-20, 2013

University Plaza Hotel, Springfield, MO

### ***Our 98th Annual Convention includes...***

- National PTA Board Members
- National PTA Special Guest All-Conference Speaker and Convention Representative
- Dr. C.J. Huff, Joplin Public Schools, Saturday night Keynote Speaker
- Workshops full of information to help you throughout the year
- Exhibit Hall with vendors just waiting to help fulfill your needs
- PTA Shoppe stocked with items
- Awards...Awards...Awards
- Installation of New Missouri PTA Officers

### **Absolute last Convention deadline is October 3, 2013.**

Presidents, present this to your boards and bring as many people as you can. If you have student leaders interested, there is a student track and they will be producing a Distracted Driving PSA video. Two students can come for the price of one!

Workshop information and convention schedules are available online at [www.mopta.org](http://www.mopta.org).

This convention is in our backyard, and it's the perfect time to capitalize on the fun, knowledge and training at our fingertips. For instance, there will be Reflections training available for your Reflections Chair.

If you have any questions, call **800-328-7330**.



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# A Letter from the President



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***...it helps to learn  
information from  
other units and see  
that we are all  
working toward the  
common goal...***

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In preparing my letter for the Council News, I went back to see what topics past Presidents had written about. I knew I wanted one of my goals this year to be attendance at Council meetings. Low and behold, that had been one of their goals, too! I hadn't come up with anything new but just had the same strong feelings my predecessors had about our Council Meetings. It is okay to repeat this message over and over because many of you are new Presidents, officers or Principals and because these meetings are an important way to help your unit run more efficiently. Springfield PTA/PTSA units are lucky to have a Council, one of the largest in the state, to help them function more smoothly. Whether it's Reflections training, Treasurer's tips, or just reminding you of deadlines, the Council meeting is the first place to gather information that will help you run your unit. When you attend meetings, it helps to learn information from other units and see that we are all working toward the common goal of promoting PTA to support our teachers, families and **every child**.

One topic that National PTA is promoting is Every Child In Focus. This program focuses on ways to include all of our families in our PTA process despite cultural diversities. Every month this program focuses on how to engage and highlight a specific diverse group. September was the month of the Hispanic child and October is the month of the Urban Child. Please visit [www.pta.org](http://www.pta.org) to check out this program for great ideas on how to help your unit be more inclusive for the benefit of **every child**.

In closing, I want to remind everyone that another great place for information is our website [www.scptamo.com](http://www.scptamo.com). It has links to the Missouri PTA website and the National PTA website along with our Facebook page. Please check these sites regularly for news and information! Let's have a great year working together for **every child**!

Remember, tomorrow is the last day to sign up for the Missouri PTA 98th Annual State Convention October 18-20. I can't wait to see you there!

Sincerely,  
Patty Dunn, President  
Springfield Council of PTAs

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"If not us, who? If not now, when?"

*John F. Kennedy*

# **Agenda**

**October 2, 2013**  
**Mark Twain Elementary**

- I) Welcome
- II) Pledge of Allegiance
- III) Program: Twain students
- IV) Superintendent – Dr. Norm Ridder
- V) Principal and President’s Message: Mrs. Manlove & Diane Killion
- VI) Presenters:
  - Gerry Lee – Don’t Meth with Us
  - Logan Aguirre – Darkness to Light
  - Matt Hudson – Project Graduation fundraiser
- VII) Financial Report – Jeremiah Mee
- VIII) Council Reports:
  - a. President – Patty Dunn
  - b. VP of Organization – Dot Atkinson
  - c. VP of Promotions – Carrie Windes
  - d. VP of Health and Public Services – Kim Wrinkle
  - e. VP of Programs – Jana Hansen
- IX) Old Business: Absolute last Convention Deadline October 3rd!
- X) Sergeant at Arms – Kirk Elmquist
- XI) Adjourned

## **HB 253 Defeated...**

The controversial tax cut bill, HB 253, was defeated during the special veto session in September. This bill, if passed, would have had a huge negative impact on the state government's contribution to the funding of public education in Missouri. HB 253 was passed by both houses at the end of the regular legislative session in May; however, Governor Nixon vetoed the bill. The veto was sustained by a slim margin of 15 votes. Thank you to local legislators, Rep. Charlie Norr, Rep. Lynn Mor-

ris, Rep. Lyndall Fraker, and Rep. Jeffrey Morris for casting a no vote and saving Missouri schools from this drastic tax cut measure. The Springfield Council of PTAs wishes to thank all who contacted their legislator about this issue. A special thank you to Missouri PTA for bringing awareness of HB253 and its impact on Missouri public education across the state and for tirelessly calling and emailing all the state legislators and providing a voice for public education supporters.

# Reflections

## Believe, Dream, Inspire

Thanks to all who came out for the Reflections trainings! If you were unable to make the meetings, you can access the pertinent information at [www.scptamo.com](http://www.scptamo.com). For complete rules please visit [www.mopta.org](http://www.mopta.org). Please encourage your students to participate in any one or more of the six categories: Dance Choreography, Film Production, Literature, Musical Composition, Photography and Visual Arts. Happy Reflecting!

Questions? Jana Hansen 918.346.0112 or [tennismom7@gmail.com](mailto:tennismom7@gmail.com).



## Reading is Fundamental (RIF)

The next distribution for RIF will be Wednesday, October 30, 9:00am-noon at the Tefft Building 1418 E. Pythian.



## Bank Account Overview – Aug. 31, 2013

Account	Current Balance
General Checking	\$ 76,113
CARE Checking	\$ 2,962
Clothing Bank Checking	16,951
McBride Checking	7,312
Scholarship Checking	1,216
Z Scholarship CD (Restricted)	46,301
Total	\$ 74,742

## Financial Overview

	ACTUAL			BUDGET			More/-Less
	In	Out	Net	In	Out	Net	
Fundraising Projects	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 21,000	\$ -	\$ 21,000	\$ (21,000)
Other Income	176	-	176	5,860	-	5,860	(5,684)
Special Funds	19,000	12,713	6,287	21,350	23,850	(2,500)	8,787
Administrative	15	25	(10)	-	2,435	(2,435)	2,425
Contributions	-	-	-	-	8,875	(8,875)	8,875
Leadership/Service to Units	-	173	(173)	3,500	5,100	(1,600)	1,427
Officers' Training	-	-	-	-	4,150	(4,150)	4,150
Programs	1	-	1	-	5,850	(5,850)	5,851
Awards / Recognition	-	100	(100)	-	1,450	(1,450)	1,350
Prior Year Revenues	18,860	-	18,860	-	-	-	18,860
Total	\$ 38,052	\$ 13,011	\$ 25,041	\$ 51,710	\$ 51,710	\$ -	\$ 25,041

# Clothing Bank

## Volunteers Needed on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons!

The Clothing Bank is off to a fantastic start and we have been very busy during our first month open in our new location. Our new hours are working very well for our families and are a little harder for our volunteers to work. We would be thrilled to get at least one or two more helpers at each opening from 2:00-5:00pm. The Clothing Bank has the most amazing volunteers and we appreciate you all very much.

### October Schedule

1 & 3	Kickapoo & Feeder Schools
8 & 10	Parkview & Feeder Schools
15 & 17	Glendale & Feeder Schools
22 & 24	Hillcrest & Feeder Schools & Greenwood
29 & 31	Central & Feeder Schools

**Work times: 11-2 and 2-5**

**2343 W. Olive**

**(behind Study Alternative Center)**

### Clothing Bank Wish List

Black Drawstring  
Trash Bags,  
Volunteers,  
Jeans and Athletic pants  
in all sizes

## Membership Incentives & Tip

**First Challenge: Tower of Power Challenge:** For every 10% membership increase over the previous year membership totals your school goes into a drawing for: Dinner gift cards and movie tickets! Deadline for reporting the number of members to be considered for this challenge is Wednesday, November 13, 2013.

**Second Challenge: Business Power Challenge:** Double your school's business membership total from last year and your school goes into a drawing for: Dinner gift cards and movie tickets! Deadline for reporting the number of members to be considered for this challenge is Wednesday, November 13, 2013.

**Drawing for prizes will be at the December Council Meeting:** Membership totals will be based on state office totals received from units by Wednesday, November 13, 2013. To determine your final membership number from the previous year, contact Catherine Schmittling at [reachmehereorthere@gmail.com](mailto:reachmehereorthere@gmail.com) or at 417-887-6717.

**TIP.** For a great membership recruitment idea, visit [vimeo.com/grindstonepta](http://vimeo.com/grindstonepta). Ohio's Grindstone PTA has come up with a great membership tool. Watch their video/slideshows and be inspired. Start planning now for next year: decide on a theme, take pictures all year, create your video over the summer, show at parent orientation, post on website, show at PTA programs...

## Save the Date...

Town Hall Meeting presented by Missouri PTA and hosted by the Springfield Council of PTAs.

**When:** Wednesday, Nov. 6th - 9:15AM

**Location:** Westport Elementary

Please attend and find out what will be the priorities for the upcoming legislative session from our local state legislators.



# Parliamentarian Tips – Motions

The use of parliamentary procedure is meant to facilitate the conducting of business in organizations, and provides a process through which your PTA can work out satisfactory solutions to the greatest number of questions in the least amount of time. The use of simple procedures will assure the majority of opinion decides important issues while giving the minority of opinion a fair opportunity to be heard. It is best to follow some degree of parliamentary procedure at all meetings—it is not something to look to only when you get into trouble.

The purpose parliamentary procedure is not to make the rules more important than the purpose of the organization. Therefore, it is necessary for the presiding officer to use good judgment in the application of Robert's Rules, never being stricter than necessary for the good of the meeting. General Henry M. Robert himself often said that many parliamentary rules could and should be modified for small organizations. It is important to keep the procedure simple, but fair.

One subject that confuses small organizations is the process of handling motions. It is important that the business of the organization be formalized through the process of making motions so that the members will have a clear understanding from the meeting and/or the minutes, of what has occurred. The procedure of making a motion causes the focus to be on making one decision at a time; it assures that

the question is clearly stated and recorded; and it assures the membership that decisions are being made based on the majority of opinion.

A subject is introduced to the meeting by a member making a "main motion." Most motions must be seconded. The chair determines if the motion is in order and before any discussion takes place, the chair will restate the motion for clarity and indicate that it is open to discussion. During discussion, only motions affecting the original motion or the general conduct of the meeting may be made. The main motion may be amended (by majority vote), referred to a committee (by a majority vote), or postponed (by majority or 2/3rds). These are debatable motions in themselves and each can also be amended.

The motion to "lay the pending motion on the table" (temporarily set aside because something more urgent has come up) or the motion on the previous question (close debate and force an immediate vote on the issues at hand) are not debatable. A matter may be laid on the table by majority vote and taken from the table by a majority vote. The motion on the previous question always requires a 2/3rds vote.

A majority vote is defined as more than half of the votes cast by persons entitled to vote (excluding abstentions) at a regularly or properly called meeting.

Donna Petiford  
Council Parliamentarian



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***Tip of the month.***  
***The procedure of making a motion causes the focus to be on making one decision at a time...***

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