

## Founder's Day Banquet! Mark Your Calendars.



Make plans to join us as we celebrate PTA with our Annual Founder's Day Banquet! As we know, PTA would not exist without its wonderful volunteers. This is the time to put them in the spotlight! We would like each school to submit the name of an outstanding PTA volunteer for their school. This person should be someone who has personified the PTA mission by giving of his or her time unselfishly. We would like to honor this PTA volunteer at the Founder's Day Celebration. This year's celebration will be **Thursday, February 20th, 2013, at 6:30 p.m.** (Doors open at 6 p.m.) The event will be hosted by Central High School in the Central High School Commons. Watch for details, deadlines and order forms in the January issue of the Springfield Council of PTAs newsletter!

## A Tisket, A Tasket—Please donate a basket!

SCPTAs will be conducting a silent auction during the Founders Day Banquet to benefit the CARE Fund. We are encouraging all PTA units to donate a themed basket to be auctioned off. Past themes include: sports, spa day, movie night, rainy day, craft night and chocolate! Any and all donations will be gratefully accepted. Please contact Dot Atkinson at [dotdatkinson@gmail.com](mailto:dotdatkinson@gmail.com) for more information and pick-up.



## JC/DC Network

The Springfield Council of PTAs encourages all PTA members to become a member of the JC/DC (Jefferson City/Washington DC) Network. This is a grassroots advocacy group for PTA members across Missouri and the US. Its main focus is to inform members of pending state and federal legislation of interest to PTA. Please sign-up today. The Missouri legislative session begins in January! Visit [www.mopta.org](http://www.mopta.org).

## DO YOU KNOW WHAT IT TAKES... to be a unit in good standing?

- Submit: Financial Review, Year-End Report, IRS Report and State Dues to Missouri PTA by December 1st.
- Review: Unit Bylaws every 3 years and send updates to MOPTA.

If you have any questions or concerns about your unit's status, please contact Jill at [office@mopta.org](mailto:office@mopta.org) or 1-800-328-7330.

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***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.

## **A Letter from the President**

Happy Holidays to all of our PTA/PTSA families. During this time of joyous celebration, quiet reflection, and renewed sense of purpose, I'd like to thank the PTA units for all of their hard work so far this year and congratulate them for everything they've accomplished for our children. We are almost half way through the year, and we need to continue to reach out to those who are not PTA members and encourage them to join. The membership in your units reaches far beyond the walls of your school. PTA is the largest organization that advocates for our kids in the nation, and it depends on every level in order to keep its foundation strong and functioning; and that starts with an individual membership.

I'd also like to thank the Springfield Council PTA Board for all of their hard work this year. It is an honor and a privilege to serve as President, but any credit for everything that happens goes to the board members. They have been amazingly hard working, and they are dedicated to the children of Springfield and PTA. Many of the board members are new and they have stepped up and blown me away with their willingness to serve. Many on the board have been around for quite a while, and they have blown me away with their willingness to stick around, continuing to serve and their dedication. I am so thankful for all of them and honored to serve with them.

Speaking of honors, serving on a **Nominating Committee** is an honor and a privilege. Stop, don't run! This committee is the Unit or Council's most responsible, sensitive and deliberative body. The decision of this committee will affect the future of your Unit or Council! This committee needs a variety of people who are willing to really look at candidates for their merit and ability and who have the courage to express ideas and defend their convictions. This committee has the responsibility to find candidates who will be up to the challenge of serving. The Springfield Council will elect its nominating committee at this December general meeting. For fair representation, we need one member from each of the five SPS High School areas. Please stop and think; do I care about PTA and the future of this Council? Could I be of service in this area? It's not a time consuming committee, just a very important one! Thank you for not running and for serving.

Happy Holidays!  
Patty Dunn, President SCPTA

***"In any situation, the best thing you can do is the right thing, the next best thing is the wrong thing; the worst thing you can do is nothing."***

*Theodore Roosevelt*



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***PTA is the largest  
organization  
that advocates  
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# **Agenda**

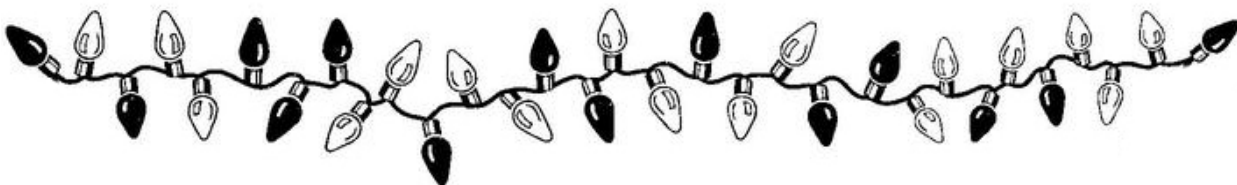
**December 4, 2013**  
**James A. Jeffries Elementary**

- I) Welcome
- II) Pledge of Allegiance
- III) Program: Jeffries Students
- IV) Superintendent – Dr. Norm Ridder
- V) Principal and President's Message: Dr. Liz Cooper and Shannon Gonzales
- VI) Presenters: Detective Estrada from the Springfield Police department – Project Graduation's Spring Basketball Fundraiser and Susan Blakey, Assistant Director of High School Programs – OTC High School Programs
- 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) New Business: Elect Nominating Committee
- X) Sergeant at Arms – Kirk Elmquist
- XI) Adjourn

## **Happy Holidays from PTA Clothing Bank!**

Thanks to all of our wonderful volunteers and donors! We have had a very successful first three months in our new home at Study serving over 875 students. We are closed for a short break with the exception of Saturday, December 7 from 9 to 11 a.m. Regular hours will start again on January 14, 2014.

Don't forget to keep bringing those donations of coats, shirts and pants to the Clothing Bank. We will still be working on Tuesdays from Noon to 2 p.m. processing donations and working with our class from Study. Please contact Kim Wrinkle if you need to arrange another time or day to bring donations.



# Treasurer's Report

**ALL** units are required to file a tax return with IRS by **November 15, 2013** for the tax year 2012 (2012-2013 school years). **File a 990-N (electronically) if gross receipts are less than \$50,000. File a 990-EZ and a Schedule A if gross receipts are more than \$50,000.**

The following documents should have been turned in to Missouri PTA on December 1, 2013:

- Year-End Financial Reports
- Copy of Annual Financial Review (audit)
- Copy of IRS Form 990-N or 990-EZ

Missouri PTA must receive these documents for your unit to be a "Unit in Good Standing". **Your unit must be in good standing to participate in Reflections and Membership Awards.**

Your dues for Springfield Council of PTAs should have been paid by November. If you have not paid your dues, the total amount due at this time is \$45. SCPTA must receive your dues for your unit to be a "Unit in Good Standing."

October Financial Overview	
Account balance as of 10/31/2013	
General Checking	\$75,917.10
<b>Restricted Funds</b>	
CARE Checking	\$3,052.05
Clothing Bank Checking	\$15,300.91
≈McBride Checking	\$7,598.06
Scholarship Checking	\$1,933.00
Z Scholarship CD (Restricted)	\$46,301.00
Total:	\$74,185.02



## Gertrude McBride & CARE Funds

PTA Presidents: Please confirm with your principal that they have received an application for the Gertrude McBride Fund (middle/high school) or CARE Fund (elementary). The Gertrude McBride Fund provides assistance to students demonstrating a financial need and the CARE Fund rewards outstanding behavior, attendance and/or academic achievement at the elementary level. PRINCIPALS: requests for funds are due **December 20, 2013**. Please contact Jennifer Givens at [jenng46@mchsi.com](mailto:jenng46@mchsi.com) or Dot Atkinson at [dotdatkinson@gmail.com](mailto:dotdatkinson@gmail.com) for more information. **UNITS MUST BE IN GOOD STANDING TO RECEIVE FUNDS..**

## Nominating Committee Reminder

Please begin forming your nominating committee. Review your unit's by-laws for the correct procedure.



# Reflections—Believe, Dream, Inspire

Join us for the Reflections Showcase on Sunday, January 19, 2014, at Battlefield Mall, JC Penney East Court from 1 to 4 p.m. Awards ceremony at 3 p.m.  
Deadline for Missouri PTA Competition is January 16, 2014.



## Reading is Fundamental Events



### ANNUAL COOKIE SALE

RIF will have homemade holiday cookies for sale at the Christmas Parade on Saturday, December 14, in downtown Springfield. Look for us in the PenMac Building, 447 South Ave. and at the Gillioz Theater, Park Central East, from noon until after the parade.

Cookies may be preordered, also. Mark how many 1/2 dozen of each you want to order.

<input type="checkbox"/> Chocolate Chip	<input type="checkbox"/> Mexican Wedding	<input type="checkbox"/> Chocolate Crackles
<input type="checkbox"/> Snickerdoodles	<input type="checkbox"/> Decorated Sugar	<input type="checkbox"/> Peanut Butter
<input type="checkbox"/> Spritz	<input type="checkbox"/> Oatmeal	<input type="checkbox"/> Gingerbread or molasses

Cookies are a half dozen (6) in bags for \$2, 2 dozen on a plate for \$10 or a tray of 4 dozen on a decorative plate/tray for \$20.

Ordered cookies may be picked up all day Friday at 309 E. Water or at the Christmas Parade on Saturday at the PenMac Building.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

1/2 dozen cookies in bags: \_\_\_\_\_ at \$2 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Trays of cookies: 2 dozen on tray \_\_\_\_\_ at \$10 each. = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

4 dozen on tray \_\_\_\_\_ at \$20 each. = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total order amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Call or email specific request to Peggy Stepp at 883-6727 or at [rifspringfieldmo@gmail.com](mailto:rifspringfieldmo@gmail.com).

**Deadline for orders is Wed., Dec. 11, by fax (print, black ink) 417-863-7825 or phone 417-883-6727.**

### BARNES & NOBLE BOOK FAIR

supporting

#### Reading is Fundamental of Springfield

Sun., Dec. 15, 2013 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.

3055 S. Glenstone

**11167335**

Please present this voucher prior to making your purchase. A percentage of the net sale will be contributed to your school/organization.

The purchase of gift cards, Barnes & Noble memberships, textbooks, magazine subscriptions, video games, purchases made at cafes owned and operated by Starbucks, and other items Barnes & Noble may exclude from time to time in its sole discretion are not eligible for bookfair sales. Institutional discounts may not be applied.

See [BN.COM/bookfairs](http://BN.COM/bookfairs) for more details and to shop online.

### SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN AND LET'S WELCOME HIM!

Please come join us as we welcome SANTA to Barnes & Noble Bookstore on Sunday, December 15, at 2 p.m. All people (RIF Alumni) who received RIF books, helped with distributions, were teachers of RIF kids and parents of RIF kids are invited to join us as we celebrate RIF in Springfield for 35 years!





# Membership Incentives & News

Today we are drawing for prizes for our Membership Challenges!

**First Challenge: Tower of Power Challenge:** For every 10% membership increase over the previous year membership totals, the following schools qualified to go into a drawing for four Zipline tickets to Indian Point Family Fun Park: Bingham Elementary, Bowerman Elementary, Boyd Elementary, Hickory Hills Elementary, Jarrett Middle School, Sherwood Elementary and Wilson's Creek 5-6 Intermediate School. Congratulations to each school on your accomplishment and good luck! FYI: we have several schools who have not yet turned in any membership information for the year. Please send in ASAP.

**Second Challenge: Business Power Challenge:** Double your school's business membership total from last year, and your school goes into a drawing for four Springfield 11 movie tickets and a \$75 gift certificate to Springfield's Cantina Laredo! We had two schools who qualified: Bowerman Elementary and Eugene Field Elementary. Again, congratulations and good luck!

Thank you to Indian Point Family Fun Park, Springfield 11 and Springfield's Cantina Laredo for donating prizes for our Membership Challenges. **Please continue to PROMOTE MEMBERSHIP in PTA throughout this school year!**

Check out MO PTA's Spring Membership Drive below!!!



## Grow Your PTA Garden

- 🌸 Increase your total membership as recorded in the state office on January 1, 2014 by 10%.
- 🌸 For each 10% increase your unit will be entered into a MO PTA drawing for \$75 and a local SCPTA drawing, also. Prize TBA.
- 🌸 The unit must be considered a "Unit in Good Standing" by **January 1, 2014**. Please see the Tool Kit or the Missouri PTA website, [www.mopta.org](http://www.mopta.org), for these requirements.
- 🌸 All memberships must be postmarked by **March 1, 2014**.
- 🌸 The winning unit will be contacted by Michele Reed, MO PTA Vice President and Director of Membership Services after the drawing has been held. The winning unit will be listed on our website [www.mopta.org](http://www.mopta.org).