

May 2014  
Volume 2, Issue 9

# Springfield Council of PTAs

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## School of Information

**Monday, May 19, 2014**

**5:30 - 8:30 p.m.**

**Sunshine Elementary**

*Sub sandwiches will be served.*

*Sorry, no childcare available.*

**Please RSVP to Carrie Windes at [crgraphics@sbcglobal.net](mailto:crgraphics@sbcglobal.net).**

The Springfield Council of PTAs will be hosting our annual officer training on May 19. All who attend will learn more about their PTA duties through informational workshop sessions and interactive discussions with other PTA units. There will be workshops in the following areas: President, Treasurer, Secretary, Bylaws/Advocacy, Membership, Communication, Fundraising, Parent Engagement, Parliamentary Procedure and Reflections.

This year there will be 3 Sessions of Workshops. Each workshop is 35 minutes in length with the exception of the Presidents' and Treasurers'. These workshops will be two consecutive sessions covering a wide range of information—plan to attend both sessions.

We will also offer some workshops at two different times—covering the same information—plan to attend only one.

Council members and our State President will be available for any questions you may have.

We encourage all units to send your officers as you prepare for the upcoming school year.

**IT'S FREE!!!**

Great opportunity to prepare for the new school year.

Thank you to those who have already responded.



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## Save the Date

**The 2014 Annual National PTA Convention and Exhibition**

Austin, Convention Center  
Austin, Texas

June 19-22, 2014

Get details on registration, hotel and travel at [pta.org/Austin](http://pta.org/Austin).

***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**

PTA/PTSA Presidents and administrators:

As the school year comes to a close, I want to thank all of you who have represented your units; and congratulate you on a job well done. Before you deem the school year over, remember to wrap up your units in a way that will help the new officers when the next school year rolls around. Here are some tips to help make a smooth transition for your officers so the children are the ultimate beneficiary.

- Have all of your officers meet with the new officers as a group and then individually. Discuss the past years' successes and failures and the coming years' objectives.
- Personally introduce the new officers to Principals, teachers, community leaders and other PTA contributors.
- Have your officers complete their procedure books then pass them on to the new officers. Make sure all passwords and account information changes hands as well.
- The treasurer should pay all the bills, settle all accounts, and be sure records are ready for the financial review.
- A financial review committee should be appointed and prepare to review the treasurer's books in a timely fashion.
- If the PTA bylaws were reviewed or amended make sure to send two copies to the Missouri PTA State office.
- Make sure you've sent the names, addresses and other pertinent information to MOPTA too. This needs to be done even if your officers are staying in their positions.
- Signatures on the PTA bank accounts should be changed to the new treasurer, secretary, and president if needed. (Remember that all checks should be signed by two people.)
- The new officers should be installed, and outgoing or retiring leaders should be thanked for their service.
- The most important tip is to attend the SCPTA School of Information or one of the MOPTA training sessions! There are also e-learning courses at [ptatraining@pta.org](mailto:ptatraining@pta.org)

PTA/PTSA leaders that take care of these tasks will find it easier to provide exciting and effective activities and programs next year that will engage and serve your members and the children.

Have a wonderful summer!

Sincerely,  
Patty Dunn, President SCPTA

***"You have to think anyway, so why not think big?"***

*– Donald Trump*



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***...remember  
to wrap up  
your units in a  
way that will  
help the new  
officers...***

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# Agenda

May 7, 2014

## Kraft Administration Center

- I) Welcome: Thank you to Dr. Ridder, Matt Hudson and the Administration for hosting
- II) Pledge of Allegiance
- III) Superintendent – Dr. Norm Ridder
- IV) Meeting Sponsors:
  - David Aguirre, General Manager, Carousel Candles
  - Cory Carr, Carr Soccer League
- V) Financial report – Jeremiah Mee, 2014-15 proposed recommended budget
- VI) Council reports:
  - a. President – Patty Dunn
    - Vote: To increase the budgeted SCPTA donation this year for CARE from \$1050 to \$2000 (\$100 to each school approved from applications)*
    - Vote: To increase the budgeted SCPTA donation this year for the McBride fund from \$300 to \$2000 (\$200 for each of the schools approved from applications)*
  - b. VP of Organization and Development – Dot Atkinson
  - c. VP of Promotions – Carrie Windes – Membership awards
  - d. VP of Health and Public Services – Kim Wrinkle
  - e. VP of Programs – Jana Hansen
- VII) New Business: Installation of Officers
- VIII) Sergeant at Arms – Kirk Elmquist – Best attendance awards, other drawings
- IX) Adjourn

## Better Safe than Sorry!

Vote today to help raise \$25,000 for emergency preparedness! The Foundation for Springfield Public Schools' Better Safe than Sorry grant, to raise \$25,000 to support the SPS Emergency Preparedness Initiative needs your help today and every day for the next 18 days! Visit State Farm's Neighborhood Assistance Program page using the link below and vote on Facebook for Better Safe than Sorry, 10 times each day for the next 18 days! And don't forget to invite your friends to vote as well. Forty out of 200 will be selected to win \$25,000! When you Vote Now, make sure that you search for Better Safe than Sorry before casting your 10 votes!

**[https://apps.facebook.com/sf\\_neighbor\\_assist/](https://apps.facebook.com/sf_neighbor_assist/)**

The Emergency Preparedness Initiative will provide safety tubes, kits and training for SPS staff to be safe and prepared in the case of an emergency in our schools! With your vote you can help keep our kids safe! Learn more at [supportsp.org/news](http://supportsp.org/news).



# Treasurer's Report

Bank Balances	Start 3/1/14	End 3/31/14	Summary for the Period	
CARE Checking	\$ 1,052.61	\$ 1,052.66	Starting Total	143,722.40
Clothing Bank Checking	19,585.72	17,034.73	Income	803.17
General Checking	68,870.53	65,640.71	Expenses	-6,571.11 <u>-5,767.94</u>
McBride Checking	5,649.49	5,649.76	Ending Total	\$137,954.46
Scholarship Checking	2,263.05	2,275.00		
Z Scholarship CD (Restricted)	<u>46,301.00</u>	<u>46,301.00</u>		
Total	\$143,722.40	\$137,954.46		

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

## Year End Planning for Treasurers

- Start planning for the end of the fiscal year – make sure your records are up-to-date, bank statements reconciled, and receipts attached to check request vouchers;
- Remind your committee chairs that all reimbursement requests must be turned in (with original receipts attached) so that checks can be written before June 30;
- Make sure that all state and national portions of dues have been forwarded to Missouri PTA.;
- REMEMBER, the treasurer cannot pay bills after the books are closed for financial review!



### Gather the following items and provide to the Financial Review Committee/Auditor

- Copy of last financial review report
  - Bank statements and deposit slips
  - Annual Year-End Report
  - Reimbursement Request Forms with original receipts attached
  - Copies of minutes and adopted budget (with any amendments approved during the year)
  - Checkbook
  - Treasurer's book or ledger
  - Current bylaws and standing rules
- Decide who is going to be on your financial review team. Make sure those individuals do not have check signing authority on the account and the treasurer cannot be on the team.

On the [MOPTA.org](http://MOPTA.org) website there are some excellent resources to assist with the process.

- All of the members of the review team should watch the **PTA Money Talks Segment 3 – Annual Financial Review** video. It summarizes how to go about the review process.
- There is also a document in the Forms/Awards page of the website in the Other Information section that will walk the team through the audit procedures. The document is under End of Year Procedures and is entitled **2012-2013 Annual Financial Review**. It is ok to use this document for your current year end.

Please contact me at [treasurer@scptamo.com](mailto:treasurer@scptamo.com) if you have any questions about the process.



# The Ranking Order of Rules

Rules are needed for all democratic organizations in order to prevent chaos. PTAs would be well served if all members know and understand the rules that govern the organization. Unfortunately, many will only refer to or search the rules when they are not satisfied with the outcome of a board decision or to influence an outcome of a decision being made.

Rules governing any assembly (from highest to lowest in authority) include **laws** (federal, state and local), **the corporate charter** (for incorporated groups), **bylaws** (or constitution-the basic rules that relate specifically to the organization), **Parliamentary authority** (PTAs in Missouri refer to the newest edition of Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised), **Standing Rules** (if applicable), and **custom**.

## Officer Transitions

**With the end of the school year approaching, it may be appropriate for all officers to review their bylaws for the procedure to transition from current officers to newly elected officers. Normally this will be stated specifically in the bylaws for example: Officers shall assume their official duties "at the close of the election" or "at the end of the school year" except for the treasurer, who assumes office at the close of the fiscal year.**

## Duties of the Treasurer

The treasurer of the PTA is the officer that is entrusted with the organization's funds and has the duty to adhere to the authority of the PTA when spending the organization's money. However, every board member is required to act in a fiduciary manner and to assure that all funds are handled responsibly and in accordance with the budget or other guidelines.

A treasurer's report should be presented at every meeting of the organization. At a minimum the report should consist of an oral statement of the cash balance on hand. Preferably a written detail would include a balance carried forward from the last report, plus current receipts less current expenses to bring forward a new balance of cash on hand. No vote or action is taken on this report, but it is "filed for audit" and each board member should keep a copy for future reference.

Annually, however, the treasurer must submit a fiscal year-end report that summarizes all receipts and expenses for the organization. This report is compiled at the close of the fiscal year and is submitted to the audit or review committee along with all other financial documents. The audit or review committee reports back to the general membership for a vote of acceptance of their report. Copies of the fiscal year-end report and the audit/review report are sent to the Missouri PTA (as required by bylaws).

# Parliamentary Notes

I've often heard it said that PTAs have too many rules. I strongly disagree. Rules are necessary for any organization and the prime value of having rules and set procedures is to "provide a process to work out satisfactory solutions to the greatest number of questions in the least amount of time". I wouldn't want to be part of an organization that doesn't follow its own set of rules and has no oversight of its finances. It seems logical that a few good people could sit down in one room and work out where they want to go in a courteous and efficient manner, however, not everyone agrees all of the time or remembers what was decided. As a rule, the chair of a meeting should direct the business of the organization only as strictly as necessary for the good of the meeting. But having an established pattern of parliamentary procedure, that is followed consistently, should help make meetings go smoother and assure that the will of the majority is determined and abided by.

Donna Petiford, Parliamentarian, Springfield Council of PTAs, [petiford@sbcglobal.net](mailto:petiford@sbcglobal.net)

# 2013-2014 SCPTA End of Year Historian Report

## **President – Patty Dunn**

The SCPTA year began the summer before with meetings with each VP to discuss the coming year. I am serving as Chair of the School Crossing Protection Committee and presented gift cards to the Crossing Guards with perfect attendance.

Our first exec meeting was August 20th. We voted not to have a January general meeting because of New Years and the difficulty rescheduling. The first general meeting of the year was at Study Alternative Center and showcased our new Clothing Bank. We approved the Council Budget for the year. In September I helped with the Reflections workshops. I helped present SPS Foundation grants and attended their Donor Appreciation Luncheon. I printed the Council News from September through May.

**October** meeting was at Twain and Gerry Lee presented on “Don’t Meth With Us” program and Logan Aguirre from the Junior League presented on the Darkness to Light program on sexual abuse. I attended the 4th grade play, a Kids First meeting, Founders’ Day meeting and MOPTA Convention with several other officers. Mary Christiano and I started attending Safe Routes for Schools meetings.

**November** general meeting was at Westport and we hosted a Legislative Forum. I Chaired the School Crossing Protection committee, attended the EveryChild promise forum, an SPS Foundation meeting and met with the Founders’ Day committee. Mary and I participated in the Walk to School events for the Safe Routes to School Program. I attended a session for input for the new superintendent search.

**December** general meeting was held at Jeffries. Susan Blakey from OTC spoke about programs available for High School children. A SCPTA Nominating committee was formed with Kim Wrinkle as Chair. Jeremiah Mee and I met with Boy Scouts. Donna Petiford and I helped Jana Hansen with the Reflections drop off.

**January** there was no general meeting. I attended the P2G and Beyond as a sponsor delegate, Founders’ Day meetings, an SPS School Board meeting and helped Jana host the Reflections Showcase at the Battlefield Mall. I printed and distributed the Council News through school mail.

**February** the general meeting was canceled due to snow. We hosted Founders’ Day with Central High School and presented Dr. Norm Ridder with MOPTA Distinguished Service Award. I chaired the School Crossing Protection Committee. I ordered the gifts for Principals for Principals’ Day.

**March** general meeting was held at Parkview HS and we celebrated Principals’ Day. Loni Brewer from Rare Breed spoke about Springfield’s homeless children and their program. Major Hammit presented checks to some of the schools participating in the EFG program. There will be a \$500 check presented to the Unit with the highest percentage of cards sold and the principals received \$250 for their SIP. SCPTA approved \$1,100 for swipe cards at the Clothing Bank. I attended a session to meet Dr. Jungmann the new SPS Superintendent and a Disaster Preparedness Initiative meeting. Dot, Jeremiah and I met to discuss the checking surplus.

**April** general meeting was held at Sequiota. Lawrence Anderson and Jean Grabeel spoke. Jean informed us about the Disaster Preparedness Initiative. Several officers attended Child Advocacy Day in Jefferson City. We elected the new slate of officers. The VP of Health and Public Services position was still open. I attended an SPS Foundation board meeting, a Sequiota PTSA meeting; Jana Hansen hosted the Budget meeting. I delivered some Reflections winners to MOPTA in Columbia. Donna, Mary and Dot attended the Teacher Appreciation Banquet.

**May** general meeting will be at KAC where the 2014-2015 budget will be presented and Officers will be installed. School of Information is May 19th at Sunshine.

## **Vice President: Programs – Jana Hansen**

### **4th Grade Play – Flo Graham, Chair**

The 4th grade play was moved back to the fall this year. Transportation to Springfield Little Theater on Tuesday, October 22, and Wednesday, October 23, was provided by Teresa Bledsoe and the Community Relations and Strategic Planning Office of Springfield Public Schools. The students were able to see Disney’s *The Little Mermaid Junior*. As always, it was a wonderful opportunity for our 4th graders.

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## **Reading is Fundamental (RIF) – Beth Finke, Chair**

This year RIF began with a training on September 25. Distributions were held at Tefft Building on October 30, January 29, and April 16. RIF held fundraisers by selling cookies at the Christmas Parade and holding a book fair at Barnes and Noble. RIF provides books every year with no cost to families. Please continue to support this great program!

## **Reflections**

The theme for the National PTA Reflections program for 2013-2014 was "Believe, Dream, Inspire". SCPTAs sponsored a judging for students in the Springfield Public Schools and Greenwood Lab School. We had two trainings for the Reflections Chairs. The City Reflections Showcase was held on Sunday, January 19 at Battlefield Mall. Entries were viewed from 1:00-4:00 with an Awards Ceremony at 3:00. There were 30 students from Springfield schools who placed in the Missouri PTA judging with FIVE students winning 1st Place! Those five entries were forwarded on to the National PTA competition.

## **Vice President: Organization and Development – Dot Atkinson**

### **Handbook**

A review of previously published paper handbooks, concluded that some of the material was inappropriate for distribution (PTA/PTSA President contact info), obsolete, and best disseminated through social media, website, and email.

Increased use of the above would lead to better communication overall. A cost savings of \$250 was realized in not printing the paper handbook.

### **Bylaws**

Any PTA/PTSA unit whose bylaws were up for review during the 2013-14 school year was contacted and offered resources to aid in the review process. In addition, all units with reviews due in the 2014-15 school year were contacted this Spring.

### **Scholarships**

Three scholarships were claimed this fall by 2013 graduates upon enrolling in their post-secondary work. We were unable to ascertain why the other two scholarships went unused. This spring all five scholarships were awarded by each high school's scholarship committee respectively.

**CARE Fund:** Twenty elementary schools (with units in good standing) were awarded \$100 each to help fund their incentive programs for attendance and academic achievement.

**McBride Fund:** All five high schools and five middle schools (with units in good standing) were awarded \$200 each to support students with a demonstrated financial need.

### **Resource Development**

The school sales of the EFG discount cards was the largest fundraiser for the Council this year. At press time, actual figures are not available; however, more schools participated this year than last, but there was a decline in overall sales due to winter weather and a community tragedy. New this year, principals were given by the Council a \$250 participation incentive designated for their SIP fund. Two meeting sponsors (\$125 each) were procured this year.

### **Legislative**

A town hall meeting was held in November at Westport Elementary. State representatives and representatives from Senators' Dixon, McCaskill and Blunt offices were in attendance. A school board candidates forum was not held due to no election held. Carrie Windes, Donna Petiford and Dot Atkinson attended Missouri Child Advocacy Day this Spring as representatives of SCPTAs.

## **Vice President: Health and Public Service – Kim Wrinkle**

### **SCPTAs Clothing Bank**

This was a monumental year for the PTA Clothing Bank. We served roughly 1300 students from September, 2013 through April, 2014. We had several snow days as well which resulted in a lower number of students who shopped. If a dollar amount was assigned to everything distributed, it would be around \$275,000.

Thanks to clothing drives at many schools and churches, we were able to help our students get the clothes they needed. The Clothing Bank was staffed by PTA volunteers, civic groups, Drury students, Greenwood Service Society, Study students and various other community members. The Clothing Bank was chaired by Kim Wrinkle, Susie Powers and Stephanie Aaron.

The move from Bailey School to Study Alternative Center was a huge undertaking, and the new location is clean, bright and cheery. Two Men and a Truck donated their time and movers in August and again in December to move everything. PODS donated a unit to store off-season items since the new space is smaller. Volunteer numbers from PTA units were much lower this year than last year with the new hours. We found that most of our volunteers have to pick up their own children during the same time we were open. Changing the hours are being discussed and should be released soon.

Overall, it was a very successful year with many changes and lots of flexibility.

### **Safety**

Meetings were held each quarter at Busch Municipal Building to address school crossings and traffic flow surrounding school sites. Law enforcement, city officials, PTA representatives and SPS personnel attended. Mary Christiano chaired the Safety committee.

Network partners in Springfield came together to prepare the more than 25,000 students and faculty of Springfield Public Schools in updating and improving existing emergency preparedness procedures. SCPTA is supporting a collaborative effort that includes the American Red Cross, SPS, The Foundation for Springfield Public Schools, SPS Partners in Education, Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce, and the Office of Emergency Management. **The Emergency Preparedness Initiative** will give students, teachers, and parents the peace of mind that if disaster strikes, the community has done everything we can to ready our public schools with an Emergency Response Plan in order to minimize losses. First there will be a Ready Rating assessment and updating and improving consistent emergency response plans. The next step will be to provide the districts' students, faculty and staff with easy access to emergency supplies. The total project cost will be \$200,000 which will include emergency kits for each classroom in our district, safety tubes for every student and emergency training for faculty in CPR and First Aid. The American Red Cross has contributed \$25,000 (plus \$250 for a classroom collected from their office). The Foundation for SPS has donated \$20,000, so we already have \$45,250 toward the goal of making our children safer! Kim Wrinkle has been working with Jana Bachus on a grant from Mercy as well.

### **Vice President: Promotions – Carrie Windes**

#### **Membership – Catherine Schmittling, Chair**

Our Council had a total of 6,180 PTA/PTSA Memberships reported to State for the 2013-14 year.

The SCPTA held 2 different membership challenges this school year. The first challenge – “Come Soar to New Heights with Missouri PTA” was held in the fall. Bingham E, Boyd E, Hickory Hills E, Jarrett MS, Sherwood E and Wilson’s Creek 5-6 schools qualified for the individual General membership challenge and Bowerman E and Field E schools qualified for the Business membership challenge. Bowerman won both drawings – prizes included four Zipline tickets to Indian Point Family Fun Park, four Springfield 11 movie tickets and a \$75 gift certificate to Springfield’s Cantina Laredo.

“Spring Into Action” was the theme for our spring membership challenge. This challenge to all units ran from January 1-March 1, 2014. Our council tagged on to this State PTA challenge. For each 10% increase, units were entered into a MOPTA drawing for \$75 and a local SCPTA drawing for a \$50 gift certificate to Arris Pizza. Eight schools qualified: Boyd E, Field E, Jeffries E, Kickapoo HS, Twain E, Parkview HS, Pleasant View E and Reed MS. Boyd won the drawing.

#### **Founders Day**

“When You Wish Upon A Star” was the theme for Founders Day! The event was hosted by Central High School on Thursday, February 20th. Central students helped with producing the program, slide show, entertainment and serving. Kirk Elmquist emceed the evening. The Volunteers of the Year from units were honored with certificates and PTA notebooks and pens. Past Presidents received roses. We had over 200 in attendance. What a wonderful celebration!

The Founders Day Committee members were: Lisa Slattery, Central PTSA President; Marie Wood, Tracy DeMier, Laura McWhirt, Central PTSA Reps.; Dr. Ron Snodgrass, Central Principal; Matt Hudson, Administration Adviser; Patty Dunn, SCPTA President; Jeremiah Mee, SCPTA Treasurer; Shannon Swanson, SCPTA Hospitality; and Carrie Windes, SCPTA VP Promotions and Chair of Founders Day Committee.

#### **Hospitality – Shannon Swanson, Chair**

The SCPTA purchased 2 cases of Apples from Kiwanis in the fall to show appreciation to the KAC Administrative staff. Breakfast was provided for the Council meeting in September. We provided food at KAC for a Salute to Schools luncheon. Helped with food selection and setup for the Founders Day Dinner at

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Central. We also will provide food/drinks for the School of Information Training in May. I also coordinated with the Host Schools each month in preparing for our monthly council meeting.

### **School of Information**

The annual officer training that SCPTA host will be May 19, 2014 at Sunshine Elementary. This will be an evening training session from 5:30-8:30pm with workshops for President, Treasurer, Secretary, Parliamentarian, Membership Fundraising, Reflections and more. Light refreshments will be provided by Hospitality. ALL at no charge to attendees!

## **Carousel Candles and Home Fragrances**

Do your current fundraising options:

- Offer you a true 50% profit on any size sale?
- Deliver product free to your school or organization?
- Make 100% of their products right here in your community with American Made raw materials?



Take 5 minutes to learn how Carousel Candles and Home Fragrances will partner with your school or organization to maximize much needed profits.

We manufacture high quality scented candles and wax melts at our 17,000 sq ft facility in Ozark.

Kick off a fundraiser with free brochures, samples, and especially a plant tour!

Contact Dave Aguirre at: [dave@carouselcandles.com](mailto:dave@carouselcandles.com),  
1551 W. Skyline Ave, Ozark MO 65721 • 417-724-0050  
**[www.carouselcandles.com](http://www.carouselcandles.com)**

## **Carr Soccer Prep League**

**When:** Mid August to November

**Where:** Training after school at your Elementary School once time a week with 6-8 matches on Saturdays at your local High School

**Coaches:** Local High School and College Players as well as parent and teacher volunteers

**Cost:** \$715 – fee includes: 8 match league fee, uniform in your school colors, your licensed coach and one training session a week that takes place at your school as an after school activity. We never turn a kid away because of money. If you cannot afford the \$175 fee then apply for assistance through our Let Them Play Foundation – more info at [www.CarrSoccer.com](http://www.CarrSoccer.com).

The “Prep” league is a school based soccer league that delivers the best of what youth sports should represent. Teams are formed from each school grade level and classroom in our area. We provide each team a coach to educate young soccer stars in the skills of the game.

Director, Cory Carr, was a High School All-American in Texas and All-Conference player for MSU. He won four State Championships as a player and coached two local State Championship teams. Honored as Missouri Coach of the year 2007. Soccer has given him a lot so he strives to give back to the community.

Register online at [www.CarrSoccer.com](http://www.CarrSoccer.com). Questions? Call 417-766-6013 or email [Cory@CarrSoccer.com](mailto:Cory@CarrSoccer.com).

# Clothing Bank *Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!*

The past two years at the Clothing Bank have been a fantastic adventure. I have made life-long friends, a few enemies and had fun doing it—99% of the time. It will be hard to say goodbye to something that has become such a huge part of my life and my family's life. It really became a family affair and I would not have had it any other way. I could not have done it without my two co-chairs, Susie Powers and Stephanie Aaron. It has been an honor to work beside these two amazing ladies who have become more like sisters. We each brought our own strengths—and quirks—to the team; and while we had a few hiccups, I can't remember any major disasters.

I truly appreciate the support from Jean Grabeel and her staff at the Health Services office. They really are the biggest cheerleaders for the PTA Clothing Bank. Thank you doesn't even seem like enough to say to our Study class and their fearless leader/teacher, Geoff. They have picked up the slack where we were short on volunteers and done a fantastic job. It has been nice to see some of them really mature and grow in the past year. Another bright light at the CB has been Miss Vickie, the Study custodian and the Clothing Bank angel. She goes above and beyond what she has to do and makes our lives a lot easier. She is a true asset to the CB!

Last but not least, thank you to all of our volunteers. This past year was a year of transition and flexibility. While our volunteers were few you were mighty. Let's hope we can get back to hours that are more compatible with our PTA parents' schedules! You are the backbone of the Clothing Bank and we could not exist without you. So, thank you, to everyone who has helped me help make a difference in the lives of our SPS children.

**We will be working every Thursday from Noon-2pm until the end of school. Watch Facebook and email for work days over the summer. We are still looking for a Chair for next year!**

## RIF News

RIF of Springfield is proud to announce that two of our 1st and 2nd grade students have



## Summer Has Arrived — Read Everyday

placed in the Nestle/National RIF poster contest with a STEAM theme. Students were asked to draw a picture showing how books get them excited to learn about science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics. Eric Chandler of Cowden won the national prize and Evan Otradovec from St. Joseph Academy won honorable mention. Each of their schools won a forty book multicultural STEM collection of hard bound books. In addition, those schools will get to choose \$1250 books from the RIF book collections of children's paperback books. In addition, Hickory Hills Elementary School's Zane Sly won a drawing as an early entry for the 40 books collection also. These were awarded in early April and made the news.

We are going ahead with the SHARE summer reading program where students (or parents and supporters) can bring books to trade. If you and your school want to participate and help collect books we will gladly get them to the schools where young students may have difficulty getting to the libraries over the summer. **Summer Has Arrived, Read Everyday** bins are available here today if you remembered to bring books to go to elementary schools. We will be glad to come to your school and pick up donated books for younger readers.

Check out the Crowdit! fundraising site for RIF's program to raise funds for next year's distributions. Over 62,000 students have participated and received books since 1979—if just a portion of those recipients were to give a couple of dollars we would be funded for the whole year.

Share the Reading is Fundamental of Springfield facebook and "like" us. We will keep you up to date on the progress.

# 2014-15 PTA Council Officers...

## **Jennifer Penny, VP of Organization and Development**

As Springfield natives, my husband and I are proud to have graduated from Springfield Public Schools. Even after living in other cities, we consider Springfield to be one of the finest places in which to raise a family. My father was Dean of Students for 20 years at Missouri State University and my mother was a teacher and later a parent educator with Parents As Teachers for 15 years. I have grown up around educators and have long appreciated their examples in my life. As Springfield business owners, my family and I understand first hand and appreciate the impact education has on our local economy. Closer to home, I believe very strongly in continuing to be involved in our children's schools even through middle school and high school—and PTA is a perfect way to stay connected. It has been my pleasure to be involved with Junior League of Springfield, The Springfield Ballet, Breast Cancer Foundation of the Ozarks, Great Circle Boys & Girls Town and Women's Ministry in our church. I am really looking forward to being a part of Springfield Council of PTAs and supporting our local PTA units.

## **Michele Boswell, Secretary**

I am married and a mother of three boys: a 14-year-old Freshman at Glendale High School, a 10-year-old Fifth Grader at Field Elementary, and a 4-year-old preschooler. I own my own company, The MOB Effect, which provides marketing services to institutions such as Drury University. I have served as the Field PTA president, and previously served as the Sergeant-at-Arms and Secretary for SCPTA. I am a graduate of Nixa High School, have a BA in Communications from Drury University, and a MA in English from the University of Missouri-Columbia.

## **Patty Dunn, President**

Patty Dunn has been active in PTSA for 23 years and has served in a variety of capacities on the executive boards of Sequiota, Wilder, Pershing and Glendale. She was president 2 years at Sequiota and 2 times at Glendale. She is currently serving as Secretary of the Springfield Council PTA. She has a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education with an emphasis in Remedial Reading. Patty is from Springfield and has been married to Wes Dunn for 29 years. They have four children: Mallory, Brad, Chelsea, and Kathleen.

## **Jana Hansen, VP of Programs**

I have called Springfield home for almost 5 years. My husband, Eric, and I have 3 children ages 24, 20, and 18, and in the fall all will be at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville. I currently sit on the board of Springfield Public Schools Foundation. I taught second grade in the Independence School District (a Kansas City suburb) for eight years, and have a Master's Degree in Elementary Education.

## **Jeremiah Mee, Treasurer**

Jeremiah Mee grew up in Springfield and is the owner of Wilson & Mee CPAs and National Church & Clergy. He attended Greenwood Laboratory School and currently has a son attending the school who is in the 9th grade. He attended Missouri State University where he earned his BS in Accounting and is currently serving as the president of the Alumni Association. He has been involved with numerous civic organizations including Rotary Club of Springfield Southeast, Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Springfield, Boys & Girls Town and United Way. Jeremiah has volunteered his time to prepare the audit and tax returns for the Greenwood PTA for seven years and looks forward to serving on the board for the PTA of Springfield.

## **Carrie Windes, VP of Promotion**

West Plains is my hometown. I graduated from C of O with a Graphic Arts degree. I met my husband, Rick, while working in the art department at Bass Pro. I have been an active member of PTA for many years. At Hickory Hills I served as PTA secretary and PTSA president. I am currently producing the PTA newsletter and chairing Project Graduation at Glendale. Rick and I have two daughters, Kelli, a sophomore at SBU, and Kayla, a sophomore at Glendale. I am a freelance graphic artist. I also serve on the RIF board and am very active in my church, South Haven.

## **Still Open, VP of Health and Public Services**

Please contact Kim Wrinkle at [kwrinkle77@yahoo.com](mailto:kwrinkle77@yahoo.com) or Patty Dunn at [dunnhouse@mchsi.com](mailto:dunnhouse@mchsi.com) if you are interested.

# School of Information Schedule

(Schedule subject to change.)

This tentative schedule is being presented now so attendees can plan what workshops they would like to go to in advance and help SCPTA know if scheduling a workshop at multiple times is beneficial. Please indicate, by number, which workshops your unit is interested in when you RSVP. Each person attending can choose three workshops. If you have already responded that you are coming, it is totally voluntary whether you indicate workshop preferences.

**5:30 - 5:50 Registration/Refreshments**

**5:50 - 6:00 Welcome**

**6:00 - 6:35 Session 1 Workshops**

1. Treasurer–1st of 2 Workshops–Plan to Attend Both
2. Secretary
3. Parent Engagement
4. Parliamentary Procedure
5. Membership

**6:40-7:15 Session 2 Workshops**

6. Treasurer–2nd of 2 Workshops–Plan to Attend Both
7. President–1st of 2 Workshops–Plan to Attend Both
8. Membership
9. Fundraising
10. Reflections

**7:15-7:25 Break**

**7:25-8:00 Session 3 Workshops**

11. President–2nd of 2 Workshops–Plan to Attend Both
12. Communication
13. Bylaws/Advocacy
14. Fundraising
15. Reflections

**8:00-8:30 Closing, Survey & Door Prizes**

## Membership: 2013-14 Golden Gavel Awards

We had 18 PTA/PTSA units who increased their membership this school year. Congratulations and thank you for your efforts! Below are this year's recipients of the Golden Gavel Awards:

Unit with highest numerical increase: Wilson's Creek 5-6 PTA

Unit with largest % increase: Bowerman E PTA

Unit with highest total membership: Pershing MS PTSA

Unit with highest membership based upon school enrollment–

(0-250) Portland E PTA

(251-350) Hickory Hills E PTA

(351-600) McBride E PTA

(601-999) Pershing MS PTSA

(1000+) Glendale HS PTSA.