

Council Clippings

Monthly Newsletter of
St. Joseph PTA Council

Volume 25, Issue 2

October 2009

Vote
November 3rd
School levy



Presidents

Corner...

Hello Everyone,

First, I would like to say what a wonderful executive board I have to work with. Each has stepped up to the plate and is giving their all to your PTA Council. Those of you who have come on to fill positions; thank you and we welcome you aboard. To the officers who have worked with me all summer; you will never know how much you are appreciated. This is a great group of ladies.

Secondly, I would like to thank all the chairman. They have started working on projects that will run throughout the year. Again, each has stepped in and is doing fantastic work. I look forward to a great year working with each and every one of them.

Thank you to everyone that came to our first official Council meeting of the year. We had a great turnout. I highly recommend that you try and make each meeting or send a representative. We cover so much a these meetings that if you are not there you will miss out on important information. Presidents; if you are unable to attend please send another officer. I know we are all busy, but this is really important for each unit to gather information.

We had Kevin Kirby (and others) come and give a presentation on the upcoming levy. They gave out packets to each unit, please go over the information with your members and if possible please consider making a contribution to the cause. The future of our children is in our hands. Search your hearts and become knowledgeable about the levy issue and make an informed decision. We are the voice of the children.

Convention is coming I hope we will be represented well. There is a wealth of knowledge at these conventions and I encourage each unit to send a couple of representatives. Email me when you get back and update me on things you learned at Convention. I look forward to hearing from you.

Continued on next page...

St. Joseph PTA Council Request/confirmation Form For Button Machine

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____ Telephone # Home _____

Organization _____ Work _____

Project or function _____ Email _____

Date & Time Requested _____

Number of Components Needed _____ Send request to:
(Plastic Cover, Shell, Pin Back=1 Component) Jena Kirschner

Signature _____

10489 SE State Rt. A
St. Joseph, MO 64507
816-244-1687

Title _____

jena.kirschner@sjsd.k12.mo.us

Or at TMC 816-671-4390

Send Bill To: _____

Make Checks Payable to:
ST. JOSEPH PTA COUNCIL

For Council Use Only

Button Machine reserved for _____ Check out date _____

Date _____ Signature _____

Confirmation Sent _____ Check in date _____

Signature _____

Number of Components Issued _____

Number Returned _____ Date _____

Number Used _____ @ _____ Total Due _____

Confirmation

Your Request for the Button Machine is confirmed for _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Parent Involvement = Parent-Teacher Partnership

We all know that parent involvement in education improves a child's academic success. We not only see better grades but a better attitude about school. One important way to get involved is to develop a partnership with your child's teachers. There are three ways to help this happen; keep lines of communication open, maintain the home to school connection, and handle problems constructively.

In keeping lines of communication open remember to give the teacher your contact information at the beginning of school. Let them know that you want to hear how your child is doing. Offer to share your time with the class if your experiences are relevant to the curriculum.

Maintain the home to school connection by volunteering your time to the school. Check the school website regularly and be aware of any newsletters or notices coming home. Most importantly, talk with your child. Find out about how they think school is going, ask if they are turning in work, have continued conversations about school with them.

Be prepared to handle problems constructively. Always talk to the teacher first. Get their side of the situation and trust that they may see a side of your child that you don't. Share with them what you see in your child, respectfully. Offer to be a part of the solution, becoming an ally with the teacher. Working together helps our children achieve great things.

As our school year begins take time to get to know the teachers and the administration at your child's school. Getting to know them and why they are in their jobs helps you to form an effective partnership that will help both you and your child have a successful school year.

Nadienne Hoffman
Parent Involvement
St. Joseph PTA Council

Council Clippings Article Assignments for November 2009 **Articles are due October 10, 2009**

<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Presidents Report</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Character & Spiritual</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Regional Director article</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>State Convention Report</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Reflections</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Parent Involvement</u>

All articles must be emailed to Lori Prussman at aokmom@hotmail.com, subject: CLIPPING ARTICLE .
Thank you for getting your articles to me in a timely manner.

Presidents Corner continued...

We are excited to announce that we have a new PO Box number. Our new address is PO Box 1116, 64502. Feel free to send correspondence to our new address. Like your Council dues that are due October 15th.

I also want to have each unit bring 2 membership cards to the October meeting. One for myself and the other for Dr. Smith. We both want to be members at each unit.

We are here to help, please don't hesitate to email or call with questions.

Continued success.
Lori Prussman

PS: Just a friendly reminder to turn in requested information as soon as possible. Also, turn in a copy of your financial review (audit) to Council and to State PTA. Don't forget to file your 990 (N) or appropriate tax paperwork.

Clarence J. Carpenter Memorial Fund Board

Treasurer's Report
May 18, 2009 through July 31, 2009

Beginning Balance as of 5-18-09 \$16,405.35

RECEIPTS:

Interest on Checking 5-29-09	1.24	
Interest on Checking 6-30-09	1.35	
Interest on Checking 7-31-09	1.51	
Interest on CD 5-20-09	138.68	
Memorial Donations	80.00	
Donation in Honor of Board	50.00	
Webster PTA Donation	800.00	
Founder's Day Donation-PTA Council	100.00	
PTA Council	1,841.00	
Total Receipts	3,013.78	
		\$ 3,013.78

DISBURSEMENTS

729 Eastridge Vision	190.00	
730 Bonebrake Vision	95.00	
731 Fields Eye Site	280.00	
732 Rosenak Optical	190.00	
733 Tobin Eye Institute	269.99	
734 The Spec Shoppe	1,047.00	
735 NW Insurance Agency	100.00	
736 Void		
Total Disbursements	2,171.99	
		\$ (2,171.99)

Ending Balance as of 5-18-09 \$17,247.14

Bank Balance Comprised of:

Bank Midwest Checking		7,103.79
Bank Midwest CD 4910014155	Balance as of 05-18-08	10,004.67
	Interest Paid 05-20-09	138.68
		10,143.35
		<u>\$ 17,247.14</u>



**"The morns are meeker than they were,
The nuts are getting brown;
The berry's cheek is plumper,
The rose is out of town.
The maple wears a gayer scarf,
The field a scarlet gown.
Lest I should be old-fashioned,
I'll put a trinket on."
- Emily Dickinson, *Nature 27 - Autumn***

Submitted by Shelby Hawkins

**COUNCIL DUES ARE
DUE BY OCTOBER 15, 2009**

**In the amount of \$30.00 made payable to:
St. Joseph PTA Council**

**Please remit payment to:
Mary Kelly
*PO Box 1116
St. Joseph, MO 64502**

*Please note our new PO Box address.

October 5th Council Meeting

Attention Presidents and Treasurer's
our October meeting will be filled with important information on putting together procedure books and setting up a system for your treasurer.

We will be answering questions and presenting handouts to take with you.

We will also have a guest speaker; Janet Pullen, Chief Financial Officers for the St. Joseph School District. Janet will be presenting insight on the financial future of the St. Joseph School District and how that will effect our students in the coming years. You won't want to miss this information.

This meeting is open to any of your board members. We welcome anyone who is interested.

Monday, Oct. 5th
Hillyards Tech. School
6:00 pm

Hope to see you there!



Clarence J. Carpenter Memorial Fund Board

End of Year
Treasurer's Report
July 31, 2008 through July 31, 2009

Beginning Balance as of 07-31-08	\$17,100.79
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RECEIPTS:

Interest on Checking	27.22	
Interest on CD	270.61	
Other Income	5,471.00	
Help a Child to See Campaign	2,813.50	
PTA Donations	1,360.00	
Total Receipts	9,942.33	9,942.33

DISBURSEMENTS

Vision	9,194.99	
Dental	110.00	
Insurance Bond	190.00	
	300.99	
Total Disbursements	9,795.98	\$ (9,795.98)

Ending Balance as of 7-31-09	<u><u>\$17,247.14</u></u>
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Bank Balance Comprised of: Bank Midwest Checking	7,103.79
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Bank Midwest CD 4910014155	Balance as of 11-17-08	9,872.74	
	Interest	<u>270.61</u>	10,143.35
		10,143.35	
			<u><u>\$ 17,247.14</u></u>

PTA 2009 Public Policy Agenda:
Advocating for the education, health, and
overall well-being of all children

ORGANIZATIONAL OVERVIEW

Founded in 1897, the National Parent Teacher Association (PTA) is comprised of more than five million members, including parents, students, educators, school administrators, and community leaders. With more than 25,000 local units, PTA flourishes in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Department of Defense schools in Europe and the Pacific.

As the oldest and largest volunteer child advocacy association in the United States, PTA's legacy of influencing federal policy to protect the education, health, and overall well-being of children has made an indelible impact in the lives of millions of children and families. PTA continues to be a voice for children within federal policy; in 2009, PTA will focus primarily on three policy priorities:

PARENT INVOLVEMENT AND ENGAGEMENT

One of PTA's founding principles is its dedication to engaging parents in the education of their children. Since the PTA's inception, it has provided workshops and resources on child development to parent groups and community leaders. In 1911, PTA agreed to work for a separate home education division within the U.S. Bureau of Education. Quite different from the present-day home schooling movement, home education was an international movement that encouraged parents to become knowledgeable on child development and education issues. The U.S. Bureau of Education created the division and named the PTA president as its director until 1919, when the division became a separate government agency. In recent years, PTA has developed the National Standards for Family-School Partnerships as well as assessment tools to measure the success of these standards in schools.

Recognizing the importance of parent involvement in a child's education, PTA has worked to ensure that provisions encouraging parental involvement were included in the 2001 reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), now known as the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB). PTA looks forward to having the opportunity to strengthen parent involvement and engagement in the upcoming reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA-NCLB).

OPPORTUNITY AND EQUITY FOR ALL CHILDREN

From the outset, PTA has championed the importance of equal opportunity for all children, regardless of socioeconomic background, and addressed associated problems of child labor, childhood diseases, and a judicial system more concerned with punishment than with rehabilitation of juveniles. In the 1920s, PTA supported the establishment of a new organization, the National Congress of Colored Parents and Teachers, to provide PTA services in states that maintained separate schools by ethnicity. PTA provided training and literature to the newly established organization so that all parents could be advocates for their children. The organizations continued to work collaboratively until the groups formally merged in 1970.

PTA continues to advocate for all children to have the opportunity to grow and achieve through education. To that end, PTA will advocate for adequate funding for schools and for family-focused, strength-based interventions to combat chronic absenteeism, truancy, and juvenile delinquency. As part of its 2009 Public Policy Agenda, PTA will advance its agenda for opportunity and equity for all children with the reauthorizations of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA-NCLB), the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP), and federal appropriations to support student achievement and parent engagement.

CHILD HEALTH

PTA has been closely involved with federal health policy since its inception, including pivotal roles in the creation of both the U.S. Public Health Service and the Department of Health and Human Services. In 1923, PTA worked to ensure the provision of hot lunches in schools. In the 1940s and 1950s, PTA was involved in the establishment and expansion of the school milk programs. PTA also worked to ensure the original passage of both the National School Lunch Act and the Child Nutrition Act.

More recently, PTA and its coalition partners fought successfully for the inclusion of language mandating the creation of local school wellness policies in the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004. In 2009, PTA will be advocating to improve child health and wellness through the reauthorizations of the Child Nutrition Act and the State Children's Health Insurance Program.



For more details visit the National PTA website: www.pta.org

Regional Director news:

Make sure you have sent in your
registration for State Convention.
Dues need to be sent in EVERYMonth.

Make sure you READ your unit's
BYLAWS and follow them. This
is what keeps you and your unit
out of trouble.

Elaine Gerstenberger,

Pony Express Regional Director

**"Winter is an etching, spring a watercolor,
summer an oil painting
and autumn a mosaic of them all."
- Stanley Horowitz**

Submitted by Shelby Hawkins

American Education Week continued...

August- A plan of work will be written and presented to the PTA Council. The schools will be asked for a contact person from their staff and building PTA.

September-The Committee will contact area businesses to ask for their permission to house displays from a school building.

October- Schools will be asked to compile student work or banners for display at businesses. The Chair will submit an article for Council Clippings about AEW.

November 16, 2009- The Committee and school contacts will hang displays for AEW.

November 22, 2009- The Committee and school contacts will remove displays for AEW.

December-The Chair will submit an article to Council Clippings highlighting the schools, businesses, and successes of AEW.



American Education Week Chair: Robin L. Kelly

Goal:

The Committee's goal for American Education Week (AEW) 2009 is to promote the individual schools in the St. Joseph School District. The theme, Great Public Schools: A Basic Right and Our Responsibility, shows that education is the responsibility and pride of an entire community. Therefore we need to show that each building within our District has great students, parents, and staff.

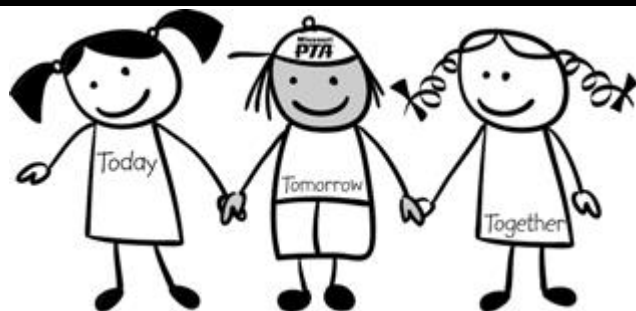
Strategies:

1. Enlist a staff member and PTA member from each building to promote AEW for the building.
2. Enlist local businesses to display student art, essays, or a school banner of student work.
3. Provide each building through their contact with ideas to promote AEW within their building, but not disrupt student learning.

Timeline:

July- The Chair will contact Steve Huff, Assistant to the Superintendent, with ideas to be used in the schools.

Continued...



Ten reasons why you should attend the Missouri PTA Convention in Springfield.

10. We eat well at convention. Believe me.
9. Door prizes! Who doesn't love THAT?
8. Our PTA shop will be stocked with everything you need to take care of the business side of your unit, plus some.
7. Exhibitors are eager to share their products and services with you. One stop shopping ! And don't forget all the free samples.
6. Bylaw changes that effect how you will process your treasurer's books at the end of the fiscal year will be discussed. You will understand these proposed changes so much better if you are here for this discussion.
5. We will say goodbye and express our gratitude to Mary Oyler for her service as Missouri PTA's President and welcome new President, Wendy Jackson during the installation ceremony on Sunday.
4. Janette Fennel, founder of KidsNCars, will speak to us Saturday evening about how we can improve safety and awareness with regards to vehicles and our children.

3. National PTA representative and highly dynamic speaker, Byron Garrett, will address all delegates Friday evening at a "town hall" meeting. He will also present two workshops as well as the keynote address during the first general meeting on Saturday.

2. Units just like yours, facing the same challenges, will be present to share creative solutions and ideas. No need to reinvent the wheel!

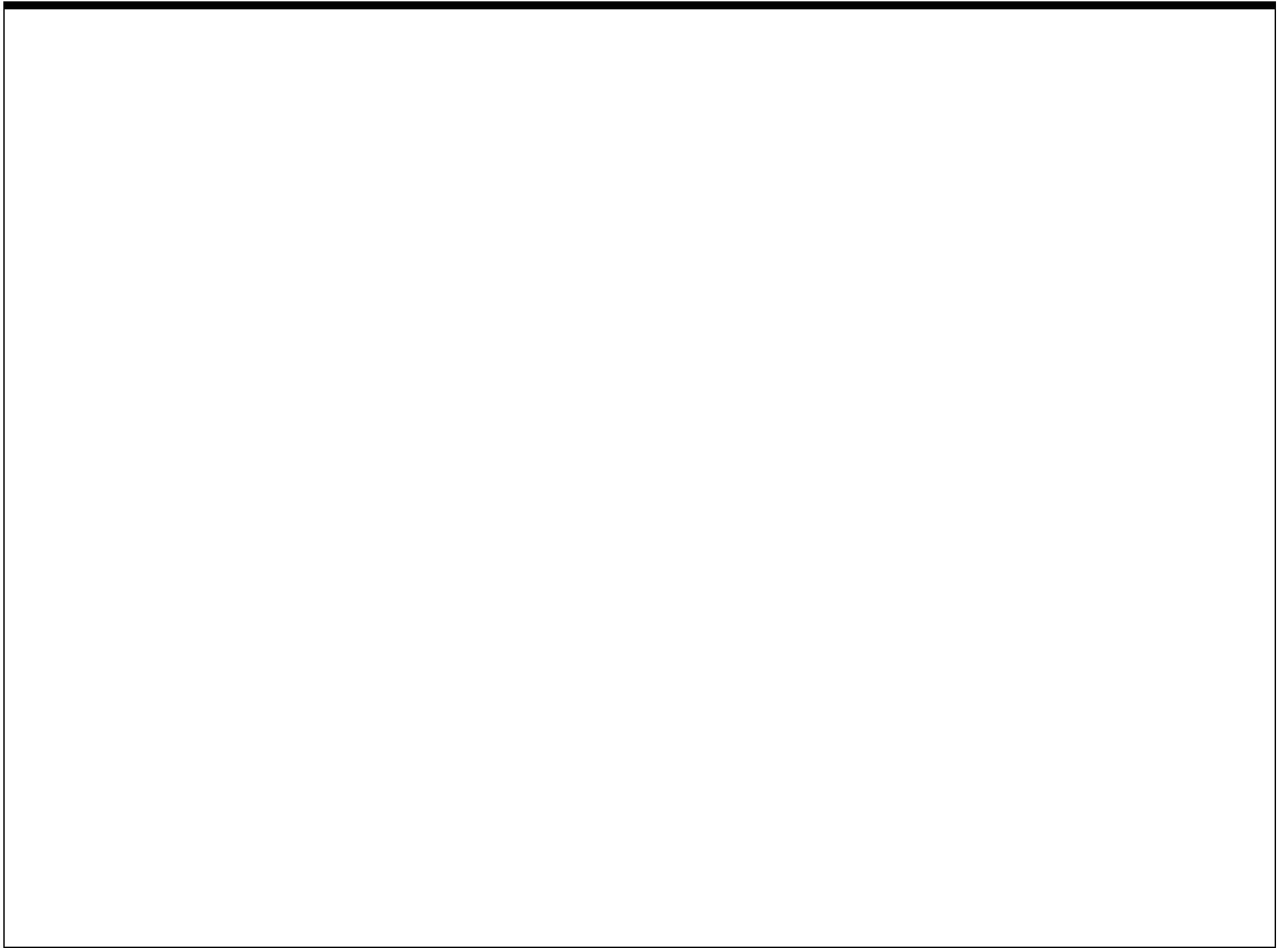
1. Leadership training is the cornerstone of a successful unit. Get in on the many opportunities to sharpen your skills to make your PTA better by attending convention.

There is still time to send in your unit's registration and book a hotel room at the reduced rate. Convention registrations must be postmarked by September 21st or there is a \$20.00 late fee. The hotel reservation deadline is September 21st. See our website for details as well as any form you may need.

Also, please consider bringing a donation to our service project recipient, The Family Violence Center. They are in need of paper products (toilet paper, paper towels, paper plates, and napkins), diapers, batteries, and body wash. See their website for specific details.

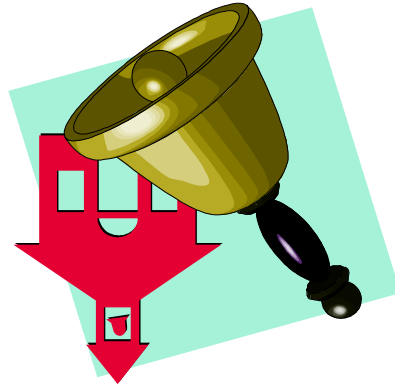
(www.familyviolencecenter.org)

If you have any questions, please contact ErinP@mopta.org. I hope to see you all there!



NOTICE FOR PARENTS

ST. JOSEPH PTA COUNCIL



ST. JOSEPH PTA COUNCIL

St. Joseph PTA Council
PO Box 1116
st. Joseph, MO 64502

