

Council Clippings

Monthly Newsletter of
St. Joseph PTA Council

Volume 23, Issue 3

November 2007



Corner...

Peggy Wood, Council President

November has arrived and with it comes a variety of PTA activities. Many PTA programs should be underway by the local units, such as membership and general PTA meetings to inform members about what each unit is doing. Remember that Dr. Smith and I want to be a member of every unit. Please don't send money for memberships to Dr. Smith's office. You can catch her at General Council Meetings or see me to get a membership to her.

Don't forget about Reflections!!!! This year's theme is "I can make a difference by...." It is easy for the time to slip by and before we know it the Reflections deadline will be here. Start this project early. Your school should have received information on the program. If they don't have the information contact Diana Slawson and she will make sure it is taken care of. Please ask your school what your PTA can do to help them. This is a great opportunity to showcase some of the AWESOME TALENT in our district.

By the time you all receive this issue the Missouri State PTA Convention in Columbia will be completed for another year. Several representatives from the St. Joseph PTA Council are attending and I hope to see many units represented as well. I am also excited about having several student delegates along with us this year. If you missed the opportunity this year, plan to attend next fall. Please check out next month's issue for reports from the convention.

Please join council the first Monday of every month for our PTA Council meeting at Hillyards. The November meeting is for Principals and Presidents and the December meeting is for Presidents. **PLEASE** send a representative to each meeting if you cannot attend. These meetings are truly important and the Council would like to see every school represented. I will have PTA Handbooks at the November meeting for those schools who haven't picked them up yet.

If you have not sent in your Council Dues please do so as soon as possible. We still have some schools that haven't sent them in yet. I know every school has a lot going on right now and it is easy to forget sometimes

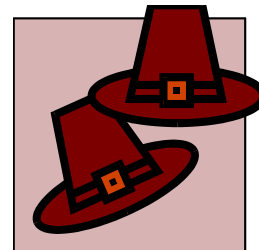
Finally, with November upon us, The Saint Joseph PTA Council would like to wish each of you a Happy Thanksgiving. Take time out of your busy schedules to relax and enjoy family and friends. It's a great way to re-energize for the winter ahead.

Peggy Wood, PTA Council President

NOVEMBER

- PTA Focuses on Healthy Lifestyles
- American Indian Heritage Month
- National Adoption Month
- 1 National Family Literacy Day
- 1 2007-2008 Phoebe Apperson Hearst-National PTA Excellence in Education Partnership Award available online
- 11 American Education Week begins
- 18 National Family Week begins
- **22-23 PTA offices closed for Thanksgiving**

Happy Thanksgiving



"Let us never put confidence in man, or in any sanctity of position, office, or dress. If apostleship did not make Judas a saint, neither will position, office, nor dress make thee a saint."

Author: Ferus Johann

REFLECTIONS

2007/2008

Reflection packets were delivered to schools on October 1, 2007.

This year's theme is "I can make a difference by..." What a great theme to work with the possibilities are endless!

Some dates to mark on your calendar: **January 11, 2008** – all Reflections entries **MUST** be taken to the Troester Media Center to Darren Verbick and/or Kevin Griffins office no later than 4:30pm. On **April 17, 2008** the Reflections reception will be held at the Keatley Center from 6:00 to 7:30pm.

If you have any questions you may call me at home 233-0627 or contact me by e-mail: slawson@stjoelive.com

Diana Slawson

Reflections Chair

The reasonable man adapts himself to the world;
the unreasonable one persists in trying to adapt
the world to himself.

Therefore all progress depends on the unreasonable man.

George Bernard Shaw

submitted by Heather Slawson

Council Clippings Article Assignments for December 2007 **Articles are due November 10, 2007**

<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>American Education Week Report</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Founders Day</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Council Award</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Bylaws</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Salute to Schools</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Spelling Bee</u>	
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Legislation</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.**

All Families Need to Take a Stand Against Bullying

Bullying in schools is a long-standing, widespread problem, yet parents often overlook the harassment occurring in their own communities. Many adults imagine bullying to be the obvious intimidation of a child by a physically more powerful peer. While such harassment certainly occurs, the overwhelming majority of bullying involves a variety of behaviors that are not physical in nature, such as gossiping, spreading rumors, and name-calling. These antisocial behaviors are often dismissed as a normal part of growing up by many adults, but they have highly detrimental effects on students' well-being and academic performance.

Children in all grade levels use difference as a reason to discriminate, exclude, and make fun of their peers. When some acts of bullying (for example, physical confrontation) are punished, but others (such as racist slurs) are not, students learn that harassment is acceptable as long as it is not obvious. Therefore, prejudice and bias are more entrenched in school cultures than most adults realize.

According to findings of the Safe School Initiative conducted by the U.S. Secret Service in 2002, three-quarters of all school shootings have resulted from repeated bullying and harassment. Creating safe and welcoming classrooms must be the responsibility of lawmakers, school personnel, and the entire community.

The lessons children learn outside of the classroom—especially from their parents—about how to treat others are perhaps the greatest influence on their behavior. All parents and guardians can monitor and guide their own children's behavior, encouraging them to be more respectful toward their peers.

This article is adapted from [Creating Safe Schools Is Everyone's Business](#) by Ryan Schwartz and Debra Chasnoff. This article appeared in the August-September 2007 issue of Our Children magazine, the national PTA organization's flagship publication for families and PTA leaders. To subscribe to this fact- and idea-filled magazine especially designed to help families who want to help their children succeed in school and life, click [here](#).

Get Involved to End Youth Violence

Recognizing that there is no one simple program to cure the epidemic of violence involving children and adolescents, we must begin promoting the power of many of the locally-based initiatives and programs to meet the varied needs of young people at risk.

A growing corps of community leaders and individuals have come together to discuss priorities and recommendations for resolving some of the violence. Forming small committees to address critical areas such as special events, job development, youth advocacy, community service, listening sessions, mentoring and counseling is a way to get started. It might help to also establish a strategic planning committee to coordinate and assist each sub-committee.

Young people want and need an opportunity to work with adults in resolving the issue of violence. Many young people are already assisting community leaders in dealing with youth violence. Teens are organizing community festivals inaugurating a year of peace, listening sessions, support groups and meetings, tutoring and mentoring, and violence prevention workshops. Find out how you can get involved in your state. For more information on bullying prevention, visit <http://www.stopbullyingnow.hrsa.gov/index.asp>.

Borrowed from PTA Parent Newsletter view online

VOTE

Tuesday, NOVEMBER 6, 2007

St. Joseph CIP (Capital Improvements Program)

You are being given the opportunity to **VOTE on Tuesday, November 6, 2007**, to continue the city's \$27 million **Capital Improvements Program (CIP)** for another five years. (**This is not a new tax.**) The CIP tax has been in place since 1989. This tax is the basis for the way 80 percent of our capital improvements are funded. Revenues generated from the one-half cent CIP **sales tax** will create jobs and stimulate business investment throughout our growing community. The \$27 million will also be used to leverage an additional \$31 million in federal funding creating a total of \$58 million in community investment. A committee of community volunteers from all parts of St. Joseph worked together to recommend the following projects. This is the only issue on the ballot. Community businesses, organizations, and individuals have contributed almost \$35,000 to advertise these projects to the community. For more information see www.stjoecip.org.

Planned Projects for 2008 CIP

Economic Development

Missouri River Levee Design/Construction – Match at 35%	\$ 1,500,000
Aviation Projects – Match at 5%	\$ 500,000
Waterworks Road to I-229 or Cook Road from Miller to St. Joseph Avenue – Match at 20%	\$ 2,400,000
Transit Capital Project – Match at 20%	\$ 200,000
Residential / Commercial Sidewalk Replacement (\$150,000/yr)	\$ 750,000
Bridge Repair / Replacement	\$ 2,000,000
Eastowne Business Park – Phase 1A	\$ 2,300,000
Highway 59 Bridge – Match at 30%	\$ 3,000,000

Public Safety

Enhanced 911 System	\$ 350,000
Self-contained Breathing Apparatus – Match at 28%	\$ 750,000
Fire Apparatus	\$ 1,950,000
New Fire Station #12	\$ 3,000,000

Recreation

Muchenberger Youth Center	\$ 3,800,000
Playground Renovations	\$ 150,000
Riverfront Trail Extension – Match at 60%	
Or 5 urban trail extensions	\$ 600,000
Safe Harbor Docking Facilities – Match at 20%	\$ 15,000
Fairview Clubhouse	\$ 750,000

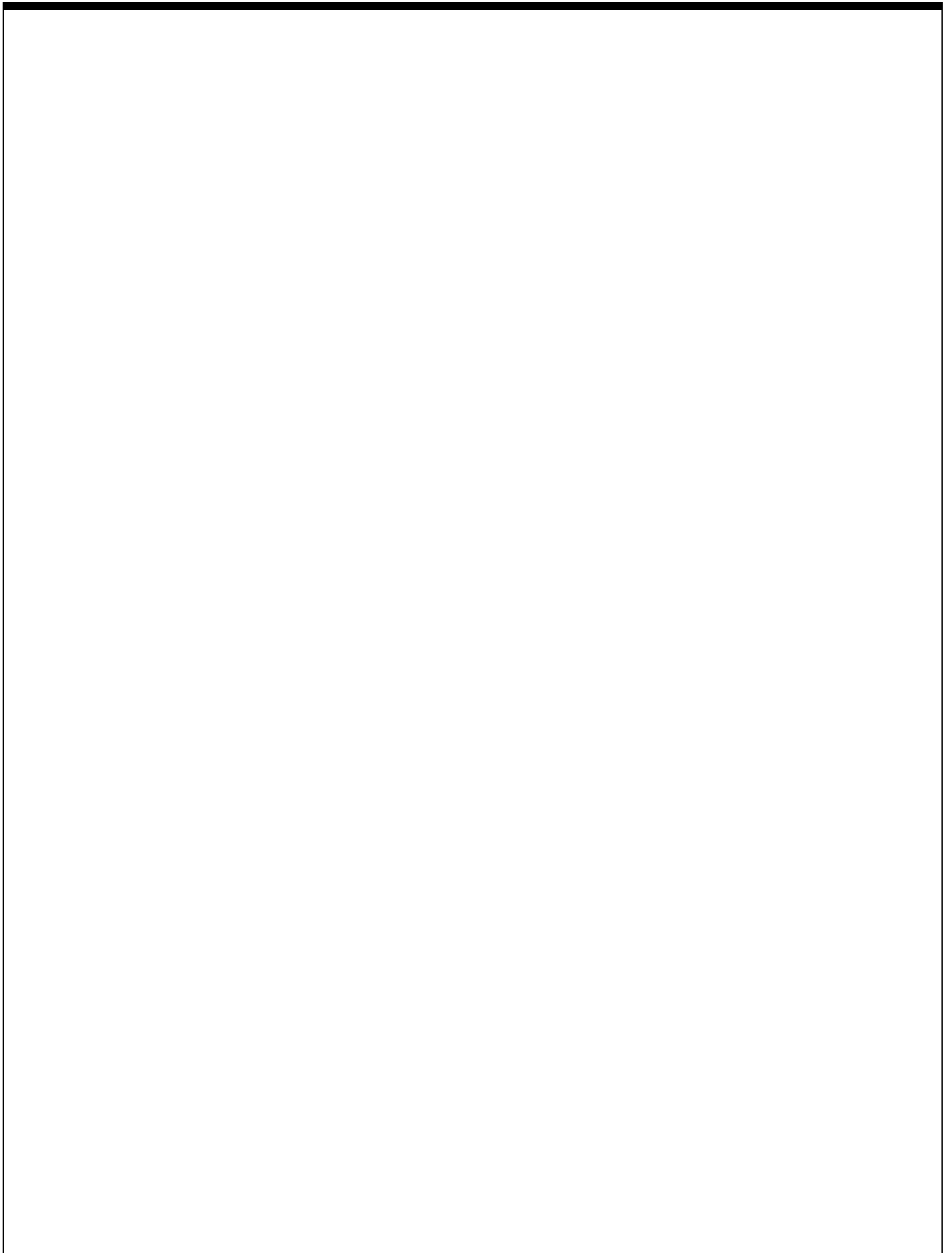
Civic Facilities

Public Facility Restoration / Renovations	\$ 2,102,000
Computer Network Upgrade	\$ 400,000
Missouri Theater Upgrades	\$ 785,000

Previous (2002 CIP Tax Improvements)

St. Joseph Waterpark (Noyes & Messanie); New Business Park Infrastructure; Stockyards Revitalization; Nature Center and Trails; Public Safety Communications Systems; Public Safety Apparatus; Fire Station Renovations; Hyde and Krug Pool Restorations, North/South Hike and Bike Systems, Bode Sports Complex and Civic Arena A/C Renovations; Residential/Commercial Sidewalk/Curb Matching Funds; Downtown Master Plan Improvements

Sharon G. Kosek
St. Joseph PTA Council Legislative Chair



Davis-Langemach-Kosek PTA Council Award of Excellence

Background

The “Davis-Langemach-Kosek PTA Council Award of Excellence” is named after Mrs. True Davis, Sr., and Mrs. Vernon Langemach, both highly admired St. Joseph ladies, who are past State PTA Presidents. This award is also in honor of Mrs. Sharon Kosek who is a past St. Joseph PTA Council President and Legislative chair.

Determination of Winner

The administrator, teacher, staff member, or volunteer who has been nominated, must have made a major difference in the life of a student of the St. Joseph School District. It should be something that will be of major impact in the child’s life and must have taken place between the first day of school and the last day of school.

A nomination may be made by a parent/family member, administrator, teacher, staff person, or other adult community member. (No self nominations please.)

The administrator of the nominee as well as the nominating party must sign the form to assure validity.

Each month one winner will be selected and recognized by the St. Joseph PTA Council. The winner will be awarded a certificate of recognition. In addition, a book valued at \$25 will be given in honor of the winner to the school where they are employed. If they are not employed at a school, then they may select which school will receive the book.

An impartial panel of three individuals will determine the winners. The panel will include a school district official, a PTA Council representative, and a local parent.

Nominations submitted will be kept for consideration for that school year unless they are chosen as a winner.

The child’s name will not be released to the public.

In order to be considered as the next month’s award recipient, three copies of the nomination must be received by the 20th of the previous month. The first award will be in September.

Nominations should be sent to:

Carla Ewart

PTA Council Awards

215 Ohio

St. Joseph, MO 64504

carlae@stjoelive.com



Thank you for your interest.

**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 _____
(Plastic Cover, Shell, Pin Back=1 Component)

Send request to: Jena Kirschner
10489 SE State Rt. A
St. Joseph, MO 64507
816-244-1687
jena.kirschner@sjsd.k12.mo.us
Or at TMC 816-671-4390

Signature _____

Title _____

Send Bill To:

Make Checks Payable to: *ST. JOSEPH PTA COUNCIL*
Send Payment to: St. Joseph PTA Council
PO Box 1271
St. Joseph, MO 64501

For Council Use Only

Button Machine reserved for
Date _____
Confirmation Sent _____

Check out date _____
Signature _____
Check in date _____
Signature _____

Number of Components Issued _____
Number Returned _____
Number Used _____ @ _____

Date _____
Total Due _____

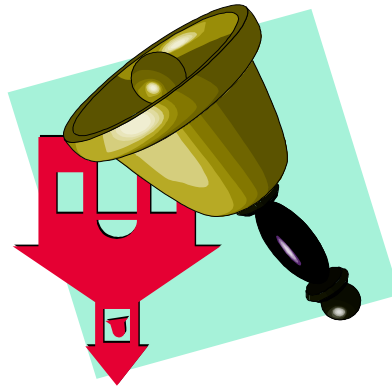
Confirmation

Your Request for the Button Machine is Confirmed for _____

Signature _____ Date _____

ADDRESS ONLY

ST. JOSEPH PTA COUNCIL



ST. JOSEPH PTA COUNCIL

St. Joseph PTA Council
PO Box 1271
St. Joseph, MO 64501

