

# Council Clippings

Monthly Newsletter of  
St. Joseph PTA Council

Volume 24, Issue 3

November 2008



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. Some units have contacted me about being a member of their PTA. Please bring membership cards to Council meetings so that I can become a member of your unit. Remember that in order to be eligible for the 100% Faculty Award, Carla or I AND Dr. Smith must be a member of your unit.

I am looking forward to the State PTA Convention coming up the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> of this month. I hope to see a lot of our units there this year. I will come back with some new ideas and will share them with all of you at our next Council meeting.

Don't forget about Reflections. This year's theme is WOW! It is easy for the time to slip by and before we know it the Reflections deadline is here. Start this project early. Your school's art and music teachers will be receiving information on the program. Please ask them what your PTA unit can do to help them. This is a great opportunity to showcase at a state and national level some of the awesome talent in our district.

Please remember that Council dues are due October 15<sup>th</sup>. Please send those to Sheila Johnson as soon as possible.

It is not too early to get your entry fee for the Spelling Bee taken care of. You need to go to the Scripts web site and find out where to send your entry fee for this year's Spelling Bee that will be held in January. The fee is \$99.00 and is well worth it for the kiddos to participate in this event.

Thanks to all of you that came to our Council meeting in October. I appreciate all of your input into every situation that we have to work with. This is YOUR council and I really appreciate anything you have to say at our meetings. The St. Joseph PTA Units are the best that there is in this state and I am 100% positive of that. You guys are super and I thank God for each of you and what you do for the kiddos and your schools.

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

God Bless You All,

Peggy Wood

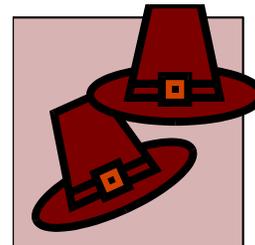
Saint Joseph PTA Council President

## Council Clippings Article Assignments for December 2008 Articles are due November 10, 2008

<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Presidents Report</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Character &amp; 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>Spelling Bee</u> <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Legislation</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Salute to Schools</u>

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

# Happy Thanksgiving



Dream no small dreams for they have no power to move the hearts of men.

**Johann Wolfgang von Goethe**

## Chiefs Salute To Education



WRITTEN BY MO PTA

Missouri PTA is excited to offer this member benefit to all of our PTA members. The Kansas City Chiefs are offering discounted tickets to the December 21 – Miami Dolphins game. At the game, the Kansas and Missouri Teacher's of the Year will be honored. December 21 is "Salute To Education Day" at Arrowhead.



These tickets will be over 50% of the regular price. Please share this email and information with your membership and ask them to share with their families. The link is listed below, choose the Miami Dolphins Game, click on find tickets, enter PTA as the promotion code. On the next screen you may create an account or log in. After you log in, this will take you to a new screen – choose the number of tickets you wish to purchase and then click on the arrow where it says "Best Available" this will open a drop down window –for \$30.00 tickets click on the last item in the drop down window. You will then have a choice of seats – order early for the best seats.

Please note that if you wish to purchase tickets in a group there are special instructions. If you have any questions, contact Tyler Kirby of the Kansas City Chiefs at 816-920-4824.



The Kansas City Chiefs are pleased to offer ALL PTA Members with a special offer to purchase 2008 Chiefs tickets at a significant discount for a Salute to Education at Arrowhead. Join us in congratulating the Missouri and Kansas Teachers of The Year at the Miami Dolphins game on December 21st – tickets are \$30 (\$34 Savings from box office price). In addition, PTA Members will receive the benefit of purchasing tickets to all other available home games at the group ticket price - \$59 for Red Reserve (\$5 per ticket savings) and \$41 for Red View. As part of this offer, you will also receive up to a \$7 per ticket discount on service, handling and credit card fees. There are a limited number of tickets available for these offers.

### SALUTE TO EDUCATION DAY OFFER INCLUDES:

Salute to Education Day Discounted Tickets - \$30 (upper level – red reserve)

To purchase tickets for Salute to Education Day and all other Chiefs home games click here:

<https://oss.ticketmaster.com/html/go.html?l=EN&t=chiefs&o=12166462&q=384>

\*Enter promotional code: PTA

To purchase tickets as a group or for more information contact Tyler Kirby at 816-920-4824 or [tkirby@chiefs.nfl.com](mailto:tkirby@chiefs.nfl.com) !

The Chiefs want to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to experience Arrowhead in 2008. Please forward this information to family and friends.

It's time to break out your Chiefs Jersey, dust off that tailgating grill and most importantly, practice your game face. The Kansas City Chiefs Football Season is here and you don't want to miss the chance to see Larry Johnson, Tony Gonzalez, top draft picks Glenn Dorsey and Branden Albert and the rest of the team light up the field. 2008 Awaits...Join Us!

# Exploring Real Ways for Family Involvement

## Have you made the PTA “Three for Me” promise?

Our national PTA has asked each of our schools to implement the Three for Me Family Involvement Program, asking for three hours of family involvement from our student’s parents. This is so little time, working out to less than 20 minutes a month. As PTA officers, we are the leaders of volunteers for our schools; and we need to be the ones to share with all parents or guardians these opportunities suggested by National PTA. They can:

- ❏ Sign up to read to their child's class.
- ❏ Attend parent-teacher conferences.
- ❏ Ask their employer to donate supplies to the school.
- ❏ Help write, submit an article, or publish the school newsletter.
- ❏ Volunteer in the school office.
- ❏ Assist teachers by translating information for parents.
- ❏ Mentor a new family at the school.

These are some great ways to be involved without interrupting classrooms or disrespecting their child’s need for independence. Please be sure to check with your school’s principal or volunteer coordinator to get started.

## When Schedules Conflict

Teachers can also ask parents to help from home. Everyone is busy but we can all find time to help. Parents can help put together booklets, cut out pictures and letters for a bulletin board, label folders or books, and always help with homework. Our parents want to be involved but they often need to be asked directly. Give them the opportunity to give their time and talents. ASK!

## Eating Together

Research done by the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse (CASA) at Columbia University shows that the more often children eat dinner with their families, the less likely they are to smoke, drink, or use drugs. This is also a way to connect with our kids and find out how they are doing in school. This does not need to be limited to dinner, why not have parents come to eat lunch with their students? Have a special day for parents to come share lunch or just encourage it anytime. Parents can meet their child’s friends and classmates and learn more about their time in school. This not only helps families stay close but it gives parents and teachers a chance to connect. Take the time to learn about each other.

-Nadienne Hoffman  
Parent Involvement Coordinator  
St. Joseph PTA Council

**PARENTS**--Parent involvement is critical to student success. When parents are involved

- Higher grades and test scores are the result
- Better attendance by students with involved parents
- More consistently completed homework
- Higher graduation rates, and greater enrollment in post secondary education



# St. Joseph PTA Council Legislative Report



Below are the 2008 Missouri PTA legislative priorities. Ideas usually start from a local unit. If you have an idea that you would like to see brought to the attention of PTA leaders as a possible future legislative priority, please visit with me about your suggestion or email me at [sharonkosek@hotmail.com](mailto:sharonkosek@hotmail.com).

## 2008 Missouri PTA Legislative Priorities...

- Supports legislation that provides funding to local school districts for Driver's Education and Training in all Missouri Public schools.
- Supports legislation to prohibit teenagers under permit or intermediate license to use a cell phone while driving a motor vehicle.
- Supports enforcement of legislation requiring school districts to have policies dealing with bullying and programs to prevent bullying and require skilled intervention and/or treatment for both bullies and their targets.
- Supports preservation of local control of public schools.
- Opposes any voucher system that finances non-public schools with public funds.
- Supports a constitutional amendment to allow school districts to approve bond issues with a simple majority vote.
- Supports legislation that would raise the limit on indebtedness for school districts from fifteen to twenty percent of assessed valuation.
- Supports legislation requiring significant portions of the "Master Settlement Agreement" monies be allocated to statewide youth tobacco prevention programs.
- Supports legislation that gives immunity from civil liability for any action taken by school authorities as a result of a third party making a report to a school administrator of child abuse by a school employee

## In the Interest of Child Health and Safety, Missouri PTA...

Supports legislation to increase funding for programs and services aimed at the prevention of child abuse, neglect and maltreatment. Supports legislation establishing a statewide, standard school zone speed limit of 20 mph, with discretion to the governing body of a county or municipality, with the board of education, to establish a speed limit within a school zone lower than 20 mph.

- Supports statewide legislation making it a crime to leave children unattended in motor vehicles.
- Supports tightening enforcement and increasing the penalties concerning the use of the cargo area of trucks as passenger areas for children and youth.

## In the Interest of Education and Education Funding, Missouri PTA...

- Opposes tax credits or tax deductions for tuition paid by a parent or sponsors for nonpublic elementary and secondary school children.
- Supports enforcement of legislation requiring school districts to have policies that promote increased parent involvement in their children's education.
- Supports legislation that will maintain or generate local and state funding for public education.
- Supports state funding for renovation and construction of essential school facilities.
- Supports legislation strengthening laws to limit and restrict projects, which reduce funding to public education through tax increment financing (TIF), urban redevelopment corporations and enterprise zones.
- Supports legislation and other efforts to cause class size reduction in Missouri schools.

## In the Interest of the General Welfare of Children and Youth, Missouri PTA...

- Supports legislation supporting mandatory statewide recycling, and additional laws and the promotion of programs to provide incentives for individuals to make a greater effort to stop pollution and conserve our natural resources.
- Supports legislation calling for Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) that would make manufacturers and distributors financially and/or physically responsible for their electronic products when those products become obsolete as a means of controlling e-waste or techno-trash and protecting the environment.
- Supports parentage legislation that would assist a custodial parent (or legal guardian) in establishing paternal responsibility via DNA technology and that would provide the custodial parent (or legal guardian) with a readily available legal remedy for assessment and collection of child support.
- Supports enforcement of drunk driving laws and passage of more stringent laws to remove drivers under the influence of alcohol and other drugs from Missouri streets.

**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

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

[jena.kirschner@sjsd.k12.mo.us](mailto:jena.kirschner@sjsd.k12.mo.us)  
Or at TMC 816-671-4390

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

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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 \_\_\_\_\_

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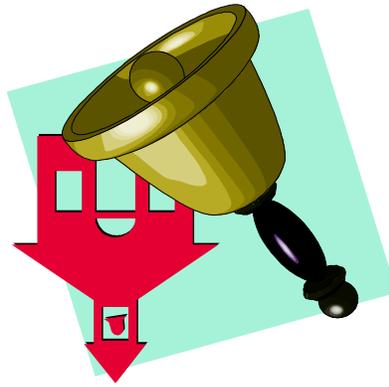
Confirmation

Your Request for the Button Machine is Confirmed for \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

NOTICE FOR PARENTS

# COMMUNITY FUNDS



# ST. JOSEPH PTA COUNCIL

St. Joseph PTA Council  
C/O Lori Prussman  
2504 Ashland ave  
St. Joseph mo 64506

