

Council Clippings

Monthly Newsletter of
St. Joseph PTA Council

Volume 22, Issue 8

April 2007



Presidents

Corner...

The spring has been slow in coming but I think it may finally be here. Last year as I wrote my article my daffodils were blooming; this year they are finally thawing out. The result is the same, we are all preparing to be outside more. But don't forget there are a couple of PTA items to tie up before our year is complete. At the top of the list should be filling in those PTA positions and committees that are still open for the 2007-08 school year. Having those positions filled and sending this information to the state PTA office and Council will help next year run more smoothly. To recruit potential parents, think about having a booth at the kindergarten screenings. This is a great opportunity to meet new parents. Have a questionnaire available to find out how each parent might be interested in assisting with PTA at your school. Remember, the more parents who are involved, the less work for all.

In keeping with PTA leadership, remember that Missouri PTA offers a Leadership Conference each year. The Conference this year will be in Kansas City, Missouri at the Clarion Hotel on April 27-28. National PTA Annual Convention is in St. Louis! The dates are June 28-30, 2007. This is another outstanding opportunity for leadership training and learning from the best and it is so close to home. If you plan to attend please consider volunteering some of your time to man the many stations required to put on an event of this magnitude. Peggy Richey, one of the Pony Express Regional Directors, is in charge of the event. Don't forget to request your voting credentials card from the state office. For more information about these events check out the Missouri PTA website (www.mopta.org) or ask your unit president for information.

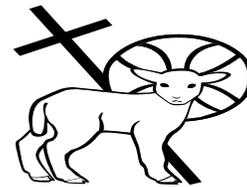
Another area to tie up is membership. While collecting memberships may be over, applying for membership awards is not. Please take the time to review the various membership awards for the state available by visiting the www.mopta.org website under resources. Most of these awards are due to the state office by April 15. The Saint Joseph PTA Council will be presenting membership awards at our May meeting. Units do not need to apply for these Council awards; they are awarded based on membership numbers supplied by the state PTA office.

Your Saint Joseph PTA Council will continue to offer various programs over the next several months. Legislative Forums will be held the last Friday of each month from 4:15 to 5:15 through April. All events will be held at Hillyard Technical School. On April 19 the Reflections reception will be held at Keatley Center from 6:00-7:30. The April 2 executive council meeting will include a school of information for incoming officers.

Finally, the board is pleased to announce that PTA Council will again be doing a fundraiser card with Varsity Gold with kickoff sales to begin April 23 - May 4. As always, all units will benefit with profits shared from Council and grants for 2007-08. With your support, we should have another great year!

SCHOOL OF INFORMATION

April 2, after the regular monthly Council meeting, will be the School of Information. It will begin at approximately 7:30 PM and be finished by 8:15 PM. There will be break out sessions for President, treasurer, secretary/Reflections, and membership. Great door prizes in each workshop with the grand prize for two to the State PTA Convention in October. Plan to attend, learn lots of stuff, and maybe win a door prize!!



To accomplish great things, we must not only act, but also dream; not only plan, but also believe.

- Anatole France

Submitted by Tori Carvell

Council Clippings Article Assignments for May 2007

Articles are due April 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>Reflections</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Membership report</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Ways and means</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Budget for 05-06</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Council Award</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.

Legislative Report for April 2007

A Visit to Washington, DC

On March 7, I returned from a five-day trip to Washington, DC, where I advocated for public education in the offices of Senators and Representatives from Missouri. The offices of Senator Claire McCaskill, Senator Kit Bond, Congressman Sam Graves, Congressman Emanuel Cleaver, Congressman Russ Carnahan, and Congressman Todd Aiken were visited.

While I did not get to visit with Senator McCaskill as she was serving as President of the Senate during my appointment, I did visit with her Chief of Staff. During the time Senator McCaskill was presiding, there was debate on the Senate floor over passage of a National Defense bill. Senator Bond spoke enthusiastically for the bill. Senator Barack Obama of Illinois attempted to add an amendment to the same bill. Senator Joseph Lieberman of Connecticut spoke at length in support of the bill.

Personal visits were held with Bond, Graves, Cleaver, Carnahan, and Aiken as with their legislative aides. Each one was favorable in their response to supporting public education issues. Representative Carnahan's visit was the most lengthy. (Representative Carnahan's father was Governor Carnahan. One of former Governor Carnahan's last speeches was in Kansas City, Missouri, where he spoke to Missouri PTA State Convention attendees.)

The biggest story while in Washington was Walter Reed Hospital and care of injured veterans. Senator McCaskill was on the Washington news as she was advocating for better care for injured veterans.

Last 2007 Legislative Forum



On Friday, April 27, the final 2007 Legislative Forum will be held at Hillyard Technical Center. The forum will begin promptly at 4:15 p.m. and end at 5:15 p.m. PTA Council members Deb Conrad, Peggy Wood, Joyce Clibon, and Sharon Kosek assist with the forums. Missouri legislators who participate are Senator Charlie Shields, Representative Dr. Rob Schaaf, Representative Ed Wildberger, and Representative Martin Rucker. Representing US Representative Sam Graves is Chad Higdon. At a recent forum, Central High School's Government classes asked questions regarding the type of test that should be given to high school students as an exit exam. The students supported the ACT. There was also quite a bit of discussion regarding a proposed Senate bill which would provide a scholarship for Missouri high school graduates. This bill would financially aid each high school graduate by \$1,500 to \$2,000 to help further his or her education. These scholarships would have to be used at a Missouri educational institution and would be funded by lifting the gambling limits at Missouri casinos. Senator Shields is supporting this bill. His model is Minnesota where their citizens boast one of the highest levels of education per person in the US.

In an upcoming issue of the Missouri PTA's *Contact* magazine there will be a feature article about our PTA Founders' Day banquet and the awards distributed. The article is authored by our President Deb Conrad.

Honoring a Legislative Leader for Missouri PTA

Mrs. Eleanor Langemach, one of two St. Joseph residents who served as Missouri PTA President, was honored with the The Dr. Dan L. Colgan National PTA Foundation Award at our PTA Founders' Day Banquet. While Missouri PTA President, Mrs. Langemach spoke with US Presidents and the Missouri Governor. Pershing School first gained from her leadership locally where she was PTA president. She was also active in the St. Joseph PTA Council and a member of the Missouri PTA Board of Managers from 1965-81. She served as Missouri PTA President from 1975-77. During the years of her state Presidency, Mrs. Langemach held the first state PTA Legislative Conference where then Governor Kit Bond issued a proclamation that it was "PTA Day at the Legislature." Mrs. Langemach served on the National Board of Directors from 1975-81. During her term, she served as the National Chairperson of the Reflections program from 1980-81. Mrs. Langemach not only had a great deal of clout legislatively at the state level, she also traveled to Washington, DC, multiple times and met personally with then President and Mrs. Jimmy Carter and President and Mrs. Gerald Ford where she spoke about PTA issues of concern. Mrs. Langemach was not only renown at the state and national levels for her leadership in PTA, she also was one of 12 persons selected to represent the United States in Japan as a representative of the Commission on Education. It was a tremendous honor to recognize the First Lady of PTA, Mrs. Eleanor Langemach, at the PTA Founders' Day Banquet.

Sharon G. Kosek, Legislative Chair, PTA Council

ST. JOSEPH PTA COUNCIL CHARACTER AND SPIRITUAL LEADER SCHOLARSHIP 2007-2008

The St. Joseph PTA Council established this scholarship. The amount of this scholarship is \$500.00. This scholarship is for a one-year term to the student.

Requirements for eligibility:

1. Must be a graduating senior of a St. Joseph Public School (2007-2008).
2. Must be a member of their high school PTSA for 2007-2008.
3. Must maintain at least a 2.0 GPA.
4. Must have one (1) letter of recommendation from a school personality (example: Teacher, Principal or Guidance Counselor.)
5. Must complete the application attached.
6. Must attach a transcript with application
7. Must write and attach an essay on your goals for college and career (150 words or less).
8. **Must attend bi-monthly General meetings of the St. Joseph PTA Council and the Founder's Day Dinner and be prepared with a motivational "thought for the evening" at these meetings. (Five meetings and one banquet)**
9. **Must prepare monthly motivational thoughts or short poem to be published in our monthly newsletter (Council Clippings). This does not have to be an original work of art.**
10. **If chosen, you will be on the committee who will choose the following year's award winner. Other members will be St. Joseph PTA Council appointees.**

****Though not mandatory, please enclose a photo. It is good to have a face with a name.**

Application Process

Applications will be available at guidance counselor office. **Applications are due to the guidance counselor no later than May 1, 2007.** Selection will be made by May 15, 2007. Applications will be forwarded to chairman by the schools counselor: Angie Davies, 4703 Huntsboro Ct. St. Joseph, MO 64506, (816)676-2434 or (816) 262-6743- cell

APPLICATION FOR THE ST. JOSEPH PTA COUNCIL CHARACTER AND SPIRITUAL LEADER SCHOLARSHIP.

APPLICANT'S NAME:

LAST	FIRST	MIDDLE	DATE OF BIRTH
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ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP
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TELEPHONE #	PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME
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Name and address of high school attended and number of years at that school.

Name and address of the college or university you plan to attend.

I plan to be a member of my high school PTSA for the year of 2007-2008. Yes / No

I have been a PTA/PTSA member for _____ years.

I hereby certify that the above information is correct to the best of my knowledge.

Date

Signature of Applicant

You and your family are invited to the

Children's Arts Fund Kickoff

(for kids of all ages)

A Celebration of Laughter

free and open to the public

**All types of
arts activities**

**Enjoy a hot dog
and ice cream**



Design a t-shirt

Craft a Mask

Sunday, April 1, 2007

2:00-3:30 p.m.

**Create
your own Jester**

**Live entertainment
on stage at 2 p.m.**

Missouri Theatre

717 Edmond Street

St. Joseph

Arts Activity Tables by

Allied Arts, American Guild of Organists, CAP, Midwest Artists Association,
PAA, RRT, St. Joseph Community Chorus, and Saint Joseph Symphony

Mark Pennington, Emcee and Lead Jester



Children must be supervised by their parents/guardians at the event

For more information: 816.233.0231 or <http://www.stjoearts.org/>



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.

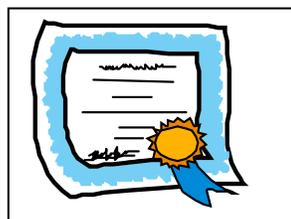
An impartial panel of three individuals will determine the winners. The panel will include a school district official, a PTA Council representative, and a local parent.

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:



Angie Davies

PTA Council Awards

4703 Huntsboro Ct.

St. Joseph, MO 64506

angieiscooking@yahoo.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 _____

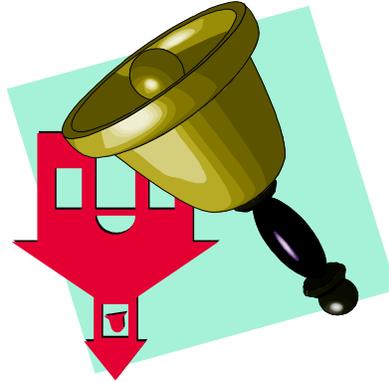
Confirmation

Your Request for the Button Machine is Confirmed for _____

Signature _____ Date _____

NOTICE FOR PARENTS

COMMUNITY MEETING



ST. JOSEPH PTA COUNCIL

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

