

# Council Clippings

Monthly Newsletter of  
St. Joseph PTA Council

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**Research** shows that one of the most effective ways to prevent bullying behavior is to create a positive school climate. School climate encompasses everything that contributes to a student's experience with a school—from the physical building to policies, staff and peer culture.

Use the Connect for Respect (C4R) Toolkit to guide your PTA/PTSA in engaging students in improving the school climate and reducing bullying.

### The C4R Toolkit

- **Get started.** Walk through a step-by-step process for engaging students, parents and educators in Connect for Respect while learning about all of the tools National PTA and its partners have available for you.
  - [Connect for Respect PTA Leader's Guide](#)
  - [Connect for Respect Student Leader's Guide](#)
- **Assess the current school climate.** Take inventory of the current challenges and strengths of your school climate and chart your progress.
  - [Assessment Topics to Consider](#)
  - [Assessment Guidelines from Stopbullying.gov](#)
- **Engage the school community in dialogue.** Bring students, parents and school leaders together for a productive discussion and brainstorm on ways to overcome weaknesses found in assessment.
  - [Sample Agenda for C4R Forum](#)
- **Develop an action plan.** Create a plan that educates and empowers students, families and the broader school community around bullying prevention and safe school environments.
  - [Template Action Plan](#)
  - [Sample Student Action Plan from PACER's National Bullying Prevention Center](#)
- **Educate and empower students, families and the community.** Sustain your efforts over time by convening a C4R team that works on this issue throughout the school year.
  - [Educational Poster \(En Español\)](#)

### Learn More

- Find out how bullying and school climate are related to students' mental health at the [American Psychological Association](#).
- Explore current school climate research and assessment tools at the [National Center for School Climate](#).
- Utilize [Welcoming Schools](#) resources to address gender stereotyping and family diversity in K-5 schools.
- View sample "quick start guides" to get students engaged in campaigns promoting inclusivity and respect at Not in Our School.
- Locate and join community events in support National Bullying Prevention Month at [Pacer's National Bullying Prevention Center](#).
- Keep up with a central hub of federal resources and numerous partner at [StopBullying.gov](#).

See more at [pta.org](#)

Hoping that you have all had a wonderful start to this new school year. School has been going on for almost a month now. It's important to keep up that nightly routine. Some good routines are check your child's backpack for any communication from the school, find a good place to do homework, read a book, bedtime routine just to name a few. Schools and families are teams. We are all here to help students succeed.

September Awareness: Craniofacial Acceptance Month  
Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy Awareness Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Syndrome Awareness Month  
Hydrocephalus Awareness Month National Spinal Cord Awareness Month Sickle Cell Awareness Month

Submitted by Anita Combs

## Council Clippings Article Assignments for November 2018 Articles are due October 15, 2018

<input type="checkbox"/> Presidents Report	<input type="checkbox"/> Character & Spiritual
<input type="checkbox"/> Reflections	<input type="checkbox"/> Family/Community Involvement
<input type="checkbox"/> Special Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Early Childhood

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.

Don't forget to check out our website,  
[www.stjoepta.org](http://www.stjoepta.org)

and like us on Facebook!

## September Legislative Update

State Board of Education:

On Tuesday September 18th the State Board of Education voted to endorse a proposal to ramp up the transportation funding budget. Currently transportation is only being funded at 17% of the total need. This means that school districts have to currently allocate more local funds to accommodate. The more money put into the transportation formula the more local dollars can be placed into other local needs.

### STEM Bill

In September, Missouri Senators voted 28-1 in favor of bill allow high school computer science credits to count towards math, science or practical arts credits needed for graduation. The measure would also create an online course intended to boost career awareness for science, technology, engineering and mathematics professions. This is in hopes to encourage more interest and knowledge in STEM careers in preparation for jobs that are not even created yet.

Submitted by Eli Garr  
Legislation Co-Chair

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### Attention treasurers

It is time to fill out your year-end reports...

- Financial review/audit
- End of year report/annual review
- File your 990N

Find all the reports and link to IRS on our website  
[www.stjoepta.org](http://www.stjoepta.org)

**Don't forget** that you must present your audit to your General assembly and it must be approved by membership.

Send copies to PTA Council PO Box 1162, 64502  
**and** to the State PTA office to remain in good standings!!

“Keep your eyes on the stars and feet on the ground”

Submitted by Madeline Arn

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Please note the change in application deadline for the

**St. Joseph PTA Council grant.**  
**Deadline is November 1<sup>st</sup>!**

Checks will be distributed at the  
November Council meeting!

Don't miss out on an opportunity to fund  
a special project this school year!

See the grant application in this issue and  
also available online at [www.stjoepta.org](http://www.stjoepta.org)!

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### Unit in Good Standing...

To be a unit in good standing with the  
State PTA you must...

- Submit your financial review by Dec. 1
- Submit your annual report by Dec. 1
- Submit your IRS tax confirmation by Dec. 1
- Submit membership monthly
- Bylaws must be current (no need to submit a copy if current)
- **New Officers list must be submitted by March 31<sup>st</sup> each year**



## National PTA Kicks Off 50th Year of Reflections Arts Program with National Arts in Education Week

ALEXANDRIA, Va., (Sept. 12, 2018)—In celebration of **National Arts in Education Week**, National PTA is kicking off its 2018-2019 **Reflections@ student art awards program**. This school year marks the 50th anniversary of the program, which has inspired and engaged millions of students to explore their talents and express their ideas by creating works of art for fun and recognition.

“Participation in the arts builds students’ confidence, teamwork and sense of accomplishment. Involvement in the arts is also closely associated with students’ academic achievement, social and emotional development, and civic engagement,” said Jim Accomando, president of National PTA. “National PTA is thrilled to celebrate National Arts in Education Week and launch the 50th year of our Reflections program to provide all students the opportunity to participate in the arts to help them reach their full potential.”

Each year, the Reflections program encourages students of all ages to create and submit original works of art in the medium of their choice—dance choreography, film production, literature, music composition, photography or visual arts—that reflect on the annual theme. There also is a special artist division to provide all students the opportunity to participate in the program. Submissions are reviewed by visual, literary and performing art experts, and students are recognized for their artistic ingenuity in bringing the theme to life. **The 2018-2019 theme is “Heroes Around Me.”**

Since 2010, the second week of September has been designated by the U.S. House of Representatives as National Arts in Education Week to spotlight the importance of arts education for all students. Throughout the week, PTAs and schools will host events and activities for students and families that connect with this year’s Reflections theme. Follow National Arts in Education Week through the hashtag #BecauseOfArtsEd and follow Reflections programs across the country through the hashtag #PTAReflections.

In addition to celebrating National Arts in Education Week and launching the 2018-2019 Reflections program, National PTA is pleased to announce that Tiffany Park Elementary School PTA in Renton, Wash. and Harvest Hill STEAM Academy PTA in Murrieta, Calif. have been recognized with its 2018 **Mary Lou Anderson Reflections Arts Enhancement Grant**. The grant is designed to empower PTAs and schools with resources to increase access to learning opportunities in the literary, media visual and/or performing arts for at-risk or underserved students.

“National PTA has long believed that all children deserve the opportunity to take part in the arts, recognizing the impact they have on student success, in the classroom and beyond,” said Nathan R. Monell, CAE, executive director of National PTA. “We are pleased to award Tiffany Park Elementary School PTA and Harvest Hill STEAM Academy PTA with our 2018 Mary Lou Anderson Reflections Arts Enhancement Grant for their commitment to ensuring that every child has access to and takes part in high-quality arts learning experiences.”

### About National PTA

National PTA® comprises millions of families, students, teachers, administrators, and business and community leaders devoted to the educational success of children and the promotion of family engagement in schools. PTA is a registered 501(c) (3) nonprofit association that prides itself on being a powerful voice for all children, a relevant resource for families and communities, and a strong advocate for public education. Membership in PTA is open to anyone who wants to be involved and make a difference for the education, health and welfare of children and youth.

For more information, visit [PTA.org](http://PTA.org).

### Media Contact

Heidi May Wilson, National PTA  
[hmw@PTA.org](mailto:hmw@PTA.org), (703) 518-1242



Let’s think about that for a minute!

Has your unit ever considered having a voter registration drive at one of your general meetings?

The deadline to register to vote in November election is October 10<sup>th</sup>.

## DID YOU KNOW



Parents who just talk as they go about their daily activities expose their children to 1000-2000 words every hour.

[WWW.THESPEECHPRACTICE.COM](http://WWW.THESPEECHPRACTICE.COM)

## We need your help!

**We need to know how much each unit’s membership dues are. Please send us your unit name and ID# along with the amount of your unit memberships.**

Please email information to  
[sjptacouncil@gmail.com](mailto:sjptacouncil@gmail.com)

**Your help is greatly appreciated!!!**

United Way

**S**UCCESS **B**Y **6**<sup>TM</sup>

Presents:

# Family Fun Time

A FREE play series for parents and other caregivers of young children, aged birth to 6 years old.



**September 22**  
10:00 to 11:30 a.m.  
**Construction!**  
Lowe's Home Improvement Garden Center  
3901 North Belt Highway  
Join us for a free make and take building activity with the staff of Lowe's and other construction themed activities to foster learning through play.

**October 20**  
10:00 to 11:30 a.m.  
**Curious George Exhibit**  
Rolling Hills Library  
The Upper Story Room  
1904 North Belt  
Let your imagination run and learn how to take the experience of role-playing home. Experience the Family Fun Time spin on this traveling exhibit!

**November 10**  
10:00 to 11:30 a.m.  
**Block Bash!**  
Keatley Center  
1202 South 28th  
Join us for a fun block party! Games and activities will be focused on building, constructing and learning through playing with blocks.



Family Fun Time is a FREE play time for families with children, aged birth to 6 years old. You are invited for games and activities. Free donuts, oranges and juice will be provided and every child aged birth to 6 will receive a free book.

Call Jay at United Way, (816) 364-2381, for more information.

### Other Upcoming Events Around Town

**Tiny Tot Town**  
Presented by Northwest Health Services  
October 9, 2018  
Civic Arena, 100 North 4th

*Events are supported in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services & Technology Act, as administered by the Missouri State Library.*



Read. Sing. Play.  
Every Day to Build Your Child's Brain.



LIVE UNITED

Dear St. Joseph School District Principals and PTA Unit Presidents,

We would like to invite you to apply for our grant for the 2018-2019 school year. \*\*Please note to be eligible for the grant your unit must have sold a minimum of 40 Major Saver Cards in our last campaign. Enclosed you will find the Mission Statement and the Purposes of the PTA. Please remember when choosing a project to submit that you keep these ideals in mind. We want to help your school in continuing to bring worthwhile, education based programs to your students.

As we discussed at our Council meeting please remember to check with downtown office to make sure that they approve of said project (making sure any maintenance problems do not arise) example: any new equipment for the playground, any equipment with special electrical needs, or any project that would require district maintenance, etc.

We also discussed that due to IRS needs we need to have a paper trail of where we spend our not for profit monies. Please help us by turning in receipts for the projects when you have them. This just assures us that we will be able to continue this grant and not get audited by the IRS. I have heard some horror stories about other not for profit organizations losing their status because they did not have the proper paperwork. Please mail receipts to St. Joseph PTA Council, PO Box 1162, St. Joseph, 64502. We greatly appreciate your help with this.

***Please submit your application on or before November 1, 2018*** to St. Joseph PTA Council, PO Box 1162, St. Joseph, MO 64502 **or email to [sjptacouncil@gmail.com](mailto:sjptacouncil@gmail.com)**

Thank you for your continued support of the St. Joseph PTA Council.

## Grant Request through the St. Joseph PTA Council for the 2018-2019 School Year

The executive committee of each PTA/PTSA may apply for one grant up to the amount of \$500.00. To qualify for the grant your unit must have sold a minimum of 40 Major Saver cards to be eligible.

All proposals will require the following information to be eligible for consideration:

1. General description of the project's purpose and population served. 2. Brief description of the project's implementation plans. 3. Current Bylaws on file, Council Dues paid and at least one membership turned into the state PTA office. 4. Detailed description of project for which funds are requested including:

Purpose and goals of project A. Participants to be served B. Breakdown of funds requested by specific categories.

Completed proposals should be returned to St. Joseph PTA Council **on or before November 1, 2018**. Please send to St. Joseph PTA Council, PO Box 1162, St. Joseph, MO 64502.

School name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact person: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of PTA/PTSA President \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Principal \_\_\_\_\_

I. Describe the purpose of your project, including the population that will be served, types of activities, length of project and how this project aligns with the Purposes of the PTA and our Mission statement, please remember that projects should be education based or have a student need focus:

II. Describe the organizational structure of your project. An organizational chart may be attached to help satisfy this requirement. (What staff will be involved? Who will be accountable for funds? Who will order and receive materials?)

III. Describe your project: A. Purpose and goals for the project (projects must have preapproval from the District office):

B. Describe participants to be served, including how they will be selected.

C. Provide a detailed breakdown of expenses, including categories and anticipated expenditures in each category. Be sure amounts are correct, including any shipping and handling fees. To ensure that funds are being used for projects that have been approved we ask that you submit receipts for said project. Once approval has been made on a project we ask that you use grant money for said project only.



# St. Joseph PTA Council



## Council Clippings

Editor: Lori Prussman

St. Joseph PTA Council  
PO Box 1162  
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