



## District Presidents Report

Wishing you all a wonderful holiday sounds like a great way to start this article. Thank you for everything your units have accomplished so far this school year.

Our membership drive is off to a great start and we are above the 50% mark for reaching our district goal of 22,331. Keep up the good work of promoting membership year-round.

Start thinking about attending National PTA Convention in San Jose, California. The District will once again be offering our Leadership Grant. Applications will be available on the District PTA website as well as at our General Membership Meetings. The training and exposure to National PTA vendors is well worth the money your unit will invest.

Please feel free to send your local units "happenings" to Fidel Lopez, our District PTA Website Chair, and he will put it on the front page of the website. Also, remember to

check the website frequently for important dates and announcements. That goes for the National and State websites as well. Another important source of information is our District General Membership Meetings and East and West Side Presidents Meetings. Please try to attend these meetings so your unit will be up to date with everything going on in PTA.

If your local unit needs some help getting on track please think about asking the District PTA to assign your unit a District Resource Liaison. See the article later in this newsletter for more information. We are also working on setting up another Mini-training for those local units that think they need a little more help or that did not have a board in place at the time of the Districts Leadership Academy.



We can always wish for **SNOW DAYS!**

### Special points of interest:

- *District Resource Liaison Program*
- *Another Mini-Training*
- *Contact Information for District Board Members*
- *Officer and Committee Reports*
- *Rachel's Challenge Program*



**SAVE THE DATE!**

JUNE 21-24, 2012

San Jose McEnery Convention Center  
San Jose, California

## Quick Reminders

PTA units should not have a debit or credit card. This is as much to protect the funds of the association as to protect the individuals using the cards.

Your principal should not be a signer on your account unless they are an officer of the PTA. Only officers should be signers

on bank accounts.

PTA's must have a record of all financial transactions as well as bank statements available at every meeting of the board and available for inspection by any member.

All cash transactions should

be handled by two or more board members and must be deposited immediately. No deposits should be kept in a vehicle or board members home for extended periods of time.

### Inside this issue:

District Resource Liaison	2
District Board Directory	2
Awards	2
Inside Story	3
Mark Your Calendar	3
X the Text program	4
Stay in touch	4



## District Resource Liaison and Mini Training

The District Resource Liaison (DRL) is a district board member that will be assigned to your local unit at your board's request. They will help you in whatever area you feel you need them. The DRL policy will be added to the website for your review if you feel that your unit may need some extra help. This is especially helpful for units that have struggled in the past and have very little guidance from previous volunteers. It is also helpful for units that have not attended training. Believe it or not, it is much easier to run your unit when you follow the guidelines given to you by the National, State and District PTA.

If you are interested in attending a Mini Training the District is working on setting up a half day event on the East Side of the Parish. As soon as we have a date and location we will notify all units. I know how busy life can become, but it is invaluable for your board to have training for their positions and working together as a board. Remember we are all part of a National Association that sets forth policies and practices for us to follow for many reasons. Continuity, fairness and legality are just a few.

wish to be assigned a District Resource Liaison.

Cell 985-778-8550  
District.terri@gmail.com



Please email or call Terri if you have any suggestions for the Mini Training or if you

### St. Tammany District PTA Board

President  
1st Vice President Membership  
2nd Vice President Leadership  
3rd Vice President Programs  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
Awards, Principal of the Year  
& Volunteer of the Year  
Directory  
Website & Social Media  
Newsletter Editor  
Service Awards & Special Memberships  
Resolutions  
School Board Liaisons  
  
Community Involvement  
Military Families Advocate/  
Families in Transition/Health & Education  
East Side Presidents Representative  
West Side Presidents Representative  
Special Events  
Hospitality  
All Pro Dads

*Terri Turow	district.terri@gmail.com
*Kerrie Landreth	kerrielandreth@charter.net
Terrie DeSandro	sevenheaven86@aol.com
Julia Daniel	daniellsjj@bellsouth.net
Joe Seeley	navchief@bellsouth.net
Belinda Penton	seator@bellsouth.net
Pat Holden	985-892-2662
Alicia Petitto-Smith	districtptaifo@gmail.com
Fidel Lopez	archangel_ecov@bellsouth.net
<b><u>POSITION AVAILABLE</u></b>	
Kristin Chou	kristinchou@gmail.com
Peggy Seeley	peggyseeley@bellsouth.net
Peggy Sharpe	Margaret.sharpe@stpsb.org
Roxanne Lagarde	Roxanne.lagarde@stpsb.org
Lisa Haydel	lisahaydel@hotmail.com



CALL IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN THE DISTRICT BOARD IN ONE OF OUR AVAILABLE POSITIONS

<b><u>POSITION AVAILABLE</u></b>	
Tori Pittman	mayfieldelementarypta@gmail.com
Shane Hodgson	president.lespta@gmail.com
Shannon Howard	bluetdovepta@yahoo.com
Sandy Juneau	sandyjuneau@gmail.com
Gary Fayard	gfayard@fca.org

\*State Board Members/Ex-Officio Board Members (www.louisianapta.org)

\*Sharon Pender, immediate past president, current State President

\*Giselle Allen, LAPTA 1st VP,

\*Michelle Roy, LAPTA 2nd VP, Membership

\*Sarah Pye, LAPTA Programs Chair



## PTA 2012 Award Opportunities Deadlines

Following is a quick reminder for upcoming awards submissions for your local unit to be recognized at the district, state and national level. Why bother trying to submit applications for awards for the hard work you do when you're already so busy planning the events that will be recognized? Awards energize the whole team and give a great opportunity to celebrate all of your hard work together. Awards also help to recruit volunteers and leaders for future events. Awards are also a great way to recognize your hard work-

ing team of volunteers and supportive educators. Start preparing your award submissions early so that they are a natural part of your local units planning process.

**2011 Hearst Innovation in family Engagement Award**  
**Application available at pta.org, due 5:00 PM EST, Dec 16, 2011**

All due February 1, 2012  
 Honor Unit Award  
 Outstanding Unit Award

Newsletter Award

Website Award

Educator of Distinction

Applications are included in the 2012 Resource Guide.

Please give Educators adequate time to prepare their application.

Principal of the Year – submission date to be announced. Packets distributed to local units by the District PTA

*Kristin Chau~Service Awards and Special Memberships Chair*

## Rachel's Challenge (<http://www.rachelschallenge.org>)

At the end of November the STPSB and community partners brought this program/assembly to five of our area Junior High's. They talk about Rachel Scott and the diary's she left behind. This is followed by a separate interactive 90 minute training session involving both adult and student leaders that shows how to sustain the momentum created by the assembly. The as-

**Rachel Scott was the first person killed at Columbine High School on April 20, 1999.**

sembly creates the "want to" or desire for positive change. The training session teaches the "how to" and ensures that the positive impact will continue.

That evening the Rachel's Challenge speaker conducts a powerful session with parents and community leaders. This session is similar to the assembly program and ends with a

specific challenge to parents and community leaders, showing them how they can reinforce the decisions their youth are making.

For more information visit the website above or [http://www.nola.com/education/index.ssf/2011/12/emo-tions\\_stoked\\_from\\_fontaineb.html](http://www.nola.com/education/index.ssf/2011/12/emo-tions_stoked_from_fontaineb.html)

## Mark Your Calendar!

- Dec 6 Reflections Entries Due to District PTA, 2pm, East drop at Whispering Forest, West drop at Fontainebleau Junior High
- Dec 9 District Board Luncheon
- Dec 15 Membership Dues Report Due to District PTA (mail only, this is not a postmark date)
- Dec 15 Membership Early Bird Deadline
- Jan 9 District Board Meeting, 10am, STPSB
- Jan 9 District General Membership Meeting, 11:15am, STPSB
- Jan 9 Safety Poster Contest Entries due to District PTA, 2pm, East drop at Whispering Forest, West drop at Fontainebleau Junior High or bring to District General Membership Meeting.
- Feb 13 District General Meeting, 6:45pm, Pearl River High School



Check the District PTA website for current updates to the calendar.

**Northshore News**

St. Tammany District PTA  
PO Box 8632  
Mandeville, Louisiana  
70470-8632

Email: [district.terri@gmail.com](mailto:district.terri@gmail.com)  
[www.sttammanydistrictpta.com](http://www.sttammanydistrictpta.com)



*Mailing label goes here*



**Today's Student,  
Tomorrow's Future**

## **NO TEXTING CAMPAIGN**



Did you know that texting while driving takes your eyes off the road for an average of 5 seconds? At 55mph, that's like driving the length of a football field--

**COMPLETELY BLIND!**

The St. Tammany Parish Public Schools **Teen Focus on Safe Driving Committee** paired up with Penzata Allstate Insurance Company recently to bring a national campaign to our student drivers and their parents. The campaign focused on the dangers of texting while driving.

At each of the eight high

schools' homecoming football games, Allstate provided a banner with the message **"Thumbs UP to X the TXT."** Students and parents were encour-



aged to add their thumbprint to the banner as a symbol of their commitment to safe driving by never texting behind the wheel. Upon pledging, the student was given a thumb band to remind them of their commitment as well as written literature promoting

**Making their commitment to "X the TXT"**

safe driving practices.

Additionally, area businesses provided gift cards to lucky students whose names were displayed on the banner. At the end of each game, the banner was then presented to the school to be displayed during Red Ribbon Week. The Teen Focus on Safe Driving Committee appreciated the support of many area businesses, especially Penzata Allstate Insurance Company.

