

PTA's Tools You Can Use

National Representative

2016



By the end of this workshop you will be able to:

- Identify and define the importance of the PTA's National Standards for Family-School Partnerships
- Access National PTA's programs and other available resources
- Understand the steps for planning program strategies throughout the school year



National PTA worked with the leading researchers to develop a formal definition of effective family engagement.

There are three components.





- A Shared Responsibility in which:
- Schools and other community agencies and organizations are committed to engaging families in meaningful and culturally respectful ways, and
- Families are committed to actively supporting their children's learning and development.





Cradle to Career:

• Continuous across a child's life, spanning from Early Head Start programs to college and career.





Across Contexts:

- Carried out everywhere that children learn
 - o Home
 - Pre-kindergarten programs
 - o School
 - After-school programs
 - Faith-based organizations
 - Community programs and activities





Students with Involved Families

No matter what their family income or background may be, students with involved parents/caregivers are more likely to:

- Earn higher grades and test scores
- Pass their classes
- Attend school regularly
- Have better social skills



• Graduate and go on to postsecondary education

Henderson, A., & Mapp, K. (2002). A new wave of evidence: The impact of school, family, and community connections on student achievement. Austin, TX: Southwest Educational Development Laboratory.



Family Engagement Supports School Reform

New research shows that meaningful family and community engagement is one of **five essential ingredients** for effective school reform:

- 1. (Principal) leadership as the driver for change
- 2. Family-school-community ties
- 3. Professional capacity
- 4. Student-centered learning climate
- 5. Instructional guidance

Bryk, A.S., Sebring, P.B., Allensworth, E., Luppescu, S., & Easton, J.Q. (2010). Organizing schools for improvement: Lessons from Chicago. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.



National Standards for Family-School Partnerships



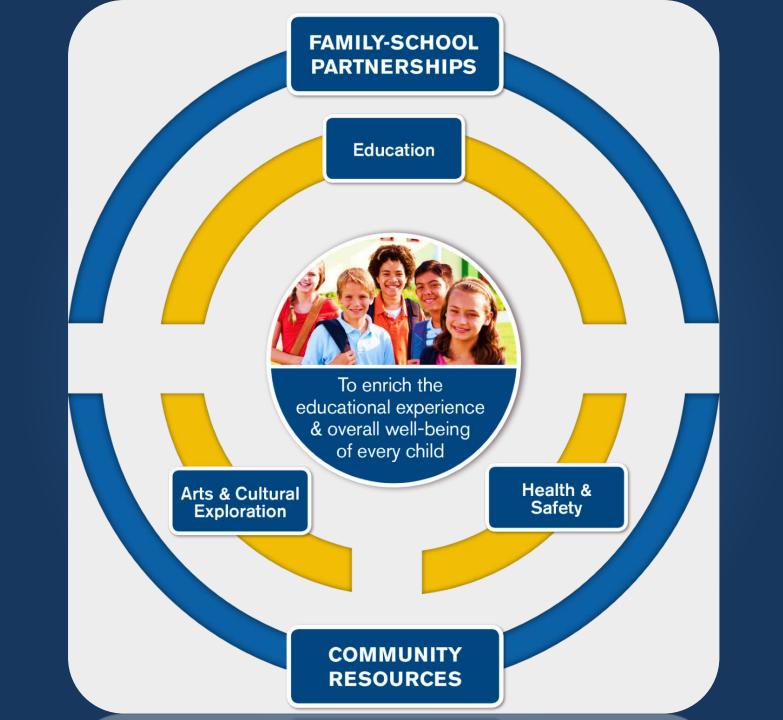


Survey Says: Top Concerns for PTA Leaders

Education	 Lack of family engagement Low levels of literacy Funding cuts High school dropout Educational standards/rigor and assessments
Health & Safety	 Childhood obesity Drugs/alcohol Bullying Dangerous routes to/from and around school Social and emotional stress

- Arts & Cultural Exploration
- Reduction in arts education staff
- Lack of resources for arts in education





Ways National PTA Supports Local PTA Programs & Partnerships

Visit: PTA.org/programs PTA.org/awards

Informational Resources for Families & Schools

Grant

Funding

PTA.org/Awards

Turn-Key Family Event Kits

Leader Trainings, Networks & Alliances,

OUR GOAL:

To engage families in education, health and safety, and arts and cultural exploration.

Program Planning Process

- 1. Recruit your planning team
- 2. Develop a plan and timeline
- 3. Promote your program to families
- 4. Recruit event volunteers
- 5. Promote your program to the community
- 6. Generate community support (i.e., funds, donations)
- 7. Host the event HAVE FUN!
- 8. Recognize volunteers/supporters
- 9. Celebrate!
- 10. Evaluate and start planning for next time





Education:

Engaging families in learning and school improvements



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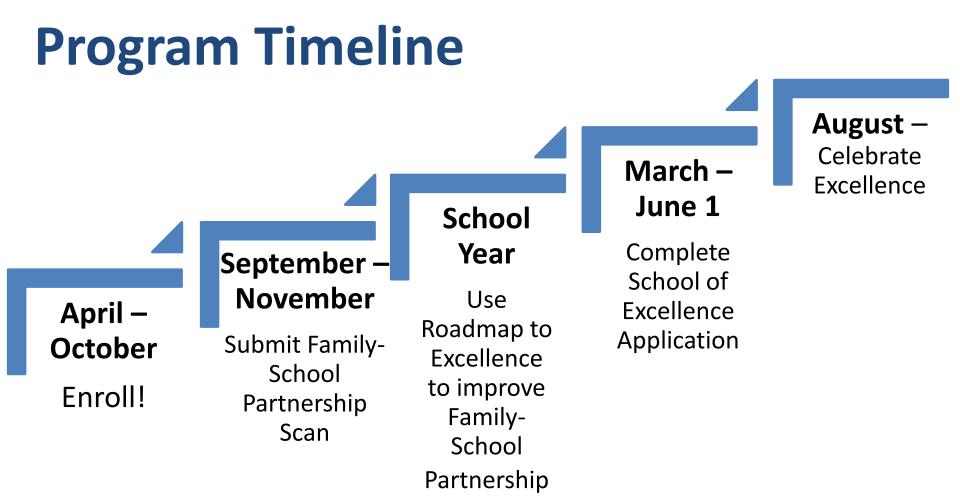
At a National PTA School of Excellence, families feel welcomed and empowered to support student success, and PTA is a key partner for continuous school improvement.



Why participate?

- Make your school a *more welcoming place for families*.
- Empower families to *be part of school decision-making*.
- Demonstrate to school leaders that **PTA is a key partner** for continuous school improvements.
- Receive *recognition in your community, state and nationwide* for engaging families in a way that makes a substantial, positive impact on your school and student success.









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Step 1: Enroll! PTA.org/excellence



Step 2: Review the Getting Started Guide





National PTA School of Excellence Getting Started Guide

Step 3: Conduct a Family-School Partnership Scan

1. Analyze existing family engagement measures deployed by your school/PTA.

		Unknown	Never	Sometimes	Frequently	Always
We	Icoming All Families					
	Our school has friendly signs inside and outside to welcome families and visitors in the multiple languages they speak.					
2.	Our tshool and PTA translate communications into the school's major languages.					
3.	Families feel encouraged to volunteer.					
4.	Families feel our school's policies and programs reflect, respect, and value the diversity in our school community.					
5.	Families feel they are treated fairly regardless of age, gender, race, or cultural background.					
Communicating Effectively						
1.	Our school and PTA communicate with families in multiple ways (e.g., email, phone, web site).					

Step #4: Use the Roadmap to Excellence



Roadmap to Excellence

STEPS TO A STRONGER FAMILY-SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP

The primary objective of the National PTA School of Excellence program is to help PTAs and schools strengthen family-school partnerships to benefit all students' academic success and general well-being. Your progress toward this objective is what will be assessed through the final National PTA School of Excellence Application, submitted at the end of the school year.

National PTA offers the following customized recommendations to help your school move its family-school partnership to the next level. Each recommendation is based on your answers to the Family-School Partnership Scan.

Your next step is to review these recommendations with your school leaders and School of Excellence team and determine what you can work on first. Try to make progress by focusing on two to three recommendations per National Standard for Family-School Partnerships. Your focused attention to making substantial progress in a few areas per National Standard will help you to achieve the National PTA School.

If you have questions about these recommendations, email excellence@pta.org or call us at 800-307-4PTA. Your success is ours. We want to help.

Welcoming All Families	National PTA's Recommendations
 Our school has friendly signs inside and outside to welcome families and visitors in the multiple languages they speak. 	You said, "Sometimes." Good start—but there is room for improvement! Families feel more welcome when they see friendly signs in multiple languages throughout the building. Use school demographic data to determine the three languages most commonly spoken by families in your school community. Work with the school and your membership committee to update signs throughout the building in these languages. Start with the signs families see first upon entering the building, such as welcome signs on the front door and front office entrances.
 Our school and PTA translate communications into the school's major languages. 	You said, "Never." This is an opportunity for improvement! You want families from diverse backgrounds engaged in all school activities. In order to achieve this, it is important to keep all families informed about issues and events occurring at the school. If your school is not translating this information into families' native languages, you may be missing a great opportunity for effective communication between school and home. Take the first step: Work with your parent liaison, school secretary or parent advisory committee to review current communication practices at your school. You may need to advocate for a more deliberate



Roadmap to Excellence

You said, "Frequently." Great job! Take it to the next level: Using the volunteer or

membership forms that families complete each year, work with your membership,

volunteer or hospitality committee to make personal phone calls to diverse

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encouraged to

school's policies and

respect, and value the diversity in our school

programs reflect,

5

6.

3. Families feel

volunteer.

parents to solicit their ideas about volunteering. Help connect parents to specific opportunities that interest them. This personal touch will help broaden your volunteer base and engage even more families in serving their school community. 4. Families feel our

You said, "Always," Excellent—keep it up!

community.					
Families feel they are	You said, "Sometimes." Good startbut there is room for improvement! Two-				
treated fairly	way communication occurs when teachers and families dialogue together, and it is				
regardless of age,	a shared responsibility. The traditional parent-teacher conference is one strategy				
gender, race, or	for building effective two-way communication. Provide families with information				
cultural background.	about what to do to make parent-teacher conferences more effective. They shou				
	be prepared to discuss specific concerns or provide new information about their				
	child. Discussion should avoid blame by taking a solution-focused approach.				
	National PTA offers additional tips for what to do before, during and after a				
	parent-teacher conference:				
	http://www.pta.org/programs/content.cfm?itemNumber=1710				
Families feel our	You said, "Frequently." Great job! Take it to the next level: Families and school				
school is inviting and is	staff should collaborate continuously to support students' learning at home and at				
a place where families	school. Teachers and parents can discuss students' individual learning styles,				
feel they belong.	family cultural experiences, strengths, and academic and personal needs regularly				
	and develop personalized goals to support academic success. Consider				
	implementing one of the following strategies:				
	At many schools, parents, students and teachers work together to				
	establish personal education plans (PEPs) to support students' education				
01	or career goals.				
	 At Title I schools, every family signs a home-school compact. These 				
	compacts should be discussed at parent-teacher conferences and can be				
	individualized if a student is not meeting standards.				
	 This video from Great Schools describes a four-step process for helping 				
-	children set and reach goals:				
	http://www.greatschools.org/parenting/motivation-confidence/4213-				
	help-your-child-make-and-reach-goals-video gs				

Step #5:

Complete the National PTA School of Excellence application by June 1.





Step #6: Celebrate your excellence!

- Notification and celebration kit sent in August
 - Celebrate Your Excellence Guide
 - Banner
 - Media outreach tools
 - Graphics for school and PTA stationery
 - Event suggestions
 - National PTA recognition
 - State PTA recognition
- Qualify to win a Phoebe Apperson Hearst Award and a \$2,000 grant

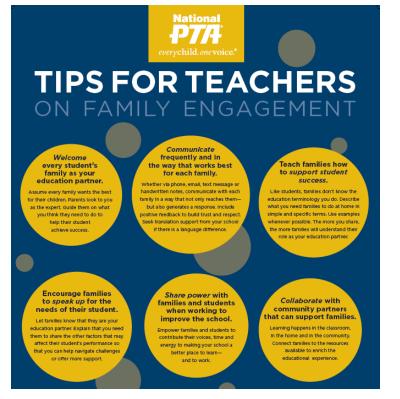




Enroll! PTA.org/Excellence 800-307-4PTA (4782)



Family Engagement Tools at PTA.org



- National Standards Poster
- National Standards Brochure
- National Standards Assessment and Implementation Guides
- Tip sheets for parents and teachers
- 100 Ways to Help Your Child and School Succeed brochure and poster
- ...and More!



PTA Parents' Guides to Student Success

Parents' Guide to Student Success

This guide provides an overview of what your child will learn by the end of 3rd grade in mathematics and English language arts/literacy. If your child is meeting the expectations outlined in these standards, he or she will be well prepared for 4th grade.



National D7/1

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Why Are Academic Standards Important?

Academic standards are important because they help ensure that all students, no matter where they live, are prepared for success in college and the workforce. Standards provide an important first step — a clear roadmap for learning for teachers, parents, and students. Having clearly defined goals helps families and teachers work together to ensure that students succeed. They also will help your child develop critical thinking skills that will prepare him or her for college and career.

English Language Arts & Literacy

A Sample of What Your Child Will Be Working on in 3rd Grade

- Reading closely to find main ideas and supporting details in a story
- story
 Describing the logical connection between particular sentences and paragraphs in stories (e.g., first, second, third; cause and effect)
- Comparing the most important points and key details presented in two books on the same topic
- Writing opinions or explanations that group related information and develop topics with facts and details
- Writing stories that establish a situation and include details and clear sequences of events that describe the actions, thoughts, and feelings of characters
- Incovidege about various topics Adking and answering questions about information he or she hears from a speelar or while participating in classroom discussions, offering appropriate elaboration and detail that build on what others have said • Reading stonies and poems aloud fluently, without pausing to figure out what each word means

Independently conducting short research projects that build

- Distinguishing the literal and nonliteral meanings of words, such as something's fishy and cold shoulder
- Spelling correctly and consulting dictionaries to clarify meanings of words

Talking to Your Child's Teacher When you talk to the teacher, do not worry about covering everything Instead, keep the conversation focused on the most important topics. In 3rd grade, these include:

Reading grade-level books, stories, poems, and articles fluently
 Writing and speaking well, following rules of punctuation and grammar
 Reading grade-level books and stories with understanding and fluency
 Building a foundation of knowledge through reading and listening
 to books in history/social studies, science, and other subjects

pta.org/commoncore

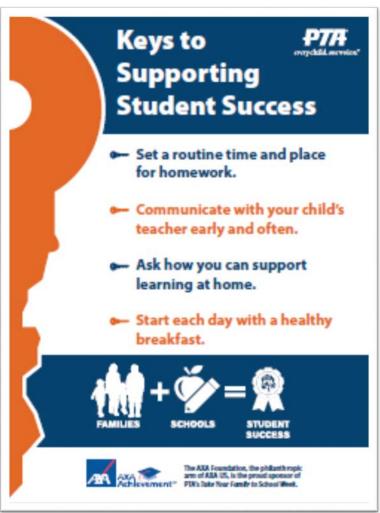
Grade-specific guides that:

- Increase understanding of the importance of academic standards
- Provide key items children should learn in English language arts and mathematics
- Share activities families can do at home to support learning
- Offer methods for families to build stronger relationships with teachers
- Give tips for planning college/career (high school only)



Family Event Toolkits PTA.org/programs

- National PTA provides:
 - Planning guide
 - Lesson plans for interactive, family education stations
 - Family take-home tools
 - Family recruitment tools
 - Media and social media tools
 - Training webinars
 - Funding (when possible)







The National PTA® Family Reading Experience, Powered by Kindle was developed to help families get more involved in their children's reading and enhance their emerging interest in books.





Powered by kindle

Two Kits:

Grades K-2







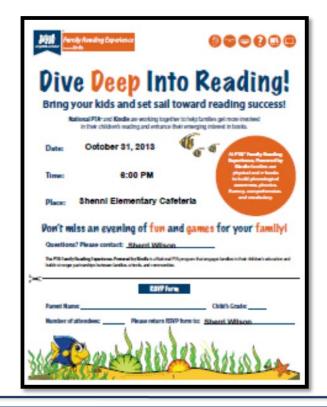




Powered by kindle

Four Themes:

- 💠 On Safari
- Under the Sea
- Out of this World
- Around the World







Powered by kindle

Six Stations:



Phonemic Awareness









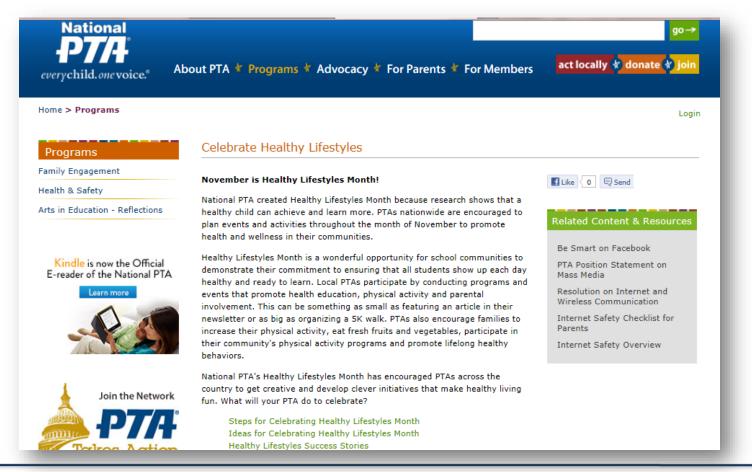






Health & Safety: Building school and home environments that make the healthy or safe choice – an easy choice.

Healthy Lifestyles Month November







Fire Up Your Feet. Power Up Your Day

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Fire Up Your Feet programs across the country are encouraging families, students and schools to work together and create active lifestyles which inspire our

Already signed up? Go directly to your local site

En Español

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Safety at Home & At Play



TARGET

AUDIENCE: Children In Grades K–2 and

their families

BURN AND SCALD PREVENTION

GET LOW AND GO

This activity helps children learn what to do if they are in a fire.

LOCATION:

Indoors. This activity can be conducted on its own in a smaller space (such as a classroom) or as one station of a larger safety fair.



COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

Safe Kids coalitions have experience conducting fire, burn and scald prevention activities in a variety of settings. Partnering with a local coalition is the easiest way to ensure you have access to the expertise, equipment and resources needed to host a successful event.

Consider inviting your local fire department to attend your event. They might be willing to bring a fire truck and offer tours. It's also helpful for young children to get accustomed to the sight of firefighters dressed in their equipment so that they are less likely to run or hide from help in an emergency.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Black crepe paper
- Chairs, desks or other items to be used as "obstacles"

PREPARATION:

- Hang crepe paper in a doorway or from a classroom ceiling.
- Create an obstacle course for children to crawl through.

ACTIVITY INSTRUCTION

- Explain to students and their families:
 - There can be a lot of smoke in a fire.
 - Smoke is up high, and clear air is down low.
 - Crawl low on hands and knees under the smoke to get out.
 - Get outside quickly.
 - Go to your family's meeting place.



PROGRAM PARTNER

SAFE

K:DS

- Ask children to crawl under the hanging crepe paper and through the obstacle course. Remind them that they must stay on their hands and knees to "escape" safely!
- Invite family members to wait in a designated "meeting place" and celebrate with their children when they complete the course.



SAFET AT HOME & AT PLAY













- EYES Check: Position the helmet on your head. Look up and you should see the bottom rim of the helmet. The rim should be one to two fingerwidths above the eyebrows.
- EARS Check: Make sure the straps of the helmet form a "V" under your ears when buckled. The strap should be snug but comfortable.
- MOUTH Check: Open your mouth as wide as you can. Do you feel the helmet hug your head? If not, tighten those straps and make sure the buckle is flat against your skin.
- C. After a crash or any impact that affects your helmet, visibly or not, replace it immediately.
- 2. Follow the rules of the road.
 - A. Ride with traffic and obey the same laws as motorists.
 - Use the rightmost lane that heads in the direction that you are traveling.
 - C. Obey all traffic control devices, such as stop signs, lights and lane markings.
 - D. Always look back and use hand-and-arm signals to indicate your intention to stop, merge or turn.
 - E. Cycling should be restricted to off roads(e.g. sidewalks and paths) until age 10.

3. Be visible.

- Ride where drivers can see you.
- Wear brightly colored clothing at all times.
- C. At night, use a white front light and red rear light or reflector. Wear reflective tape or clothing.

4. Be predictable.

- A. Ride in a straight line and don't swerve between parked cars.
- B. Make eye contact with motorists to let them know you are there.

5. Anticipate conflicts.

- A. Be aware of traffic around you and be prepared to take evasive action.
- Learn braking and turning techniques to avoid crashes.
- C. Be extra alert at intersections.





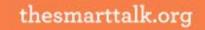
PROGRAM SPONSOR:

DDOCDAM DADTNED

SAFE

KIDS





the smart talk



New Phone, New Ground Rules #TheSmartTalk



TheSmartTalk.org



Goal:

To build safe and supportive school environments filled with healthy peer relationships.

Our approach:

Build a Connect for Respect team. Invite students, teachers, community members, and other parents to work collaboratively towards improving school climate.

<u> </u>	1
CHECKLIST	
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Assess the school climate from the perspective of students, families and school personnel. Utilize existing tools and resources from your school.

Engage the school community at *Connect for Respect* forums, where students, families, school staff and community members come together to share their concerns and brainstorm solutions.

Develop an action plan to educate and empower family members and students, create safer and more supportive environments, and enact and enforce effective anti-bullying policies.

Empower students, family members and others to implement strategies that reflect the community's unique strengths, needs and existing school climate efforts.







Arts & Cultural Exploration:

Expanding opportunities for all children to explore and be involved in the arts and cultural exploration.



2016-17 Theme: What Is Your Story?

- Oldest and largest youth arts education programs (~300,000 students and 8,000 PTAs each year)
- Grades Pre-K through 12 and Special Artist Division





Arts in Education Week September 11-17, 2016

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At School	National Arts in Education Week	
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Reflections Arts Program • Reflections Toolkit	NATIONAL	Related Content & Resources
 Arts in Education Week Gallery & Awards Many Lou Anderson Grant 	ARTS IN 🖉 🗸	2016 Advocacy Awards
Thome Search Contest PTA Registration		Male Engagement
	EDUCATION WEEK	Election Guides
Family Reading Experience Connect for Respect	Celebrate. Advocate. Participate.	Every Child In Focus—National Hispanic Heritage Month
Healthy Lifestyles		About Every Child In Focus
Safety Toolkit	Join millions of PTAs across the country and in U.S schools overseas	
Every Child In Focus	during National Arts in Education Week-September 14-18, 2015,	





- Reflections Theme Contest
- Mary Lou Anderson Arts Enhancement Grants for inschool and after school arts projects serving at-risk student populations



Visit PTA.org/Programs and PTA.org/Awards

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Home > At School > School of E	excellence	Reflections Arts Program	n		
		Family Reading Experie	nce		
At School	National PTA School of Excellence	Connect for Respect			
Awards & Grants		Healthy Lifestyles			
School of Excellence	National SCHO	Safety Toolkit	Like Share 371		
Excellence Gallery		Every Child in Focus			
Reflections Arts Program	ool Weekd Content & Resources				
Family Reading Experience	amily Reading Experience everychild.one voice.®		2016 Advocacy Awards		
Connect for Respect	1		Male Engagement		
Healthy Lifestyles	National PTA School of Excellence is a recognition supports and celebrates partnerships between PTAs an		Election Guides		
Safety Toolkit	the educational experience and overall well-being for a	Ill students.	Every Child in Focus—National Hispanic		
Every Child in Focus	As a National PTA School of Excellence, families fer		Heritage Month		
Take Your Family to School Week	empowered to support student success, and PTA is a k continuous school improvement.	ey partner for	About Every Child in Focus		
Family Engagement Tools The path to excellence starts with a joint commitment of PTA and school leaders to work together to achieve PTA's National Standards for Family-School Partnerships.					
the smart talk	Through the School of Excellence program, your PTA a new ways to engage families in school decision-making improvements to programs, practices and policies relai health, safety or the arts. Contact excellence@pta.org 4782 for more info.	g, such as ted to education,			
PUT YOUR KID'S PHONE RULES IN TO WRITING!	Tell Me More →				



Advocacy

- Sign up for *PTA Takes Action Network*
- Access Advocacy Toolkit
- Review National PTA Federal Policy Agenda
- Join fellow PTA advocates for the annual National PTA Legislative Conference
- For more information, visit pta.org/advocacy



Visit PTA.org to stay connected!

- Site map for our programs, tools and resources
- Social media (Facebook, Flickr, Instagram, LinkedIn, One Voice Blog, Pinterest, Twitter, YouTube)

About PTA History & Mission Leadership Governance Member Benefits Providers Sponsors & Collaborators Reports & Financials Careers at National PTA Donate Join News & Events News Releases One Voice Blog Our Children Magazine Conferences & Events State Conventions & Training Legislative Conference Annual Convention Advoc cy PTA Ta ces Action Network Federa Policy Agenda Key Le islation Letters to Policymakers Family Engagement in Education Act Comm n Core State Standards Resolu ons & Position Statements Advoc cy Toolkit Electio Guides Advoc cy Awards At School of Excellence Reflections Arts Program Family Reading Experience Connect for Respect Healthy Lifestyles Safety at Home and at Play Every Child in Focus Take Your Family to School Week Teacher Appreciation Week Awards & Grants Family Engagement Tools For Families Parent Guides to Student Success Health Safety Special Education Toolkit PTA Leaders Running Your PTA Fundraising Marketplace Diversify Your PTA E-Learning Back-to-School Kit National Board Member Info Become a National PTA Leader



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PTA Newsletters

PTA Parent



This bi-monthly publication shares ideas on how PTA families can be engaged in their child's education and wellbeing. Content includes PTA toolkit resources, fundraising programs, tips/advice and Our Children magazine content.

sign up →

PTA Takes Action Update



The monthly newsletter offers the latest news on legislative issues affecting families, children, education, schools and communities. It also highlights National PTA policy priorities and activites.



Local Leader News



This monthly newsletter keeps PTA local leaders informed on the latest National PTA developments, as well as new programs and resources available at National PTA.



Leadership Briefing



This monthly newsletter keeps all PTA stakeholders informed on new National PTA events, partnerships, programs and resources.

sign up →



Membership Benefits

You Are a Part of a Network:

- 54 PTA Congresses: including Puerto Rico, Europe DOD, and Virgin Islands
- Over 20,000 PTAs and several million members
- You Are a Part of a Network with Benefits:
- AARP, Boxed, Hertz, LifeLock, MetLife, Quicken Loans, Schwan's Cares, Sylvan Learning, and TeenSafe
- Visit PTA.org/Benefits to learn more

You Are a Part of a Network with Support:

- Customizable membership applications, marketing materials, and information on new and existing benefit providers
- Visit PTA.org/Today to learn more





Questions?

