

WA-WM PTA Councilor

www.wawmptacouncil.org

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November 1, 2011

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Important Dates

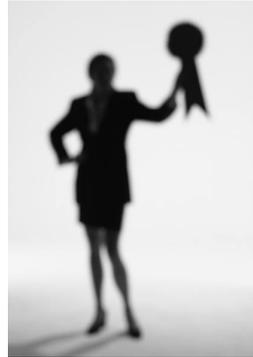
- ◆ State PTA Dues/Audit Statement to State PTA Office—Nov 1
- ◆ Council Meeting—Nov 2
- ◆ Nathan Hale PTSA Craft Fair—Nov 5
- ◆ Jefferson Elementary PTA Craft & Vendor Fair—Nov 5
- ◆ WMIS PTSA Fundraiser @ Chilis Nov 2—6; @ Panda Express Nov 15
- ◆ IRS Return Due—Nov 15
- ◆ Reflections Due—Nov 18
- ◆ SEPTA Committee Meeting—Nov 30, 6:30 pm

President's Letter

In any well-rounded PTA there is going to be conflict and disagreement. How you, as a leader, deal with this conflict will determine the success of your unit. By this time you may have realized that the people who step up to chair your committees and help with your events are a wide range of personalities but they all have strong leadership skills that come in many different styles. I understand the challenges that come with melding all of these leadership styles into a productive unit.

Sometimes people confuse the role of President with someone who has the power to impose their ideas onto the rest of the members of an association. This should not be the role of the President—remember, President's don't even get a vote. If they take off their President's hat, they still only get one vote—just like everyone else. Others confuse the role with "someone who is responsible for everything so I will just do it all myself so that it all gets done the way I want and I don't need to trust someone else's judgment or whether or not they will follow through".

The role of President should be to guide the



group into what the majority of the group wants to do. It is okay to have a vision and goals for your term of Presidency, but a good leader inspires those around them to see their vision and work towards the goals together because it is what the majority of the group wants. It does happen that a leader will find themselves needing to pick up the slack where someone else falls short, but you don't

need to do it alone—reach out and ask for help! Look to your other strong leaders, they may not do things exactly your way, but that does not make them the wrong way.

When you come across conflict, opposition, or disagreement, remember to take a step back and listen. Find out what is at the core of it, many times things are a result of miscommunication and lack of background information. I have found that the person who seems to bring questions and conflict is often a very valuable person who brings a different perspective that I would not have otherwise thought of. In the event that you do not feel that you can proceed on your own and you need some mediation and an objective voice, please reach out and give me a call, we are here to help.

2011—'12 Awards

Awards packets are completed and available online at www.wawmptacouncil.org.

Remember, Awards can be turned in any time before April 4, 2012. If you just had a great membership drive, don't wait until March to send in the application—do it now while all of the information is fresh in your mind.

We again will have the awards for Teacher of the Year & Principal of the Year. We know you have some fantastic administration, staff and teachers that you can brag about, we would love to hear it! If you have any questions about Awards or would like to volunteer for the committee,

contact Heather Justham at 414-750-1285 or email her at justham@wi.rr.com.

Join us at the banquet on May 18 & say thank you to those who worked so hard all year!



Deadline for December's Issue of the *Councilor* is Friday, **November 18, 2011**. Send items to Gena Kraemer at kraemerfamily93@aol.com



Wisconsin PTA News

4797 Hayes Road, Suite 102, Madison, WI 53704

Phone: (608) 244-1455 • Fax: (608) 244-4785 • Email: wi_office@pta.org

www.wisconsinpta.org

Last weekend, on October 29th Wisconsin PTA held their annual Leadership Training in Racine. Laura Weaver, Gena Kraemer (FLW), Amy Repati (WMIS), Brenda Ward (WAC), and Melissa Ferrusquia (WAC) attended this event that was hosted by the Racine PTA Council. There were many important topics covered especially for anyone who is new to PTA leadership. It was very nice to put faces with the names

of Wisconsin PTA leadership and to hear about the historic milestones created by the Founders of our PTA. We were able to split off into small groups and get all of our individual questions answered and give WI PTA valuable information that they can use in the future. Watch for future learning opportunities from WI PTA in their newsletter or on their website.

Like us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/WisconsinPTA>

103rd Annual Wisconsin State PTA Convention & Business Meeting

April 27—28, 2012 at The Abbey Resort on Lake Geneva in Fontana, WI

Check out the WI PTA website for details and hotel information.



National PTA News

1250 N. Pitt Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314 ♦ (800) 307-4PTA (4782) ♦ Fax: (703) 836-0942 ♦ E-mail: info@pta.org

www.pta.org

The Phoebe Apperson Hearst Family-School Partnership Awards

To better celebrate PTAs for implementing the National Standards for Family-School Partnerships, the Phoebe Apperson Hearst-National PTA Excellence in Education Partnership Award and Parent Involvement Schools of Excellence Certification have merged to create three new levels of recognition.

Outstanding Family-School Partnership Award

For exemplary implementation of the National Standards, one PTA will receive a monetary award of \$2,000.

Family-School Partnership Award of Excellence

For representing the best in one of the six National Standards, six PTAs will each receive a monetary award of \$500.

Family-School Partnership Award of Merit

For demonstrating commitment to building partnerships, all PTAs that apply will receive a certificate of recognition.

For more information about the National Standards for Family School Partnerships, visit www.pta.org/national_standards.asp.

Save the date!

116th National PTA Convention

June 21-24, 2012 in San Jose, CA

Registration opens January 4, 2012!



Local Unit News

Jefferson Elementary PTA will host their 1st Annual Craft/ Vendor Fair on Saturday, November 5 from 10am—2pm at the West Allis Central High School Field House. It is free & open to the public. Concessions will be available to purchase.

Nathan Hale PTSA will be hosting their 18th Annual Holiday Craft Fair on Saturday, November 5 from 9am—4pm. This is our district's only 100% crafter-only fair. Cost for this annual event is \$2.00. Concessions will be available to purchase.

West Milwaukee Intermediate School PTSA will be having several fundraising nights at two local eateries. Chilis at 1601 W. Miller Parkway on Nov 2—6 and then at Panda Express at 1210 Miller Parkway on Nov 15. West Milwaukee Intermediate School PTSA is also looking for donations for our **3rd Annual Holiday Bazaar**. Our bazaar allows students to purchase holiday gifts that they may not otherwise be able to afford. All items are sold for under \$3.00. We need donations of household items, holiday decorations, toys, books, clothes, games, and anything else that you would like to donate. Please contact Kim Schultz, Holiday Bazaar Chair at 414-232-8648 or kim.j.schultz@gmail.com or Amy Repati WMIS PTSA President at 414-379-1563 or amyrepati@yahoo.com

Any PTA that has changes in their contact information or website address, please let me know so that I can update your link on our website.



Pepper Partner Program
Bring this voucher when you visit (Dine In or To Go) the Chili's location identified below and 10% of your purchase (excluding taxes) will benefit:

WMIS PTSA

Group/Charity
November 2nd – 6th

Event/Exp. Date

One coupon per person, per visit at participating Chili's restaurants only. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Offer ends per expiration date above.

1601 Miller Park Way 414-389-9739
Chili's Location/Telephone
#99999000001854



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Bring this voucher when you visit (Dine In or To Go) the Chili's location identified below and 10% of your purchase (excluding taxes) will benefit:

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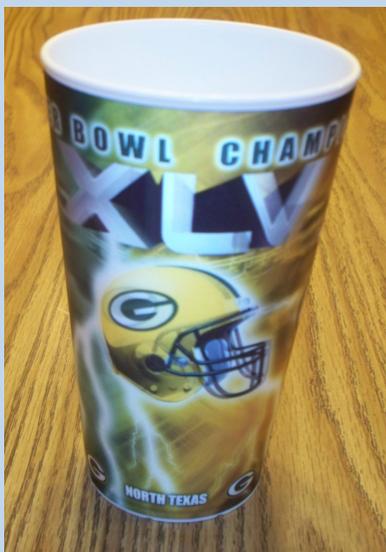
One coupon per person, per visit at participating Chili's restaurants only. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Offer ends per expiration date above.

1601 Miller Park Way 414-389-9739
Chili's Location/Telephone
#99999000001854

Send event info, article submission, flyers, etc. for the newsletter or for the website to: Gena Kraemer, 414-545-4005
kraemerfamily93@aol.com

Deadlines for newsletter submission are:

Nov 18	Dec 19	Jan 20	Feb 20
Mar 23	Apr 20	May 21	



Fundraising

All units who decided to participate in this fundraiser will need to turn in their orders to Laura at the Council meeting on November 2, 2011. If you are unable to attend the meeting, please contact Laura at 414-545-4094 to make other arrangements.

Committee News

www.wawmpta.org

The **Founders Day Carnival** committee met on October 16th. Raffle tickets will be available at the November 2 meeting. Please see pg. 5 for more detailed information about this event.

Reflections entries are due on November 18. Please contact Anne Gosetti, 414-543-5207 or email gosetti@tds.net to arrange pick up of your school's entries.

The **Scholarship** committee has completed the application and it is available on the scholarship page at www.wawmptacouncil.org. The applications have been emailed to the guidance counselors at Nathan Hale, West Allis Central & Dottke High Schools. The deadline for applications is Friday, February 17, 2012. Please contact Gena Kraemer, 414-545-4005 for more information.

The **SEPTA** committee had it's first meeting on October 26 at the Administration Building. We had a wonderful turn out and many plans have been made...see pg. 6 for more details.



Important Dates

- Nov 18—Reflections Entries Due
- Nov 30—SEPTA Meeting, 6:30
- Dec 14—Reflections Reception
- Jan 1—Council & Scholarship Dues
- Feb 17—Scholarship Apps Due
- Feb 12—Founder's Day Carnival
- Mar 24—Three to Get Ready
- April 4—Awards Applications Due
- May 18—Council Awards Banquet

Carnival Committee

Founders Day Carnival – February 12, 2012

- Location:** Central High School Field House
- Time:** Set-up = 10am – 12pm
Open = 12pm – 4pm
Cleanup = 4pm – 6pm
- Admission:** Free, every person who enters will receive one ticket for a chance to win a door prize. Tickets will be available for purchase – 25 cents each and can be used for games, craft table, inflatables or concessions.
- Inflatables:** 4 tickets/bounce or all-day wristband = \$4
- Raffle:** General raffle tickets will be available at November's Council meeting. Everyone is asked to take 50 to sell; please return any unsold tickets to Council so that we may sell them during the event. \$750 in cash will again be the prizes for these tickets.
- Silent Auction:** We will be looking to the community to provide donations for this fundraising auction. We will also be asking each local unit to either donate a basket or \$50. If you or someone you know has a business that would like to donate to this auction, please contact Heather Justham at 414-750-1285 or justham@wi.rr.com.
- Cake Auction/Competition:** New this year! We are asking the community, local units, anyone interested to bake a cake, bring it to Carnival and we will silent auction them off. The entry with the highest bid will be the winner of a gift certificate (yet to be specified). In the event that there is a tie we will put the names of those highest bidders into a hat and choose randomly.
- Advertising:** We are still missing signs from last year's event, if you have any signs please get them to Laura so that we may change the dates. We will have three flyers go home through all of the elementary schools beginning in January. We will also be distributing them electronically and asking that you include us in your newsletters and websites.
- Volunteers:** This is a huge event and we need many hands to make this event more fun for the children than last year's! We are asking each of the elementary schools to either send a game with enough volunteers to man it for the four hours or send enough volunteers who would be available for set up/open/clean up (8 hours). Intermediate schools are being asked to send volunteers to supervise the inflatables and man the ticket sales from 12pm – 4pm (about 5 per two hour shift). High schools are being asked again to run concessions. If you should have any questions about volunteers, please contact Gena Kraemer – 414-545-4005 or kraemerfamily93@aol.com. I am not putting exact numbers on any of these any volunteers you can send will be greatly appreciated. I will have more specific information coming out in the months to come—watch the newsletters & your email!

SEPTA Committee

On Wednesday, October 26th many parents, families, and teachers came to together for the first ever SEPTA (special education PTA) planning meeting in the West Allis-West Milwaukee school district. This meeting was wonderful! Turn out was great and the input was breath taking. There were stories exchanged, along with tears and laughter. The most exciting news is that collectively we decided to make SEPTA a reality in our district!!!! What will happen short term is that SEPTA will first start off as a committee through WA-WM PTA Council level while we work on making it an official and separate PTA. A board will need to be put in place, this will need to consist of a President, Secretary and Treasurer it would also be nice to have a Vice President. Bylaws will then need to be written and we will need to raise a small amount of money for necessary operating expenses like insurance. Once that is complete we will have the first SEPTA in the state of Wisconsin.

What will the SEPTA do? Here are some of the ideas that we all talked about.

- Have support groups
- Share important information/experiences
- Host workshops such as what to expect at IEP meetings, successful team meetings, etc.
- Improve communication between home and school
- Improve parent-teacher-case manager orientations
- Parent liaisons
- Parent mentors
- Student mentors
- Blending at student levels
- After school programs for high school level

These are just some of the items we would like to see happen but without parent volunteers, we can't do any of these things. If you would like to help out, please let me know. I hope to see all of you again and hopefully some new faces as well!

Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 30, 6:30 pm at the Administration Building, 1205 S. 70th Street, 7th Floor—Room 710

Questions? Daneknicole@yahoo.com or call me at 414-704-0018. Look for more information as we build our website at www.wawmsepta.org!

Legislative Committee

Wisconsin PTA Legislative Priorities for 2011-12

The Legislative Priorities of the Wisconsin PTA are determined at the annual Wisconsin PTA Convention based on the resolutions brought forward and passed by our delegates. These resolutions then determine the main focus of our legislative activity for the year. Wisconsin PTA will also remain alert and responsive to other issues that may arise and are covered by other resolutions or positions of Wisconsin and National PTA. PTA is a nonprofit organization. It takes positions on legislative issues, but is nonpartisan and endorses no candidates for public office.

Parent Involvement

- ◆ The Wisconsin PTA would like to work for more parental involvement and the positive role affect that can have on the state and federal levels and by working with the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) on furthering the recognition and inclusion of parents and communities in our schools.

Education

- ◆ Funding for Schools & School Programs
- ◆ Funding for Mandated Programs
- ◆ Closing the Achievement Gap
- ◆ Gifted & Talented Programs
- ◆ English Language Learners
- ◆ Common Core Standards

Health & Welfare

- ◆ Encourage school participation in School Breakfast Programs
- ◆ Encourage locally grown foods in school food programs
- ◆ Encourage obesity prevention education & healthy lifestyle education
- ◆ Encourage local units to distribute information on teen driving safety
- ◆ Advocate educational opportunities for Military children
- ◆ Discourage students use of energy drinks

For more details about these initiatives visit the Members Only section of the WI PTA website and click on Legislation-PTA Elections. Your login and password are on the back of your membership card.

WA-WM PTA Council Meeting Minutes

October 5, 2011

Double click on the document below and it will open in Adobe Reader so that you may read the entire document.

WAWM PTA Council Meeting Minutes October 5, 2011

Call to order

6:30 PM by Laura Weaver

Attendance

See attached sign-in sheet

Spirit Cups

- Each school is asked to set up a sale
- 1 school will be donating their proceeds to the WAWM PTA Council Scholarship Fund
- Profits are \$6.50 per cup—\$6.00 from the company and \$.50 from NFL
- Order sheets will be collected by Laura at the next meeting
- Money can be turned in at delivery-date to be determined

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of September 7, 2011 meeting were approved with no changes.

School Reports

Jefferson

No report

Longfellow

No report

Lincoln

Held a walk-a-thon and a dance

Hale

No report

Hoover

The Hoover Hustle was once again very successful—watch for an upcoming notice for a special meeting during which board members from Hoover will share the secrets of this event!

Superintendent's Report

Homecoming events at both high schools are held during the next two weeks:

Central has exciting activities all week ending on Friday with Spirit Day and a tailgate/football game.

Hale has special activities all week ending with a parade and football game next Friday.

WKCE testing will be held during the month of October

Thank you to any PTAs who are involved in snack programs during testing

The district has met standards for 3 consecutive years

New curriculum for after school programs

Teachers are volunteering at each school

Changes in graduation requirements

- Student must graduate by the 4th June after beginning High School or they are statistically considered a drop out by DPI standards (part of no child left behind)
- This does NOT change the fact that students are allowed to finish coursework and receive a true diploma up to age 21
- This also does NOT change the credit recovery programs that have been available to keep students at appropriate credit levels each year
- This could change funding to each high school as graduation rates drop from 98% to 80% using the new statistical criteria

