

FACT SHEET 2010

MEMBERSHIP

Membership of nearly 350,000 includes parents, teachers, administrators, students, and other child advocates statewide in over 1600 local units and councils.

MISSION STATEMENT

PTA is

- A powerful voice for all children,
- A relevant resource for families and communities, and
- A strong advocate for the education and well-being of every child.

PRESIDENT

Susan Lipman

Administration Theme: The Power to Shape the Future

HISTORY

New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers is the first state branch of the National Congress, organized in October 1897. In 1899 it was incorporated as The Mothers' Assembly of the State of New York. In 1920 it was reincorporated as the New York State Congress of Mothers' and Parent-Teacher Associations. In 1925 the name was changed to the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. The State PTA:

- Coordinates programs statewide on behalf of children and youth
- Is represented on state committees and commissions dealing with children and youth
- Provides conferences, workshops, publications, resource material on issues, and leadership development
- Services units and councils through its 16 region PTAs

CONVENTIONS AND CONFERENCES

Legislation/Education Conference: PTA child advocates meet in Albany to address concerns about trends and conditions affecting children. The dates for Legislation/Education Conference are February 27 - 28, 2010.

Summer Leadership Conference: July 30 - August 1, 2010 at Utica College, Utica, NY. Training through workshops and idea-sharing are offered to assist unit and council leaders in all facets of leadership.

State Annual Convention: November 12-14, 2010 in Buffalo, NY at the Adam's Mark Hotel, where nearly 500 members from across the state come together to share information, elect officers, adopt resolutions, and attend workshops.

PUBLICATIONS

Fast Facts: A monthly newsletter of current issues and events, sent to PTA presidents to share with members.

New York Parent Teacher: Published four times a year, this periodical focuses on topics of concern to parents, educators, and others interested in the well being of children and youth.

New York State PTA Resource Guide: A comprehensive resource of PTA information; it is mailed to unit and council presidents at the beginning of the school year.

Legislative Briefs and Advocacy Newsletter: New legislative and advocacy publications.

Where We Stand: NYS PTA's official legislation and advocacy positions, including position papers.

CURRENT PROGRAMS

Building Family-School Partnerships: PTA offers a means to develop strong family-school partnerships and involve the community. The process can be tailored to each school. PTA's process for building successful partnerships is grounded in the National Standards for Family-School Partnerships.

Parents As Reading Partners (PARP): Initially created by Sen. James Donovan and now administered by NYS PTA, this program encourages literacy-based activities.

Reflections Program: Facilitated through National PTAs Reflections Program, which recognizes outstanding contributions to the Arts by Kindergarten - 12th grade students.

FIELD SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP

The New York State PTA provides field service to local units statewide through region conferences, workshops, schools of instruction and numerous publications and materials.

OUR WORK WITH COALITIONS, COMMISSIONS, AND BOARDS

New York State PTA, as the recognized statewide parent organization, is a member of many statewide coalitions, commissions, and boards. When the State Education Department is looking for parent input, we are the group they look to. Listed are some of the groups with which we work:

Educational Conference Board (ECB): A coalition of statewide educational organizations representing parents, teachers, administrators, and other school personnel associated with each of New York State's over 4,000 public schools, which addresses issues of mutual concern that affect education and the welfare of children. ECB members encourage their constituencies to provide funding and regulations necessary for the improvement of education along with health and welfare issues for children.

New York State Board of Regents: Meetings are attended by a representative of NYS PTA. The actions and proposals of the Regents are reported to the membership through the *Ed News* report available on our website. The PTA representative is frequently called upon to sit on special committees formed by the Board of Regents and/or the Commissioner of Education.

New York State Parent Information Resource Centers (NYS PIRC) - Advisory Board: Provides face-to-face services to parents, teachers, and community members through parenting and literacy discussion groups, parent/teacher training opportunities and information events on No Child Left Behind (NCLB), the NYS Accountability System, and NYS Learning Standards.

New York Comprehensive Center: An arm of the Federal NCLB Committee, its 16 members were appointed by the Governor and charged with assuring NYS is compliant with all federal NCLB requirements in addition to reporting on aspects of the law which should be retained or changed.

New York State Department of Education Committee of Practitioners: Established, by law, as a means for the State Education Department staff to consult with the field regarding the implementation of NCLB regulations in New York State.

Professional Standards and Practices Board for Teaching: Members are appointed to four year terms and advise the Board of Regents and the Commissioner of Education on matters related to teaching in NYS.

Rural Schools Association: A statewide coalition to advocate for small and rural schools.

New York Healthy Eating and Physical Activity (NYSHEPA): statewide alliance dedicated to improving policy and practices that promote healthy eating and physical activity. Our vision is to create a statewide environment where all children and adults are eating healthy food and participating in daily physical activity to promote lifelong

NEW YORK STATE PTA AWARDS

ACT Award: Recognizes individuals who have devoted time and effort to participating in PTA advocacy through a variety of activities. The award has three areas of focus: Advocacy; Connecting - Collaboration - Communication; and Training.

Advocate in Action Award: Designed to recognize members who take part in activities that advance our PTA Mission and Purposes.

Distinguished Service Award: Highest State award presented to PTA members who have made outstanding contributions to the welfare of children and youth or to the PTA organization.

Honorary Life Membership: Awarded to individuals giving outstanding service on behalf of children and youth.

Leadership Award in Honor of Jane Skrzypek: Established in 1991 to recognize outstanding PTA volunteerism.

Newsletter Award: Presented to the PTA newsletter that provides the reader with national state, region and local information about educational concerns and the PTA.

Parents As Reading Partners Award: Recognizes outstanding PARP program at the region and state levels.

Twin Projects:

NYS PTA Teacher Fellowship for Graduate Study - In Memory of Richard Gazzola and the
Jenkins Memorial Scholarship for Teacher Education.

Youth Humanitarian Award – in Memory of Stanley Marcus: Recognizes a high school senior or junior who exemplifies humanitarianism.

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