

Washington State

PTA[®]

everychild.one voice.

Region 15

Serving local PTA units of 9 Counties

Interim Region Director: Katy Leach
Editor: Brenda Braun

Fall 2004
Volume 3 Issue 4

Connections

Summer Greetings!

First, let me fill you in on a few changes going on in the region. Dawn, our esteemed and respected leader has resigned from her position on the WA State PTA Board of Directors as our Region Director for personal reasons. I have been appointed your interim Region Director. During the upcoming region training on August 21 our region will be electing a nominating committee to

1. To identify a nominee, to be elected within a 45 day time frame to complete the last year of this term.

2. To identify a nominee, to be elected in the spring to serve for the upcoming two year term.

Please plan to attend this important training so you can be a part of this process. **Leadership packets will be distributed at this training as well.** Registration and information are enclosed in this newsletter.

Our children's second home is their school. We need to make sure that our schools are providing everything possible to encourage the growth of our little ones. Are our children getting the best in education? What are these Standards that I keep hearing about? Do our children feel safe while at school? What is the policy for bullying? Are our children getting the proper nutrition in their school lunch with a balance of exercise? Are our children developing the social skills that they'll need later in life? These are just a few questions that you should know the answers to; and if you don't, you need to get in touch with your PTA/PTSA.

The Washington State PTA has many resources to help you get the answers and help to better our children's lives. By going to www.wastatepta.org, you'll find information from legislation that affects our children's lives to how to be more involved as a family. The website is updated regularly and of course, you always may contact the office for additional information and support.

I leave you with a saying that one of my daughter's principals used to tell us parents at every meeting and event. He would simply say, "Hug them while you have them!"

Enjoy your summer with your children.

Katy Leach
Interim Region 15 Director

Washington State PTA

President:

Meg Bushnell
PTApres@watatepta.org

Executive Director:

Jean Carpenter
jcarpenter@wastatepta.org

Technical and Membership Services Coordinator:

Pat Nelson
Pnelson@wastatepta.org

Database Administrator:

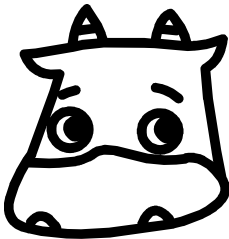
Melissa Anderson
manderson@wastatepta.org

Government Relations Director:

Mary Kenfield
mkenfield@wastatepta.org

Help Your Favorite School

Looking for a way to help your favorite school's children and teachers that is easy, free, and with no hassles? Open a Washington Mutual checking account and get a Visa* Check Card. Select a school you wish to support and simply use your card for every day purchases. Every purchase earns points, which after a year, are turned into dollars. Washington Mutual will make the donation to the school of your choice. Each school can use its donation for whatever it needs most. There are no strings attached and no limits on how much your selected school can earn. If you already have a Washington Mutual Visa* Check Card, go to wamoolaforschools.com and enroll today! For more information call toll free: 1-866-WAMOOOLA.



Region 15 Service Delivery Team

Interim Region 15 Director

Katy Leach
PTAReg15@wastatepta.org
(509) 926-8380

Service Specialists

Sandy Haupt
(509) 926-1691
sjgh23487@aol.com

CVSD Council Representatives

Region Legislative Chair
Lisa Seely
(509) 255-9475
lisalisa@ccser.com

Pat Leu
(509) 891-6976
LEU67@msn.com

Dee Ann Loberg
(509) 927-6873
Shag-o@att.net

Newsletter Editor
Brenda Braun
(509) 928-7568
bbraun@mstar2.net

Mentor and Develop/Support
Patty Weiser
Anne Long

Mark your calendar

Region 15's Fall Conference

9:30 AM to 2 PM

Bowdish Middle School
2109 South Skipworth Rd.
Spokane, WA 99206

PTA and the Law

Monday, October 11

Trent Elementary
3303 N Pines, Spokane
5:30-9:30 p.m.

Secondary Conference

Saturday, March 05

East Valley High School
15711 East Wellesley, Spokane
9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Charitable Solicitations Notice of Fee Change

There is now an initial Registration filing fee of \$20, both for the Application to Register for a Charitable Organization, and the Optional Statement. If a PTA needs to update its Optional Statement, there will be a \$10 filing fee.

When the PTA grosses over \$25,000 and that PTA did not file their Charities Renewal by November 15, there will be a \$50 penalty for filing past the November 15 deadline.

If a PTA applies for an extension with the IRS, the PTA needs to call Charities Program at 800-332-4483 extension 5, to ask for an extension with the Secretary of State. The first extension date with the IRS is February 15. If a PTA cannot meet the February 15 deadline, the PTA will need to apply for an extension until May 15. The PTA will not be penalized if they have called the Secretary of State and have asked for an extension for not filling on time.

New PTAs will have a \$50 filing fee; \$30 for their New Corporation and \$20 for their Optional Statement (units grossing less than \$25,000), or the Application to Register for Charitable Organization (units grossing over \$25,000).

To view these changes, go to www.secstate.wa.gov/charities. If you need additional help, contact the WSPTA office at 800-562-3804 or www.wastatepta.org.



Legislative Update...

What is House Bill 2195?

House Bill 2195 (State Assessment Standards) has been around for some time now. This bill supports the needed changes to the WASL to see that all children will succeed. Listed below are key provisions of the bill:

- The Certificate of Mastery will now be referred to as The Certificate of Academic Achievement.
 - Students that did not pass the 10th grade WASL will have the opportunity to retake the test. They will have up to 4 chances to pass the test, and only the subjects that they did not pass will need to be retaken.
 - The passing scores for each subject tested on the WASL are being reviewed by the A+ Commission.
 - OSPI has until September 01, 2004 to propose alternatives to those students that were unable to demonstrate their skills on the WASL after two attempts.
 - Special Needs Students that would not be able to pass the WASL under any circumstance are eligible to earn a Certificate of Individual Achievement instead of the Certificate of Academic Achievement, although students will need to meet other state and local graduation requirements.
 - There will be assistance programs in place for non-English speaking students.
 - Learning Plans will be required to be in place for those 9th graders who did not meet standard on one or more sections of the 7th grade WASL starting in the fall of 2004. A year after that, Learning Plans will begin to be required for the 5th graders and then the 8th graders.
 - Starting with the class of 2006, high school transcripts will reflect a student's highest WASL level and scale score in each content area.
- As of now, the WASL is limited to reading, writing, math, and science. Listening has been dropped.

For more in depth information, please visit the **Partnership for Learning** website at www.partnership4learning.org.

Want to know more about WA State Legislature? Visit <http://www1.leg.wa.gov/legislature> for the answers to all your questions.

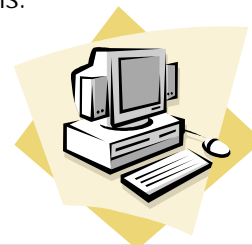
Bonding Insurance

There are two new requirements when applying for bonding insurance through AIM. This will take affect on the new AIM application coming this fall.

1. AIM requires an annual audit of the books by an Audit Committee or qualified accountant. The bank statement goes to someone who is not a signer on the bank account. This person does not have to reconcile the bank statement, but needs to look at the checks to be sure that they are not written to unauthorized individuals, and that all checks carry 2 signatures.

Important Reminder

It's very important that all the new officers of your PTA/PTSA are enrolled with the State's office. If you have not done this, simply go to www.wastatepta.org click on resources and then on Enrolling New Officers. You'll need their name, address, phone number, and if all possible, their email address. It's very important as mailings and emails will begin to arrive during the summer months.



Meet the team

Katy Leach, Interim Region Director

My husband and I have been married for 27 years and have 4 children, Renee, age 21, David, age 19, Nate, age 16 and Laura, age 14. I have been active in PTA for many years and worn several hats at local, regional and state level. I have served as President at both elementary and Middle School PTA's. I have been our Region Legislative Chair, Region Director, and WA State PTA Programs Director. I have achieved the Gold leadership level in the WA State PTA and have received two Golden Acorn awards as well as an Outstanding Service Award. In my life outside PTA my family often opens our home to exchange students. We have so far had eight short term College students from Japan, 6 High School students from Japan, and 6 Middle School aged kids from Japan. We have just completed our first year long student exchange with a High School student from German. Five of the past Nine years I have been a World International Student Exchange Teacher Representative/Program Coordinator for Yamaguchi students home-staying in Spokane.

Lisa Seely, Region Legislative Chair

Armed with an International Business degree, Lisa managed a successful career in the San Francisco Bay Area as a small business consultant and as an accountant. She has been married for seventeen years and has two children ages eleven and eight. Lisa has been involved with PTA for seven years and has always had a passion for the PTA because she believes in the "awesome power parents have when they work together for their children's education and welfare together." Lisa has served on many boards in a variety of roles including, most recently, Council Treasurer and Fundraising Chair. We like to call her the "go-to-girl" in anything related to money or finances.

Pat Leu, Council Representative

I have been a PTA/PTSA member for 10 years in the states of Montana and Washington. I have been married for 18 1/2 years and have one son who will be a sophomore at university High School. I have been a local unit President, Vice President. I have also been a Box Tops, Reflections, Fundraising, Membership and Acorn Chair. I am also honored to be a multi recipient of the Golden Acorn Award and am now on my second year as Co-President of the Central Valley PTSA Council and Region 15 Service Delivery Team. I have taken classes and worked hard to become informed on running a successful unit in a secondary school, and would be happy to answer any questions you have on fundraising, best practices, state paperwork, or any other subject. I also am here to help you with any problems that may arise. Thanks for all you do!

Dee Dee Loberg, Council Representative

I am your 2005-2005 council representative. This will be my third year working with the Service Delivery Team. Previously I held the position of Legislative Chair and I found it to be very informing and positive experience. I have been a PTA board member for 6 years holding various office and chair positions. I have experience in everything from fundraising to Play Days. I have been a Reflections Chair for 5 years and will be this year's Council Reflections Team Leader. Currently I am Co-President at my local unit as well as continuing Co-President of Central Valley PTA Council. My strengths lie in volunteer coordination, community outreach and program development and organization. I look forward to meeting as many of our members as possible and eager to assist in any capacity.

Brenda Braun, Newsletter Editor

Brenda Braun has been involved in WA PTA since 1999. She has served as PTA President, Yearbook chair, Newsletter chair, Council PTA VP, Council Reflections chair. She has been married for 22 years to her supportive husband, Barry, and has 6 children (19, 17, 15, 13, 10 and 6... four sons and two daughters.) She is also a freelance artist and has illustrated 9 books. She loves hiking, gardening, scrap booking and keeping up with her amazing children.

Sandy Haupt, Mentor

I have been in PTA for 16 years and 4 in Iowa and the last 12 in Spokane. I have been a service delivery specialist for 5 years and I was the Washington State PTA Applegate Chair for one year. All of my children have graduated from high school. My son is developmentally disabled. My daughters are enrolled at EWU and UW. I have been trained in Conflict resolution and am looking to assist in building awareness of PTA in Region 15.

**Fall Region Training and
Leadership Packet Distribution**

August 21, 2004

Bowdish Middle School

2109 South Skipworth Rd.

Spokane, WA 99206

9:30 AM to 2:30 PM

LUNCH PROVIDED

Nothing is SWEETer than BEEing a Leader!

Come to get the training you need to start your PTA year with a bang!
Win things not available at any previous training.

Class session one: 10:45 - 11:45

- 1 Leading the Team (Everything a President needs to know)
- 2 Money Matters (A Treasurers Must)
- 3 Engaging Volunteers (How to approach new volunteers and keep them)
- 4 Programs and Committees (Programs A-Z)

Class Session two: 1:00 - 1:30

- 1 Smart Meetings (Follow up to President's class)
- 2 Budgets (Follow up to Treasurer's class, effective money management)
- 3 Secretary (Duties of the PTA Secretary)
- 4 Issues/Program Development Roundtable (Talk about school/community specific issues and how to start effective programs for YOUR environment)

Class Session three: 1:30 - 2:00

- 1 Reflections Roundtable (Reflections discussion/best practices)
- 2 Membership (How to enter membership online to WSPTA website, membership campaigns)
- 3 Advocacy (What's happening at local level, how to affect change)
- 4 Newsletter (How to produce a great newsletter)

Cost of this training is \$30 per local unit. Use the enclosed form to pre register. Your region team is committed to encouraging every local unit to be able to attend this training. Please register by August 2 so we can have an accurate count. There will be no additional charge for late or at the door registrations this ONE TIME ONLY.

Fall Leadership Training Pre Registration

August 21
Bowdish Middle School
Central Valley School District
9 AM to 2:30
2109 South Skipworth Rd.
Spokane, WA 99206

PTA Name: _____ How many attending _____

Contact Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Local Unit Number 15.2 _____

Names of Members Attending: _____

Class choices (put the number of people attending next to each class number for each session.)

Session one 1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____

Session two 1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____

Session three 1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____

If you are planning to attend the newsletter class, please bring your PTA newsletter with you.

Cost of this training is \$30 per **Local Unit**. As many people can attend as you'd like (we'd love to have your whole board!) Make Checks payable to WA State PTA. Each PTA check **must** have two signatures. Send pre-payment and registration forms by August 2 to...

Katy Leach
Region 15 Director
3813 South Bates Court
Spokane Valley, WA 99206
(509) 926-8380
PTAReg15@wastatepta.org

Need more information? Call anyone on the Service Delivery Team.

Be a part of history.
PTA units, councils, businesses and individuals
are invited to join the:

100 Year Club

Washington State PTA is Celebrating 100 Years!

Preparation is underway for the May 2005 celebration that will mark Washington State PTA's centennial celebration. Planning began over a year ago and continues as convention begins to take shape. This once-in-a-lifetime experience will celebrate the past and embrace the future.

By joining the 100 Year Club, your funds will be used to defray direct costs for the 100 Year Celebration.

By donating \$100 you will receive:

- Commemorative 100 YEAR certificate
- Recognition on the WSPTA website
- Recognition in the special edition of *the Child Advocate* celebrating Washington State PTA's 100 years
- Recognition on the 100 YEAR Wall of Fame



**Be a part of history.
Join the 100 YEAR CLUB now!**

Please make checks payable to
WSPTA attn: 100 YEAR CLUB and mail to:

Washington State PTA
2003 65th Avenue West, Tacoma, WA 98466

To join by credit card, call 1-800-562-3804

Inside:

Contact Information for Washington State PTA
and the Region 15 Service Delivery Team
Legislative Update
Fall Training info and registration
And other important information

*Pass this newsletter on to
your new officers!*

**Katy Leach
Region 15 Director
Washington State PTA
2003 65th Avenue West
Tacoma, WA 98466-6215**

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