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## Charles' Comments

It has been a pleasure getting to know so many of you during the last few years while serving as the Region Membership Chair. I look forward to the next two years as your Region 7 Director.

I have recruited a truly amazing group of volunteers to work with on the Service Delivery Team. What is a Service Delivery Team you ask? This group of volunteers works together to provide leadership training and skills to help local units and councils improve and function at the highest possible level. We are here to provide as much or as little support as your organization needs, and we hope to make this the best possible area to be a student or PTA leader.

The Washington State PTA website has undergone an amazing transformation recently (<http://www.wastatepta.org>). Our region now has our very own calendar page to help you keep up to date with all local, regional, and state trainings. Our councils will be able to post their meetings and events and have them appear with all other regional dates. The link to the calendar is [http://www.wastatepta.org/regions/region\\_7/index.html](http://www.wastatepta.org/regions/region_7/index.html).

Summer is a great time to think of new ideas to help your local unit or council move forward and get off on the right foot. Sending in your officers' contact information to the Washington State PTA office will help us know who to contact when trainings and important regional information is available. Remember to do your financial review and follow "Best Practices" to help keep your organization healthy and on the right track.

Mark your calendars for the following upcoming training opportunities:

- August 6-7th—Emerging Minority Leaders Conference**
- August 7-8th—Leadership Conference**
- August 18th—Region 7 Summer Conference**
- October 17th—PTA & The Law**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the wonderful Service Delivery Team members who have

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helped me get you the information you have needed my first 45 days in office. They have put in countless hours on behalf of all children in Washington and I would like to say thank you to all of them. Together we opened two new PTA local units....**Cavelero PTA** and **Everett High PTA**...welcome to both of you!

I look forward to serving you for the next two years and I hope to see you all at the Leadership Conference and/or the Region 7 Summer Conference.

Please let me know if my team and I can be of any service to your PTA. Thanks!

Charles Miller, Region 7 Director  
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ptareg7@wastatepta.org

## Membership Minute:



Hello! I am excited to have a chance to introduce myself...I'm Jenny Forbes, the new Region 7 Membership Chair. I live in South Everett with my husband and our two children. The first time I heard of PTA was 25 some years ago when I went to my Grandmother's Golden Acorn Award ceremony. My family was always very involved in my education, so when I had kids of my own, joining the PTA was an automatic decision. I truly believe in the importance of this amazing organization, and I'm so excited for the opportunity to help others believe in it too!

Whether you are a new membership chair and feeling overwhelmed, or an old pro looking for new ideas, I'm here to help! Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. Or better yet, as you and your board put together your membership campaign share them with me. I would love to share your ideas and successes! I look forward to connecting with many of you at the Region 7 Training Workshop where I will be on hand to co-present the Membership class with Charles Miller.

Below are some things to think about as the new school year quickly approaches...

- Start planning now!
- Include your entire board when developing membership goals and strategizing ways to integrate your membership campaign in other events and programs. Your campaign does not have to be flashy or extensive but it is important to capture people's interest.

- What new twist can you put on old strategies? What excited people to join your PTA five years ago, three years ago or even last year may not be the thing that sparks interest this year.
- What will your membership form look like?
- How will you have your first contact with potential members?
- The first of the school year is the busiest time for the membership chairs, so the more you plan ahead, the more organized you'll be when it's time to print membership forms, collect funds, input members into the WSPTA system, and print out membership cards.

If you need anything don't hesitate to ask for help! I'm always available to answer questions, help you find ideas, or just be a sounding board.

Take care!

Jenny Forbes, Region 7 Membership Chair

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# Legislative Loop:

My name is Jesica Stickles and I am excited to be your new Region Legislative Chair (RLC)!

I am from Arlington, WA and my kids go to Kent Prairie Elementary. This is my second year in PTA and my first year as RLC. I am honored Charles picked me to head up the Legislative department for the best Region in Washington State, REGION 7!! (Sorry....I have a lot of pride for our region)!

I personally enjoy everything about legislative work, well, besides the endless hours of reading bills. There are a lot of wherefores and there as' in those things. But I really enjoy talking to others about what's going on in the system. I am totally open to suggestions, opinions and even a heavy duty discussion if that is your type of thing. Most of all I just want everyone to know that I am always here to answer questions as your "go-to person", and anything I don't know, I'll find out for you!

I am an email junky, seriously, I have it on my phone so don't be scarred when I reply one millisecond after you hit send. =) So you can call me, email me or just grab me by the arm when you see me at the PTA events.

I hope to see you all at the upcoming leadership conferences, especially legislative assembly and Focus Day. We had a record 400 people there last year,

let's beat it this year!!!

I'll be in touch with all you Legislative chairs soon, and if your Local Unit doesn't have one, I'll be calling the whole board until you do! =)

Jesica Stickles  
425-931-8553 or RLC7@wastatepta.org

Here is some information I thought you should know:

## It's time to submit your resolutions proposals for the 2009 Legislative Assembly!

**What are resolutions?** Washington State PTA Resolutions are issue positions which have been submitted to the Resolution's Committee by members, units, committees or councils. Once accepted by the resolutions committee and approved by the Washington State PTA Board of Directors, they are voted on by delegates to the legislative assembly or at state convention. Resolutions are reviewed annually, when they can be combined, amended or recommended for retirement. Resolutions are a resource which can be cited by members, the Board, committees and staff to represent the PTA positions.

**How do resolutions differ from short term platform issues that are also voted on at Legislative Assembly?** Resolutions tend to be broader than short term issues. They also tend to take a longer to accomplish. Often a short term issue may address one piece of the longer term ob-

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## Region 7 Calendar of Events

Thursday, August 6 <sup>th</sup> :	<b>Emerging Minority Leaders Conference (All Day)</b>
Friday, August 7 <sup>th</sup> :	<b>Emerging Minority Leaders Conference (All Day) Leadership Conference (All Day)</b>
Saturday, August 8 <sup>th</sup> :	<b>Leadership Conference (All Day)</b>
Tuesday, August 18 <sup>th</sup> :	<b>Region 7 Fall Conference (5:00PM)</b>
Friday, October 2 <sup>nd</sup> :	<b>Legislative Assembly (All Day)</b>
Saturday, October 3 <sup>rd</sup> :	<b>Legislative Assembly (All Day)</b>
Saturday, October 17 <sup>th</sup> :	<b>Region 7 PTA &amp; The Law (9:00AM – 12:00PM location TBD)</b>
Monday, January 18, 2010:	<b>WSPTA Legislative Focus Day (All Day)</b>

Please refer to [http://www.wastatepta.org/regions/region\\_7/region\\_calendar.html](http://www.wastatepta.org/regions/region_7/region_calendar.html)

# Region 7 Summer Leadership Conference

**Tuesday, August 18, 2009 from 5:00—9:00 PM**  
Eisenhower Middle School—10200 25<sup>th</sup> Ave SE, Everett 98208  
\$40.00 per unit or council if pre-registered by August 11th

**PRIZES**

**PRIZES**

## Directions:

From I-5 North, head NE toward exit 186, take the 527 exit toward 99/Mall way and merge onto 19<sup>th</sup> AVE SE. Left at 100<sup>th</sup> St SE, Right at 25<sup>th</sup> Ave SE.

**5:00-5:50** Light Dinner with registration and vendors. **Leadership packets distributed.**

**5:50-6:00** Introduction of Region 7 Service Delivery Team and recognition of new local units

**6:00-6:30** Keynote by Kids Matter Vision Council: "40 Assets of Successful Learners"

**6:45-7:45** **First Class Session :**

**Many classes  
have been  
recently  
updated!**

- **Membership:** Learn the components of a membership campaign, how to encourage participation, and ideas to recognize the members who work tirelessly for children.
- **Money Matters for the Whole Board:** Every member of the PTA Board has the responsibility to be sure that your PTA is in sound financial condition. Come learn the basics of what you need to know to fulfill your fiduciary responsibility as a board member. All board members (including treasurers) are encouraged to attend.
- **Budgets and Financial Reviews:** Learn how to develop a budget, when to update and how to amend your budget. Learn the when, what, who and how of Financial Reviews.
- **Reflections:** Review the Reflections Art Program and get tips on how to start a program to offer children the opportunity to create works of art for fun and recognition
- **Legislation:** Plan how to get and keep your unit or council involved in advocacy for the whole child—the heart of all that PTA stands for.
- **Engaging Volunteers:** Learn how to find those volunteers and how to enrich their experiences so that they will continue to come back. This class is a must for any board member overseeing volunteers.
- **Fundraising Roundtable:** Meet with other experienced PTA leaders and share fundraising ideas, secrets and success stories.
- **Leading the Team/Best Practices:** Focus on key elements of leading and being a member of a responsible and professional Board of Directors.

**8:00-9:00** **Second Class Session**

- **Online Membership Reporting:** Learn to navigate the membership website, how to properly enter members, print reports, create spreadsheets and print membership cards.
- **Money Matters-Continued for Treasurers:** The Treasurer is the board member who has been entrusted by the members with the responsibility to manage the funds and keeps the books for your PTA. Continue with Part 2 of Money Matters for some additional, more detailed information designed specifically for Treasurers.
- **Secretary:** Figure out what you need in the minutes and what can be left out. Topics will cover best practices for the minutes, legal documents and much more.
- **Energizing Your Secondary PTA:** Secondary parent involvement is crucial and certainly different than primary school PTA. Give your secondary PTA a jump-start with this interactive consideration of what is unique and powerful about secondary PTA's.
- **Reinventing Councils:** This class will help you understand what a council is and the role they play. It will also give you ideas for new and or struggling councils.
- **Standing Rules/Bylaws:** Delve into the mysteries of the standing rules: what should be included, what should not and why?
- **Newsletter and Basic Websites:** Explore how to take advantage of one of the most important tools to keep in touch with your members and solicit participation in your PTA. Take a look into the internet and the world of websites.
- **Service Delivery Teams:** What is a Service Delivery Team? How do I join? What can they do to help your local unit or Council? What classes can we have taught at our local unit or council?

**Please come and meet others in your Region to share ideas and learn together. This is the **only time** Leadership Packets will be distributed—you will need to pick the packets up after this date.**



## Outreach Outtakes:

I am Nalani Baker and I am proud to be continuing on as Regional Outreach Chair (ROC) this year. The idea of "outreach" is still fairly new to PTA, but it has the potential to grow and be a great influence for our organization. The outreach program is designed to connect with those people who may not otherwise be reached or feel included. This could be for a variety of reasons including special needs, income, race, language, etc. We hope to involve people who would not feel comfortable

getting involved on their own.

I am excited that Washington State PTA will be hosting the first annual Emerging Minority Leaders Conference in Olympia this summer August 6-7<sup>th</sup>. This is an exciting event for us! You can find out more information about the conference in this newsletter and on the WSPTA website at [www.wastatepta.org](http://www.wastatepta.org).

If you have ideas or suggestions about improving our outreach, please feel free to e-mail me!

Nalani Baker, Region Outreach Chair  
ROC7@wastatepta.org

## Washington State PTA

### Vision:

Making every child's potential a reality

### Mission:

- **PTA is** a powerful voice for all children.
- **PTA is** a relevant resource for families and communities.
- **PTA is** a strong advocate for the education and well-being of every child.

### The WSPTA accomplishes this mission by:

- Speaking on behalf of children and youth in the schools, in the community, and before governmental bodies and other organizations that make decisions affecting children;
- Supporting parents\* in developing the skills to raise, protect, and advocate for their children; and
- Encouraging parent\* and community involvement.

*\*Parent may include adults who play an important role in a child's family life since other adults (grandparents, aunts, uncles, or guardians) may carry the primary responsibility for a child's health, welfare, education, and safety.*

## Membership Dates:

### October 25<sup>th</sup>: Initial payment of Membership Service Fees

- If the first fee payment is not received by this date, the local unit will be removed from the WSPTA mailing list and services will be suspended.
- Be sure to include your annual \$5.00 required fee per unit.

### January 25<sup>th</sup>: Second payment of Membership Service Fees

- The local unit membership count at this time determines the number of voting delegates to the WSPTA convention.

### May 25<sup>th</sup>: Final payment of Membership Service Fees

- This count determines program award categories and the amount of membership cards your local unit will be sent next year.
- Call the WSPTA office to remove any duplicate names.
- No refunds on membership service fees will be provided.
- PTAs should also submit their officers for next year at this time.
- WSPTA Membership Theme Logo is staying the same this year. There are several reasons why we are not changing it, (I'm not a big fan of 'reinventing the wheel') but I think it provides us w/ some consistency (i.e., graphic representation of WSPTA) in the same manner as the slogan, "everychild. one-voice" represents PTA.

**Have you entered your 2009—2010 PTA officers yet? If not....please enter them in the online membership site right away!**

# Council Corner:

## Marysville Council:

Marysville PTA Council has just concluded a very successful 08/09 year! Five scholarships of \$500 each were awarded to deserving High School seniors and were awarded at the Senior Awards Night at MPHS.

A special thanks to outgoing officers Toni Otto (Council V.P. and legislative chair) and Brenda Campbell (Council Secretary). Their selfless service to our Marysville local units, and most importantly, the children of the Marysville School District area was appreciated.

This year's incoming officers are Steve Campbell and Annette Rice (Co-Presidents), Stephanie Barker (Vice President), Jeanell Strieck (Secretary) and Barbara Arocha (Treasurer). It promises to be another great year. On August 10<sup>th</sup> a "President's Meeting" will be held with location and time to be determined.

Steve Campbell & Annette Rice  
Marysville Council Co-Presidents

## Edmonds Council:

The Edmonds District PTSA Council 7.2 is pleased to announce the following officers for the coming year:

<b>President</b>	Ron Martinez (two daughters both at Brier Terrace Middle)
<b>Vice President</b>	Nalani Baker (two daughters both at Martha Lake Elementary)
<b>Secretary</b>	Audrey Travis (two daughters - one at Maplewood Co-op and one at Seaview Elementary)
<b>Treasurer</b>	Debbie Lindgren (one son at Hilltop Elementary)

This year's Council will be focusing on assisting PTAs with writing grants, leadership training and the Reflections program. Meetings are scheduled for the following dates at the ESC in Lynnwood:

**October 19, 2009**  
**November 16, 2009**  
**January 25, 2010**  
**March 15, 2010**  
**May 17, 2010**

Look for  
Washington State PTA  
now on  
FACEBOOK!

## **STATE COMMITTEE CHAIRS ANNOUNCED:**

WSPTA President Scott Allen has announced the committee chair appointments for the 2009-2010 year. Congratulations to the following leaders from our region!

Bylaws Committee	Bonnie Kayla
Region Outreach Committee	Charles Miller
PTA's Taking Significant Action Award	Cathy Phipps

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jectives that are expressed in a resolution. Resolutions may also ask for action from more than one body. They may ask units, councils, State PTA or National PTA to do something to support the goals of the resolution. Short term platform issues are addressed to the legislature or other policy-making bodies.

To see the current body of resolutions, go to: [http://www.wastatepta.org/advocacy/association\\_position/resolutions09.pdf](http://www.wastatepta.org/advocacy/association_position/resolutions09.pdf) Resolutions submittal form: [http://www.wastatepta.org/advocacy/headlines/Issue Submittal Form 09.doc](http://www.wastatepta.org/advocacy/headlines/Issue_Submittal_Form_09.doc)

**Due date for submittals for Legislative Assembly is Monday, July 13 at midnight.**

Wes Brandon has recently been appointed chair of this committee.

Please contact Kim Howard, Government Relations, with questions about the submittal process.  
Kim Howard, Government Relations, Washington State PTA  
253-565-2153 or 360-951-0174 (New cell #)  
[khoward@wastatepta.org](mailto:khoward@wastatepta.org)

## Keeping Your Kids Sharp This Summer: (from the July 9, 2009 edition of PTA Parent)

Summer Learning Day was July 9<sup>th</sup>. Take the opportunity this week to follow advice from the National Center for Summer Learning at Johns Hopkins University. The center shares eight tips for what parents can do to keep kids sharp over the summer. (Excerpted from <http://www.summerlearning.org>)

- Locate a summer program. There are high-quality camps and programs in almost every price range. (For a directory of camps, check out [gocamps.com/](http://gocamps.com/).)
- Participate in free library programs. Make time to read every day.
- Take educational trips, including low-cost visits to parks, museums, zoos, and nature centers.
- Maintain a schedule. Provide structure and limits while keeping kids engaged.
- Prepare for fall. Find out what your child may be learning in the upcoming school year by talking to teachers at that grade level. Use summertime to preview concepts and materials.
- Practice math daily. Make it fun: track daily temperatures, add and subtract at the grocery store, learn fractions while cooking.
- Get outside and play. Physical activity contributes to healthy development.
- Do good deeds. Students learn better when they engage in activities that aid in their social-emotional development.

**Worldwise Education is selling cards with artwork from our Reflections award winners. ...check them out at <http://www.artworkforeducation.com/item.aspx?>**



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