

The WSPTA Outstanding Service Award was added in 1962, building on the success of the Golden Acorn Award program. This award recognizes statewide service to children. It is awarded to an individual who has given dedicated and long-term volunteer service that positively impacts every child throughout Washington state while demonstrating the WSPTA core values.

Congratulations to our 2026 recipient, Liz Nord!



Today we get to honor someone truly exceptional—someone whose impact on Washington State PTA has shaped not just programs or initiatives, but the very foundation of this organization.

This person’s journey with PTA started the way so many do—with a desire to make a difference for their own child. But what began as a single act of involvement quickly became something much more.

For this individual, “helping out” was never going to be enough.

They stepped forward.

They leaned in.

And they stayed.


Over the years, this person has served at every level of PTA you can imagine—local volunteer, board member, council leader, regional director, Area VP, and now the state board of directors.

And not just serving—but strengthening.

In fact, many of us rely on this person more than we probably even realize.

Because when you get that update...That reminder... That clear, thoughtful communication that helps you understand what’s going on and keeps you informed... Chances are, this person had a hand in it.

And in their current role, they quite literally keep us all connected.



They are a communicator in the truest sense—not just sharing information, but making sure people feel informed, included, and supported. She helps turn complexity into clarity, and chaos into something manageable.

But what really makes this person special isn't just what they do—it's *how* they do it.

They show up with consistency.

They lead with humility.

They support others without hesitation.

They are the person you turn to when you're unsure, the one who helps you feel like you've got this—even when you're not so sure.

If you've attended a training and walked away feeling more confident...

If your PTA has ever been steadied during a difficult moment...

If you've ever thought, "Wow, this organization really has its act together" ...

There's a good chance this person had something to do with it.

They have worked tirelessly—often behind the scenes—helping to build systems, support leaders, and ensure that PTAs across Washington are not just functioning, but thriving.

They've had a hand in building the foundation we all stand on today.

And here's the thing:

They didn't do it for recognition.

They didn't do it for awards.

They did it because they believe—deeply—in the mission of the PTA and in the power of community to support every child and every family.

Over the years, they haven't just contributed to this organization—they've helped build it, strengthen it, and ensure it will continue to thrive long into the future.

Honestly, if you tried to measure the impact this person has had on Washington State PTA, you'd probably run out of paper... or time.

This award isn't given for showing up once, or even for a few years of service. It's given to someone whose impact reaches far beyond a single school—someone whose work has strengthened PTA across our entire state, and whose dedication has made a lasting difference for children and families everywhere.

So, it is my absolute honor to present to you the person whose years of dedication, leadership, and heart we celebrate tonight—Liz Nord.

Liz, your service has made this organization stronger, more sustainable, and better prepared for the future. There is no doubt that Washington State PTA is what it is today in large part because of you.

It is with deep gratitude and admiration that we present you with the Washington State PTA Outstanding Service Award.

Congratulations!